

Community Hub News

News from the Big Local North Cleethorpes Community Hub at 82 Grimsby Road, Cleethorpes

October 2026

Welcome to October...

... and our monthly roundup of what has been going on at our community hub in Cleethorpes.

We've got our usual group activities, and a new group starting and there's always a few extras going on. Have a read and if you've not visited before we'd love to see you and show you around.

Share this newsletter with other local neighbours or friends. The more people that know what we're up to at our little hub - the better. See you soon.

What's on: October 2026

Our regular weekly groups are:

Mondays: Hobbies Group 10am-2pm

Ancestry research 12noon-4pm

Tuesdays: Craft group 12noon-3pm

Wednesday: Hobbies group 10am-2pm

Thursday: Hobbies group 10am-2pm

plus an informal, chair-based exercise session (youtube led) 1pm-2pm

Remember we are closed on Fridays.

Other monthly groups for October:

Camerados is Wed 14th October 10am-12noon. No agenda, just a time to chat (and drink tea/eat biscuits).

Our **Community Safety drop-in** will be on Tue 13th October. This month our theme is "vulnerabilities", but Karl and representatives from the Sidney Sussex Policing team are happy to chat about any community safety questions or issues you might have. Just drop in.

New Group for October our "Curious" non-fiction book and ideas club

October sees the launch of a new group at our community hub – "Curious" is our non-fiction books and ideas club.



We're launching this during **National Year of Reading** and as part of our ongoing commitment to using books and reading to

engage people. Karl who is leading the group has signed up as a National Year of Reading Champion and has managed to obtain a **small financial contribution from the Literacy Trust** to support the group with books to get started.

The group will meet face-to-face monthly at our hub. Every 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11am-12noon. But one hour a month is not enough to go very in depth on a topic – it's just a chance to fire up ideas and discussions together. So, we're also online in our own private discussion space managed by VANEL. In between meetings members of the group will be encouraged to share thoughts, ideas, chat about the books etc. The site is part of our Neighbours Together initiative across North East Lincolnshire – www.nelwatch.org.uk/neighbourstogether - register, login and head to the "Curious" space. Anyway can join Curious for free online and even in person, but space at the monthly meetings might be limited. Talk to Karl or Liz about getting connected to the Curious group. (karl@vanel.org.uk or liz@vanel.org.uk or leave a message on 01472 231 123).



This group is very different to a fiction book club. Whilst a book might be a focal point, we don't expect everyone to read the book every time. The idea and theme comes first – but the group book, or websites, blogs, substacks, reddit feeds, magazines, youtube channels or anything could help the ideas along and provide different opportunities to read. It's about expanding horizons (together) and enjoying just discussing the reading and the thoughts. Our October meeting will get us started. Let us know if you would like to join in.

Sidney Sussex Consultation



Our community hub is in the centre of the Sidney Sussex Ward and was established here by Big Local North Cleethorpes to help support the community in this ward (and Croft Baker ward). So, this month, we were pleased that three of our weekly groups had the opportunity to take part in some engagement sessions as part of **the Sidney Sussex Community Plan consultation**. It was great that they could voice what they liked best about the ward and more importantly what would make it better. Sandra Ritchie from **We Are Fish** (based at Sidney Sussex Pavilion) has been leading this piece of work and she blogged about her visit to Big Local here: <https://bit.ly/4e0oULA> If you live in Sidney Sussex ward you might want to get involved too - the survey is here: <https://bit.ly/46K1oPh>

Almshouses

Recently our Community Hub was the venue for the first meeting of **North East Lincolnshire area Almhouse Charity Trustee Meeting**. Capacity Buildings Ltd (based at 82 Grimsby Road) has received funding from the NELC Household Support Grant to reach residents of Almshouses across the North East Lincolnshire region. As part of that project since August 2025 we have produced a regular Newsletter that is hand delivered to all residents living in a local Almshouse property.



All copies of the Newsletter can be found here. <https://www.capacitybuildings.org.uk/projects/almshouses/>

The new group aims to provide the teams looking after Almshouses across North East Lincolnshire to share more support ideas with each other, network, learn from each other – all for the eventual benefit of their residents and the historic buildings they manage.

Our Little Children's Library...

... has recently had some new donations of books. The Library itself has also been re-vamped. You are more than welcome to pop in with your children/grand children to borrow a book.



Not everything takes place within the Hub at 82 Grimsby Road. So keep an eye on <https://www.facebook.com/volunteergym> (volunteering), <https://www.facebook.com/BigLocalNorthCleethorpes> (for our hub), and <https://www.facebook.com/GreenInfluencersVANEL> (for loads of Green Influencers, environment and Our Future Starts Here updates).



From the shed...

Here are some of our lovely, friendly Tuesday Craft group. They do so much more than CRAFT, they chat together, over tea and cake. Here they are enjoying our little garden on a nice sunny September afternoon. They did return indoors eventually to craft!

Meet Nigel

Nigel enjoys doing Lego, Airfix, matchstick and all forms of modelling and craft. He also repairs items. Nigel's love of model making started as a child and continued on through his teenage years. He picked up again about 15 years ago after visiting a model show. Nigel really enjoys what he does, he finds it relaxing and something he can focus on. At times it can be stressful or challenging, but he pushes through and the joy and satisfaction from a finished model is immense! Nigel says it is important not to focus on achieving perfection, it is about enjoying the completed piece you have made. The pictures below show Nigel and two of his completed works.



Volunteering

Liz works from the Community Hub Monday to Thursday during our normal opening hours. We promote Volunteer

Opportunities on behalf of a number of local organisations that subscribe to our Volunteer Development Service.

People volunteer for lots of reasons, for some people it is to gain new experiences. It maybe to get something they can add to their C.V to bring it up to date. Some of the people that contact us are recently retired and want to give back to their local Community as they have the time to. If you would like to find out more about volunteering locally then contact Liz to arrange a chat. We can meet face to face at the hub, or we can chat over the telephone. Contact me on 07562206376 or email liz@vanel.org.uk

Pop in to find out more



If you want to receive this newsletter (as a .pdf) via email then you can join our mailing list with the QR below or www.vanel.org.uk/vanel/community-hub-newsletter/#subscribe. Tell others to subscribe too.

Check out the Big Local North Cleethorpes Facebook page (@BigLocalNorthCleethorpes) or there's more information always at www.vanel.org.uk or

We're open
Mon-Thur 9am-2pm
and often until 4pm.
Closed Fridays.



The Big Local North Cleethorpes Community Hub @ 82 Grimsby Road

The Community Hub is owned and managed by VANEL (Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire). The building was originally purchased and renovated to bring it back into community use through the Big Local North Cleethorpes programme (2013-2025) and has been open as a community focused space ever since.

Find out most by following us on Facebook @BigLocalNorthCleethorpes
VANEL's website is www.vanel.org.uk
Our phone number (leave a message) is 01472 231123
or email Liz via liz@vanel.org.uk to ask anything about the hub. (or pop in)

