

Dates for your diary:

:: St James Church - Services are currently being held online (See page 3 for details).

:: St James Church - 10 October 2020: Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley will be performing. More details closer to the time.

:: Spaldwick Parish Council: At present, meetings are being held by video conferencing. Please contact the Parish Council for more information.

July/August 2020

To advertise or contribute news: spaldwicknews@gmail.com



SPALDWICK NEWS

Spaldwick's Allotments Progress from Strength to Strength - by Carmen Martos

The plots have been a welcome and positive benefit in these uncertain lockdown times, in more ways than one.

To imagine only 7 weeks ago, lay an empty field - yet now that same field is filled with shared chat and shared plants, smiles, graft, vegetable and fruit produce. A wonderful buzz of community!

To a novice, to learn and see one's own planted potato sprout, leaf and grow, is quite excitable and I've witnessed others smile, clap and exclaim a little 'ooooo', when they've seen their planted seeds or plants sprout from beneath the soil or they have harvested their courgettes or strawberries. Tending an allotment plot can be therapeutic and rewarding.

Credit to Owen Pope from Spaldwick, who has taken some fantastic aerial photos of the allotment's progress for SCAA's (Spaldwick Community Allotment Association) memory scrapbook. Please continue to watch the allotment's future development with aerial photos, which he has kindly agreed to take. On behalf of the SCAA and all the Spaldwick Allotmenters, a huge thank you to you Owen for recording memories for us.

SCAA is currently making a waiting list for prospective Allotmenters. If you are interested in joining our list for holding a plot, please email spaldwickallotments@gmail.com - or contact any member of the SCAA or Spaldwick Parish Council. If you would like to see the actual size of a 'working' plot, please ask for a guided tour and any SCAA Committee member will be happy to show you.

A Big Thank You!

Sheila and Russell Wallace have been extremely busy tidying and clearing the ground around the children's play area of weeds, roots and debris. It comes after volunteers removed numerous bushes and shrubs earlier this year.



Aerial photos: Owen Pope



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A group of Spaldwick residents is continuing to help those in our village who are vulnerable or are having to self-isolate. The help available is wide-ranging and there are also lots of local services and companies offering delivery services. Even if you are able to go out, please try and use deliveries where possible, rather than putting yourself at unnecessary risk. Please note it is not exhaustive and there are many more groups and companies out there that might offer similar services.

If you would like help please get in touch using the contacts listed below, either by a phone call or text message, and they will take it from there. In many cases one member of the village community is going out once a week to the main staple businesses who may or may not be offering delivery and collecting for everyone who has placed an order (details can be found under each of the businesses below)

All payments, deliveries or contact will be undertaken in line with government instructions regarding social distancing and gloves/hand sanitisation will be utilised.

CONTACT NUMBERS:**Amba – 07526 382240****Julia – 01480 890203****Becky – 07958 306740****GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Citizens Advice Bureau (National Advice Line) - 03444 111 444 (www.citizensadvice.org.uk)
- Universal Credit (Help to claim line) - 0800 144 8444
- Disability Huntingdonshire - 0330 3553 256 info@dish.org.uk
- Family Action - This group helps to provide practical, emotional, and financial support to families (www.family-action.org.uk)
- Family Line - Providing a listening ear to help with parenting questions or give guidance around more complex issues: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm, 6pm-9pm. Phone 0808 802 6666; Text 07537 404 282; email - familyline@family-action.org.uk

Prescriptions

- We are able to collect prescriptions from Kimbolton and Alconbury surgeries. Please contact one of us to arrange this.

Pets

If you need help with walking your dog please let one of the contacts listed above know and they will arrange for someone in the village to get in touch with you to arrange this direct. We can also help with emergency vet visits or to collect pet prescriptions as needed.

Pet food can be delivered to the village from:

- Top End Farm - www.topendfarm.co.uk - could collect and deliver on a Friday when the Veg box delivery is organised. Contact Becky on 07958 306740
- Andy at Grafham Pet Food supplies - www.petfoodsdirect2u.co.uk - 01480 819 730.
- Pets at Home - www.petsathome.com

FOOD**General supplies**

- Applegreen Petrol Station Spaldwick - Essential basics available including daily Newspaper delivery (contact them directly)
- Budgens, Kimbolton - Local supermarket stocking most basic household supplies.
- Hopwells - This wholesale frozen food distributor is now able to accept personal orders. The range of food can be viewed and ordered via their website www.hopwells.com.

Butchers

- Hellett & Son, Kimbolton - Delivery is available to Spaldwick on Fridays. Orders must be made by Thursday morning at the latest (earlier in the week if possible, please). Payment can be made over the phone. 01480 860242
- Measures, Brampton - Delivery is available to Spaldwick on Wednesday or Saturday. Orders must be received by 9pm on Monday for Wednesday delivery and 9pm Thursday for Saturday Delivery. Orders and payment can be made through their online shop www.measuresbutchers.co.uk - or by calling 01480 453567.
- Stilton Butchers - Delivery and payment only available via their online shop www.stiltonbutchers.co.uk
- Days of Buckden - Orders can be placed by phone 01480 810 272 and will be delivered each Friday.

Eggs

- Andrea Parker has agreed to organise collection and delivery of local eggs, weekly from Ellington. Please contact her direct on 07725 706 971 or via Facebook. Cost £1 for 6 chicken eggs, 25p per duck egg, and 50p per goose egg.

Veg Boxes

- A weekly delivery of a box of veg priced at £6.50 from Top end Farm is arranged for each Friday by Becky Gibson - call 07958 306740. Please place your order with her direct via text or Facebook messenger by 9am Thursday.

Local Takeaway / Delivery

- The Fish and Chip van is back in Spaldwick on Wednesdays by the phone box/Book Exchange.
- Hare on the Green Brampton - Takeaway Food and Drink menu available (www.hareonthegreen.co.uk) - 01480 413 592 (Mon - Fri: 4pm - 9pm; Saturday: Midday - 9pm; Sunday: 12pm - 4pm (pre-order Sunday roasts only))
- The Mermaid Ellington - Ready made to cook at home food for collection. This includes: Pork Stroganoff, Sirloin of Beef Stroganoff, Pork Sausage Casserole, Vegetable Masala, Bolognaise. All meals are individually vacuum packed and over 400g, priced at £6.50 each. You can order by phone: 01480 860 860 or by email n.r.marriott@hotmail.co.uk

When will the Church open again?

Some local churches are now being opened with social distancing and cleaning measures in place, for private prayer only, on specific days/times. When Rev Phil "returns" from leave, Spaldwick PCC will arrange a virtual meeting to discuss how and when St James might be open again. Do get in touch if you'd like this to happen to help us judge the demand for it.

Even though the church doors are shut, we are pleased to see so many people are joining the services that Reverends Phil, Dr John, Pamela and Ron, together with Jill are still really busy recording. You can watch online by visiting www.kymchurch.org.uk and clicking on the "Want to join us in prayer?" tab.

Sadly, many historic building costs continue even with the doors firmly shut, so if anyone who has taken one of our Individual Giving packs but not returned it, please do if you can afford even a small contribution. The scheme is administered nationally so no one in the village will know what size donation you give. More Giving packs can be found in the porch.

Would you like to take part?

Contributions of readings, prayers and music from anyone of any age would be most gratefully received, so get in touch with Rev Phil (details below).



Prayer Tree

It has been great to see a number of ribbons and messages on the millennium yew tree (on the left as you go in the gate). The idea is that you tie some ribbon, wool or string etc. to the tree as you say a prayer, or share a thought.

Please do bear in mind that Yew - which is symbolic of protection, everlasting life, rebirth, changes and regeneration after difficult times - is also poisonous if eaten. And of course, please adhere to all the latest Covid-19 government guidance when visiting the tree, which we hope will be treated with respect.

Bell ringing

Thank you to Elaine for ringing the bells for Thursday's clap for the NHS and other carers. It's lovely to hear the bells ringing out across the village again.

Save the date! Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley 10 October 2020

We are very excited to announce that subject to the lockdown restrictions in place at the time, Paul Jones, the legendary Manfred Mann frontman and Fiona Hendley, accomplished actress and singer, will be entertaining us at St James.

To contact Rector Rev Philip Howson:

Email: revphiliphowson@icloud.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/revdphiliphowson/>

Phone: 01480 869081

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Spaldwick Neighbourhood Watch - supplied by David Henrick

Criminals are exploiting the COVID-19 pandemic to try and get their hands on your money and personal information. To date, Action Fraud has received reports from 2,378 victims of Coronavirus-related scams, with the total losses reaching over £7-million.

How you can protect yourself from Coronavirus-related scams:

There are some simple steps you can take that will protect you from the most common scams. Here's what need to do:

1 - Watch out for scam messages

Your bank, or other official organisations, won't ask you to share personal information over email or text. If you receive an email you're not quite sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS): report@phishing.gov.uk

2 - Shopping online

If you're making a purchase from a company or person you don't know and trust, carry out some research first, for example, by checking to see if others have used the site and what their experience was. If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one, other payment providers may not provide the same protection.

3 - Unsolicited calls and browser pop-ups offering tech support

Never install any software, or grant remote access to your computer, as a result of a cold call. Remember, legitimate organisations would never contact you out of the blue to ask for financial details such as your PIN or full banking password.

NHS Test and Trace scams:

The NHS Test and Trace service plays an important role in the fight against coronavirus and it's vital the public have confidence and trust in the service. However, we understand the concerns people have about the opportunity for criminals to commit scams.

What you need to know:

Contact tracers will only call you from the number 0300 013 5000. Anyone who does not wish to talk over the phone can request the NHS Test and Trace service to send an email or text instead, inviting them to log into the web-based service.

All text or emails sent by NHS Test and Trace will ask people to sign into the contact tracing website and will provide you with a unique reference number. We would advise people to type the web address <https://contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk> directly into their browser, followed by the unique reference number given to you, rather than clicking on any link provided in the message.

The NHS Test and Trace service will never:

- Ask you to dial a premium rate number to speak to them (for example, those starting 09 or 087)
- Ask you to make any form of payment or purchase a product or any kind
- Ask for any details about your bank account
- Ask for your social media identities or login details, or those of your contacts
- Ask you for any passwords or PINs, or ask you to set up any passwords or PINs over the phone
- Ask you to download any software to your PC or ask you to hand over control of your PC, smartphone or tablet to anyone else
- Ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or NHS

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, please report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

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Ellington WI News

If you are new to Spaldwick or are looking to meet new friends, why not come to an Ellington WI meeting in the Village Hall?

UPDATE: There is still no news of when Ellington WI can start having meetings again.

For more information, contact: Ann Bentley, President (nigelbentley@btinternet.com) or Sue Rice, Secretary (normanrice@btinternet.com).

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Spaldwick Parish Council

Spaldwick Parish Council met twice in May via video conference, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

- **Present on 11th May were: S Fane de Salis (Chairman), G Smith (Vice Chairman), S Jackson-Rimmer, S Parfrey, W Burcham (and Clerk)**

- To discuss 3 urgent quotes for fencing and installing water pipes and troughs to the Allotment Plots: Cllr G Smith provided details of 3 like-for-like quotes that he had received for the work (£5,625 - no VAT), £5106 + reclaimable VAT, and £5907.70 + reclaimable VAT).

The Council first discussed the requirements for the allotments - approximately 4ft-high fencing recommended for farmers' fields and a 12ft-gate with meshing to prevent rabbits from entering.

The water supply was then discussed and it was decided that galvanised water tank troughs with ballcocks would be preferable to pipes. Cllr G Smith proposed that four tanks and 2.5-foot-deep would be most suitable; this was seconded by Cllr S Parfrey and carried unanimously.

Cllr G Smith then proposed that the work be carried out by Alex Stancombe, the cheapest quote (£5106 + VAT), based on his reputation for work previously completed and guaranteed, the fact the contractor already has the relevant equipment and supplies, and that the VAT can be reclaimed by the Council; this was seconded by Cllr S Parfrey and carried unanimously.

- **Those attending the online meeting on 21st May were: S Fane de Salis (Chairman), G Smith (Vice Chairman), S Jackson-Rimmer, J Pope, S Parfrey, W Burcham, S. Cardwell (Clerk) and one member of the public**

- Monthly Ferriman Road Play Area's Inspection: At the time of the meeting, the play area was closed due to social distancing - Cllr S Fane de Salis noted that the bin in the Play Area should not be used for dog mess.

- Motorcyclists: A resident has raised the issue of motorcyclists using byways during winter months. The signage does not prevent this use, but Cambridgeshire County Council has indicated that the signs are incorrect and should be changed.

- High Street Bus Stop: A resident has raised concerns about the location of the Bus Stop on the High Street. Parked vehicles cause a problem at this location. A suggestion is to add an additional stop on Stow Road. Cllr S Fane de Salis heard from Cllr R Johnson that he is consulting with someone about a suitable place.

- Footpath to Easton: Concerns have been raised by Easton Parish Council regarding the footpath which goes directly to the filling station and services area. There are cattle in the field, which are protective of their calves (cattle will likely be in the field until the Autumn). Walkers should be aware.



Town & Poors Charity Field

Cllr G Smith explained the fencing had been successfully installed, along with the gate and four water troughs. Everything is working, there is a lock on the gate and people are generally happy with the allotments.

- Update regarding planning application for hard standing: Cllr S Parfrey confirmed the application has gone in and the status has moved from submitted to transferred.

- Update regarding an Allotment Association and allotment usage: Cllr W Burcham explained that the allotments are working well and there is lots of communication. Everyone has the rules and no concerns have been voiced. The allotments are at capacity, but there is lots of additional interest and a waiting list for plots.

:: Keep up to date with the latest from Spaldwick Parish Council online: www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk

Local Healthcare during Coronavirus Lockdown

Health and social care services are working hard to care for us all in these difficult times. The way most are provided is changing to help keep people safe from Covid-19.

Have these changes affected you and those you care about in Huntingdonshire? You can have your say on what's happening, via independent organisation Healthwatch.

What you say will help local NHS and care organisations shape how they look in the future.

:: Find out more here: www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/coronavirus-yourviews



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Armed Forces Day marked in Spaldwick



David Perkins, his daughter Zoe and her partner Steve Payne played a beautiful tribute to currently serving troops, their families, veterans and cadets on Saturday, 27th June.

Their performance of "The Evening Hymn" and "Sunset" in Burton Way, to mark Armed Forces Day, was preceded by a short speech from fellow resident David Henrick.

David explained more about the significance of the occasion for local residents: "In our street, we have people who have served with the Royal Navy, Army and the Royal Air Force. The total service of these three people is 80 years."



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Martin Craddock found this old photo of Edwards Brothers, Spaldwick. He thinks the names of the men pictured are Jim Martin, Stan Woodham, C Bright, Bert Marsh and R Craddock. *See old photos from Spaldwick's past at www.spaldwick.com*

More children return to Spaldwick School

A number of villagers have remarked how nice it is to hear pupils playing at break times again, as Spaldwick Primary School reopens to a wider number of year groups.

Staff have been busy teaching the children of Key Workers since the start of lockdown, and providing resources for parents and carers to help keep the other youngsters engaged at this time.

The children that have gone back are in smaller classes and are being kept in special 'bubbles' to limit the potential spread of infection. Many thanks to Head Teacher Mrs Worrell and the rest of the teaching and support staff for doing such an excellent job in re-inventing lessons - and keeping parents informed.



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Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for July/August 2020:

Grey		7th July	21st July	4th Aug	18th Aug
Blue		14th July	28th July	11th Aug	25th Aug
Green	2nd July	16th July	30th July	13th Aug	27th Aug

A complete list of materials that can be recycled can be found at: www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/whatgoesinwhichbin

Final push ahead of Alex's Cycling Challenge

As you may recall, young village resident Alex Rice was planning a 100 mile sponsored bike ride over Easter to complete his fundraising for his trip to Ghana over the summer.

Alex had to postpone his challenge due to travel restrictions, but is now planning to make the journey from here to Hunstanton over the August bank holiday weekend (August 29th), which happily will coincide with the start of the Tour de France.

This is Alex's last big push to raise the funds he needs to travel out to Ghana (now rescheduled for next July), as part of a school led project to work on outreach and community projects near Elmina.

He has been training hard over the past few weeks, and can be regularly seen cycling around the area as his regime increases. His Dad Greg is also picking up the pace by cycling to and from work each day, so that he will be ready to make the journey alongside Alex in just a few short weeks.

Thank you to everyone who has already donated, either online or directly - it's very much appreciated. If you would like to contribute, Alex's parents have created a GoFundMe page (www.gofundme.com/giro-di-ghana); or you can follow his progress on the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ghanafundraiser



Pictured: Greg & Alex

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