



The Parish of The Asterby Group Newsletter

July^{to}
August
2025

All information contained within this newsletter is assumed correct at time of publication.

Summer's Embrace: Finding Refreshment in the Everyday

As the days stretch out, and July and August warms us, there's a distinct feeling of a natural pause. For many, summer is a time for holidays, for slow mornings, and for reconnecting with loved ones. It's a season that invites us to step away from the usual routines and embrace a different rhythm. Summer offers unique opportunities for refreshment – not just of the body, but of the spirit too.

From a Christian perspective, this idea of refreshment is deeply woven into our understanding of faith. The Bible speaks often of rest, of renewal, and of finding solace in God's presence. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus invites us: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." This isn't just about physical tiredness; it speaks to the deeper weariness that can accumulate in our minds and souls from the demands of life.

But what does this mean for us today, in our busy, often noisy world? And how can this resonate with everyone, regardless of their personal beliefs?

For many in our agricultural community, August isn't a time for slowing down; it's the opposite. For those working the land, these months are often the culmination of a year's hard work, with harvest in full swing. The days are long and demanding, with early starts and late finishes, racing against the weather. The idea of "rest" can feel like a distant dream.

Yet, even amidst the busiest periods, there are opportunities for a different kind of refreshment. The satisfaction of a well-tended field, the sight of abundant crops, or the camaraderie shared during a long day's work

– these are moments that can nourish the spirit. There's a profound connection to creation in agricultural life, a daily reminder of growth, sustenance, and the cycles of life. This connection can be a source of strength and wonder.

Firstly, summer encourages us to embrace simplicity. Think of a perfectly ripe strawberry, the cool breeze on a hot day, or the sound of birdsong. These are simple pleasures, often overlooked in our rush. Taking time to notice and appreciate these small gifts can bring a surprising sense of peace. For those of faith, these moments can be seen as glimpses of grace, reminders of the beauty and abundance of creation. For others, it's a practice in mindfulness, a way to anchor ourselves in the present and find contentment in what is genuinely good. Even when work is relentless, taking a moment to appreciate these things can offer a brief, vital pause.

Secondly, summer is a time for connection. Holidays bring families together, and longer evenings invite conversations with neighbours. These connections are vital for our well-being.



We are, by nature, relational beings. Investing time in genuine, face-to-face interaction – away from screens and distractions – nourishes our souls. From a Christian standpoint, this mirrors the emphasis on community and loving our neighbour. For everyone, it reinforces the truth that shared experiences and mutual support make life richer and more meaningful. For farming families, the shared effort of harvest often strengthens bonds, even as it tests endurance.

Thirdly, the longer days can inspire us to explore and wonder. Whether it's discovering a new walking path, visiting a historical site, or simply spending time under the stars, summer can reignite a sense of awe. This is a powerful antidote to cynicism and monotony. For Christians, this wonder can lead to a deeper appreciation of the Creator. For everyone, it can be a profound experience of humility and perspective, recognising the vastness and intricacy of the world around us. It's a chance to step outside our everyday concerns and consider something larger than ourselves. For those who work the land, this wonder is often a daily companion – the miracle of seed to harvest.

Finally, summer offers an invitation to slow down and just 'be'. In our achievement-driven culture, it's easy to feel guilty about unproductive time. Yet, true refreshment often comes from simply existing, without a task to complete or a goal to achieve. This is where we can truly listen – to ourselves, to each other, and perhaps, for those who seek it, to a deeper spiritual whisper. This quiet time allows for reflection, for processing, and for simply breathing. We recognise that for many, particularly in farming, this 'slowing down' is a luxury. But even a few moments – a cup of tea in the quiet of the morning, a brief moment to look up at the vastness of the summer sky – can provide a much-needed mental and spiritual break amidst the demands of the day.

So, as July and August progress, let's consciously lean into the gifts they offer, whether we are resting or working. Let's find refreshment in the wonder of nature, the warmth of human connection, and the quiet joy of simply being. May these summer months be a time of true renewal for us all, leaving us invigorated and ready for whatever the changing seasons may bring.

The Asterby Group Ministry Team

Deadline for next Newsletter

All articles and adverts for inclusion in the **September October 2025** edition to be with Sue, on **07826 772452** or email: **moomoski@btinternet.com** by **15th August 2025**. Please let me have your items written out, or, preferably emailed, as you would like them to appear, and as early as possible, **please don't wait until the deadline**.

To place an advert please contact Sue on the above number. All items on behalf of the church have no charge. Any other events or adverts will have a minimal charge. This helps to maintain and develop your newsletter. Contact **Sue** by email here at **moomoski@btinternet.com**

Stamps, foreign coins, banknotes and postcards, used or new, are still being collected by Sue. All these items can be placed in the 'stamp collection boxes' in most of the churches or directly to me at Bramley House, Benniworth. **07826 772452**.



Newsletter July 2025

Playground and Amenities - Playground Repairs:

We are actively pursuing quotations for the replacement of fencing around the playground area, thus allowing additional space for proposed new equipment. Replacement fencing is intended to be in place for late summer and will include a new playground area access gate, along with a new gated entranceway onto the play park, combined with disability and wheelchair access.

As previously reported the playground is beginning to show its age. With this in mind the council aim to put into place a program of repairs to the current apparatus whilst actively seeking additional new equipment. Once again it is hoped some could be in place this autumn.

The parish council will continue to review their opportunities for future potential upgrades of new play equipment including some replacement of or addition more modern equipment.

Council Membership

Current Vacancies: further to the last parish council meeting being postponed at very short notice, a new vacancies notice will be placed again in time for the next parish council meeting in July. It is hoped we can co-op new members.

If you are interested and if you have not already have done so, please submit your intention by email to the clerk of the parish council or in person at the next council meeting which is scheduled for 8pm on Tuesday 8th July 2025.

Allotments

At time of writing one half allotment is currently available from the end of this autumn for 2026. If you are interested please contact Fred, the allotments manager via the clerk at doningtononbainpc@gmail.com or register your interest in person prior to a council meeting.

Allotment Watch: Allotments will be closely monitored throughout the Summer and Autumn period.

Biscathorpe Planning Application.

It's now understood this case has been sent back to the planning inspectorate for further consideration following on from the Supreme Court ruling of last summer of July 2024.

Following on from from the May and June's short paragraph on our resident Sparrow Hawks, this feature attracted much interest amongst villagers with some really positive comments. Perhaps this could be an opportunity for the start of a regular article going forward? Would anyone be interested in contributing to a regular Nature and Garden-Watch seasonal feature, then please get in touch. At the beginning of June it was noted our Greater Spotted Woodpeckers had raised their young having made their first appearance since fledging with the male parent feeding throughout the coming week. The majority of our garden birds are now on the second brood with some already having fledged. The resident Blackbirds population appears to have done particularly well given their difficult feeding conditions throughout the spring. They were most likely to have been helped enormously by the number of villagers who placed water, food and feeders for all our garden birds.

This Spring has proved to be an extremely difficult period for all our wildlife. Nonetheless it would seem to have survived and surprisingly, excelled in what has been an unusually dry period for the Lincolnshire Wolds. June now appears to have brought with it some of our April showers. They must have stopped off for a tea break or been delayed somewhere. Joking apart the rain has given our gardeners a much needed boost. Anyone wishing a more detailed weather forecast please check out the Met Office website and type in Cadwell Park, this provides a fairly accurate up to the minute forecast for local Wolds weather.

Date of the Next Parish Meeting 8:00pm Tuesday 8th July 2025.

Mobile Library Service



Donington on Bain, Post Office : Arrives 10.00am - departs 10.30am
Benniworth, Tennyson Close : Arrives 10.45am - departs 11.15pm

July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
17th	14th	11th	9th	6th	4th

For enquiries or renewals contact the customer service centre on 01522 782010

Asterby and Goulceby Parish Council

<http://asterby-goulceby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>



The last meeting of the Council took place on 7th May at the Three Horseshoes which was the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Prior to this the Annual Parish Meeting took place at which it was noted that following the recent elections the Louth Wolds District had a new County Councillor – Alex McGonicle. The Chair of the Parish Council briefly summarised the activities of the Council over the last year.

Following this, the Parish Council annual meeting took place. The majority of the agenda was taken up with annual governance formalities which were required at this time of year. The Audit report raised no issues around governance or financial matters and the accounts were received and approved at the meeting noting that there was £1,597 in cash reserves held at the end of the year (31st March 2025). The annual insurance renewal was approved at a cost of £340 and it was also agreed to switch to on-line banking with the Council's current bank.

Daniel Simpson (District Councillor) provided an update on district matters.

A discussion took place around possible traffic calming on the blind bend on Butt Lane, Goulceby. Following the meeting, the Chair of the Parish Council met with LCC Highways and as a result 'Slow' signs have been painted on both sides of the bend to help slow traffic down on the approaches to the bend. Thanks to our new County Councillor and Highways for helping with this.

Other traffic calming measures around the three 60mph approaches to Goulceby village were also discussed. It was noted that in many other surrounding villages where speed limits change from 60mph to 30mph the use of white 'Village Gates' at or near the speed changes are in use. Research has shown that the use of such gates is an effective speed reduction solution as they help create a 'sense of place' on the approach to villages. It was agreed that this would be explored with LCC Highways initially. A discussion with Highways subsequently took place and they have agreed in principle to the siting of gates at the three entrances to Goulceby. The Parish Council is now looking into funding but in the meantime would like to hear from residents as to whether it is considered to be a good idea or otherwise. If you have a view, please email the Parish Council Clerk at agparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Parish Council Vacancies

As previously reported, there are still three vacancies on the Parish Council, and should anyone be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor they should contact the Parish Clerk (Diane De Halle) by emailing Diane at agparishcouncil@gmail.com.

Asterby and Goulceby Parish Council

The current councillors are:

Jon Mold (Chair) - Sycamore Lodge, Goulceby

Ian Taylor - Lavoir, Goulceby

Graham Johnson - Lindores, Goulceby

Contact details are on the Council's website <https://asterby-goulceby.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk/>

Goulceby Open Gardens

Our church has been visited frequently this year by walkers and others interested in the church and graveyard. Many have enjoyed the refreshments available in the church. Services have been held both in the church, and the annual Good Friday Red Hill procession which this year was led by the Bishop of Lincoln. The Friends of Goulceby Church organised a very successful Open Gardens event which was well attended and raised valuable funds for the restoration project. We thank you all for your continued support of our village church as a community space for all to enjoy.

Caroline Taylor - June 2025

Grant funding

As reported in the last newsletter, in its budget for the 25/26 year the Parish Council has a (very) small budget to allow for some grant funding. The eligibility for grant funding is as follows:

To qualify for a grant, the applicant must be able to demonstrate that any funding provided by the Parish Council will be of benefit to the Parish of Asterby and Goulceby, or its residents.

The Parish Council will not normally make grants to organisations outside of the parish unless it can be demonstrated that there are direct benefits to the Parish.

Grants will not be awarded towards day to day running costs, and the project must be sustainable without continuous funding from the Parish Council. The application should provide clear details of what the proposed funding will be used for itemising, where applicable, services to be provided or equipment to be purchased along with costs such that the Council can determine the exact proposed use of the applied for funds. Please email the Parish Council Clerk at agparishcouncil@gmail.com if you are interested in making an application for grant funding support.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 7pm, venue TBC.

**The return of Coffee, Cake and Chat
Mornings in 2025 ... you are warmly invited**
All Saints Church, Goulceby



on Tuesday 2nd September - 10am to 12 noon
All welcome

A huge thank you

Thank you to all those who came, supported, helped and baked for our Open Gardens event at Goulceby this year. It was a great success, everyone enjoyed themselves, the sun shone and we raised over £1700 towards the church restoration fund. Especial thanks to all the gardeners who were willing to show off their gardens, to Marcelle who organised the teas, and Richard and Chrisandra, without whom the event could not have run.



Coffee, Cake and Chat

Donington on Bain Village Hall



First Thursday of the month at 10.30am - all welcome !

Message from Pam Cade

Thank you everyone who helped to make my 90th birthday so special. I hesitated about having a party because Judy is very ill. We decided to have a big, family Macmillan party and raised £675 for Macmillan Cancer Support, with the help of generous people in our group of parishes. My family and I are very grateful to friends who gave to Macmillan and those who are praying for Judy. Our prayers have been answered, not with a miraculous recovery, but Judy is now in a wonderful hospice where patients are given holistic care. She has a light, spacious room with French windows which open onto a garden. She has plenty of visitors including friends from Church. One of them took a guitar and they sang hymns and choruses. She is very cheerful and content.



Judy with two of her grandchildren.



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Many extras included, cushions, curtains, crockery and cutlery, plus pans to cook, even a toaster and kettle. Waste water cassette, fresh water barrel, gas bottle, Leisure Battery. Electric hook up cable, even the mirrors for your car!

Genuine reason for sale as we have had many wonderful trips.

We've gone to the dark side and bought a campervan !

Comes with AL-KO Towbar lock (Nobody is getting this off!!)

More photos available. Ease of use can be demonstrated.

Contact Helen on 07919 151493



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Donington on Bain

SCARECROW FESTIVAL



**Friday 22nd – Monday
25th August 2025
All around the village**

**Get ready for a weekend of
creativity, colour and community!**



Whats happening? **Want to join in?**

- Scarecrow Trail
- Charity contributions welcome 
- Certificates for the winners
- Trail maps available from Karl Kay (details below) or on the Donington on Bain Community Facebook page. 

Bring your camera, wear a smile, then cast your votes on the back of the trail map. 

Get added to the map

-  Text, Whatsapp, or call Karl on 07713 175453 or email to karl.kay@outlook.com
- 

Have your Scarecrows ready from 5pm on Friday the 22nd. Contact Karl to have your scarecrow location added to the trail map 

Suggested entry is £2.50 per scarecrow, but donate more if you wish, please make donations on your way around, maybe have a bucket ready near your scarecrow. Every penny collected will go to Cancer Research UK.



**Lets fill the village with
laughter, imagination and a
touch of straw filled magic !**

The trail map will be published on Thursday 21st August showing all of the scarecrow locations.

JULY	
WEDNESDAY 2ND 7:30PM	STOP!...YOU'RE KILLING ME - A DETECTIVE SPOOF
SATURDAY 12TH 2:30PM	RIVERHEAD YOUTH THEATRE PRODUCTION - PHANTOM OF THE P'OPERA
THURSDAY 17TH 8PM	COMEDY NIGHT
SATURDAY 19TH 7:30PM	LET THERE B/DC
WEDNESDAY 23RD - SATURDAY 26TH	CHAPTER 34 - STUDIO 2000
AUGUST	
THURSDAY 7TH - SATURDAY 9TH 7:30PM	SENIOR SUMMER WORKSHOP PRODUCTION - THE GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF MUSICAL
SATURDAY 16TH 2:30PM	MUSICAL MEMORIES: FROM SCREEN TO STAGE
SEPTEMBER	
TUESDAY 2ND 8PM	LIVE IN THE FOYER - JEFF HOWELL
TUESDAY 9TH - SATURDAY 13TH 7:30PM	CALENDAR GIRLS
THURSDAY 18TH 7:30PM	A CELEBRATION OF NILE RODGERS - FREAK OUT

Tickets are available online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Tickets can also be purchased by calling the Box Office

Open Monday to Saturday 10am -1pm or visiting **www.louthriverheadtheatre.com**

Online booking for any performance closes one hour before curtain up.

On performance days the Box Office is open for 45 minutes prior to curtain up.

Asterby Parish Services in July

Date	Location	Service	Time
6th July	St German's Church, Ranby	Holy Communion	10am
13th July	St. Helen's Church, Burgh on Bain	Morning Praise	10am
20th July	St. Andrew's Church, Donington on Bain	Holy Communion	10am
27th July	St Martin's Church, Scamblesby	Morning Praise	10am

Parish Prayer Circle

The Prayer Circle continues in its ministry of supporting and sustaining the life of our parish in prayer. During July and August we shall be praying especially for the communities of STENIGOT and ASTERBY and for everyone living and working there. Our prayers, too, will be offered for PEACE in our increasingly troubled world - for innocent victims of conflict, wherever it is found, and especially for the millions of children whose lives are being destroyed by warfare, violence and famine and praying that a spirit of RESPECT and RECONCILIATION may grow among all nations and that world leaders may rule with WISDOM, with HONESTY and with INTEGRITY.



Do, please, join us in our prayers and if you feel you might like to be a part of the Parish Prayer Circle, give me a ring on 01507 313792 - Ann.

As usual, requests for prayer, always received and fulfilled in confidence, to Ann at the above number. Thank you!

'May every sunrise bring you hope, may every sunset bring you peace.' - Amen

Asterby Parish Services in August

Date	Location	Service	Time
3rd August	St. Julian's Church, Benniworth	Pet Service	10am
10th August	St. Helen's Church, Burgh on Bain	Morning Praise	10am
17th August	St. Andrew's Church, Donington on Bain	Holy Communion	10am
24th August	St Martin's Church, Scamblesby	Morning Praise	10am
31st August	All Saints Church, Goulceby	Holy Communion	10am

Benniworth's annual Pet Service is normally held outside but if wet will still take place but in the church. Do join us with your pets!

Date	Location	Service	Time
7th September	St. Helen's Church, Burgh on Bain	Morning Praise	10am

Parish Registers

Funerals: 25th June - John Gladwin at St German's Church, Ranby

Weddings: 21st June – Eleanor Johnson & Adam Fenwick at St Andrews Church, Donington-on-Bain

The Asterby Group of parishes has a web site, which is now kept up to date with details of contacts, services and events in the group.

You can find it here > www.asterbygroup.org.

Please let us have any suggestions for additional content.

We also have a Facebook page, where we post last minute changes and where you can interact with the rest of the Asterby Group community.

You can find it here > www.facebook.com/groups/asterbygroup

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South Willingham Parish and Village Hall Activities

JULY:

Wednesday 2nd Coffee & chat (free) & Willingham Winner Draw 10:30 – noon

Wednesday 2nd Art & crafts group 2 to 4 pm . (Cecilia 07799 156118)

Thursday 3rd Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10 -13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Wednesday 9th Ballroom Dance group 6.50pm. (Paul 01507 313601)

Thursday 10th Tai Chi 11:00 – 12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

SUNDAY 13th BRUNCH * 10 am to 1pm Call Jan 07834598703

*** See details on posters & flyers near the date**

Wednesday 16th Coffee and chat (free) 10:30 to noon

Thursday 17th Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Wednesday 23rd Ballroom Dance group 6.50pm. last of season (Paul 01507 313601)

Thursday 24th Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Thursday 31st Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

AUGUST:

Wednesday 6th Coffee & chat (free) & Willingham Winner Draw 10:30 – noon

Wednesday 6th Art & crafts group 2 to 4 pm . (Cecilia 07799 156118)

Thursday 7th Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10 -13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Thursday 14th -Tai Chi 11:00 – 12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Wednesday 20th Coffee and chat (free) 10:30 to noon

Thursday 21st Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

Thursday 28^h Tai Chi 11:00 -12:10 then Qigong 12.10-13.10 (Carol 07592 071523)

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The 10th Blooming Great Tea Party

on Sunday 17th August,
from 2pm to 4pm

WHICH WAY, FORD WAY,
GOULCEBY, LN11 9WD



Tray bake contest - arrive at 1.30pm, any variety, sponge cakes, shortbread, novelty loaf cakes ... each cake £2 to enter, judging at 1.30pm,

the day includes a band, raffle, endless cake, tea and quiz.

Jeff and the band will be playing again - please bring a chair and table and lots of money. We would be very grateful.

Minimum donation for coming along £10

Donations of made cakes, raffle prizes or just money donations are all gratefully received.

Every penny raised will go to Marie Curie. We look forward to hearing from you.

RSVP to 01507 343007, or at Which Way, Ford Way, Goulceby, LN11 9WD please by the end of July.

If we can raise £1,589.00 this year - We will have raised £10,000.00 in the ten years we have been holding the tea party!

Who's Who in the Group

Priest in charge

Our Oversight Minister is the Rural Dean.
Contact the South Wolds Group Administrator.

Lay Minister

Ann South, 01507 313792

Partnership Office

Debbie Knight, South Wolds Group Administrator, 01507 525600
Caroline Taylor, Safeguarding coordinator, 01507 343352

Group Parish PCC

Chair: Rotates amongst PCC members

Secretary: Caroline Taylor, 01507 343352 (for 2025/2026)

Treasurer: Sally Cosgrove, 01507 343788

Ministry Team Coordinator: Neil Walker, 07771 861202

VCC Church Wardens, Treasurers and Secretaries

Asterby : Sally Cosgrove, 01507 343788

Benniworth : Please contact the South Wolds Partnership Office, details above

Biscathorpe (closed) Church DAC at the Diocese of Lincoln

Burgh-on-Bain Judith Varley, 01507 313342 Beverlee Bird, 01507 313667
George Ward 01507 313419

Donington-on-Bain Graham & Lynne Parkinson, 01507 343500
Rosemary Parkinson, 01507 343242

Gayton John Needham, 01507 313265 Ann Needham, 01507 313628

Goulceby Caroline Taylor, 01507 343352 Sylvia Taylor-Reed, 01507 343342

Ranby Jonathan Booth (acting), 01507 343278
Russ Hibbins (acting) 01507 343581 - Di Eddington, 01507 343336

Scamblesby Derek Elmhirst, 01507 343631 Peter Myers, 01507 343680

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DONINGTON ON BAIN VILLAGE YARD SALE

The Donington on Bain Annual Tabletop and Yard Sale

Are you having a clearout? Instead of taking your unwanted items to dump, why not take part in the annual tabletop and yard sale? Simply display your unwanted or priced items outside your house on the 13th July.

For those of you who live outside the village - or wish to avoid the risk of getting wet, a limited number of tables are available in the Village Hall. The tables are £5 each.

There will be a village map showing all 'tables'.

To book a table in the Hall or to have your table included on the village map, please contact Tracy Burnham on 07775 900 738

Tea, coffee and cakes will be available in the Village Hall.



**SUNDAY
13TH JULY
10AM-1PM**

Phil Bennett

Established 1977 - C & P Heating



Oil Service Engineer



Central Heating Repairs



New Boiler Installations



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Cawkwell House, Cawkwell LN11 9SG



Upholstered Unicorn

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You can find the upholstery studio in West Ashby (1 mile from Horncastle).

Get in touch with Georgina via :

Phone – 07774 389752

Email – upholstered.unicorn@gmail.com

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Georgina Elliott

(Owner and Upholsterer)



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Accommodation available with eight en-suite, comfortably furnished rooms

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for more details**



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**Quiz Night
Last Sunday
of every
month**

Tel : 01507 343640

www.blackhorse-donington.co.uk

**Monday - Closed - open for residents only - Tuesday - Closed - open for residents only
Wednesday - 11.30 to 2pm, 4.30pm to finish - Thursday - 11.30am to 2pm, 4.30pm to finish
Friday - 11.30am to 2pm, 4.30pm to finish - Saturday - 11.30am to 2pm, 4.30pm to finish
Sunday - 11.30am to 4.30pm - Closed in the evening, open for residents only* except quiz night**

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