

Village Events:

- Jimmy's Breakfast Club - Harvest Style!** Sunday 4th September, 9.30am, St James Church, Spaldwick (See Page 3 for more details).
- Wine Tasting & Cheese Pairing event - run by "The Common Ground" group,** Friday 16th September, 7.30pm, St James Church, Spaldwick.
- FOSS Christmas Fayre** - Friday 2nd December (See Page 6 for more details about how you can get involved).



SPALDWICK
NEWS

Spaldwick's new vehicle-activated speed sign switched on



A new "Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign" is now in place in a bid to encourage drivers to slow down to 30mph, as they enter the village from the A14.

The Parish Council has installed the solar powered device on the High Street. They're now hoping to secure funding for two more, which will be positioned on Thrapston Road and Stow Road.

The feedback received so far is positive, with villagers saying it's having an impact on the speed of vehicles.

Regulars bid farewell to Steve and Allister from The George

After 10 years of running The George, Spaldwick residents have bid farewell to Steve and Allister who have moved on to pastures new.

They said: "We have thoroughly enjoyed The George. It has been our home, our work and our life. We have been lucky enough to have had some fantastic staff help us over the past years. Without them, we would never have survived and reached where we are today.

We could never have wished for a friendlier village to have lived in and worked with."



Wine lovers & cheese connoisseurs find common ground

WINE TASTING & CHEESE PAIRING WITH SOME MUSIC TO WASH IT ALL DOWN.

Join us on: **16th Sept** At: **19:30**

In: **Spaldwick Church**

TICKETS: £15pp

FOR ALL BOOKING ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:
Guy Player at
hello@spaldwickcommonground.co.uk

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Sponsored Bounce raises big amounts for Spaldwick School

School children having fun on a bouncy castle has raised £1,658 for Spaldwick Primary.

The event was organised by Friends of Spaldwick School (FOSS), to support the school's activities and facilities.

The total amount includes £250 claimed from Gift Aid.

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- **TING BUS SERVICE** - The Ting bus service is proving to be extremely popular with Spaldwick residents. It's a great new way to get about by bus in West Hunts, without having to rely on a car. For more information about the on-demand service go to: www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/east/Ting
- **HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND** - The Household Support Fund (HSF) has been created to help people experiencing immediate financial hardship to pay for food and household energy bills.

Pensioners - You are eligible to access this support through the Household Support Fund if:

- You were born on or before 30 September 1956;
- You live in Cambridgeshire;
- You are experiencing financial hardship;
- No one under the age of 19 (born after 30th September 2003), lives with you.

How to apply:

Support for pensioners is being delivered by Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Apply by phone on 01223 221929 or by email at hsf@ageukcap.org.uk

Support with Food and Household Bills:

You are eligible to access this support through the Household Support Fund if you earn less than £17,940 per year or are in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit.
- Working Tax Credit.

How to apply:

You can apply directly to the fund by completing the online application form at cambridgeshire.gov.uk



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- **Summer Community events, and now Christmas!** Thank you for everyone who supported our summer events: Cream Teas, Strawberries & Pimms and our BBQ. Whilst December still feels a good way off, we are starting to plan our Christmas Carol Party. We would love to hear from anyone of any age, who has a skill they'd be happy to share on Tuesday 20th December.
- **Jimmy's Breakfast Club - Harvest style!** Our harvest festival service this year will be at **9.30am on Sunday 4th September**. From 10.15am we will be serving Jimmy's breakfasts (bacon butty or croissant, and hot brew), will have harvest produce available for a donation and will be open for Food Bank donations. Go to godmanchester.foodbank.org.uk to find out more about the items that are most needed.
- **Celebration or in memoriam?** – If you would like to donate a bunch of flowers to celebrate a special occasion or in memory of a loved one, or have the church bells rung in your honour, please get in touch with your preferred dates.

Services for September

- Sunday 4th September, 9:30am - Spaldwick's Harvest Service.

PCC Contacts: Amba Harbour, Denise Brown, Julia Rutherford (01480 890203), Elaine Woolward, Sue Appleyard.

Email: stjamesspaldwick@aol.com

Thank you for your support!



A big welcome to the village to Melanie Kapinos and her family, who have taken over guardianship of the Spaldwick Book Exchange.

They have inherited the role from Shirley and Cliff Lansley, who moved house in August. We are very grateful for their efforts in not only looking after the Book Exchange, but also for delivering Spaldwick News to Burton Way over the last few years, and wish them well in their new life up north.

Melanie says she has a few ideas for the Book Exchange, including collections of books for holiday times - and home made books...watch this space!

The Book Exchange opened in 2017 and is situated in the decommissioned phone box on the corner of Royston Avenue. There is a wide selection of books for all ages, as well as a few games and information leaflets.

Another big thank you must also go to Abigail Richards, who has volunteered to take over delivery of Spaldwick News for Burton Way.

It's your efforts that really contribute to village life!

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David Henrick is coordinator of Spaldwick Neighbourhood watch. In each edition of Spaldwick News, David updates us with the latest information and warnings issued by the organisation.

Vulnerable man gave thousands to fraudster he thought loved him

Like many people struggling with loneliness after the breakdown of a relationship, a retired dentist turned to the internet looking for company, friendship and possibly love. Sadly, it didn't work out as he'd hoped. Simon, who is in his late 70s, speaks openly about the heartbreak of falling victim to a romance scam.

Simon explains how meeting a woman online turned from a dream into a nightmare. He said: "I'd been living in Spain for 30 years when I returned to the UK, leaving my wife and life behind.

I started chatting to people online and it developed from there. I just wanted someone I could chat to on a one-to-one basis and be friendly with. I chatted to one woman almost daily and it developed very quickly into showing interest in each other, having conversations about family life etc. She started asking me for money for a whole host of reasons. I first sent money over for her mother who she said was unwell, which I later discovered obviously wasn't true."

To date, Simon has transferred more than £30,000 to different people he met on-line, who he now knows weren't who they said they were. Some of the key red flags to be aware of when speaking to someone online include:

- Asking you to move onto another platform: Fraudsters often try to move victims onto other platforms and sites to chat, away from the protection and monitoring of a professional dating site.
- When asking you for money, fraudsters will often concoct elaborate or emotive stories, either about an illness, a crisis or perhaps for a business venture or travel costs to come and see you.
- A reluctance to meet: Fraudsters often show a reluctance to meet up in person or will let you down at the last minute giving an excuse as to why they couldn't make it.

Reporting a crime:

- If it's an emergency and the crime is still taking place, call 999 and ask for the police.
- If it's not an emergency, do not call 999. This doesn't mean the crime is not important – it just helps the police to make the best use of their resources. Many police forces use the 101 non-emergency number.
- If you have information regarding a crime and don't want to talk to the police, contact Crimestoppers online or call 0800 555 111. You will stay anonymous. Always.

Ellington WI

Ellington WI will be meeting on Tuesday 6th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.



Our speaker will be from Diabetes UK, talking about the charity's work and how to prevent or manage diabetes.

In October, we meet on Tuesday 4th when our speaker will be talking about waste management, what we can do to minimise our waste and how the council processes it all.

New members from Spaldwick are always welcome!



We have expanded our family

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Spaldwick Allotment Committee: "Down on the Farm" - by Mark Herriman



At last count, over the last eleven years, we have had five different allotments in five separate places. The curse of rental properties! However, after making the decision to settle in Spaldwick, we were both surprised and elated when we were offered a plot on the allotments here in the village, a mere 5-minute walk from our front door.

We've maintained these plots over the years with varying levels of productivity and, after harvesting enough potatoes, onions, and garlic to see us through the winter months, we undoubtedly end up with piles and piles of courgettes that we cannot get rid of for love nor money, defaulting to the fact that every social occasion will be with a proffered bag of the things on arrival.

This time round we were adamant that planting two seedlings would be sufficient, however, after watching our 4-year-old diligently raise multiple courgette plants from seed in the garden, we are once again the proud owners of twelve courgette plants firmly in the ground on the allotment (pictured left).

When we first took on the plot two months ago we drew up plans and decided to tackle it a little bit at a time then, threw said plans away, and proceeded with reckless abandon to plant whatever we could almost as soon as the earth had been dug over; alongside collecting any free materials we could lay our hands on to transform it into what we hope will be, in time, our haven of fresh, seasonal, year round produce.

Thanks to the power of social media, and our hope to spend as little money as possible, we have so far procured, free-of-charge, a 25 year old shed, about 80m of old decking boards, more paving slabs than we know what to do with and, to the delight of our daughter, a large, deep sandpit to provide some alternative entertainment to buckets of water (muddy puddles) and trying to re-home every last bug she can find.



Discounting the fact our plot currently looks like a cross between an allotment and a builder's merchant we are already beginning to reap the rewards. We inherited a mature strawberry bed that gave us weeks of the sweetest fruit, most of which did not make it as far as the gate; cucumbers and tomatoes are ripening daily; our beans are in full flower and those courgettes are starting to pile up in the kitchen alongside an ever-growing pile of recipes to try and deal with the glut.

The amount of wildlife in and around the allotments is amazing. All manner of pollinators and butterflies are swarming around our lavender and, subsequently, our fruit and vegetable plants. Later in the evening Muntjac deer are seen exploring the adjoining fields along with hares and an abundance of rabbits.



In fact, recently, the allotments themselves played host to the cast of Watership Down. Thankfully, the holes in the boundary fence were dutifully repaired and the rabbits free to continue with their vegetable eating elsewhere.



The list of jobs continues to grow daily, our three large vegetable beds are laid out, we are creating a new fruit bed and we have committed to an exceptionally large polytunnel that we hope will enable us to continue growing well into the long winter months.

As I write this the temperature is creeping up towards 40 degrees so

watering will have to wait until late in the evening. This is a relatively short and simple job, however, with a group of like-minded, sociable people and a great community feel what starts as a quick 10-minute job often leads to long conversations and the sky darkening over what must be one of the best views we have ever had from an allotment site.



Spaldwick Carpet Bowl Club - by Andrew Vickers



The club has recently played home and away fixtures against Gransden, with the away match taking place first. Like every other match played since the pandemic, it was wonderful to catch up with old friends and test our skills against different players.

The evening consisted of nine games. After the first three games, Spaldwick had opened a twelve-shot lead - both team's fortunes constantly changed during the next games with our hosts eventually reducing the deficit to six. After the interval, the final matches took place; these like the previous ones were just as close. On the final end of the evening, we restricted Gransden to two shots which resulted in Spaldwick winning 43-40.

The return fixture just two weeks later was as hard fought. Spaldwick won the evening's opening game by seven shots; the next few games were tight affairs, but by the interval our lead had been slightly increased to nine. Two ends after the interval, the lead had been reduced to three - and just like the previous encounter it was getting tense. Spaldwick ended the evening as they started with a comfortable win in the final game and a 32-17 overall victory.

The club then travelled to Riseley aiming to continue the winning streak. The opening games were close, with the lead constantly changing as we reached the interval our hosts held a one-shot lead. The final two matches took place after the break - unfortunately any hopes of a win soon evaporated with Riseley scoring eight shots in the next three ends, which resulted in Spaldwick losing 23-13. Despite the defeat we enjoyed a fun and friendly evening, maybe overindulged in the superb refreshments as we were overpowered in the final few ends.

The club have two more home friendlies against Alconbury in September and Kym Valley the following month. After these matches the members will be concentrating on the various club competitions. These are always keenly fought and close encounters.

We offer free no obligation taster session on Thursday evenings between 7.30pm and 10pm. If you are interested or require more details, please contact Andrew on 01480 891201.

Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for September/October 2022:

Grey		13th Sept	27th Sept	11th Oct	25th Oct
Blue	6th Sept	20th Sept	4th Oct	18th Oct	
Green	8th Sept	22nd Sept	6th Oct	20th Oct	

FOSS Christmas Fayre - a call out for stall holders!

Friends of Spaldwick School are planning a Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd December - here's how you can get involved:



Friday 2nd December

We need your help!

Book a stall

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Each stallholder please provide a gift for our hamper raffle

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