

Dyke Village Newsletter

Winter 2025

**"LAUGHTER IS BRIGHTEST
WHERE FRIENDS ARE GATHERED".**

Don't miss out on these festive events coming up soon...

Sunday 14th December 7pm-9.30pm
Christmas Fun at the Hall

Tuesday 16th December 10am-12pm
Warm Hub Christmas Celebrations



**Someone is going
to win this bundle
of booze for
Christmas!**

Tickets £1 each

Raffle drawn on Sunday
14th December

See page 3 for details

DVHMC Chair Report—Dec 2025

Hello all, and welcome to the Winter 2025 edition of the Newsletter.

We are approaching Christmas now and not one but two Christmas events to come Christmas Fun at the Hall and the last Warm Hub of the year. Carols and games plus nibbles and mulled wine will be on offer – come along if you can as it's sure to be a good laugh. It certainly was last year!

You will probably have noticed that we have had solar PV panels mounted on the south-facing roof of the Village Hall in the last few months. This was part of a large project to replace the ageing heating system and add a solar and battery system to keep our running costs down, improve our carbon footprint and the Hall environment at the same time. There is an article in this newsletter that gives some details if you are interested.

Sincere thanks should go to the **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**, administered by **South Kesteven District Council**, **Bourne United Charities**, **The Len Pick Trust**, and **Bourne Town Council**, all of whom significantly contributed to financing the project.

The most recent event was a Race Night that was held on the 15th of November – great to see old and new faces there who had a really good time. That event raised more than £1000 too so really helpful in supporting co-funding of the heating project. In September, we had the Scarecrow Competition and Craft Fair which was another excellent community event raising over £900. **Thank you** to all who attended, supported or helped out at those events.

An update in terms of the Village Hall Committee itself, Jenny and I have decided (really this time!) to stand down from the Committee from the date of the next Annual General Meeting in April 2026 to allow time to carry out more travel and meet other commitments. As such it's a great opportunity for new people to join the Committee, and help steer improvements, put on events and generally keep our village as an enjoyable place to live, with a wonderful community. Please make contact with any of the committee members if you would like to discuss.

Hope to see you at one or more of the upcoming events!

Robin Woodward **Dyke Village Hall Management Committee Chair**

Dyke Village Warm Hubs—Tuesdays 10-12

Tuesday 16th December—Warm Hub Christmas Celebrations

Join us for the last hub of 2025 where we will be providing the usual bakes along with some festive additions, Christmas crackers and maybe some mulled wine or alcoholic hot chocolate for the non-drivers!

The hubs will continue to run in 2026 with the first of the New Year being Tuesday 6th January.

The wonderful welcome, hot drinks, delicious homemade cakes and dominoes tournaments have something to offer everyone so do come along if you can.

Christmas Fun at the Hall

Sunday 14th December 7-9.30pm

The last event arranged by the DVH Events Committee is arguably the most fun you can have with your Christmas jumper on!

We'll mention no names but, in the past, we have seen a couple of turkeys trying to demonstrate the moves to the 12 days of Christmas, soft toys being thrown across the hall in an hilarious pass-the-parcel type game and great triumphs in the raffle prize draw! And the singing..... well, there are no words

There is no charge for this event and you can bring your own drinks, but Christmas crackers, nibbles and mulled wine will be served thanks to your generous donations at the warm hubs and other events.

This year's Christmas raffle to win 25 bottles of grog will also be drawn at this event. You'd better be in it to win it! Tickets available from Jenny or Anna.

If you can come and join us for some festive fun and games, please message Jenny Woodward on 07824 448038 so that we can cater for the right numbers.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Win this bundle of booze in time to celebrate Christmas!

Tickets £1 each—Message Jenny Woodward on 07824 448038 for your chance to win.

DVH Solar, Battery and Heating Project

For a number of years, the Village Hall Committee has recognised that the heating system (a blown air, gas fueled system) was in need of replacement. We have suffered a number of breakdowns and parts were becoming harder to find.

An opportunity presented itself in the form of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), a central government sponsored program, investing in communities and, in our case, reducing the carbon footprint of community buildings and improving their sustainability. As this was focused on larger projects a plan was developed by a small sub-committee to combine the heating replacement with a state-of-the-art solar and battery system that would help to power it using significantly less electricity, and no natural gas.

It was projected to save in the region of 2.5 tonnes of CO2 per year and reduce our dependence on the electricity grid by up to 60%. This should equate to reducing our energy bills by up to half.

The funding application was successful, with the main part being funded by the **UKSPF** (administered by **SKDC**), but with significant additional funding from **Bourne United Charities**, **The Len Pick Trust**, and **Bourne Town Council**. A big thank you to all of them.

Suppliers were selected from the local area – **TCL Solar** based in Lincoln provided and the solar and battery system and did a great job on the installation. The heating system was specified by **Heissen Heating** in Boston using super-efficient infrared space and panel heaters and expertly installed by **JC Electrical** based here in Dyke.

In brief, the specification of the solar and battery system is as follows:

15 x 500 Watt panels, total reference generation capability of 7.5 kW, manufactured by Eurener in Spain

17 kWhrs (5 x 3.4 kW modules) of battery storage capacity and associated inverter, manufactured by GivEnergy in the UK

Please feel free to take a look at the installation in the store cupboard at the Hall – you can see from the green battery lights what the state of charge of the system is.



Battery Modules (left) Inverter (right)



700w infra-red heating unit



15 Solar PV panels

It's very early days to judge whether we will meet our target CO2 reduction but, with the mild weather we have been having, we have used very little grid electricity since the installation in October, so early signs are good.

With regard to the heating system, we have set a minimum temperature for the Hall of 10 deg C to ensure that it does not take too long to heat up from cold – even so time needs to be allowed to reach the target temperature, the trade off being that the Hall will remain at a stable temperature with no intervention after that.

For regular hall users, there is an app that can be used to control the heating so pre-heat can be easily done without opening the Hall.

Please remember to switch off the heating either using the control tablet located in the kitchen, or by going to each controller. There are some instructions posted up in the Hall to help you.

Scarecrow Competition

—There was a great turnout of both scarecrows and visitors to this year's event. The winning entry, judged by Councillor Les Panrucker, was created by Linda Warren who generously donated half of her winnings back to the Village Hall—thank you Linda.

Race Night—A great time was had by all who attended and it was lovely to see many new faces. There was a lot of competition with both winners and losers but the last horse to gallop to victory was owned by a team including the Peplows and the Anthonys who won the coveted annual trophy.



Dyke WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



Dyke WI wishes all its members
and friends in Dyke
a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year

If you wish to join us or to learn more, please contact our President:
Helen Whitfield 01778 571789

Events at the Wishing Well Inn

Curry Night every Monday—curry and a drink for £12.50

Senior Lunches every Wednesday 12pm—2.30pm £9.90 or 2 courses £12.50

Fish and Chip Fridays coming soon...

Regular monthly Quiz night—next quiz Monday 26th January

Live Music—TOTALLY ANCHORED—Saturday 20th December

Christmas menu now available—2 courses £29, 3 courses £37

New Years Eve Party—food and entertainment from 7pm

Free tickets available from Sav at the bar

For more details please see the Wishing Well Facebook page, or better still pop in and see them!

You may have seen advertised in previous editions of the newsletter that the Village Hall Events Committee had proposed to hold a NYE event in the hall—this has now been **cancelled** and we will supporting the event at the Wishing Well.

Help make a difference to your village—join our club!

Would you like to be part of the new look Dyke Village Hall Management Committee from April 2026 for just a few hours a month or whatever you can spare?

With some of the longest serving volunteers standing down next year, the committee needs new members to help with the running of the hall, including organising maintenance, managing bookings and putting on events to raise funds to keep the hall going. The new automated booking system and heating system means that a lot of the jobs can be done remotely now and committee meetings have gone from once a month to five or six a year.

The Village Hall is a centre for villagers to get together, air their views and have fun with like minded neighbours. Let's keep this going!

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much" (Helen Keller)

Short Mat Bowls at Dyke Village Hall



Wednesdays

Afternoons from 2 to 4, Evenings 7 to 9

£4 per person

Short Mat Bowls is a fun, sociable sport that's easy to learn (though not so easy to master) and suitable for all.

All welcome, suitable for all ages (under 16s should be accompanied by an adult), no previous bowls experience needed. Please wear flat-soled shoes. Refreshments will be available.

New term : Wednesday 7th January—Wednesday 1st April

Contact: Stephen and Corinne Howarth 07905 850395

Follow us on the [Dyke Village Facebook](#) page.

Dyke Village also has a [WhatsApp](#) group which has become a way for Dyke residents to keep in touch with general village news. **If you would like to be added to the village WhatsApp group, please contact Jenny Woodward on 07824 448038**

For enquiries about renting out Dyke Village Hall please contact
Anna McIvor on 07867 547816

If you would like to contribute to the next edition of the newsletter please let us know.

Text or call: Jenny Woodward on
07824 448038

We wish to thank South Kesteven District Council Print Room for printing our Newsletter.

Dyke Village Hall
Registered Charity No: 511496

Let's keep in touch

WEBSITE: <https://dykevillagehall.org.uk>

EMAIL: contact@dykevillage.org.uk

Please keep your eyes peeled for news!

Village Hall information and dates and times of the DVHMC events will be displayed on the side of the hall, on the noticeboards inside and outside the hall and posted on Facebook, the village website and on the Dyke Village Community WhatsApp group.

Dyke Village Hall

The Village Hall in Dyke is managed by a committee all of whom live locally. They work to provide a hub where people can meet and enjoy social events.

www.dykevillagehall.org.uk

Facebook: [Dyke Village](#)