

Dates for your diary:

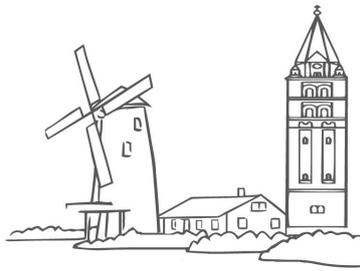
:: **St James Church - Friday 8th May:** VE Day Celebrations (See Page 3 for details).

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

:: **Spaldwick Parish Council:** Future Meetings have been put on hold. There are plans for residents to listen in online (See Page 5 for details).

April 2020

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SPALDWICK

NEWS

COVID-19 - Help for the Spaldwick community

St James Church has put together a support network for those who are more vulnerable, and anyone who finds themselves having to self-isolate over the coming weeks or months.

We see this group as being a communication link that enables a request to be supported as quickly as possible. Volunteers are already providing support. Most of the older residents received a letter with this information last week, and many have now also had a personal visit.

If you are isolating yourself or are not well but have a need, for example:

- A loaf of bread/ some fruit
- To post a letter/collect a parcel
- A new board game/ more wool
- A dog requiring a walk, etc

...please contact one of the numbers below (leaving a voicemail if there is no answer) - or send a text to the mobile numbers. We will pass your request on to one of the volunteers in the village so that items can be added onto existing orders being delivered, or otherwise actioned.

If you need support we will need your name, first line of address and details of how we can help. This information will be confidential to the group and will not be used by any other purpose than to help.

We are also able to help collecting prescriptions from Kimbolton and Alconbury surgeries.

CONTACT NUMBERS:

Amba - 07526 382240
Julia - 01480 890203
Becky - 07958 306740

HM Government

NHS

Coronavirus guidance

Protecting older people and vulnerable adults

We are advising those who are at **increased risk** of severe illness from coronavirus (COVID-19) to be particularly stringent in following social distancing measures.

aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)

under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (ie anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):

- chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
- chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
- chronic kidney disease
- chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis
- chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
- diabetes
- problems with your spleen – for example, sickle cell disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy
- being seriously overweight (a body mass index (BMI) of 40 or above)

those who are **pregnant**



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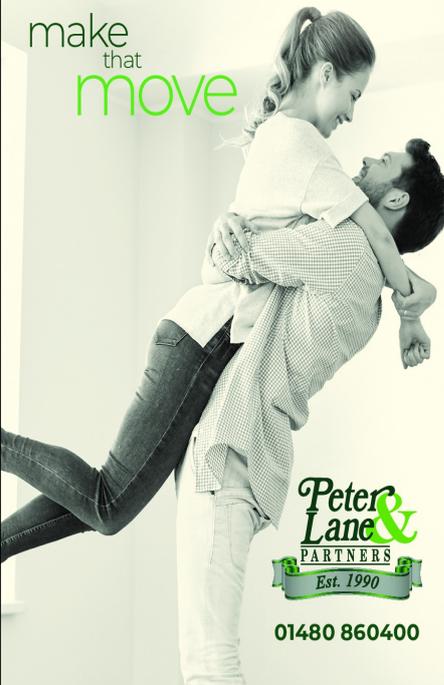
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The Transformation of Manor Farm, by Mark Heath

How amazing Manor Farm is looking currently. After speaking to Richard Johnson, Manor Farm is being prepared for being sold, although the Coronavirus pandemic is causing a great deal of uncertainty. Richard's face was full of pride. I've agreed with Richard to take some internal photographs shortly. Here are some external photos from my latest visit:



Manor Farm in Spaldwick was built in 1547, and proudly stood as a major landmark in the village for many years. As you can see in the photo (left), the main building stood alongside many sizeable outbuildings. In more recent years, it became a shadow of its former self.

Happily, Manor Farm is being restored to its former glory by Richard Johnson Restorations. Richard has had major challenges with the project and it has been far from easy for his family. I do hope that he realises the true impact of his efforts – now and for many future generations.

The photos (right) were taken of Manor Farm in November 2014 – near the start of the restoration project. At the time, the building was close to collapse. The outbuildings were also in a terrible state.



See more photos taken by Mark Heath at www.spaldwick.com



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Here's what's happening

It is with great sadness that we are writing to let you know that we are calling last orders for the time being, given the escalation of the COVID-19.

We would like to thank our amazing team who have been doing an fantastic job behind the scenes over the recent weeks in increasing challenging circumstances.

We are looking at other ways we can support our community and aid in business survival while we are closed.

Our current intension, with the government approval, is to offer a takeaway and delivery service from our pub. Please follow our Facebook page for any further updates, menu choices and delivery options.

www.facebook.com/thewheatsheafitchmarsh

We wish you and all your families good heath and thank you for your support and we look forward to when we can open our doors again and have you all back for a delicious meal and drink in weeks to come.

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St James Church News

As you are all probably aware, Churches throughout the UK are not holding services; but we are aware that during these hard times people might like to access the church.

St James will remain open during daylight hours for anyone who would like to spend time there quietly, or in private prayer.

Rev Phil is travelling around the parishes recording his twice daily services which you can join on line by visiting www.kymchurch.org.uk and clicking on the "Want to join us in prayer?" tab. This website also lists the support groups that are now available across the Benefice.

To contact Rector Rev Philip Howson:
Email: revphiliphowson@icloud.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/revdphiliphowson/>
Phone: 01480 869081

VE day celebrations, Friday 8th May

At the moment, we are still planning ahead to shut part of the High Street and to hang bunting! Depending on the situation at the time, we hope you will be able to bring your own chair and mug, and drink tea at an acceptable social distance. Further activities will of course, entirely depend on the latest government advice.

Fundraising

We are really grateful for all the offers of support around our fundraising activities, which are of course, now on hold but we have plans for later in the year:

"Harvesting the talent in Spaldwick" - We are hoping to run an "Auction of Promises" in the autumn at our Harvest supper. So please start to think how you can help, and what promises you might be able to offer such as an evening babysitting, washing a car, mowing a lawn, manicure, making birthday cake and so on.

Save the date! Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley: 10 October 2020 - We are very excited to announce that Paul Jones, the legendary Manfred Mann frontman and Fiona Hendley, accomplished actress and singer, will be entertaining us at St James. Please save the date and we will share more details nearer the time.

Bell Ringing at Spaldwick Church

Following on from our Governing body CCCBR (Central Council of Church Bell Ringers), all bell ringing is curtailed until further notice. Bells across the land will fall silent, something that hasn't happened since WWII. Rest assured, however, that we will be pealing again when restrictions are lifted.



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Dear all,

Fraudsters may use the fact more people are staying at home, as an opportunity to operate doorstep scams.

Remember, someone posing as a good samaritan and offering to help those in isolation with things like buying shopping, then keeping the money, is committing theft. This should be

reported to local police by calling 101 or in the event of an emergency, call 999.

There is a lot more advice and resources available to help protect yourself from a range of other scams. Cambridgeshire Police are active members of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP). They provide a range of services, products and advice, so for more information please visit <https://cambridgeshire.gov.uk/against-scams>.

If you do not have internet access and need this information in printed format, please call 01223 706 355.

Should you need to report a scam or computer crime and it is not an emergency visit www.actionfraud.police.uk. If you do not have internet access, or if you feel you require more support, you can also contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 and speak to an advisor.

For support and advice call 101 and ask to speak with your local Crime Reduction Officer.

Keep safe all

Regards

Clare Darbyshire (Police, Crime Reduction Officer, Huntingdon)



Kimbolton Royal British Legion update 19 March 2020

The following events have been postponed:

Saturday 18 April Social evening & quiz

Friday 8 May VE-Day Celebration

Monday 25 May US Memorial Day Please see notice below:

Monday, March 16, 2020

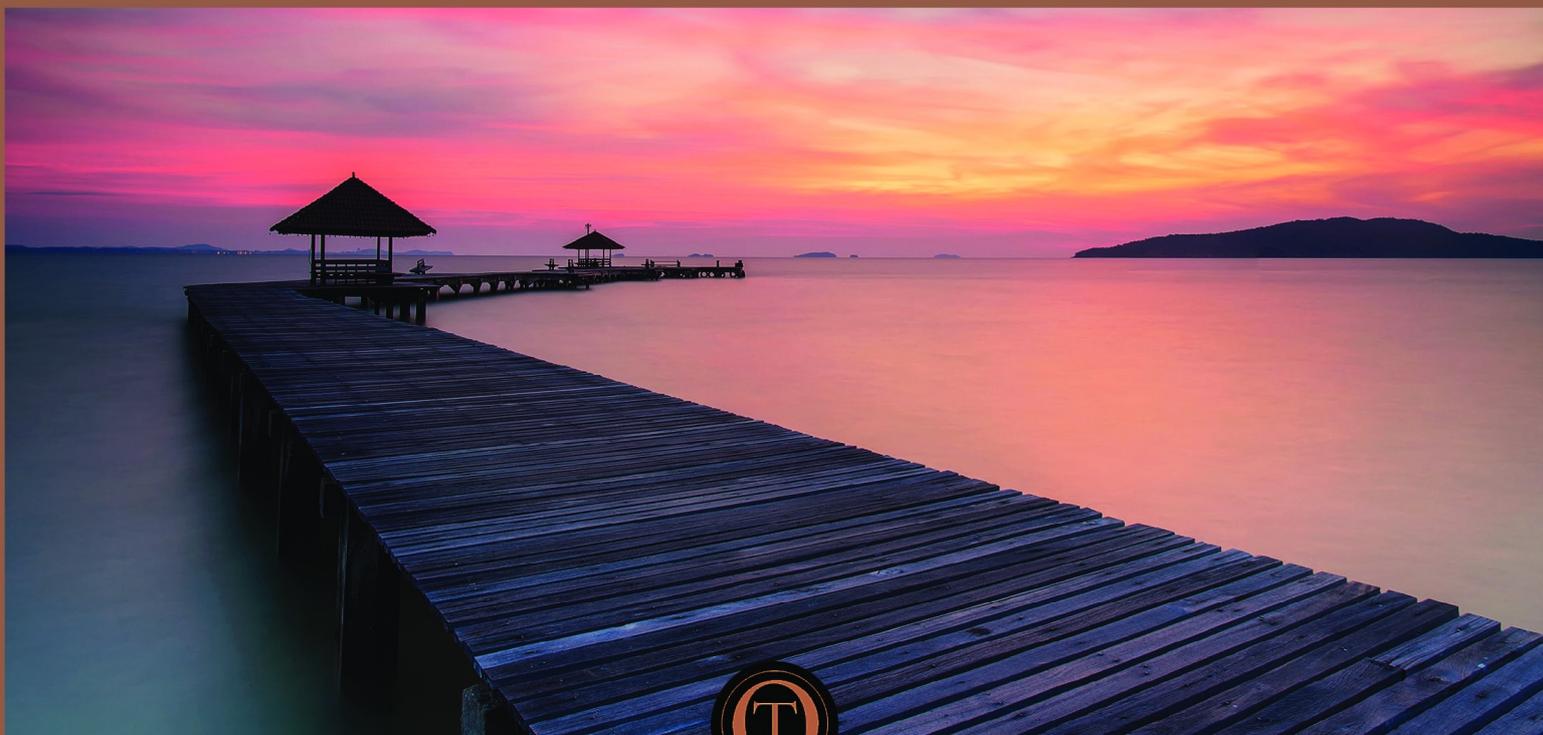
In keeping with current precautionary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, all American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) cemeteries are closed until further notice.

Information from Milton Keynes Theatre: 18 March 2020, 20:30

Following the closure of Ambassador Theatre Group venues on **Monday 16th March**, we regret to confirm that we are suspending all performances at our UK venues until **Sunday, 26th April 2020**.

The trip to see the Glenn Miller concert on 29 March is cancelled

David Henrick Chairman Kimbolton Branch RBL



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A word from Reverend Philip Howson:



Hello everyone,

What a strange time! Yet this strangeness is bringing out extraordinary care and togetherness expressed in the flourishing of local community groups set up to care for one-another.

It's also made the stranger as our impulse to be close is replaced by consciously keeping our distance.

In our churches we had already decided that the "Peace" was to be replaced by not shaking hands and wishing peace on each other which ended up feeling harder to do than I expected. This whole time has brought home to me that our impulse is to move towards each other, and in the flourishing of care for the most vulnerable, it reveals that we are made for love.

I'm also struck that social media really isn't some kind of curse that separates, it is enabling contact and communion and coordination that are helping our communities remain resilient.

It really is a pleasure to serve as the vicar here you know.

I look forward to celebrating with you when we are out of all this.

Yours,

Revd Philip

Spaldwick Parish Council

March's meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council was held via video conference, due to the government's advice surrounding Covid-19. Future meetings of the Parish Council have been put on hold and will be run in a similar manner, with the option of any residents wishing to listen to the meeting to apply for a link beforehand.

Parish Councillors are already providing assistance to some vulnerable residents of Spaldwick; and are happy to act as a point of contact for any residents who are unable to obtain supplies in the normal way.

February's meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council was held on Thursday 20th:

It was Chaired by Steve Fane de Salis - also present were Cllr G Smith, Cllr S Parfrey, one member of the public and County Councillor Ian Gardiner. *Here are some of the items discussed, based on the draft minutes of the meeting:*



It was noted that the bridge over the A14 at Spaldwick was in a bad state of disrepair. Huntingdonshire District Council are aware of the issues.

- Monthly Ferriman Road Play Area Inspection: Play equipment to be painted. The Parish Clerk will be able to obtain 3 quotes for a company to paint and refurbish the equipment.

Highways, footpaths, byways, gritting bin, trees, etc

- Hedges around play area and open space: Members of the public have assisted with removing some of the hedging around the play area after it was agreed to remove the hedging. The play area has been cleared, however the ground is still too wet to carry out further works at the moment. It is proposed to lift the crown of the small trees which are the responsibility of the Parish Council, to allow the grass to be cut underneath.
- Update regarding dog poo bag dispensers: An email was received from Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer, who had heard from the Church that it was approved to install dog poo bag dispensers on the Church side of the gate. Cllr Jackson-Rimmer will arrange for installation, if less than £100.
- Complaint regarding speeding vehicles along High Street: A resident has asked that we consider the need for a pedestrian crossing outside The George as this will slow traffic. Costings for a zebra crossing are in the region of £25-35k and not felt a worthwhile solution to combat speeding vehicles.
- A member of the public has approached Spaldwick PC asking for clarification regarding a triangle of land which she believes belongs to Spaldwick Parish Council. Response from Cllr S Parfrey and Cllr G Smith: It was confirmed that the triangle of land in question belongs to Cambridgeshire County Council and the resident will make contact with them.
- A Report was received regarding trees blown over on the road opposite Spaldwick Service Station causing damage to phone lines. This has been reported to County Cllr Ian Gardiner and reported online to Cambridgeshire County Council.
- A resident has raised concerns about the location of the the Bus Stop on High Street, with parked vehicles causing a problem at this location. A suggestion is to add an additional stop on Stow Road. Cllr S Fane de Salis has spoken with Cllr R Johnson about the best location for the re-siting of the bus stop along Stow Road between Royston Ave and Mount Pleasant.
- Fly tipping Beltons Hill: The fly-tipping of a flat screen TV has been reported to the County Council.
- Potholes and gaps in Road surface between Thrapston Road and Beltons Hill: County Councillor Ian Gardiner has been informed and will forward the complaint to the Highways Officer at Huntingdonshire District Council.

Community Room:

Consider the purchase of an internal notice board.

Consider the purchase of an external sign.

PAT Testing - Cllr J Pope will look into this issue

Cllr Pope proposes to fit timers to the radiators to prevent them being left on for extended periods

Correspondence:

Good Neighbours coordinator needed - Cllr S Parfrey offered to take over responsibility for co-ordinating the Good Neighbours Scheme

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

What is Community Speedwatch?

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds. In cases where education is blatantly ignored and evidence of repeat or excessive offences is collated (even across county borders), enforcement and prosecution follow.



Volunteers receive appropriate training, and are supported by neighbourhood policing team (NPT) staff. The scheme aims to cater for the problem of real or perceived speed related offending, and through partnership with the community it is to be used in circumstances that are necessary, justifiable and proportionate in order to:

- Reduce death and injury on the roads
- Improve the quality of life for local communities
- Reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- Increase public awareness of inappropriate speed
- Reduces burglaries when a Speedwatch session is taking place
- Reduces road noise and carbon emissions

Speedwatch activity is not about interfering with neighbours' behaviour; it is a proactive solution to improve the safety and quality of life for everyone in the community.

Speedwatch only takes an hour or two once a month (with a lot of volunteers it can be less than that) – can you spare that to make your community a safer place?

If you would like to find out more information about volunteering please contact Sharan at csw.spaldwick@yahoo.co.uk

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A busy start to 2020 for Spaldwick Community Primary School

Staff and pupils at Spaldwick Primary enjoyed a fantastic World Book Day, with everyone dressing up as their favourite characters (pictured right). There was also a book swap, craft, cooking - and a reading cafe, where parents and carers were invited to join the children in the hall for tea, biscuits and a book!



If you're a regular visitor to the playground, you'll also have noticed the colourful new playground markings, which have proved very popular with the children (pictured left).



Mental health and wellbeing is important at Spaldwick School. Mrs Belgrove has been working really hard to create something special for the children.

Pictured is the school's POD, designed to be a "fantastic, calm space."



Spaldwick Primary School's Head Teacher Louise Worrell was on Heart, LBC and Smooth radio earlier this month, talking about how the school was taking measures to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus.

Antibacterial hand gel and tissues were placed in every classroom. The precautionary measure was taken as cases of Covid-19 continue to rise across the rest of the country.

Mrs Worrell also held a special assembly about Covid-19 to reassure children, to answer their questions - and to explain the importance of washing their hands regularly with soap and warm water for 20 seconds at a time. School has now closed.

Village Hall Committee

Dear Spaldwick,

These are peculiar times and so call for changes to all our 'normal' lives.

First and foremost, the Village Hall Committee want to wish everyone well both in Spaldwick and beyond, keep safe and ask for help whenever you need it, no matter how small or how big, someone will be able to help in some way!

In view of the present Coronavirus situation and the Governments current advice on social distancing, the Village Hall Committee feel that we have no option but to postpone the forthcoming AGM that was planned for Wednesday 29th April. We will be regularly reviewing the situation along with the Governments advice and will reschedule when the situation eases and we can safely meet.

In the meantime, the Village Hall committee would still welcome and encourage ideas on how best the Village Hall funds could be put to use for the benefit of the Village and its inhabitants both present and in the future. Perhaps some of you can use this time to consider how to use the village hall funds and so, even though we are unable to meet face to face, let's keep the lines of communication open for all thoughts and considerations.

We can be contacted via the email villagehall@spaldwick.com or pop a written letter through the letterbox of Ivy House, 38, High Street, Spaldwick, with your name and address for a response from us. This contact can be used to ask for assistance too.

We are still working as a committee, albeit remotely and would like to pass on the following update: Brewin Dolphin have been in contact and are going to suggest the best time and way to invest the funds, especially given the current situation in the area of investment. If they suggest something which may benefit the funds and the Village Hall committee need to take any immediate action we will post it in this newsletter and ask for responses accordingly. If this situation continues for too long we may miss out on opportunities if we do not take their advice, we hope you agree.

Stay safe, stay healthy and above all stay positive! We will weather this if we all pull together!

From the Village Hall committee

Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for April/May 2020:

Grey		14 April	28 April
Blue	7 April	21 April	5 May
Green	9 April	23 April	7 May



Escape Youth Club

Escape is open to all children in Year 5 and above. We will be meeting on the following dates:

27th March, 2nd April, 15th May
5th June, 19th July

Spaldwick School.
Entry costs just £2.00 per session.



If you are interested in helping at the sessions, have any ideas or feedback, then please contact us at escape@spaldwick.com.



Find us on: **facebook.**

Or get in touch on Facebook: [@spaldwickescapeyouthclub](https://www.facebook.com/spaldwickescapeyouthclub)

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Spaldwick Community Allotment Association

Thank you to everyone who returned their signed forms confirming they wish to have a Spaldwick allotment plot.



Spaldwick Community Allotment Association (SCAA) had organised their first welcome meeting at the end of March, but as a consequence of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) and adhering to government advice, SCAA has had to postpone this meeting until the foreseeable future.

However, SCAA is pleased to confirm that everyone who expressed their interest in holding an allotment plot, has been allocated one.

Details of plot numbers and location on the site will be conveyed at a later date. SCAA has TWO available plots, so please share this with anyone who may be interested in having a plot and joining our allotment community.

As this wet weather has continued to hinder, alongside the current sad climate of Coronavirus, there has been a delay in preparing the allotment site.

Spaldwick Parish Council has advised that this will be done as soon as practicably possible and has decided to reduce each allotment plot holder's rent by £2.00 per month.

On behalf of SCAA, thank you for your support.

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