SPALDWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH –March 2009

For more information see www.mynhw.co.uk and www.cambs.police.uk

---

Please be aware of recent **Distraction Burglaries** that occurred near Kettering, Peterborough & Great Gidding.

Two dark haired males wearing brown suits have posed as **Police officers** they have entered the property of an elderly victim and stole money.

If you are not expecting anyone to visit your home and some unknown persons do and they say that they are from a company or business, ask them for proof of identity, if they are genuine they will not mind showing you their ID. A genuine person will not mind waiting outside your home if you need to clarify the ID of the caller with the company/business.

If you are in doubt try to gain as much information and/or descriptions as you can and call the police. Please remain vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police.

---

**PUT YOUR CAR KEYS BESIDE YOUR BED AT NIGHT**

Put your car keys beside your bed at night. If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighbourhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this:

It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar won't stick around... After a few seconds all the neighbours will be looking out their windows to see who is out there - the criminal won't want that. Remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a car park. The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or another crime.

---

Some useful telephone numbers: **Report suspicious activity to the Police - 0845 4564564**

**or Crimestoppers - 0800 555111**
David Henrick – 01480896556
david.henrick@virgin.net



# SPALDWICK NEWS
## March 2009

Snowdrops in Spaldwick

The small group of very white snowdrops in the back-ground were already showing before the snow came. The others quickly bloomed after the thaw. Presumably they are different varieties.

CivilCeremoniesLtd
worth remembering

Part time person required for clean despatch and office work in a busy, small organisation at 6 Nene Road, Bicton Industrial Park, Kimbolton
Flexible hours by arrangement.

For further details please contact Civil Ceremonies Ltd on 0845 0048608 or call in for a chat

Kelly's Massage
07931 220197
Holistic Treatments Price List

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Back, Neck & Shoulder Massage 30 minutes | £18 | Full Body massage 60 minutes | £30 |
| Back‹ Neck & Shoulder Massage 45 minutes | £25 | Pick and Mix Body 120 minutes | £50 |
| Reflexology-45 minutes | £22 | Reiki-30minutes | £15 |
| Japanese Face Massage + Neck and Shoulders-60minutes | | | £35 |

Based in Spaldwick. Option to have treatment in the comfort of your own home carries a small fuel surcharge if more than 5 miles from Spaldwick Vouchers Available



# NATURE NOTES by Brian Davis

*If winter comes can spring be far behind?* We haven't had a good old-fashioned winter like this for many years, but the 1962/3 winter was far worse and there must some in Easton and Spaldwick who were here through the 1947 winter and could share a memory or two. Aconites were already yellowing the ground in our garden before the snow, waiting for a brave bumblebee, and I guess that frogs and toads are waiting impatiently to gather at their nuptial ponds. I recently found a list I made in 1968 of the fields in Easton that used to have ponds: a few fields had two making a total of 94 ponds in 89 fields. These must all have been for livestock and it is strange how these records on old maps preserve echoes of the numerous cattle and sheep that must once have formed a dominant part of village life. A map I made in 1968 also shows 14 meadows in Easton parish with ridge-and-furrow, preserving echoes of even more ancient ploughing techniques with horses or oxen. Of these only five, I think, still survive. The Countryside Survey I mentioned last month estimates that there are now only about half a million ponds in Britain (excluding those in gardens) and there is a drive to double this number. A Roe deer has recently been doing the rounds and has seen in Easton. They reach 25 inches at the shoulder and stand more erect than Muntjac which reaches 19 inches and has the distinctive hump back with sloping rump.

Muntjac

Roe Deer

## ST JAMES' CHURCH SERVICES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st March | 6.00PM | Evensong |
| 8th March | 9.30am | Eucharist |
| 15th March | 8.00am | Eucharist |
| 22nd March | 9.30am | Family Eucharist<br>Mothering Sunday |
| 29th March | Services at Easton at 8.00am and Ellington 9.30am | |

There is usually a service at 9.00am Tuesday to Friday

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

| | |
|---|---|
| Father Jonathan Young (Rector) | 01480 891695 |
| Father Martin Kettle (Curate) | 01480 890284 |
| Rosemary Good (Churchwarden) | 01480 890287 |
| John Blatch (Churchwarden) | 01480 890853 |

---

Rosemary Good wishes to thank everyone for the many letters, cards and messages of sympathy received on the death of her son Stuart and for the kindness and care that has been shown to her. It has been greatly appreciated.

---

Lent Study Group on Faith, Hope and Love
Wednesdays at 7.30pm starting on 4th March
at Ivy House, High Street
All Welcome

## So Much For Global Warming!

Well, the snow and prolonged frosts have come and gone and let's hope they don't return, although they will have been very beneficial in thinning out the bug population.
If you have any last minute pruning to do, get on with it now as the sap is rising. Hybrid T and floribunda roses will benefit from a good prune to an outward facing bud. A tidy up of climbing and rambling roses should be kept to a minimum but tie in any long growth.
We seem to be into a relatively dry spell so get borders weeded, perennials tidied and any overgrown clumps divided. Now is a good time to split ornamental grasses that are overgrown and also give a 'haircut' before the new shoots appear. There are plenty of potted bulbs in the garden centres for brightening up pot displays or bare patches in the border.

Now is a good time to start your dahlia tubers into growth in the greenhouse or conservatory so they are well advanced to plant out after the frosts and when they have been hardened off. Lily bulbs are always good grown in pots and then placed to brighten up or fill any gaps in the border. Increase watering of over-wintered fuchsias, give them a good tidy up and keep a keen eye out for blight.
This month, the grass will begin to grow so now is the time to attack moss with lawn sand (containing iron sulphate) followed up with a good rake after it turns black. Give your lawn its first couple of cuts on a high blade setting and then gradually lower your blades on subsequent cuts.
If you have any bald or thin patches of grass, now is a good time to sow these areas with some seed.
Summer bedding is already appearing for sale but don't be tempted to start off those baskets and containers unless you have a heated greenhouse as the plants will only sulk at low temperatures.

Roger Haines

# Forthcoming Events at The George

## Great British Homemade Pie Night

**Every Tuesday - 6 to 9:30pm**
Choice of two different fillings,
served with mash or handcut chips & gravy
£5.95 per head

## Live Acoustic Music Night

**Last Friday of every month**
Commencing Friday 27th February with
performance by Steve Pilkington-Foster
Tapas menu available

## Ladies Night – Hosted by The George & Calmer Beauty

**First Wednesday of every month from 8pm**
Commencing Wednesday 4th March
Purchase a bottle or large glass of wine and receive a free nail paint that evening
by the ladies of
Calmer Beauty in the Hemingway Suite.
Also receive a 10% voucher for any treatment at
Calmer Beauty redeemable before the next Ladies Night.
Tapas menu available

## Gourmet Italian Night

**Friday 17th April**
An extravaganza of the finest Italian cuisine
£20.95 per head for 4 courses

## Sunday Quiz Night

Tapas menu available every Quiz Night

**Still to come….**
'Tea at The George' - Cream tea afternoons, The Ritz style
Race Night in aid of Help for Heroes; A Jolly Boys Outing



## Spaldwick Summer Fete

July the 11th will be the day of our Summer Fete to be held in the grounds of Spaldwick School,
For many years this was a yearly feature and the Spaldwick Social Group will be working hard to return this to an annual event.We are delighted to be able to announce that FOSS the PCC and Playtimes will be working with us to make this an event to remember, with something for everyone throughout the day.

We have already had a few people from the village volunteering to arrange a stall or help out but we need even more support. Every little helps from the offer of an hour spent collecting plants or cakes for someone else's stall to taking on the task of organising a stall of your own.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you can spare any time as your help would be most appreciated and essential if we are to make this a success.

**Contact Details**

You can contact me for tickets or any information on the Spaldwick Social Group at 53 stow Road, Spaldwick or my mobile number 07881960810
Gavin Lessing-Caller (Chairman)

## DIARY DATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| March 21st | Disco | See Page 8 |
| July 11th | Village Fete | See Page 8 |
| June 6th | Ellington Gala | |
| June 7th | Charity Walk | (Social Group) |
| September 26th | Barn Dance | (Social Group) |
| July 11th | Songs of Praise Service | (PCC) |
| Oct 4th | Harvest Festival | (PCC) |
| Nov 21st | Quiz | (PCC) |

## Spaldwick Social Group News

I know it's late! But let me first say a big thank you to everyone that turned out to meet Father Christmas on his sleigh. We had a great response with over a hundred people following the sleigh through the village and joining in with the carols. It was fantastic to see all the children's faces and I am sure it helped Father Christmas learn the route for his main event on Christmas Eve.

Thanks to everyone who gave their time to organise the event and offered a great chance for the village to get together. The generosity of everyone helped to raise £192 which will go to Dream Drops, a charity at Hinchingbrooke Hospital supporting children and their families during their stay.

---

### Seventies and Eighties Disco Night 21st March

The next event on our calendar will be held on Saturday the 21st of March. This will be an adult's 70s and 80s disco and fish supper. It will be a fantastic evening with the opportunity to enjoy the music of 2 great decades (Mama Mia has been a big hit for a good reason). There will be a licensed bar and plenty of chances throughout the evening to win prizes from our raffle, guess the baby competition and best dressed (dress for the decade is optional).

Tickets are £12.50 each and can be ordered now so please do not hesitate to give me a call and reserve yours now. Places are strictly limited so don't delay.

We would be grateful of your continuing support of this event as all proceeds will go towards the funding of the summer fete.



## PARISH COUNCIL

The meeting scheduled for 26th February has been postponed to 5th March. The following meeting is now scheduled for 2nd April, both at 8pm in the school.

The full minutes of the last meeting are displayed on the notice boards and may also be viewed on http://eoe.xarg.co.uk/spaldwick/

The Council now comprises:
Keith Armer (Chairman); William Brown; Richard Johnson; Bernard Plummer; Jason Pope; Graham Smith; Robert Wooddisse.

The Clerk is David Stowell, 23A Thrapston Road, Spaldwick, PE28 0TA
davidstowell@onetel.com Phone: 890065

---

The letter below has been received for publication and it is not the only complaint about this matter. The Parish Council are aware of the problem and will do what it can to identify and prosecute the offenders.

## DOG FOULING

**"Residents, local pedestrians and decent dog walkers using Ferriman Road are becoming increasingly incensed by the disgusting habit of SOME irresponsible dog owners who obviously use the road as their pet's personal toilet. The problem is highlighted all the way along the pavements but the worst offenders allow their dog(s) to foul all the way along the left side down towards the school. No-one would wish to walk along there in the dark for fear of what they may step in and day time is a hop-scotch walk of avoidance. The children are disgusted by the state of the pavements with quite a few younger ones suffering the misfortune of 'accidents'. Mums with prams can't avoid their wheels being soiled and all because of a SMALL MINORITY of inconsiderate dog owners/walkers who can't be bothered with picking up. Shame on you!"**

# Spaldwick School

## Y3 Kingfisher Class  Viking Day

The day was brought to life by having Cathy Murphy who is a member of a living history group. Cathy brought many Viking artefacts. We also looked at clothes and types of food that Vikings would have eaten. We learnt all about Viking ruin stones and how they celebrated the memories of special Vikings and their brave deeds.

Each child had their own authentic Viking name for the day and came to school in Viking dress. For homework the children had made their own shield, helmet and sword and brought them into school in preparation for our battle re-enactment.

The highlight of the day began with looking at replicas of Viking weapons and taking part in weapon training (using our homemade weapons). Cathy demonstrated how to hold a spear in one hand and a shield in the other. We practised our moves and then headed out the playground where we learnt about The Battle of Hastings, pretending to be Normans and Saxons. We re-enacted the battle including stares, cheers and sword waving. But, as in 1066 the Saxons yet again were defeated by Normans.

## Spaldwick Oil Buying Group – Latest News!

I am pleased to announce that we have at last finalised a deal for members of the Spaldwick Oil Buying Group.  After extensive negotiations with around eight suppliers, we have established the best value for money arrangements by forging an alliance with the Kimbolton (and surrounding villages) Oil Buying Syndicate.  Along with their preferred supplier, they have kindly allowed us to join their scheme which currently has around 150 members. This means we can establish greater levels of discount and service than we could currently establish on our own terms.  The amount of discount varies, depending on a number of factors, but is around 2-3p/litre in the summer months and 3-5p/litre during the winter period. If any other Spaldwick residents wish to join the scheme, they should contact Mike or Martina Townsend in the first instance on 01480 891920 and they will be able to provide you with details of how it all works and what you will need to do.

### Waste Bin Collection Dates

Tue Mar  3rd Grey  Tue Mar 10th Green  Fri Mar 13th Blue

Tue Mar 17th Grey  Tue Mar 24th Green  Fri Mar 27th Blue

Tue Mar 31st Grey  Tue Apr 7th Green  Fri Apr 11th Blue