

Report from the Stapleford Weekend Committee 2024-2025

Every year in Stapleford, there's a four-day programme of events and activities for all the community. It all happens on the Rec – there's a marquee, large LED screens, deck chairs to watch music, films and sport, food vans and a purpose-built bar serving real ale. Run by a team of community volunteers (including several Parish Councillors), the event attracts a wide range of people of all ages and backgrounds.

Looking back: Last year's event

The Village Weekend in June 2024 was a great success. The organising committee met back in early September to review the event and start putting plans in place for 2025.

We asked the village community for feedback via a survey and people highlighted the things they enjoyed the most, such as:

- “the village community coming together”
- “the family feel and welcoming atmosphere”
- “the screens and music brought the event to life”
- “the range of activities throughout the weekend”
- “relaxing with friends, listening to Glastonbury, with great food and drink”.

Overall, people were supportive and enthusiastic. We are grateful to everyone who came and all the volunteers who made it possible. Suggestions for improvement in 2025 included

- “more food vans”
- “bigger selection of alcohol and sugar free drinks at the bar”
- “more children's experiences on the Fun Day”
- “perhaps some traditional games”

In 2024, the event covered its costs, resulting in a small surplus which will be invested in the 2025 event. In 2024, we were able to hire big screens thanks to contributions from the Parish Council and variety of local businesses – we were very grateful for our wonderful sponsors! Without these contributions, we wouldn't have covered our costs.

Additionally, at the end of November, we ran a Winter Quiz in the Pavilion to use up some of the leftover bar stock from the summer. This ticketed event sold out and had great feedback. The catering was provided by local firm The Modern Table, and we can confirm it was delicious...

All money raised goes towards putting on the annual summer event. If the weather is good, each year we should cover our costs. On years we have less income, perhaps from lower attendance, reduced ticket sales and fewer sponsors, then a contribution from the Parish Council enables us to cover the infrastructure costs of the marquee, screens, security and other big costs. Hopefully, in good weather years, the event will continue to provide an inclusive and popular family event for all the community.

Stapleford Weekend, together with the Stapleford Village Show, brings our whole community together once a year to celebrate all that is wonderful about living in Stapleford.

Looking ahead: Stapleford Weekend – 26th to 29th June 2025

Traditional village show...with a twist

At the heart of Stapleford Weekend 2025 is still the traditional Village Show, showcasing local residents' skills in baking, home-grown vegetables, flower arranging, handicrafts, photography, art and more. The Stapleford Village Show has been going strong for over 100 years and the 2025 Stapleford Weekend aims to balance tradition with more modern 'festival' attributes like street food, a variety of stalls, outdoor film screenings, pop choirs and live music from Glastonbury.

Family friendly fun

The event kicks off on Thursday 26th June, with a kids' magic show organised by the local school PTA. Open to all primary aged children, you can buy tickets on the website. Plus the bar will be open for drinks, and we'll have a pizza van onsite to help feed those hungry mouths.

On Saturday 28th June, there's a variety of stalls and activities for children, including go karts and a range of inflatables. With plenty of treats like crepes, ice creams and a sweet stall too!

On Sunday 29th June, there's a guided family bike tour, cricket on the rec and then a free family film evening! We're hoping the weather is good enough for an outdoor screening in deck chairs. The film choice is down to the public vote but we're expecting either Paddington, The Greatest Showman or Despicable Me will be chosen by our Facebook poll.

Community focused

The Stapleford Weekend aims to provide something for everyone. We've got local community eco group 2G3S running an environmental themed film evening on Thursday 26th June. On Friday 27th June, there's a 'Stapleford Ritz' 1920s themed afternoon tea, organised by our local warden scheme volunteers. And on Sunday morning, the Church takes over the marquee for a service at 11.30 am – everyone is welcome. On Show Day, we have a wide range of stalls from community groups and charities, including local sellers of handmade products and crafts.

Live music – from brass bands to Glastonbury coverage!

Music features heavily during the weekend, especially on the Saturday Show Day.

On Saturday 28th June, we'll have an outdoor stage with a range of performances for all ages – a local pop choir 'Vocal Remix', a brass band, a local band 'Blame the Dog' plus live coverage of Glastonbury festival into the evening. With food vans, deck chairs and an open bar, you can watch streamed performances from Neil Young and Charli XCX!

Furry friends welcome too



This year, we've got a dog show happening on Saturday 28th June at 5.30pm. It's being run and judged by the new local vet practice in Stapleford. So, if you think your pooch has the 'Waggiest Tail' or is the best 'Golden Oldie' then you can find more details about entering the competition on our website. You'll need to pre book to take part but it's only £2 per entry.

Fantastic range of food and drink

Throughout the Stapleford Weekend plenty of food and drink options are available. We've increased the number of food providers, as they sold out last year. We've got food vendors providing pizza, fish and chips, Korean street food, all day BBQ options, burgers, ice creams and crepes. On the Saturday, there's the Pavilion Café open providing a range of coffee and cakes, then on Sunday we'll have delicious cream teas available with locally baked scones – the perfect accompaniment to watching the cricket in a deck chair! And of course, our marquee bar will be open serving a range of real ales, lager, wines, ciders and soft drinks.

Book your tickets now

You'll need to buy tickets for some of the events inside the Marquee and Pavilion. Ticketed events include our Friday quiz night (which usually sells out), the eco film, the magician and the afternoon tea. All the details are on our website. However, lots of the fun can be enjoyed without pre-booking. You can come visit the Saturday and Sunday activities completely free of charge – listen to live music, enjoy a picnic, watch the cricket and family film on the Sunday at no cost. Thanks to our generous local sponsors and funding from Stapleford Parish Council.

Limited parking – walk or cycle if you can!

We have a small amount of parking available at the nearby Stapleford school, but we welcome visitors who come by public transport, or by cycling or walking.

You can find out more and buy event tickets here:

<https://www.staplefordweekend.com/whats-on>

Any questions, please email staplefordweekend@gmail.com

