

THE MID-ELLOE VILLAGER



THE FREE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE
FOR
FLEET, GEDNEY, HOLBEACH ST. MARKS
& HOLBEACH HURN
2021



Stay home



**Protect
the NHS**



Save lives

Useful Community Contacts



<u>The Pilgrim Hospital</u>	<u>01205 364 801</u>
<u>Queen Elizabeth Hospital</u>	<u>01553 613 613</u>
<u>Holbeach Hospital</u>	<u>01406 422 283</u>
<u>Johnson Community Hospital Spalding..</u>	<u>01775 652 000</u>
<u>Peterborough City Hospital</u>	<u>01733 678000</u>
<u>Long Sutton Medical Centre</u>	<u>01406 362 081</u>
<u>Boots Chemist Long Sutton</u>	<u>01406 362 331</u>
<u>Samaritans</u>	<u>116 123</u>
<u>National Rail Enquiries</u>	<u>0845 748 495</u>
<u>Registrar Long Sutton</u>	<u>01522 782 244</u>
<u>Sir John Hayes</u>	<u>01775 711 534</u>
<u>NHS Direct</u>	<u>0845 46 47</u>
<u>CLlr Nick Worth</u>	<u>07866 415688</u>

South Holland Parish Volunteer Car Service

(Mon - Fri 09:00 - 12:00 / 13:00 - 16:30) Call Sharon:

01406 366820 or 07834 634336

MAGAZINE EDITOR: MARK ELSOM

m4rke44@hotmail.com

Copy for the magazine should be with Mark by 18th of the previous month, marked Mid Elloe Magazine.

ADVERTISING EDITOR: GILL GRAPER

gill.graper@googlemail.com

01406 423803

It is hoped to produce a magazine each month which will go on the website and be emailed to as many people as possible. We hope you will understand that in these difficult times it may not always appear at the beginning of a month and the content will be reduced. People who wish to submit items should still do so by 18th of the previous month.



For all enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact the Deanery Administrator, Caz Dennis, on 01406 423460 (office hours Mon- Thurs 9.00-1.00)

For urgent pastoral issues please contact the Rural Dean – Rosamund Seal – 01406 424989

For all other enquiries please contact the churchwardens - details are in the Mid Elloe Community magazine.



SEE US ON THE WEB

The Magazine and details of services will be put on the new church website every month so please do check there for details of what is going on in your Parish and in the Benefice.

Fleet: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14562/

Godney: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14564/

Holbeach Hurn: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14569/

Holbeach St Marks: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14564/



HELPLINES FOR SUPPORT

During these difficult times there are many reasons why people may need extra support: practical, emotional and spiritual. Many support agencies have existed for a long time, whilst in the past few weeks many other groups have been formed to support people through the present crisis. Not everyone has access to a computer or the internet, so the following may particularly be of use to those people for whom a phone call is their only means of communicating with the outside world.



PHONE: 116123

FREE HELPLINE FOR THOSE IN
EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

Particularly for those who are lonely, anxious or depressed, this is a 24/7 service. Samaritans are trained listeners and able to give comforting words, without offering advice or judging people. You can speak in confidence to someone at any time of the day or night.



This is a well known Lincolnshire charity that offers support for the terminally ill. Recently they have set up a helpline for those who are in isolation and have suffered bereavement, because of the death of a loved one during COVID 19.

The specific helpline number for this service is: 0300 303 1897

Available: Monday – Friday 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Monday and Wednesday also until 8.00 p.m.

Whilst churches are closed many are missing the comforting words and music that are so important, particularly at difficult times. There are many offerings on websites and on Facebook pages, but here is a direct phone line that has been set up to help people:
0800 804 8044



**“Resourcing Sustainable Church”: Extracts from
Summary of the Draft Proposals’**
(the full document is 64 pages in length)

‘A

‘Resourcing Sustainable Church’ is our Diocesan response, formed in consultation with over 500 people over the last 15 months, both to the reality of our current financial position - an unsustainable annual budget deficit of over 3 million pounds a year - and our deep desire to respond better to the mission context we find ourselves in today: a changing society and a world that is still reeling from the Covid-19 pandemic. As we work together to become a healthy, vibrant, sustainable church, serving every part of Greater Lincolnshire with the transforming message of Jesus, our task is as it always was, but we know that in order to achieve it, we have to change together.

The proposals for “Resourcing Sustainable Church” address five main areas of diocesan life affecting our sustainability – both missionally and financially: the pattern of our ministerial deployment (where and how our lay and ordained ministers work); our ability to contribute parish share; our central costs; our historic assets; and our possibilities for growth. They are still a work in progress, that will be developed and refined over the next weeks through the consultations we are holding. But we are confident that they make sense, that they are doable; and that they provide a way forward for us as a diocesan family, to be faithful in our worship, confident in our discipleship and joyful in our service: together.

Proposals for Ministerial Deployment

The proposals for deployment set a vision for a collaborative way of working. We suggest ministry will be delivered through what we call Local Mission Partnerships (LMPs; previous working title Local Ecclesial Areas), which are groups of churches and parishes covenanting to work together in locally discerned ways, within an agreed diocesan framework. There will be collaboration between incumbents and between clergy and lay ministers, in order to reduce isolation, to increase wellbeing, and to encourage creative, effective ministry through the sharing of planning, gifts, and experience. We are not expecting to see immediate wide-scale parish reorganisation, and to begin with we envisage that these working arrangements will be local agreements rather than legal arrangements, but many ways forward are possible. For collaborative mission and ministry to flourish, we are suggesting it may well be good for each LMP to have at least 3 stipendiary posts.

As part of this new way of working we recognise that not all churches are the same and can focus on the same things. God encourages variety! So, we are hoping that each church will complete a process of self-reflection to discern the type of church it might be for its wider area, how this connects with other churches in its LMP and how this might affect how we then work together? The aim is to make the best use of all the rich ministerial resource, both clergy and lay, that is available to us. We see a mixture of what we are calling Key Mission Churches, Local Mission Churches, Community Churches, and Festival Churches, all working together for the good of the communities they are there to serve

We recognise that this way of working more collaboratively across wider areas and with different churches in different ways may feel challenging for many of us. But we believe it is a model which will help us become sustainable as a diocese. We also believe that it may well help us to become more effective missionally at this point in time.

We realise these proposals have not given a direct answer to the question “What will happen to my church, my priest and my area?” You will also note we do not give an answer to “How many stipendiary priests will we have by 2025?” This is because it is our own individual response to the proposals which will determine this – we can each make a difference. In our thinking we have so far worked on models of 80 stipends (based on 2020 income levels), 90 stipends (based on 2019 income levels), or 100 stipends (based on an aim for increased income). Ultimately it is the decisions which we make locally that will determine these eventual numbers.

Proposals for Parish Share

We are suggesting that the current formula-based system of parish share allocation will be replaced by an approach that involves what we are calling Covenant Giving. Just as individual Christians pledge to give to their churches, so too local churches will prayerfully pledge a financial contribution to support their local ministry costs. The money raised through parish share will help pay for the stipends, national insurance, pension and housing of the paid parish priests – at present a combined cost of around £55k a year. Money currently received from National Church called Lowest Income Community Funding, will be used to support ministry costs in the most deprived LMPs, to ensure that we are able to sustain ministry in some of our more deprived areas. We plan to have a team of Covenant Pastors who will support the roll-out of the Covenant Scheme. Working in pairs from April 2021, they will visit parishes to assist them in forming their

covenanted pledge. These pledges will need to be realistic, but we trust ambitious. Our hope is for each LMP to be self-sustaining by 2025 (mindful of the fact that to achieve this some will also need Lowest Income Funding support). Our hope, moreover, is that in time, mutual care and financial support will develop between congregations, parishes and benefices. If a parish is unable to honour its covenanted pledge, might not the LMP's other parishes cover the shortfall and support the under-paying parish in addressing the root causes of the issue?

Proposals for Growth

We know we can grow as a Church in Greater Lincolnshire, in numbers, in diversity of worshippers and in our service to our communities. We understand that local areas will be best placed to plan for, deliver and monitor this growth, with different expectations for different types of communities and for different church type. We know that there is need for relevant, effective support and training. We would like to see at least 1 voluntary 'Mission Enabler' in each DP, forming a working group across the diocese. Mission Enablers will support the design and implementation of locally agreed Enabling Discipleship Growth Programmes in each DP, equipping people to become, as Pope Francis puts it, "a church of missionary disciples": disciples who make disciples. Our fertile land has supported growth for centuries. We now need to grow new generations of rural, urban, coastal and market town Lincoln Christians, and we can together.

Conclusion

Taken together, the proposals that will go to Synod set a vision for the collaborative church which we believe we must now become, in order to flourish as the Diocese of Lincoln into the next five years and beyond. They are, however, still work in progress, and can still be changed and refined. Therefore, please talk about them, pray about them, and if you choose, please write to us about them at: rsc@lincoln.anglican.org or Resourcing Sustainable Church, Edward King House, Minster Yard, Lincoln, LN2 1PU. Please take what you read to God, in your heart and in your mind. Seek his guidance. And thank you for all that you are in your Christian faith and life and discipleship.

Bishop Christopher, Bishop David and Bishop Nicholas

HOLBEACH COMMUNITY LARDER & CAFE



Food Bank and Cafe

If you are struggling to feed your family over the summer, or indeed at any time, please don't be afraid to ask for help.

We will not judge you and are here to help you. We know that times are tough for everybody and that jobs are under threat.

We will simply ask you your name, address and the number of adults and children (and their ages) in your household and any special needs or allergies.

You can get a food parcel in one of 3 ways:

- Ring or text the number below and we will deliver your parcel on a Wednesday between 12.00-1.00
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- Come in person to the Reading Rooms between 10.00-12.00, follow our Covid 19 guidelines, and we will pack a parcel for you there and then.

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Holbeach Reading Rooms

Next door to the Old Library on Church Street

Ring or text 07511 091637

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NEWS ABOUT APPOINTMENTS IN THE AREA

The Bishop of Grantham is pleased to announce the appointment of the Revd Paul Carey-Slater as Interim Priest in Charge of Sutton Bridge in the diocese of Lincoln. The Revd Paul Carey-Slater has most recently been working as Minister of Grange Park Local Ecumenical Partnership in the Peterborough Diocese.

The licensing service will take place at 7pm, June 7 2021 at St Matthew's Church.

Michaela (Micki) Carey-Slater has been appointed as Deanery Youth & Children's Worker and Diocesan Youth & Children's Mission & Ministry Enabler. Micki has worked for many years as a Youth and Children's worker within charities and the church. It is hoped that Micki will start her post in early June. The Deanery is indebted to the Mary Bass Trust for providing 2/3rds of her salary for this post.

Arrival of Sister Maria Clarissa

The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Christ are coming to reside in the parish of Holbeach, serving the Roman Catholic Church. The Sisters are a Nigerian Congregation. Eventually, there could be up to three Sisters residing in Holbeach. At the moment it still has not been finalised who will move permanently into the Parish House, but Father Jim, the Catholic priest from Spalding, is very pleased to announce that Sr. Maria Clarissa ('Sister Clarissa') has been appointed as the 'Parish Sister' and will be assisting him in the pastoral care of the parishioners.

Sr. Clarissa is an experienced Parish Sister, having previously held similar positions in Liverpool and London. Sister is coming to us from Birmingham – and she will arrive in Holbeach on Monday, 22nd March.

Recent events at St Mary Magdalene Gedney have reminded me of a visit to the above, oh some four or five years ago when a group of us had the pleasure of an hours ringing on the six bells in this tower.

These are a mixed lot of various dates and founders, the Treble and No 2 by Joseph Eayre dated 1768, No 3 by Richard Holdfield dated 1603, No4 by our old friend Thomas Osborn of Downham Market dated 1792, No 5 by Tobias Norris of Stamford dated 1622 with the tenor, cast by Taylor dated 1905, weighing 15 ½ cwt and probably a recast of an earlier bell . It has a fine tone and the overall tone of all six is good, rather better than the bells of adjacent Walpole St Peter, but unfortunately they are rarely rung. Why? Well the church is redundant and has been since I believe, 1984 when the congregation had shrunk to “one little old lady”-or so I was informed.

Peter Butler remembers better times when on Whit Mondays he would cycle there for Guild quarterly meetings, lovely summer weather and tea on the vicarage lawns. Records tell us , 37 peals have been rung on these bells, the first of minor in three methods on May 19th 1906 and the last, bob minor on November 3rd 2001. I believe the church is still consecrated and there is no reason why there shouldn't be the occasional peal. I recall our being complemented following our visit. Getting into the church may be likened to entering Fort Knox, a multiplicity of keys, no doubt necessary as the building is Grade One Listed and looked after by the Churches Conservation Trust. The ringing room is a mezzanine, similar to ours at Gedney and offers an excellent view of the nave and chancel. Very sad indeed as at the time of our visit the organ was covered, white salt encrusted pillars, the whole an empty shell which was once the centre of the village.

The recent events at Gedney mentioned above are, of course, that sadly we have been without a Rector for the past two years . Future arrangements indicate that Rev. Adrian Mason was our last, which is a great shame . I know from my bell ringing activities-churches such as Sutton St James now have only one service per month. We did have three at Gedney and I cannot help but think that if we operate a similar roster to that at Sutton St James then this is the beginning of the end. I sincerely hope not, being an optimist ,so let us hope our ultimate fate will not be similar to that of Walpole St Andrew.

John Bennett



FLEET CHURCH NEWS



50/50Club

Winners

1. £30 Annabelle Wright
2. £20 Miranda Morris
3. £10 Norma Bell

To end with a good piece of news:

EASTER DAY EUCHARIST

SUNDAY, 4TH APRIL

9.00 A.M.

Please do come and support this service
– the first one to be held in St Mary
Magdalene Church, Fleet, for over a year



FLEET CHURCH NEWS

SERVICES AT FLEET

It is hoped that there will be one service a month held at St Mary Magdalene Church, Fleet, at 9.00 a.m. on the first Sunday of every month.

Baptism, wedding and funeral services may be organised in the church.

Discussions will take place regarding when the church might be open for private prayer or for any other events or activities, as and when Covid restrictions are fully lifted.

The intention is for an APCM to be organised before the end of May.

An article in the magazine explains the 'Resourcing Sustainable Church' initiative and outlines what decisions have to be taken about each church in the Diocese and a sustainable way forward for the churches.

Whilst there are no churchwardens for Fleet Church at present, the PCC can have the joint authority to keep the church open for services, but in the long term there will be discussions about having joint PCCs across parishes and appointing churchwardens to more than one church.

PROVISIONAL OUTINGS PLANNED

Saturday, 24th July

Outing to Holt and Sheringham, by coach and steam train



Monday, 29th November

Christmas Show at Thursford, with a stop in Holt for lunch

£48



Please contact Evelyn Penney for further information about these outings and to book places

e.penney@btinternet.com

01406 490045

FLEET VILLAGE

YARD SALE

SATURDAY 22ND MAY 2021

Sell your unwanted items on your drive

**Please register to get your drive marked on the
street map**

Cost is £10 in aid of the park improvements

**No animals, firearms or weapons allowed to be
sold.**

CONTACT 01406 490045

FOR MORE DETAILS

COVID RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY

ST MARY MAGDALENE NEWS

TABLETALK LUNCH

Tabletalk Lunches are cancelled until further notice but we do hope you all stay safe and keep well. We look forward to welcoming you all back once this worrying time is past. Please let us know of anyone who might be feeling isolated and appreciate a phone call.

You can contact us either by phone or email on-:

Jane Webb – 01406 363673 janeandwilliamwebb@hotmail.com

Jill Duffey – 01406 365586 jillduffey@argonet.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES AT GEDNEY

GREAT NEWS. Church services will resume on Sunday 28th March. To begin with Gedney will hope to have two regular services a month on the 2nd and 4th Sundays but an Easter Eucharist has been arranged for Sunday 4th April. Unfortunately singing is still not allowed but our organist, Peter Graper, has very kindly said he will accompany our services. We are most grateful to Rev Julie Willingham and David Smith in supporting Gedney Church and making these services possible.

Services for April are to be-:

Sunday 4th April – Easter Day – 11.00 Easter Eucharist

Sunday 11th April – Easter 2 – 11.00 Communion Service

Sunday 25th April – Easter 4 – 11.00 Morning Prayer

Church continues to be open every day for private prayer, and hand sanitizer etc. is available in the porch. If you would like to be included with those who receive the pew sheet electronically then please send an email to

janeandwilliamwebb@hotmail.com

ST MARY MAGDALENE NEWS

RESOURCING SUSTAINABLE CHURCH

You will have read the piece at the front of the magazine regarding Resourcing Sustainable Church. This is a consultation that is taking place across the whole Diocese. The Churchwardens, Secretary and Treasurer are involved in the consultation process and are doing their very best to convey the wishes of this area to those who will be making the decisions.

Any comments should be sent directly to rsc@lincoln.anglican.org

ST MARY MAGDALENE GEDNEY



FLEET BAPTIST NEWS

From Pastor Ross Dean @ Fleet Baptist Church

At this time of strain when so many of our movements and interactions are restricted, it is good to be reminded that we are still invited to come home to God who remains the source of our life.

Here is a priority for the people of God at this time, to practice those disciplines that take us deeper into God.

You know what they are – prayer, Bible engagement and time set aside to meet with God in the quietness of our hearts.

“One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.” Psalm 27:4&5.

Fleet Baptist Church is closed at present for public services and other events.

Of course we are still open to support our friends through funerals and other family events, but with restricted numbers.

We are only ever a telephone call or an E-mail away, and will always return your calls if you leave a message

Be assured of our love and prayers during this time of Lock-down, and may you open your hearts and ears to listen to what God has to say to you.

God bless and keep safe

Ross

ST LUKE'S NEWS

Sadly, due to the covid virus restrictions and risks , it was not possible to hold any Christmas services . However, the church was opened every day in December for private prayer from 10-4. The Advent candles were displayed as well as a small Christmas tree for the benefit of any visitors. Hand sanitizer was made available to keep everyone safe.

For the immediate future the church will remain closed apart from Sundays 10- 4pm.

Best wishes to church warden Kay who is making great progress after a hip



Welcome to your Mobile Library Service

The timetable below shows when the mobile library will be in your area from

April 2021 – March 2022

Wednesday Route 1 (Click & Pick South)

April	May	June	July	August	September
21 st	19 th	16 th	14 th	11 th	8 th
October	November	December	January	February	March
6 th	3 rd	1 st 29 th	26 th	23 rd	23 rd

The mobile library stops at the following places:

Community	Stop	Arrive	Depart
Moulton Seas End	Village Hall Seas End Road	10:15	11:00
Weston	Village Shop Car Park	11:15	12:00
Saracens Head	Saracens Head Public House	12:15	13:00
<u>Gedney</u>	Church	13:45	14:30
Holbeach St Marks	Laurels Cottage St Marks Road	15:00	15:45

Every effort is made to ensure the mobile library arrives at each stop on time.

For the latest news on this route, enquiries or renewals please contact the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782010



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However, if you need urgent dental care, help is at hand:



CALL your dental practice:
They will give you advice over the telephone
and make arrangements for you
if you need to be seen.



If you don't have a dentist, find your nearest dentist and CALL them. You can search for your nearest dentist at: <https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist>



You can also contact NHS 111:



online
111.nhs.uk

OR



CALL 111
when it's
less urgent
than 999

You can ask for a translator if you need one.
NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

If you're deaf, you can:

- use the NHS 111 British Sign Language service:
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or
- call 18001 111 on a textphone

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Thursday. Keep fit 9.30-10.25 contact Karen on 07957440333

Rehab 1.30-3.30 contact Jack/Rosemary on 01406 424831

Friday. M&A Auction. Viewing from 4.00

**Auction starts at 6.00 contact Annette/Michelle on 01406 371024 or
07936109884.**

Any other questions please e mail me.

Regards Chris

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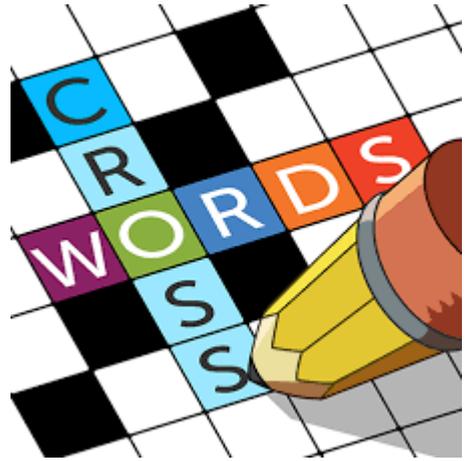
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**South Lincolnshire**

**Blind Society**

## **JOIN OUR CAMPAIGN TO END LONELINESS AND SOCIAL ISOLATION**

South Lincolnshire Blind Society provides support and advice to help visually impaired people, improving their independence and increasing their quality of life.

**We have people living with sight loss who have been waiting for 6 months or more in your area!!**

**Do you have a few hours to spare and enjoy making new friends??**

**Why not become a Volunteer??**

We are looking for Volunteers to join our **Home Befriending** service within the Spalding area. If you are friendly, outgoing, have a good listening ear and a bit of time to spare then please call us today...

Together we can end Loneliness.

**Call: 01476 592775**

or e-mail: [slbs@blind-society.org.uk](mailto:slbs@blind-society.org.uk)

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## **Defibrillators in Fleet & Gedney**

There are now two defibrillators in Fleet.

The first is on the outside of the Rose and Crown, Fleet Hargate, and the second is at the Branches Lane side of the Fleet Road Garage.

A defibrillator now exists outside Victory Hall, Gedney.

They also exist at the Co-Op food stores of Holbeach,

Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge.



## **Counselling in Holbeach**

### **Natalie Blanchflower**

Integrative Christian counsellor working with a range of issues: depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, loss, trauma, relationships difficulties etc.

**Contact me via email for more information:  
[natalieblanchflower@gmail.com](mailto:natalieblanchflower@gmail.com)**

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Like us on facebook: Act II Theatre Company  
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## MONDAYS

Singing and acting lessons working towards Trinity exams.

£50 per 6-wk term

Taught in small groups of a max of 6 people.



## TUESDAYS

Pint-Sized Players School yrs 3-6 4:30-6pm (doors open 4pm) £6.60

## WEDNESDAYS

Drama Secondary age 4:30pm-6pm (doors open 4pm) £7.20

Choir 7-20 years old 6pm-7pm (doors open 5:45pm) £4.80

## THURSDAYS

Music Theatre Junior School yrs 7-9 4:30pm-6pm (doors open 4pm) £7.20

Music Theatre Senior School yrs 10+ 6:30pm-8pm  
(doors open 6:15pm) £7.20



## FRIDAYS

Imagination Station Age 4 - yr2 4pm-5pm  
(doors open 3:45pm) £4.80

Advanced Skills 14-20 years old 5:30pm-8pm  
(doors open 5:15pm) £7.20



## SATURDAYS

Mini Musical Junior School yrs 3-4 9:15-10:45am  
(doors open 9am) £6.60

Mini Musical Senior School yrs 5-6 11:15am-1pm  
(doors open 11am) £6.60

All prices include VAT

All staff are fully DBS checked.

Directors are trained to degree level drama.

Please ring, email or drop in for more details about any of our classes. We look forward to meeting you!



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**East Elloe**  
**Good Neighbour Scheme**

**To get in touch phone**

**0800 999 1894**

**9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.**

**Monday to Friday**

**A few details will be taken and you  
will be matched to a volunteer.**

**Leave a message if you get the answerphone**

**Volunteers will be able to help with:**

Shopping - Having a friendly chat - Collecting prescriptions - Filling in forms/letter writing - Transport to and from appointments/clubs - Pet care - Returning library books - Light gardening or household tasks

Help can be given to anyone over 18 in the East Elloe area who has just come out of hospital, whose normal support network is away or because of the Covid situation and self isolation

**Volunteers required to run the scheme**

Might you be able to help with:

Call handling – publicity – social media – fundraising – tasks listed above?

To find out more about volunteering contact by email: [ee-gnsvol@gmail.com](mailto:ee-gnsvol@gmail.com)

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

This is taken very seriously, as all volunteers sign a confidentiality statement. There is a Data Protection Policy and all legislation is complied with.

**DONATIONS** to help with running the scheme may be made by contacting:

[ee-gns20@gmail.com](mailto:ee-gns20@gmail.com)