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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Over 500 volunteers celebrated at community events

Community-minded individuals have come together at four events across **Lincolnshire** and **Newark**, as Lincolnshire Co-op celebrates the incredible efforts of local volunteers.

The Society has over **500 volunteers** across its **92 Wellbeing Walks**, **41 Community Cuppa's** and **three community libraries**.

The celebrations were held at **Scrivelsby Walled Garden**, **Stubton Hall** in Newark, **Market Rasen Golf Club** and **Crown Hall Farm** in Spalding.

Over the four events, some volunteers gave talks about how they support their local areas, including **Val Green** from Tattershall Community Cuppa, who said: *"Our Community Cuppa is so much more than a cup of tea; it's an opportunity for local people to connect and know they are welcomed members of the Tattershall community."*

*"Thank you to Lincolnshire Co-op for the incredible support it provides to local communities. It truly makes a difference to people's lives across Lincolnshire and the surrounding areas."*

Attendees also enjoyed guided walks and had the opportunity to learn about local history and services in their area, related to health and wellbeing.

Free **health checks** from University of Lincoln students and **CPR demonstrations** from Newark Community First Aiders were provided at some of the events, as well as accessible **fitness activities** like yoga, further contributing to Lincolnshire Co-op's purpose-led strategy of caring for health and wellbeing in the local area.

**Mick Wortley**, Walk Leader in Surfleet, Molten, Growl, Holbeach and Ascough, said: *“Every year, I look forward to getting together with like-minded people at Lincolnshire Co-op's celebration events; it's always nice to see some friendly faces and enjoy good company.*

*“It's been great to meet with volunteers from Community Cuppas and libraries too this time round. This, coupled with how beautiful the venue is, has definitely made this year's event feel extra special!”*

Product samplings were offered by the retailer's **Love Local** suppliers, including Lincolnshire Poacher from Lincoln, Myers Bakery from Horncastle, Blyton Ice Cream from Gainsborough, No.12 Chocolatier from Kirton in Lindsey and Riviera Iced Tea from Newark.

Until September 2026, Lincolnshire Co-op is supporting **42 local food banks** across its trading area as part of its **Community Champions** scheme. Across the four events, **£564** was raised through raffle draws that will be donated to Horncastle Community Larder, Newark Salvation Army, Market Rasen Salvation Army and Agapecare Foodbank.

**Andrew Bullivant**, Lincolnshire Co-op Senior Community Co-ordinator, said: *“Our celebration events are a fantastic opportunity to thank our incredible volunteers, for their dedication to making life better in our local communities.*

*“Every volunteer is a credit to us, and it's been great to see them all come together, so they can get to know like-minded community-spirited individuals, hear about other activities in their area, and come away feeling appreciated for all they do.”*

**Ends**

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**Notes to editors:**

1. **Lincolnshire Co-op** is an independent co-operative society. Its purpose is to bring together ideas, energy and resources to make life better in communities. It has around 300,000 members and 2,900 local colleagues in Lincolnshire and the surrounding counties and an elected board of directors who oversee the business. The society provides **valued services** and supports the **local economy** from outlets across its trading area including food stores, filling stations, post offices, travel branches, funeral homes, a florist, a crematorium and community libraries. It also cares for people's **health and wellbeing** through its pharmacies and support for a network of wellbeing walks. Local good causes benefit through its Community Champions scheme and together, colleagues and members also look after the **local environment** through volunteering.

As well as its trading outlets, Lincolnshire Co-op owns properties, from flats and houses to commercial premises. The society brings land and buildings back into use to create attractive environments. With Lincolnshire Co-op as landlord, rents stay local and are invested in schemes that benefit the community.