

July 2026
Edition 178

Newsletter



Welcome to July's RoadHoG newsletter

COME SEE THE BUS

If you have never seen the roadHoG Bus up close, you will have the opportunity at Boston Baptist Church.

Sunday 12th July - 10;30am

There will be a special Service where we will explain more of what the Project is doing, how we operate and (hopefully) bring you a few anecdotes of our interactions with local young people – many of whom have no real idea of what/who a Christian is and without roadHoG probably never would.

Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to look around the Bus and speak with Team Members. Please join us – if you can?



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Project Management Team

A lot goes on behind the scenes to ensure that the roadHoG Project runs as smoothly as possible and one of the many groups of people who play a huge part in organising the things that we do is the Project Management Team.

This group of people meet every few weeks to seek God's will for the future of the Project, from sorting out the smallest part of expenditure to designing and organising the building of a Bus!

We are an interdenominational group of Christians who realise that we are privileged to be able to work for our Lord in this way and that sense of privilege and calling is what binds us together – along with a similar (if weird) sense of humour.

Who are we?

Janice Elley (Anglican) is our Safeguarding Officer and part of the team who are tasked with ensuring that every Team Member has a current (max 3 years old) DBS. Janice also runs all the Safeguarding Training for our new Team Members and keeps the rest of us up to date by running regular "Refresher" Sessions.

Anthony (Ant) Jackson (Anglican), who along with his wife Nikki, is responsible for turning the monthly Newsletter into something that looks better than it reads! He also brings a lot of common sense to the Meetings.

Jenny Stock (Methodist) has been a Team Member from the very start of the Project and a "Team Leader" since that system was put in place. Jen brings a wealth of experience to our proceedings. Jenny is often the one who says "why" and makes us all think again.

Trevor Baily (Anglican) leads what is perhaps our most difficult Stop, namely Fenside – as well as Fishtoft – and brings lots of varying insights into our deliberations. He's also become an excellent carpenter of walls too (see Blue Bus).

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John Cropley (Pentecostal – don't tell him I said that – he hates labels) has the difficult and often frustrating job of looking after the Bus, from maintenance to fuelling and negotiating insurance. Without John's experience and engineering skills, we'd spend a lot of time trying to push a 16+ Tonne Bus to and from the Stops.

Kevin Mothers (Free Church – he also hates labels), is one of our Drivers and represents all the Drivers at our Meetings – as well as getting involved with general Bus issues.

Andrew Higginson (Anglican Rev), works with Janice as part of the DBS team, as well as bringing a wealth of experience from previously being both a Team Leader and a Driver. Andy has great experience of all things pastoral.

Tony Coe (Anglican) joins us ex-officio as our Schools Worker, Team Leader, part of the DBS team, fundraiser, and much, much more – and will soon be sorely missed when he retires in September.

Finally, there's me – **Kev Smithbone** (Baptist) – my job appears to be to provide drinks and biscuits and to try to keep some semblance of order at our Meetings. It has been said (usually by me) that herding cats would be easier!

A little while ago, I was speaking with a group of Churches in another area about the possibility of them running a roadHoG Project. I was asked to write a list of all the tasks that the Management Team is responsible for, so that they would know what would be required of them. I just wrote a simple list of what we do – it took FOUR sides of A4!!

It is my profound belief that without this group roadHoG could not operate – please pray for us – we need it!!



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Spalding

We will (God willing) be taking the Bus to Fulney Skate Park in Spalding once again this year and we plan to be there from 6pm on Friday 11th September. Last year the Bus was open for almost 2 hours and we welcomed 47 young people on board, so we hope to have an equally wonderful time again this year. Please support us in prayer – and if you live in Spalding – please come along and meet us there?

Blue bus

Here's two pictures of the newly carpeted walls of the Blue Bus. The difference the carpet makes to the look of the interior is amazing, but the main benefit will be the reduction in the level of noise. Thanks to Trevor and his new-found carpet skills!



Games

People often ask me what the most popular game aboard the Bus is. I suspect that they expect me to name a computer game, but the truth is that it's something much more mechanical than that – it's "4 in a Row". This simple to play game is easy to play, allows us to engage easily with the youngsters who come aboard.



Louise having a go at "4 in a Row" and showing how to win the game

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More thanks to our teams

Whilst I want to thank each and every one of our Team Members for all of their hard work, I would especially like to thank those who are regularly working at more than one Stop – without you, we simply could not operate.

But to every single one of our amazing Team Members – **THANK YOU!!**

Thank you BBQ

To say thank you in a more practical manner, we have arranged to hold a BBQ on **Saturday the 5th September at Boston Rugby Club** (outside if it's sunny – inside if not!) from **3pm**. All our Team, members and supporters are invited to come along and join us!

Summer shut down

“We’re all going on a Summer Holiday”

I can't believe it, but the RoadHoG Summer Shutdown is almost upon us. Our last Stop of the season will be at Fishtoft on Wednesday the 22nd July, with us returning to “work” for the Autumn Season at Swineshead on Thursday the 3rd September.

Because we are so short of Team Members, many of our folk have been working double and even treble Stops to ensure that we can operate – we do need more Team Members – and more Drivers.

Please pray for us? Perhaps, consider joining us as a Team Member and/or a Driver?

If you are unsure, or just want more information, then please feel free to email me at kevin.smithbone@btinternet.com to have a chat?

Thank you for all your love and support – there are a lot of young people out there who owe you a great debt. May our Father bless you immensely for what you do!

Kev

Diary

Stop dates for July 2026

	STOP	Arrive	START	Depart	STOP	Arrive	START	Depart
Wed 1st July	Fenside	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Thur 2nd July	Butterwick	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Fri 3rd July	No Stop							
Sat 4th July	No Stop							
Sun 5th July	Sibsey	1:30pm	2:00pm	3:30pm	Kirton	3:40pm	4:00pm	5:30pm
Mon 6th July	Woad Farm	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Tue 7th July	High Street	6:30pm	7:00pm	8:30pm				
Wed 8th July	Fishtoft	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Thur 9th July	Swineshead	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Fri 10th July	Wyberton	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Sat 11th July	No Stop							
Sun 12th July	No Stop							
Mon 13th July	Central Park	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Tue 14th July	No Stop							
Wed 15th July	Fenside	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Thur 16th July	Butterwick	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Fri 17th July	No Stop							
Sat 18th July	No Stop							
Sun 19th July	Sibsey	1:30pm	2:00pm	3:30pm	Kirton	3:40pm	4:00pm	5:30pm
Mon 20th July	Woad Farm	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
Tue 21st July	High Street	6:30pm	7:00pm	8:30pm				
Wed 22nd July	Fishtoft	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm				
roadHoG Summer Shutdown 2026								
SEPTEMBER								
Thur 3rd Sept	Swineshead	7:00pm	7:30pm	9:00pm	FIRST STOP BACK - AFTER THE BREAK			

