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.

Spaldwick marks VE Day's 75th Anniversary





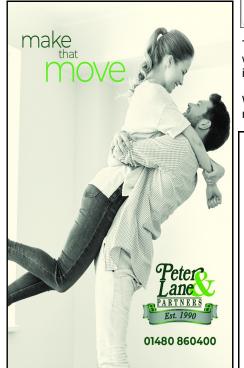
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A wealth of Union Flags, bunting, afternoon teas and glasses of wine were laid out in Spaldwick to

mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day on 8th May. Windows were decorated with Second World War posters - and streets came alive with singing and

music to mark the occasion. The celebrations were a welcome distraction from

the government's lockdown and social distancing measures. At 6pm, a toast was held on Burton Way (pictured)

At 6pm, a toast was held on Burton Way (pictured) after the Last Post was played beautifully by the Perkins family, followed by a two-minute silence.

Villagers also took time to share their experiences on social media:



©spaldwicknews villagers taking time to celebrate VE day. A glorious sunny day, an opportunity for families (households) to spend time together but amongst each other at a distance. Some great community spirit <u>#VEDay</u> <u>pic.twitter.com/ujL9Ofm3lo</u> 08/05/2020, 16:25

Thank you to Mark Heath for documenting the day with a wealth of photographs, which can be viewed in high quality at www.spaldwick.com

We also have a selection on pages 4&5 of this month's Spaldwick News.



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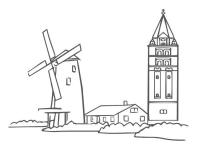
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SPALDWICK

- N E W S ------



June 2020







SPALDWICK COVID-19 SUPPORT NETWORK

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

St James Church News

Online Services:

Reverends Phil, Dr John, Pamela and Ron - together with Jill - are still really busy recording 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.



The Sunday services are being enjoyed by more than 170 people, with sometimes almost that number on weekdays too. We are pleased to see that although the building is shut, the church continues. For some people, this more flexible approach to Christian worship works better, so welcome to all those who are new to the congregation.

You are invited to take part too: 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).

Spaldwick Prayer Tree:

We are pleased to introduce the "Prayer Tree" to Spaldwick churchyard. The millennium yew tree (on the left as you go in the gate), is to become a prayer tree for the next few weeks. 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 everlasting life, rebirth, changes and regeneration after difficult times, and protection - is also **poisonous** if eaten. Of course, please adhere to all the latest Covid-19 government guidance when visiting the tree which we hope will be treated with respect.

Thank you for continuing to support the church:

We are grateful to those who have continued to support the church via regular giving during these tough economic times, when sadly the cost of historic buildings does not diminish just because it is not in constant daily use. If you are enjoying the new online services please consider supporting us with whatever amount you can afford. The scheme is administered nationally so no one in the village will know what size donation you give. Giving packs can be found in the porch.

Bell Ringing:

Thank you to Elaine for ringing the bells again for us on VE Day and during the regular Thursday 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 - 10th 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. Please save the date and we will share more details nearer the time.

To contact Rector Rev Philip Howson:

Email: revphiliphowson@icloud.com Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/revdphiliphowson/ Phone: 01480 869081



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Prayer Tree



Tie some ribbon, lace or string... Say a prayer, or what thoughts you bring.









VE Day's 75th Anniversary has been documented for the village by photographer Mark Heath.

You can see all of the pictures featured here, in high-resolution at www.spaldwick.com











Highways England respond to A14 diversion concerns

If you live anywhere near the Spaldwick's through-roads, you'll know that traffic was diverted off the A14 for two nights on 18th and 19th May, due to emergency repairs.

A number of residents complained about lorries hurtling through the village and a significant rise in traffic noise.

Highway England have since said that "Spaldwick village is not part of the diversion route when there are planned closures on the A14, it is only used when urgent work is required as it was on this occasion."

A spokesperson said: "We're sorry to hear about these concerns from people in Spaldwick while the A14 was closed between Brampton and Thrapston earlier this week.



"We try to avoid diverting traffic this way wherever possible: unfortunately the urgent nature of the work we were doing meant that we were not able to set up our preferred longer diversion via the A1(M) and A605."

The official diversion route when the A14 is closed at this location is to leave the A14 and take the A1M to Alwalton, and then back down the A605 to rejoin the A14 at Thrapston. This is signed and has been jointly agreed with police and the council as the most suitable for A14 traffic. We encourage all drivers to stick to it.

Play area bin - A polite request to dog owners

A Spaldwick resident writes: "The bin in the children's play park on Ferriman Road, isn't emptied by the council, but by a villager.

"Could people therefore please refrain from putting their dog poo bags in the play park bin and dispose of them in one of the designated bins around the village.

Thank you."

Spaldwick Parish Council Chairman, Steve Fane de Salis added: "The bin is provided purely for the use of people using the play area, not for dog mess."

The play park is currently closed due to Covid-19 restrictions.



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Spaldwick Parish Council

April's meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council was held on Thursday 16th by video conference.

It was Chaired by Steve Fane de Salis - also present were G Smith (Vice Chairman), S Jackson-Rimmer, J Pope, S Parfrey and W Burcham.

Here are some of the items discussed, based on the draft minutes:

Ferriman Road Play Park - Councillors considered three quotations for painting the play park following an inspection by Wicksteed. Communication had been received from a resident who expressed concern about the colours to be used. Following discussions, the Council decided that it was most logical to stick with the current colour scheme and that the cheapest quote would be most suitable, given that it is for a company already known to the Council.

Noticeboard for the Community Room - The Council agreed that a grey noticeboard would be most suitable to match the curtains in the Community room.

Sign for the Community Room - Huntingdonshire District Council have been contacted for permission to install an outside sign on the wall of the Community room, to name it as such. Provided it is no larger than 0.3m2 then this should be fine. Materials and colours were discussed. Black writing on a white acrylic sign was proposed, to be drilled flat onto the outside wall.

Use of Byways - A resident has raised the issue of motorcyclists using byways during winter months. The signage does not prevent this use; but Cambridgeshire County Council have indicated that the signs are incorrect and should be changed. Cllr S Fane de Salis has followed-up and is awaiting a response.

Update regarding dog poo bag dispensers - Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer advised posts have been delivered, but one of them can't yet be installed as awaiting update regarding location.

Community Room - This is currently closed, and all bookings cancelled until further notice. No cleaning is being carried out currently.

Village defibrillator - Cllr S Fane de Salis suggested that now might be good time to revisit the possibility of a defibrillator for the village.

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

Huntingdonshire District Council: Working Age Council Tax Support

Some families could get additional help with their council tax in Huntingdonshire during the Covid-19 pandemic. Almost £500,000 of Government funding will go towards offering a reduction in payments, initially aimed at people who are in receipt of working-age council tax support.



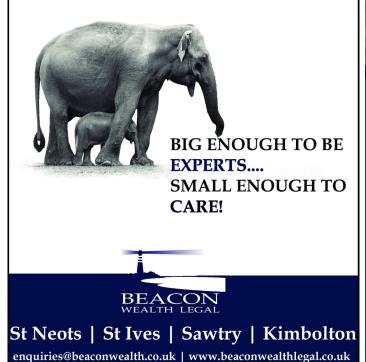
These residents will receive an additional reduction to their council tax bill of up to £150. There is no need to

apply as the reduction will be applied to bills automatically. Bills will be re-issued to reflect how much is left to pay following this.

Executive Leader of the Council, Councillor Ryan Fuller, told Spaldwick News: "We are acutely aware that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause a multitude of problems for some of our residents, which is why we have committed to provide as much support as possible to the people that most need our help. The Government has provided us with additional funding to provide council tax reductions for those who already utilise council tax support."

We have expanded our family **SHAILESH**

Jeffrey Mills Solicitors and Winters Legal are now called Beacon Wealth Legal. *Part of the Beacon Wealth Group.*





I want to assure the people of North West Cambridgeshire that during the coronavirus crisis my staff and I are continuing to help and assist as many people as possible. We are working from our homes and can still be contacted as follows:

House of Commons London, SWIA 0AA (Post will be forwarded as necessary)

- **© 01780 781224 020 7219 6050**
- @ shailesh.vara.mp@parliament.uk
- www.shaileshvara.com
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HELPLINES

UK Government Guidance www.gov.uk/coronavirus

HMRC - Tel: 0800 015 9559

NHS - www.111.nhs.uk please only call 111 if you cannot get help online Universal Credit - Tel: 0800 328 5644 School Closures - Tel: 0800 046 8687 Huntingdonshire District Council www.wearehuntingdonshire.org Tel: 01480 388 388

Peterborough City Council www.peterborough.gov.uk/coronaviru Tel: 01733 747474

Cambridgeshire County Council www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus General Enquires: 0345 045 5200 Dedicated Helpline for vulnerable residents: 0345 045 5219

This communication is funded by IPSA to assist Shailesh Vara MP in his parliamentary duties



Memories of Spaldwick as a WW2 Child Evacuee

As we marked the 75th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May, Chris Hubbard spoke to Second World War evacuee Sylvia Black. Sylvia was billeted to Spaldwick in September 1940, at just 5-years-old.

She is now 85 and remembers arriving at Huntingdon Station with her suitcase and gas mask.

Sylvia said: "I can remember being on the station with my brother and the next thing I can remember is actually being in Spaldwick...and this lady's house, still with my coat (on), my gas mask, my label and my haversack.

My brother was billeted around the corner from me, so we were parted. I was stood in this lady's house and I cried like anything because I wanted my Mam".

She continued: "I was billeted to a cottage adjourning The George. It's where the restaurant is now. The lady that I was evacuated with lived with me ever since, until she died.

I hope that we don't have another war because a generation was sent away from their mothers and their fathers".

Sylvia went on to say that anniversaries are a good opportunity to remind people what her generation went through: "I went up to Spaldwick School (to tell the children what it was like) when I was a bit younger; I took all of my books about evacuation and some old photographs.

I can remember more about being a kid playing and where we used to go and what we used to do. We were allowed to go everywhere. We used to go in the corn fields when they were cutting the sheaves. We used to go threshing. We used to go skating on the ponds and fishing in the brook.

We were allowed to go everywhere in those days. I'm glad that I was born in the time that I was - we had the freedom of the village".

(Credits: Photographs accompanying this article are from a Huntingdonshire District Council advert survey in 1950 - around the time Sylvia Black would have been 10-years-old).







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Spaldwick: Then and Now

Garry Chopping has been busy creating "then and now" photo compilations during lockdown - they're a fascinating comparison into how parts of the village have changed over the years. Archive images are sourced from www.spaldwick.com



The Bell Pub, Spaldwick - from Martin Craddock

Martin Craddock discovered this old photograph of "The Bell" pub in his attic. This was, around the time of the First World War, one of three pubs in the village - and was formerly "The Blue Bell Inn".

It's thought the Blue Bell was built sometime in the early 1820's (if not earlier) and served a coaching inn. The big double gates provide a typical passage through to a stable yard and there were formerly (listed in the 1876 Conveyance) additional buildings to the current barn and outhouses between the house and the Fellmongers Yard (now occupied by the close of modern houses behind Walton House).

The adjoining cottages on each side were originally part of the same property. The house is still linked to one of them by a disused cellar! The cottages were probably ostlers' cottages.

The name 'Blue Bell' is still common for ex coaching inns in Eastern England from Essex up to Yorkshire (Credit: www.spaldwick.com)



Spaldwick Community Allotment Association - by Carmen Martos

Spaldwick Community Allotment Association (SCAA) was thrilled to hand over the allotment plots to our Spaldwick Allotmenteers at midday, Sunday 3 May 2020.

After a month of rain, then baking sunshine, then a little more rain, the weather teased with our schedule in preparing the plots. The weather gave a little respite and on the early morning of Sunday 3rd May, our Committee member's son came to the rescue and tilled the soil, breaking it down to a manageable crumble.

SCAA's Chair and his wife busily marked up the plot boundaries (again) with string and replaced the plot numbers and the 'green light' email was released to the Allotmenteers, together with their individual plot numbers, to let them know they could access their plots.

In testament to how welcome these plots were, within 2.5 hours of that email, approximately 15 people had visited their plots. Within ONE week of releasing the plots, together with the sun kindly smiling down, there has been a wonderful hive of activity and (socially distanced) chat, from plots being designed, dug over, planted and sheds/ fences being put up.





The animal-proof fencing and gate has now been installed too. So many compliments, smiles, graft and enthusiasm has been shown for these well-received plots. Long may the enthusiasm last and the plots enjoyed. One week on, the skies echoed such positive enthusiasm with a perfect, full rainbow (photo credit to Allotmenteer, Bruce Oliver).

We do have a waiting list for plots, so please, if you are interested in having or sharing a plot in the future, please get in touch with a SCAA member or the Spaldwick Parish Council.



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Spaldwick Community Primary School

Have you seen the rainbow on Spaldwick School's doors? It's a touching tribute to our NHS staff and Key Workers - but also a reminder that, sadly, the Coronavirus is still with us and social distancing remains in place.



The Day That School Closed - by Lucas Gerry

The prime minister had finally announced, "All schools will be closing for the foreseeable future!" A virus was sweeping across the world and today was the beginning of a prolonged lockdown in the UK.

It was Friday 20th March, Mum dropped me off at the newly painted playground just like any other day. However, this was not any other day, it was... The Day That School Closed!

COVID-19 was a new virus spreading across the globe like a savage bushfire. Cough! Cough! Coughing from county to county. Continents were going into lockdown, businesses were closing; the economy was dying! School had prepared for this day, keeping us active and positive, demonstrating good hand washing and trying to keep us calm.

Thank goodness for the internet as the teachers tirelessly tried to get activities online. The World Wide Web was about to overload with pupils logging on like bees buzzing around honey.

The bulging mouths of folders were sat being slowly fed with worksheets, fattened up, ready to be eaten over the coming months. They knew the day was coming; it was inevitable. On entering the classroom, Miss Bell was stood greeting us with a jolly, "Good morning!" The timetable had been scrapped. It was the last day, it was going to be fun. "Don't worry about the day," she exclaimed, "I've got something sorted!"

We did PE, origami and made some Mother's day cards. However, the sadness was still overwhelming. What a day to end my final year at primary!

No residential, no SATs after all our hard work and NO PARTY! Will I get to see my friends? Will I get to see my teachers? Will I get to have my transition days? My mind was overflowing with questions; I wonder if they will be answered.

At the end of the day mum and dad came to pick me up. I said my goodbyes to my friends. As I walked away and looked over my shoulder I saw that even the building itself looked sad as it stood still and motionless.

(With thanks to Lucas Gerry's family and Mrs Worrell, who gave permission to include "The Day That School Closed")

The 'community snake' outside Spaldwick School is getting longer! Luke and Natalie started the snake - and children in the school have added to it. Have you put down a brightly painted stone? Let's see how far it can stretch!



Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for June/July 2020:

Grey		9 June	23 June
Blue	2 June	16 June	30 June
Green	4 June	18 June	2 July

Be on your guard during lockdown

trying their luck under the cover of darkness.

in through unlocked doors.

Creating a safer Cambridgeshire

Detective Sergeant James Rabbett, who is investigating, said: "These incidents are a result of opportunistic thieves

homes in Huntingdonshire were burgled, with thieves getting

Cambridgeshire Police are urging us not to be complacent during the government's lockdown period - after several

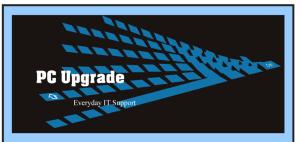
"I'm urging the public not to rest on their laurels during this lockdown period and to ensure their doors and windows are locked when going out or to bed".

It comes as private security company Blueline reported suspicious behaviour in Spaldwick High Street on 22nd May.

Their dog units were sent to the area after a woman reported seeing two men looking into parked vehicles at around 2.30am. Cambridgeshire Police were also informed.

Please make sure your vehicles are secure and any valuables are removed!

:: For burglary prevention advice visit: www.cambs.police.uk/A-Z/Burglary



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