

PARTNEY & DALBY NAVIGATOR

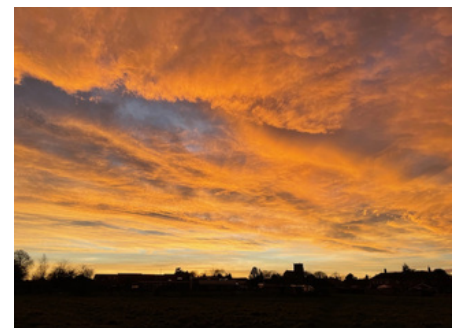
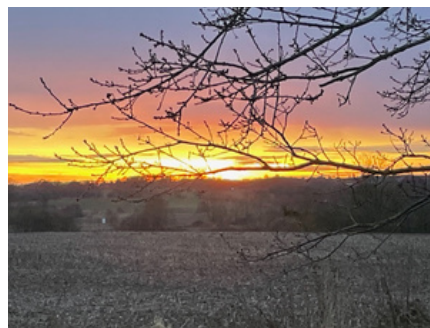


‘Every winter has its spring’

Residents who have been exploring the footpaths around Partney and Dalby will not have failed to notice that the signs of spring are everywhere, from the beautiful display of snowdrops in the church yard, to the daffodils pushing through the earth along the verges. The lighter evenings and mornings are also an added bonus. Many of you will be looking forward to getting outside into your own gardens. For those who are new to the village, Partney has its very own ‘Community Garden’ to the rear of the Primary School with two polytunnels and outside beds for vegetables or flowers. If you wish to get your seeds off to a flying start you are welcome to use the facilities at weekends and after 4pm on a week day. For more information, contact Ann Lovelock on 07565348188.



Despite the shorter days of winter there have been some stunning sunsets over the month of January and we do hope that some of you have been able to get out and enjoy the wintry sun. Below are just some of the amazing colours and cloud formations captured by one or two of the residents on their smart phones - isn't technology wonderful? May these images encourage you to explore the countryside around Partney and Dalby. I am sure you will agree, we are extremely fortunate to live in such a beautiful location. You can send your photos to partneyanddalbynavigator@gmail.com



Even though we have witnessed some dark, cold, windy and wet days the village has had a number of events and celebrations to brighten up our time. We began with the Christmas Fair at the end of November, challenged our brain with a quiz night and more recently, a number of residents were treated to an afternoon of floral art at Partney Victory Hall (more of that to follow). Margaret White, who leads the Partney Choir, has also provided an update in this edition - happy reading!

Partney & Dalby Parish Council

Parish Council Updates

The first meeting of the year 2024 was held at the Victory Hall on 9th January. At the meeting we were joined by representatives from St. Nicholas Parochial Church Council who were able to share their programme of forthcoming events for 2024 at the church (information on the church page).

The council has submitted an application for a Councillor Community Grant. This is a grant that all parish councils can apply for, and is distributed via the District Councillor at ELDC. The scheme provides grant funding to community projects. Our application is for increasing the planting of spring bulbs along the verges, the purchasing of long lasting flowering perennials to encourage biodiversity, and the development of a planting scheme to the front of Partney Cemetery.



At the meeting, councillors considered the idea of publishing a parish council Facebook account. This would enable the sharing of more up-to-date information such as upcoming council meetings and community events. I am sure you would agree that effective communication is at the heart of the success for any parish council. Over the last few years social media has transformed how elected representatives communicate with communities. In addition to this a parish councillor will be available at the weekly coffee morning on the last Friday of each month starting 29th March from 11am- 12pm. This gives everyone the opportunity to raise concerns face to face. Should you be unable to attend, please feel free to use the following email address : partneyanddalbynavigator@gmail.com



Partney Cemetery

Recently, Nigel Sardeson (Chartered Forester), undertook a comprehensive tree survey at the cemetery which included mapping and identification of all species. The report highlighted which trees are likely to need attention both in the short term and longer term. As the weather improves, the councillors will be seeking volunteers to begin tidying the cemetery prior to the commencement of the identified tree works, A date for this will be set at the March meeting, so keep an eye on the parish council noticeboard. The councillors have also made an application to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for a sign to indicate that there is a war grave in the cemetery. Hopefully there will be an update at the next parish council meeting. Thank you to Councillor Richard Jones who has been taking the lead on this project.



At the January meeting councillors set the village precept (this is the tax that the parish council charge their residents to cover expenditure for the following year). We are pleased to confirm that for the year 2024/25, the amount residents will pay will remain the same. For the entire villages of Dalby and Partney this will total £5,760. The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 12th March at 7pm. You are welcome to attend and contribute to the public forum at the beginning of the meeting.

Minutes can be read at partneydalby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk



Victory Hall Events



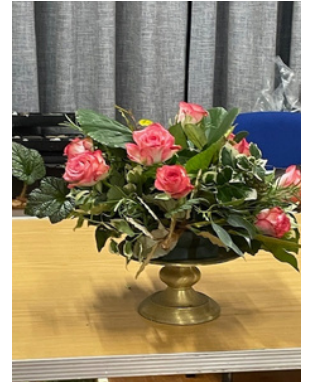
The Victory Hall Committee ended the year with a very successful Christmas Fair, in partnership with Partney Primary School and St. Nicholas Church. Thank you to the stall holders, including Angie Meffen, Jackie Cobb (Jackie's stall, 'Rustically Perfect' is photographed on the left), Sue Sargeant, Freya Young (photo left), Pat Johnson, Jacqueline and Stewart Oliver. Thank you to everyone who helped to serve refreshments, sell raffle tickets, man the tombola, face paint, and not forgetting Neil and Margaret Blanchard who made a very convincing Father Christmas and elf ! The amazing total of £714 was raised in just over two hours with the hall, school and church receiving a total of £238 each. None of this would be possible without your support, either by donating prizes or by attending the event.



The Victory Hall hosted its second quiz event on January the 27th with a fun evening of challenging questions to really get the brain cells into overdrive!! Who knew that China has more miles of motorway than anywhere in the world? Or that your first wedding anniversary is celebrated with a gift of paper? Many of us didn't !! It really was a great evening which promoted some very lively discussion amongst the teams. Well done to the winning team - The Puddle of Knowledge. Thank you to Mick Lovelock who was a very competent quizmaster and adjudicator and to Sue Sargeant who set some excellent questions! Looking forward to the rematch! £218 was raised for the Victory Hall funds.

Partney Crafters

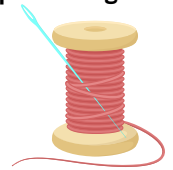
The first of the village craft sessions was held on Wednesday 31st January with a floral art workshop. Rosemarie Oliver, who is a qualified floral demonstrator, coached the fifteen attendees in creating a simple arrangement using foliage from the garden and flowers. It was a highly informative and fun afternoon. The two hours flew by as the floral creations took shape. The individual arrangements looked truly stunning and everyone really enjoyed the opportunity to chat, and learn new skills. The event helped raise £ 118 for Victory Hall funds.



Partney Victory Hall



On Tuesday 13th February Partney was treated to a fabulous bingo evening all in aid of charity. Katy Lovelock worked incredibly hard to ensure the event was a great success. All money raised was to support a dog rescue centre based in Cyprus. This is a charity close to Katy's heart as she has rehomed Churro, pictured on the left, from the charity. The evening raised over £425 in just over three hours! The prizes included theme based hampers which were greatly appreciated by the winners of a line and a full house. A well supported raffle also helped to boost the funds. Delicious pancakes were served along with teas and coffees at the interval. Mick Lovelock can now add the role of 'bingo caller' to his CV. Well done Katy and everyone who helped to support this great event. Thank you to Jimmy, (The Briers) for the use of the bingo machine.



Future Events

Angie's Crafts & Laughs



Come along on **Wednesday 28th February 1pm- 4pm** and **Wednesday 13th March** to the Victory Hall for an afternoon of tea, chat and crafts. Just bring your craft, knitting, sewing, whatever you enjoy. If you don't craft you're still welcome to join us . We also have some crafts that have recently been donated, so you may discover a hidden talent! £2, with your first cuppa free!

Are you a Sewing Bee?

Following on from the success of the floral workshop, held on 31st January, Sue Sargeant will demonstrate how to put together a fabric door stop using a variety of themed fabric, ribbons, buttons and bows (photo right). The first session is **Wednesday 6th March, 2pm- 4pm**. Kits to make the door stop will be provided and included in the £5 charge. The afternoon will be lots of fun as the creativity is unleashed. Spaces are limited as sewing machines will be involved. Contact Sue on 07871 240190 to book a space. The session will be £5 tea/coffee will be provided and there will be an Easter themed raffle.



Floral Easter Wreath Making



Rosemarie will demonstrate how to create a floral door wreath using foliage and Easter accessories. The craft afternoon will take place on **Wednesday 20th March, 2pm- 4pm**. Contact Jacqueline Oliver 07881315200. The spaces are limited so book early! The session will be £5, tea and coffee will be provided and there will be a Easter themed raffle.

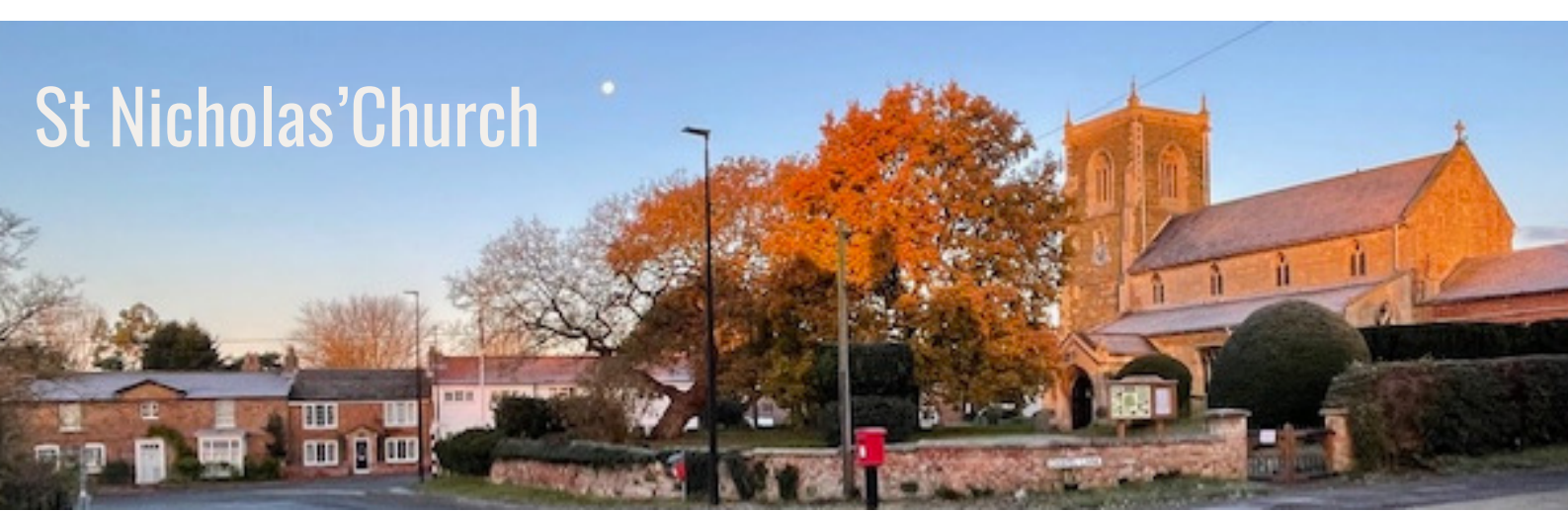


Partney Easter Fair

The Easter Fair will be held at the Victory Hall on **Saturday 23rd March from 12pm- 5pm**. All funds raised will be in support of the charity 'Shine.' Shine supports children and their families who are affected by hydrocephalus and spina bifida. For more information please contact Angie 07531 985394



St Nicholas' Church



Church Updates



Christmas does seem like a distant memory now, however, we would like to say an enormous 'thank you' to everyone who helped prepare the church for Christmas, and who also attended the church services throughout December. The church has never looked so beautiful with the Christmas tree and festive floral decorations.



The year 2024 promises to be an exciting and busy one for St. Nicholas and we hope you will be able to join us at our services or events. On the practical front, we are still awaiting the new oil tank and hopefully this will be delivered and fitted in the next couple of weeks. The exterior of the church is looking much improved. You may have noticed that the yew trees have been trimmed and the ivy has been cut back along the church wall. At the time of writing the daffodils are emerging from the ground around the wall of the church. Spring is on its way!



We are currently in the process of obtaining quotes for the windows that are in need of repairs and ongoing maintenance. Unfortunately all these repairs can prove quite expensive, but so necessary if we wish to preserve the church for future generations. The ancient oak tree is also in need of care and attention, please don't be alarmed at the wooden supports that are now needed. The PCC will do all we can to protect this precious tree.



There will be an 'Easter Experience', with floral displays in the church over the Easter period. Please keep an eye on the church noticeboard for further information nearer the time. With Easter approaching, the church will be in need of a good clean. If you are able to support us, please come along with a cloth and polish on Monday March 11th - all help is very much appreciated. Just pop in, do a bit and mark the chart to show which area of the church has been completed.

Future Events

Please make a note of the dates **July 12- 15th**. This will be a special time for the church as we are expecting visitors, including many from Australia, to mark the reburial of Matthew Flinders at his home church in Donington near Boston. As you may remember Matthew Flinders was married at this church, just before he sailed to Australia in 1801. We will share our plans in the Spring edition of the Navigator. For more information on how his body was discovered near Euston Station you can visit www.hs2.org.uk

Many thanks, Partney PCC - Carol, Joe, Richard, Ange, Jan and Caroline



Partney Choir

Partney is very lucky in having its very own choir. It caters for all age groups. We have 22 regular members, and we meet each Monday, during term time, at 7.30pm in the Victory Hall at Partney. Our repertoire is varied, with music to suit all tastes. We give concerts, mainly at local churches or in village halls, and we often lead the singing at services of celebration in the Bolingbroke Deanery. The photograph above was taken at Candlesby Church where we performed one of summer concerts last year.



Choir members are looking forward to joining with Rhythm and Steel (photo left). Rhythm and Steel are steel pan players based in Alford. The concert is planned for May 11th in Partney Victory Hall. Look out for more information in the Spring edition. A highlight of last year was the concert in Skendleby Church, it was enjoyed by a large audience. We would love to welcome new members, whether they have experience of singing in a choir or not. Being able to read music is not a requirement and auditions are not necessary! If you enjoy singing and think you would like to join our friendly group, why not pop along and see us. For further details, please contact Margaret White on 01790 890321 or email mgtwhite@aol.com

Dates for the Diary



Wednesday 28th February - Crafts at the Victory Hall 1pm- 4pm
 Wednesday 6th March - Sewing Crafts at the Victory Hall 2pm- 4pm
 Saturday 9th March - Partney Film Night at the Victory Hall - 7pm
 Monday 11th March - Church Cleaning 10am
 Tuesday 12th March - Parish Council Meeting at the Victory Hall 7pm
 Wednesday 13th March - Craft Afternoon at the Victory Hall 1pm- 4pm
 Wednesday 20th March - Floral Crafts at the Victory Hall 2pm- 4pm
 Saturday 23rd March - Easter Fair at the Victory Hall 12pm - 5pm
 Saturday 30th March - Easter Service at the church - 3pm



Fridays - It's Time for Cake!



Don't forget the Friday coffee morning. The Victory Hall will be open from 9.30am- 12pm for delicious cakes, sausage rolls, scones and a warm welcome. Eat in or take away.

