

ISSUE 011



FEBRUARY 2026

ALMSHOUSE

NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE NEWS



NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

In this issue, we're celebrating the biggest campaign in a generation, the National Year of Reading, designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it a part of their everyday lives.

DEAR RESIDENTS

With 2026 marking the year of literature, will you go all in and read?

Let's help you (re)discover the joy of reading with help from the National Literary Trust and Society for Storytelling through their wealth of resources.



Grimsby's Sailor's & Fishing Bungalow Dwellings: Castle Street (photography by Grant's Visuals)

GO ALL IN

The **National Year of Reading 2026** is the biggest campaign in a generation designed to help more people (re)discover the joy of reading and make it part of their everyday lives.

From national moments to local reading activities, events in schools and libraries across the country, as well as support from a **network of ambassadors, major organisations**, and an **army of volunteers**, 2026 will be packed with ways for everyone to get involved, reaching into all corners of society.

Reading is a great way to connect with others, whatever you're into 'Go All In' and read.

Visit GOALLIN.ORG.UK to get involved.

TELLING STORIES

In our area, **Lincs Inspire** manages four libraries and a public archive facility on behalf of North East Lincolnshire Council. As well as providing a wealth of resources, each library serves as a community hub for **weekly reading and activity groups for all ages**. You can find the libraries in Cleethorpes, Immingham, Waltham and Grimsby Town Centre (temporarily closed).

You can find out more information about these libraries here: [Libraries & Archives - Lincs Inspire](#), and reading-related activities here: [Reading Groups - Lincs Inspire](#)

From **28th January to 4th February 2026**, it is National Storytelling Week. An annual event which aims to raise awareness of this ancient form of entertainment. **Over 350 nationwide storytelling events** and performances were organised this year for National Storytelling Week in Theatres, Book Shops, Libraries, Schools, Museums, Arts Centres, Storytelling Clubs, Retirement Homes and Pubs!

Find a local club or set up one of your own?

Source credit: [Society for Storytelling](#)



Source credit: [National Literary Trust](#)

CASTLE STREET BUNGALOWS

Grimsby's expansion as a major fishing port in the **late 19th and early 20th centuries** generated strong demand for worker and retiree housing near the docks.

Over time, **charitable and almshouse-type housing schemes**, like those run by the Grimsby Sailors & Fishing Charity, provided retirement homes for those who had served in the fishing industry.

The **Castle Street bungalows** are part of the **Grimsby Sailors & Fishing Charity's portfolio of almshouse-style housing stock** (the charity owns ten bungalows on this street).

They date from the **early 20th century (1900)**, similar to other working-class housing in that area.

The charity supports **retired fishermen, sailors and families connected with the local maritime and fishing trade industries** to live in these properties.

Source credit: [Charity Commission](#)

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

A look back at all the North East Lincolnshire Almshouses featured in our previous issues ...



Plus, we'll also be visiting the **Grimsby Sailors' & Fishing Charity's 12 properties** located on **Weelsby Street in Grimsby**, where there were originally 20 dwellings.

Best wishes, both myself and the team hope you (re)discover the joy of reading alongside the rest of the community.

Paula Grant,
paula@capacitybuildings.org.uk
(February 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@advicene1.org.uk. Visit the website here: www.advicene1.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](#).





CONTACT US

Address

82 Grimsby Road
Cleethorpes
North East Lincolnshire
DN35 7DP

The Team

Paula Grant (paula@capacitybuildings.org.uk)
Karl Elliott (karl@capacitybuildings.org.uk)
Richard Wendel-Jones (richard@capacitybuildings.org.uk)

Telephone

01472 897337 (answering service)

