

ISSUE 010

Capacity Buildings Ltd

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ALMSHOUSE

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE NEWS



A WARM WELCOME TO 2026

In this issue, we look at ways in your local community that you can engage in positive, social activities, find winter warmth in conversation and keep the January blues well away.

DEAR RESIDENTS

We would like to start by wishing you all a **Happy New Year** and a very **warm welcome to 2026**.

At the coldest time of the year, and with the festive season now at a close, it's important **maintain connections** and **come together with warmth and happiness**.



Grimsby's Sailor's & Fishing Dwellings: Doughty Road (photography by The Grant Outdoors)

A WARM WELCOME

Come and find us during **National Warm Welcome Week** from **Monday, 19th January to Sunday, 25th January 2026**.

Find your local community hub - go out and about in your local neighbourhood - engage in positive activities - **make some precious memories to share** with others this year.

By coming together during this annual warm welcome week, we can jointly create a surge of colourful **winter warmth and happiness** at the coldest time of year, when you may be feeling a bit low after the festive season and spend some time **chatting and enjoying good company**.

Source credit: the Good Health Foundation

Here's a **link to warm spaces across North East Lincolnshire**, many of which also offer lots of different community activities and social events you may be interested in near where you live

[Warm Spaces - Connect NEL](#)

You can find your nearest **Warm Welcome Space** by searching the online map. The map enables you to **search by your location** and will show you all the local Warm Welcome Spaces close to where you live.

Use the [Online map](#)



As some of you may know, **Blue Monday falls on the third Monday of January, which is the 19th this year** and is generally identified as being the most depressing day of the year.

This is based on a combination of factors, including poor seasonal weather conditions, high debt levels, post-Christmas sadness and failed New Year resolutions!

Whilst the scientific evidence is often debated, **this day has become a culturally significant one for discussing mental health**, including Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) in January.

This day also reminds us to check our self-care levels and those of others we know, as many people experience low mood and lack of self-motivation despite much talk of resolutions.

Source credit: [Awareness Days UK](#)

Various organisations and community groups use Blue Monday to raise awareness about mental health concerns and encourage and **support open conversations about emotional wellbeing**. Many of the warm spaces would welcome people to join them on 19th January if they needed **somewhere safe to go, enjoy refreshments and talk to their staff and volunteers impartially**.



BLUE
MONDAY

DOUGHTY ROAD DWELLINGS

The **Grimsby Sailors and Fishing Charity** currently manages these **43 dwellings on Doughty Road**.

The **Fishermen's Widows and Orphans Benevolent Society** initially collected donations to give to its beneficiaries following disasters at sea via its committee of members. The funds were soon depleted, so following the great gale of **9th February 1889**, the port of Grimsby experienced more disasters, and a national appeal for funds was launched, resulting in a sum of **£5000 being raised**.

On **12th July 1889**, the committee agreed that the fishermen should form a thrift society, so they and their families became subscribers, and they had access to relief funds in times of need.

On **17th September 1891**, a Royal Charter was granted to the **Royal Provident Fund**, a branch set up at the port of Grimsby and the **Widows and Orphans Benevolent Society** transferred its funds. Other subscriptions and investments were added to the Fund, and trustees considered several schemes to commemorate the **Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria** before one was agreed upon - the Doughty Road Almshouses.

Built in 1897 by Hewins and Goodhand and funded by the Royal Provident Fund to **commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee**, as stated on the foundation stone at ground level on the front of the building. Properties were for widows and orphans of fishermen lost at sea or retired sailors.

A frontage of alternate pairs of single and two-storey dwellings in brown brickwork, part tile hung, blue slate roofs. A handsome terrace of almshouses in good condition, listed as assets of special historic interest to North East Lincolnshire, and designated part of the Wellow Conservation Area.

Source: [British Newspaper Archives UK & North East Lincolnshire Council](#)

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

We'll be revisiting the **Grimsby Sailors' & Fishing Charity's** 10 bungalow dwellings located on **Castle Street in Grimsby**.

Best wishes, both myself and the team hope you have a warm, welcoming and positive start to the New Year!

Paula Grant,
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(January 2026)

HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

This scheme is offering crisis assistance to vulnerable people in households experiencing high levels of need with their cost-of-living essentials **to help prevent further hardship**. People living in almshouse properties, who qualify as residents, are already charity beneficiaries; therefore, by definition, they are in financial hardship, are **eligible for help from this fund**.

Capacity Buildings is working in partnership with the local authority to identify vulnerable people living in almshouse communities who **may not be aware of additional support** that is available. They are also working together to find and research all almshouses across the borough **to ensure residents** who qualify for charitable assistance **do not miss opportunities to be supported**.

This month, we continue to **offer FREE winter packs** to almshouse residents to help keep them warm. Please **contact us** if you would like a pack delivered to your home or would like to refer someone.

We will be working with almshouse residents who are still struggling with the cost of living expenses, even after the charitable trust investments **to prevent poverty and build financial resilience**. **If you need help** or know another resident who does, **please contact any team member** using the details listed on the back page. Your enquiry will be handled sensitively and in confidence.

Support is available by visiting **Citizens' Advice North East Lincolnshire** at 16 Town Hall Street, Grimsby, DN31 1HN or by making an appointment at **Immingham Advice Centre** in the Civic Centre Hub, Pelham Road, Immingham, DN40 1QF. Telephone: **0808 2505 701** or email: info@adviceneel.org.uk. Visit the website here: www.adviceneel.org.uk for opening times.

HEY Credit Union is a not-for-profit organisation that offers loans from £100 upwards, and only charges interest on the reducing balance. Repayments can be weekly, fortnightly, 4-weekly or monthly. **To help plan ahead for Christmas 2026 they offer a Saver account**. Participants can put away £10 a week until November 1st, which accumulates to around £500 if you start saving from early January. **For the full range of services**, handy money tips, a benefits checker, a budget planner and links to support services, [click here](#).





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