REVIEWS

Gilbert and Sullivan Opera performed by Spaldwick School Pupils. The pupils in years 3 – 5 at Spaldwick School have recently performed the Pinafore Pirates. This operatic musical is presented in the style of as Gilbert and Sullivan Opera and concerns a band of Lady Pirates determined to take over the Island of Paragodia. However their efforts were halted by Daisy as she attempted to be reunited with her true love Christopher. Daisy was successful and therefore there was a happy ending for everyone. The children performed the show 3 times to a full audience made up of family and friends. Well done to everyone involved in preparing the children for the shows and to the children for their enthusiasm.

LOCAL ADS

Modular bookcase - beech effect, from Tesco direct (can't remember dimensions but tall). Still in original packaging. Was £51, accept £10. Have a chest of draws to complement it, used 3 months only £5. Tel 896390.

Tudor effect BIG dolls house - 3 floors/6 rooms (can add room dividers). Was self assembly, nearly complete, some parts need fixing; run out of time and space. Approx 100cm x 50cm x 80cm. Offers. Tel 896390.

earthshine™ **This months Spaldwick News is sponsored by Earthshine Solutions Ltd** – helping organisations in the public and private sectors to save the planet and save money at the same time! For more information please visit us at www.earthshinesolutions.com.

If you would like to know more about how your business/organisation could sponsor or advertise, please call Michael on 891920.

Spaldwick News
June 2008

What is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days.

James Russell Lowell

WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE JUNE EDITION OF SPALDWICK NEWS

A month goes so quickly and here we are again! This time round we have a slightly historical feel, as we take a stroll down "memory lane". We have a lovely story from Mrs Sylvia Black, recounting her experiences from when she was evacuated to Spaldwick in 1940. We also have some interesting facts about the history of our village.

A big thank you to those people who have given me some useful feedback on first edition – there have been some kind comments. There is also an important request to change the type face to ensure the News is readable and accessible to all. Taking this on board, I hope the new font is an improvement.

I would still welcome any other feedback, ideas or contributions – please, please do get in touch and let me know any features you would like to see included, or indeed contribute towards. Please send me your ideas and written contributions at mtownsend@earthshinesolutions.com or drop them in directly to me at 16 High Street (more or less opposite the George) or call me on 891920.

This month we are introducing the opportunity for local businesses to sponsor and advertise – we aim to raise a nominal amount to help offset costs of printing and production.

A big thank you to the contributors in this month's edition. We look forward to a new regular feature starting next month on Gardening Tips with Roger Haines. Have a great time in June – see you at the Open Gardens on 15th.

Michael.

DIARY DATES

THE GEORGE – Throughout the summer months Mark and Louise will be holding regular "Lazy Jazz Sunday Afternoons"; an opportunity to relax in the back garden, feet up, listening to a live Jazz band. Dates are dependent on the weather so please visit their web site www.georgeofspaldwick.co.uk for the next "Lazy Jazz Afternoon" date.

SPALDWICK OPEN GARDENS – Don't forget this date for your diary; the Open Gardens will be held on the 15 June from 12 noon to 5pm. Please visit, support and enjoy what should be a great day! There will be a need for volunteers to help with the setting up (marquee, tables and chairs etc) on the Saturday 14th so if anyone is willing to lend a hand, please contact Roger on 891683.

COFFEE MORNING - The Last Wednesday Coffee Morning for now will be held on Wednesday, 11th June from 10.00 till 12.00. Coffee, Cake, Bring + Buy, Books, Sale of Cards. All proceeds to local charity and the Church.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

MUCKY PUPS – "mums and tots" sessions, open every Thursday 1:30-3:00pm, £2.50 per family.
PLAYTIMES PLAY GROUP - will be open for the open gardens day on 15th June.
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – for copies of the latest minutes, please feel free to refer to http://eoe.xarg.co.uk/spaldwick/

ST JAMES' CHURCH SERVICES JUNE 2008

1st June	8.00am	Eucharist
8th June	9.30am	Eucharist
15th June	6.00pm	Songs of Praise (in conjunction with The Open Gardens and the Crafts Exhibition & Flower Arrangements)
22nd June	9.30am	Children's Eucharist & Baptism
29th June	11.00am	St Peter's Day Service at Easton Church

There is usually a service at 9.00am Tuesday to Friday.

For more information about the church – services, activities, baptism, weddings, Holy Communion, ministry to the sick or funeral services contact one of the clergy or churchwardens:

Father Jonathan Young (Rector)	01480891695
Father Martin Kettle (Curate)	01480890284
Rosemary Good (Churchwarden)	01480890287
John Blatch (Churchwarden)	

SPALDWICK SCHOOL

In June, the whole school will be participating in an Active Week. During the week 9th – 13th June all pupils will be taking part in a range of indoor and outdoor activities, including the challenges on the Sports-Science Bus provided by Hinchingbrooke School and solving outdoor team problems set by Edd Sibson from Grafham Water.

The school will also be displaying a range of children's work at the Spaldwick Open Gardens Event.

Our website contains news of our pupils' achievements, activities and is a great way to find out about Spaldwick School!
www.spaldwickschool.org.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

TEN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SPALDWICK

By Martina Townsend (with thanks to Rosemary Good)

1. The name Spaldwick is probably derived from the Saxon term for "the dairy farm by the rushing stream".

2. People have been living in Spaldwick since the 9th Century!

3. The spire of St James' Church was struck by lightning one hundred and four years ago on 30th May 1904, causing severe damage – the bells were out of action until 1921!

4. There are six bells in our church – each with its own inscription; one of which reads "God Save the King 1635".

5. The Spaldwick Bridge on the Thrapston Road probably dates back to 15th Century.

6. The village green was originally a place to hold fairs and markets, in addition to being a place for games and relaxation.

7. During renovations at the George Pub some time ago, three frescoes dating back 400 years were found, one of which depicted an archer with a bow and arrow.

8. The Manor House is the oldest of the listed buildings in the village, dating back to 1520.

9. In addition to the George, there was another coaching inn on the Thrapston Road, on a site now occupied by farm buildings.

10. Spaldwick used to have its own doctors' surgery, located in one of the old cottages (now demolished) on Thrapston Road.

June Waste Bin Collection Dates

3rd Green, 6th Blue, 10th Grey,
17th Green, 20th Blue, 24th Grey

LOCAL PEOPLE

Sylvia Black – My Memories of Spaldwick

I remember being evacuated here at the tender age of five, back in September of 1940. I came here from Acton, along with my older brother, while my father fought in the War. I can remember arriving at Huntingdon Station in my navy blue coat, with my little name tag and my gas mask, and then being taken to The Gables where my new guardian Winnie Woodham (Auntie Winn) worked. I then remember standing in front of the pantry door, reaching for the latch, because I wanted to try and get home; I missed my mum and dad of course. But after a while I settled in very well; I had a lovely family and I was spoiled rotten – with books and all kinds of things.

My brother wasn't quite so lucky and he didn't enjoy his stay so much. In fact, he ran away two or three times, walked all the way to Huntingdon, and managed to sneak on to the train and hide all the way until he got back to London.

As you can imagine, life in Spaldwick was very different; for a start there was no cinema here. I'd also been used to gas lights in London and we had only candles here and the toilet was outside! But I discovered other wonders, including how to milk cows, make tents and play in the fields, the fair and fetes at the old School in Berry Close, with swing boats and roundabouts. I also used to enjoy the dances in the Victory Hall, which used to be located on the corner of Royston Avenue.

I was often sent to stand behind the blackboard at school, for passing notes, scraping chairs, or some other stuff. I felt a little bit singled-out at times as I was called "That Evacuee", but it didn't bother me too much, and I carried on regardless – this was home to me. The American soldiers stationed nearby were also very kind to us, with plenty of sweets and hot chocolate brought to us at the School.

I went back to Acton after the war, but came back to Spaldwick by the time of my next Summer Holiday, then ended up staying for good! Eventually I married a chap from the RAF at nearby Brampton and we had a daughter here. Auntie Winn moved in with us and stayed until she died in 1994.

I've seen many changes in the village, many houses have been built and many of the old shops have slowly disappeared: there was the sweetie shop, the cobblers, baby shop, blacksmiths, two grocery shops, the old Post Office and the café have all gone.

One thing I do miss is the old and young people getting together; I think the last good "mix up" we had was the Silver Jubilee in '77.

Spaldwick Open Gardens Day

The Open Gardens will be held on the 15 June from 12 noon to 5pm. The Church will also be open all day, with a craft exhibition and flower arrangements and a Songs of Praise in the evening. Please visit, support and enjoy what should be a great day!