LOCAL ADS

Hotpoint First Edition Model Freestanding Dishwasher. Moved with us into the village but we inherited an integrated dishwasher with the house! Good working order and in excellent condition. Accept £40. Tel 891736.

Beech Four Door Freestanding Wardrobe. 2 beech doors 2 mirrored doors. In built lights above mirrors. Back of one side needs new board, rest good condition, again came with us from our previous home and is no longer needed. £30 o.n.o. Tel 891736.

Brasher Ladies Classic Fell Master Walking Boots, size 7, hardly used (about 3-4 times) in excellent condition. £20. Tel 891736.

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Spaldwick News
July 2008

Open Gardens Special Edition

WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE JULY EDITION OF SPALDWICK NEWS

I am delighted to say that we have expanded this edition, due to the great response from people with ideas and contributions. It's all good stuff, so keep it coming.

Well we certainly have a gardening flavour in this month's edition. As our main feature we have a report on the Open Gardens Day. I must say that it was great to see the village so lively, with so many happy people about – what a great day it was and well done to all those involved in putting it together!

Also on the theme of gardening, and as an introduction to his new regular feature, Roger Haines describes how his love of gardening started. We also have a report from Spaldwick School, and it is pleasing to hear about the great things they are up to.

I've received one or two enquires from people wishing to know more about the Spaldwick Fundraising Committee and how to get involved. If anyone would like to write a piece on the Committee, its aims and activities and how people may support – please drop me a line.

As ever please send me your ideas and written contributions at mtownsend@earthshinesolutions.com, or drop them in directly to me at 16 High Street, or just call me on 891920.

A big thank you to the numerous contributors this month, and a special thanks to Jo & Greg Rice for their beautiful photos from the Open Gardens Day.

Michael.

DIARY DATES

THE GEORGE – Following last year's thoroughly enjoyable "Blues Afternoon", the 21st Century Blues Brothers are back at The George by popular demand on Sunday 17th August, starting at 2.30pm. A BBQ or Hog Roast will also be served in the Garden to accompany the event. Please visit their web site www.georgeofspaldwick.co.uk for details of upcoming events.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

MUCKY PUPS – "mums and tots" sessions, open every Thursday 1:30-3:00pm, £2.50 per family.

PARISH COUNCIL

A big thank you to those involved in the steering committee for the Spaldwick Parish Plan. A great deal of hard work has clearly gone in to the preparation of the questionnaire exercise, which covers a great many important issues and should help provide the community with many benefits. Well done the Parish Council!

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 17th July at 8pm, in the Community Room at Spaldwick School. All members of the public are invited to attend.

For copies of the latest minutes, please feel free to refer to http://eoe.xarg.co.uk/spaldwick/

ST JAMES' CHURCH SERVICES JUNE 2008

6th July	8.00am	Eucharist
13th July	9.30am	Eucharist
20th July	6.00pm	Evening Prayer
27th July	11.00am	Children's Eucharist for St James' Day

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 ALLOTMENTS

Interest has been expressed by various villagers regarding the possibility of setting up an allotment society.

The Parish Council is being approached to see what land could be allocated for this purpose.

They have advised us that they will need at least six people to formally express an interest, so that they can then pursue the matter.

If anyone is interested in having an allotment, please contact Roger Haines on 891683 and he will put your name forward to the Council.

LOCAL PEOPLE

Roger Haines – My Love of Gardening

My love of gardening came from my childhood in Berkshire, where we lived in a village near Reading. As a family of four we were nearly self-sufficient in fruit and vegetables and my father had a passion for growing show tomatoes and sweet peas (I have never grown the latter to his standard). My brother and I were both put to work at an early age weeding, sowing, thinning and harvesting. This was before the days of home freezing, so my mother would have a busy summer bottling fruit, making jams and preserves and salting runner beans in giant jars. The house would smell for weeks of spices when she was pickling and making chutney.

In my late teens I moved to London and did not come back to gardening until my late twenties, when Jean and I were married. We settled in Surrey and over the years had several moves until we semi-retired and arrived here in Spaldwick, five years ago. We have a good sized garden here, where I grow mostly perennials and shrubs. Our back garden is walled and fenced so I have planted a number of fruiting trees for training, (peach, pear, cherry, plum, apricot and apple) and soft fruits (blackberry, loganberry and strawberry). This year I have also tried potatoes, salad leaves and tomatoes in containers, but more on these when we crop them!

In the past I also had an allotment and hope that if we can get enough people interested, we will be able to start an allotment association here in Spaldwick. If anyone is interested, we need at least six people to take the project forward, so do let me know. So, that's how my interest in gardening started and a few tips for this month are: - keep on top of dead-heading, look out for blight and earwigs on your dahlias and if tomatoes have set their first truss, start feeding with a high potash fertilizer.

SPALDWICK SCHOOL

Olympic Gymnasts Visit a Very Active Spaldwick School.

Louis Smith and Daniel Keatings, along with their coach Paul Hall from the Olympic Gym in Huntingdon, visited Spaldwick Community Primary School to help the pupils celebrate the end of their ACTIVE Curriculum Week.

Louis and Daniel, who have just been selected to represent Great Britain in the Beijing Olympics, visited the school for a special assembly for the end of a learning week focussing on being active. During the week the pupils, and teachers have participated in Aerobics, Orienteering and completed the sports- science road show from Hinchingbrooke Secondary School along with many other challenges. The week provided an opportunity for pupils to learn using all subjects and skills of the National Curriculum through a range of ACTIVE challenges.

"It has been fantastic to see all of our pupils engaging in the tasks with enjoyment and commitment. The visit by Louis and Daniel was the climax of an extremely exciting week, and we all wish them success in Beijing" said Miss Rachel Prior, Head teacher.

Spaldwick Pupils Create their Own Greetings Card Collection.

The school accepted an invitation to participate in 'Treefree', an environmental art project in which every child was able to submit a painting of a natural image. This was then sent to the 'Treefree' project organisers who will create art cards, produced on sustainable card, from these images, along with the child's name and photo for parents to view. The final packages should be available for parents to buy at our annual Summer Fun Day. The children took great care of their masterpieces and we're all looking forward to the results!

RACE AGAINST TME TO SAVE NEARLY 40 CATS

Many may remember the story earlier this year regarding the elderly gentleman with over 60 cats, who called in St Neots & District Cats Protection to assist him as he was no longer able to cope. Whilst the work has been ongoing and over 20 of the cats have been re-located or re-homed, the situation has taken a dramatic turn with the unexpected death of the owner. The branch has now been given only 2 months to remove the remaining 40 cats from the property before the estate is settled and the buildings demolished. Dawn Cooke for St Neots & District Cats Protection commented - Our branch works tirelessly to re-home approximately 120 cats per year. To be given a deadline of only 2 months to find owners for nearly of third of our annual figure leaves us in an almost impossible position particularly in the holiday season. Unless homes are found for these animals, the property owners may have no choice but to have the cats put to sleep. Our pens are full with cats already on a waiting list to come in. We desperately need homes for adult cats and in some cases homes for more than one cat. Please contact us as soon as possible if you are able to offer a safe and loving home for any of these cats. There are many garden/farm/working cats at the property which will need re-locating, so if you have large grounds, a small holding, farm, nursery or factory where we can place these animals, we will provide an outdoor shelter and regular food - subject to availability of donated supplies. These animals provide a beautiful and natural pest control service so if you can help please contact us urgently. The numbers to call are - 01480 476696, 07900 257061 or 07966 282005. Please leave a message if there is no reply - we will call you back.

SPALDWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Peak Oil!

The oil in your tank is now worth considerably more than it was last year. It may be worth locking the tank to protect this very valuable liquid!

Summer Holiday Travel

If you are planning a trip to Europe this year – please think about taking a spare set of car keys….a friend of mine didn't and suffered the consequences.

Useful Numbers

A reminder of some useful telephone numbers:
Report any suspicious activity to the Police on - 0845 4564564 or Crimestoppers - 0800 555111.
Neighbourhood watch information is available at www.cambs.police.uk

Contacts

Would all Spaldwick neighbourhood watch coordinators please contact me so that I can update my list.
Many Thanks
David Henrick – 01480896556
david.henrick@virgin.net

SPALDWICK SCHOOL

From Bedford to Birmingham

The Spaldwick Blackbird Ocarina Band is the Year 2 Class at Spaldwick School, where Kirsty Body is the music teacher. There are just twelve children in our band for the National Finals and they are aged 6 and 7. Their programme includes some new versions of old songs, rounds, and a 4 part version of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

After their performances at the Music for Youth Regional Festival at Bedford in March, this group has been selected to take part in the National Festival at Symphony Hall, Birmingham in July. There are over 40 regional festivals, some lasting two or more days so it's a real achievement to get into the Nationals. The National Festival lasts 6 days and features everything from rock bands to full symphony orchestras.

The performers are already getting very exciting about playing at such an impressive venue and are hopeful of then being invited to play at the Royal Albert Hall!!

July Waste Bin Collection Dates

1st Green, 4th Blue, 8th Grey,
15th Green, 18th Blue, 22nd Grey,
29th Green.

OPEN GARDENS DAY REVIEW

By Roger Haines, Chairman, Open Gardens Committee

Sunday morning 15 June dawned bright with cloudy spells and there was a flurry of activity about the High Street as bunting went up, plant stalls were erected and a steady stream of home made cakes made their way towards Chestnut View where the tearoom was being set up.

At 12noon there was a sudden influx of cars and people arriving to buy tickets and find out where they could purchase refreshments. The church had been decorated with flower arrangements themed around children's toys and there were exhibitions of quilting, paintings and a wonderful collection of photographs depicting Spaldwick through the ages.

The weather stayed dry and mainly sunny and the village was busy all afternoon with a steady flow of happy people enjoying the gardens, teas and church activities.

The children were very enthusiastic about the quiz and enjoyed visiting Pets Corner.

The feedback received so far from both helpers and visitors has been very positive and everyone has commented on the lovely atmosphere around the village.

Special thanks to the committee for all their hard work since last October and a big thank you to all those extra pairs of hands who helped both in advance and on the day selling tickets, tidying Church Lane, making cakes and of course, opening their gardens. Thanks also to Joyce and Grahame Leach for the use of Chestnut View for the tea room and Liz McCue for looking after the flower arrangers and exhibitors in the church. Money raised so far, which is going to the East Anglia Children's Hospice, is £1031.73 and I'm sure everyone will agree, this is a magnificent sum to raise in just 5 hours.

Thanks once again and I hope you all had a lovely day.

Roger

Open Gardens Children's Quiz Winners

The lucky winners of a 'Fun to Grow' flower growing kit are:-

Georgie Southerington
Rebecca and Bethany Heath
Kye Borrego

Well done!