

SPALDWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - April 2012

THEFT FROM VEHICLE & THEFT OF VEHICLE...

THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL INCIDENTS IN THE VILLAGE THIS WEEK.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU LOCK YOUR VEHICLE AND DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLE ITEMS ON DISPLAY INSIDE THE VEHICLE

PLEASE REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IMMEDIATELY ON 101 OR TO CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

ELLINGTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (WI)

Calling all ladies! Would anyone be interested in joining Ellington WI? The group meets on the first Tuesday of every month at Ellington Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

This year we have a full and varied programme of events. The meeting in March was a chocolatier which was very interesting. The sampling of the chocolates was yummy! So much so the majority of members and guests purchased the handmade chocolates.

The April meeting is Mrs Francis Ashfield speaking and demonstrating Landscape Painting.

New members are very welcome - for further information please contact Ann Bentley on 01480 891628, alternatively should anyone like to attend but requires a lift - please contact Libby Henrick on 01480 896556. We look forward to meeting you soon.

SPALDWICK NEWS April 2012



The Village Funeral Bier, which has been mouldering away in the shed near the gate to the churchyard, has now been beautifully restored by Wally Smith in his workshop at the old smithy on the corner of High Street and Thrapston Road. It is not so old as one might think, a plate on the bier says that it was presented to the village in 1928 by Miss A. Busby. If anyone has more information about this lady the Parish Council would be pleased to hear from you.

100 Club Winners in March

The March numbers were drawn at the Open house on 26th March. The winners were David Gioe £40 and Alan Barnden £20.



Amazingly green lawns for surprisingly little!

ProLawnCare provide a specialist, professional service for people who are serious about their lawns

- Free Lawn Health Check - an in-depth survey of your lawn
- Free Programme Proposal - a unique solution for your lawn
- The finest feeds, fertilisers and weed control products available along with expert knowledge

For further information call
01480 812 393
or email info@prolawncare.co.uk

ProLawnCare
www.prolawncare.co.uk

LAWN CARE FOR April - See Special Offer below

Mowing

Mow at least once a week now. Make sure mower has been serviced and blade replaced or sharpened.

Fertiliser

This is the time to feed and weed (preferably in that order). The fertiliser is predominately Nitrogen in a slow release form, but it may also need Phosphate and Potassium as well as vital trace elements to promote a vibrant lawn.

Weed Control

Once the weeds and grass are actively growing a selective herbicide to kill broad leaved weeds such as dandelions,

Patio/Driveway Weed Control

Weeds can look unsightly at this time of year in patios and driveways. We can spray a total weed killer to kill them and keep weed free for up to 6 months.

Actions required in April

- ♦ Mow lawn At least Once Per Week
- ♦ Apply Spring Fertiliser To Produce Vibrant Green Lawn
- ♦ Spray Weeds

Call Deborah or Richard : 1480 812393-
e-mail - info@prolawncare.co.uk

Reader Offer

"Book up for a Weed Control Treatment and we'll apply the Spring Fertiliser **FREE OF CHARGE**.
(Existing customers will receive an additional treatment free of charge too).

PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: David Stowell, 23A Thrapston Road, Spaldwick PE28 0TA

Phone: 890065 email: davidstowell@onetel.com

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to be held on Thursday 26th April the Community Room at Spaldwick School commencing at 8 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Please see notice board on the Village Green or view the website www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk

CHURCH NEWS

FUTURE EVENTS

OPEN MEETING

Please join us for our next meeting to plan events on May 17th at 8pm at Amba's house (Threeways 4, High Street)

JUBILEE CREAM TEA

Come and join us for Cream Tea between 3-5pm on Sunday 3rd June around the War Memorial in celebration of the Jubilee.

BINGO

Thank-you for your support last month
We had a great evening. £200 was raised and all were well fed and entertained.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

April 14th	Easter Fayre
April 30th	Open House
May 17th	Church Meeting
June 3rd	Jubilee Tea
July 14th	Village Fete

OPEN HOUSE The next Open House will be at the home of Edie Adams 45 Stow Road on April 30th from 1.30pm until 3.30pm.

Waste Bin Collection Dates

April		
Tues 3rd	Fri 6th	Wed 11th
Tues 17th	Fri 20th	Tues 24th
May		
Tues 1st	Fri 4th	Wed 9th

Spaldwick Church

April Services

1st	6.00pm	Palm Sunday Eucharist Bishop John Flack
8th	9.30am	Easter Day Eucharist at Ellington with the Bishop of Huntingdon
15th	4.30pm	Family Service Amba Harbour
29th	11.00am	Eucharist at Grafham

The Bishop of Huntingdon and his predecessor, Bishop John Flack, are taking services in our group this month. Jonathan, our own Vicar, is recovering from his illness and may be well enough to come to some of these services. If anyone would like a lift to Ellington or Grafham please contact the Churchwardens.

Rosemary Good (Churchwarden) 01480 890287
John Blatch (Churchwarden) 01480 890853

Remembering our darling baby, George, on what would have been his first birthday.

Lisa, Mark & Poppy want to thank everyone so very much for all the support we have received over the last year....the cards, flowers, meals, hugs and thoughts have helped carry us through the hardest year of our lives.

SPALDWICK

Holiday Club

EASTER | SUMMER | HALFTERM HOLIDAYS

With loads of fun activities, games, sports and arts & crafts to keep your children entertained and happy over the school holidays.

Fun, friendly, affordable

For children aged 3 to 11 years old

Flexible Hours
Open from 8.30 to 6.00pm
for working parents or just for fun!

To find out more and book your child's place contact Sophie on 07758 364502, or email: sclub_sclark@yahoo.co.uk

Spaldwick Out of School Club (S-Club)
Playtimes Building | Ferriman Road | Spaldwick | PE28 0TQ





Kym Valley District

Girlguiding

GIRLGUIDING KYM VALLEY DISTRICT URGES MORE PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER

Girlguiding Kym Valley District is calling on residents in the area of Kimbolton, Spaldwick, Grafham, Gt Staughton and Hail Weston to give some time to allow local girls and young women to enjoy a wide range of exciting activities, as well as acquire new skills and experiences themselves.

In the Kym Valley District there are currently 7 units and many more young girls who want to take part. Girlguiding Kym Valley District needs volunteers to give time to support their local groups. There are a huge number of opportunities to get involved in addition to working directly with groups as a leader. In the Kym Valley we do need more leaders to work with our existing units as well as to be able to expand to open new ones, but we also need people to come forward to help with such roles as treasurer, PRA or simply as an occasional helper.

A great number of pioneering individuals are already taking the leap, in Spaldwick too, investing in renewable energies, and reaping a range of benefits as they do so: with income from *feed-in-tariffs* (hopefully reasonably stable for a while), reducing whole life energy costs and long-term supply risks. And on top of that, they also get that satisfying feeling that one can only achieve through being a little more *self-sufficient*. The only real downside, especially in these times, is the need for a degree of up-front-investment.

But there is another way; another approach to meeting the energy challenge, and one that generates a whole host of benefits - *the community approach* to energy production.

The Rough Guide to Community Energy (TRG2CE), written by Duncan Clark & Malachi Chadwick, provides an excellent introduction to this important topic, for all householders and community organisers alike. Sponsored by leading advocate of sustainable living, *Marks & Spencer*, its goal is to Influence at community level and enable thousands of UK households to come together and save money while securing energy supplies, and reducing carbon emissions. A worthy aim.

For those starting out on their journey, or perhaps interested in becoming more aware in this increasingly important area, *The Rough Guide to Community Energy* is a valuable read.

We have arranged for a limited number of free copies of the Guide to be available in Village Shop in Spaldwick, with thanks to our friends at 10:10, M&S and Rough Guides. Please feel free to pop along and pick up a copy.

For those of you on the Internet, you can also download a free copy at: <http://www.roughguide.to/communityenergy/printedcopy.html>

For those not on the Internet, you can send an SAE to *Community Energy book*, 10:10, 8A Delancey Passage, Camden Town, London NW1.

The Rough Guide to Community Energy - Review/ Free Copy A Note from Michael Townsend, King' Cottage

The cost of heating and powering our homes has risen drastically in the last few years. Since moving to Spaldwick in early 2008, domestic heating oil has doubled in price. Only slightly less dramatic, gas and electricity prices have taken since around 2003 to achieve the same notable feat. It is no surprise that fuel poverty is on the increase, now standing at one-in-four households in the UK.

Sadly, this situation is likely to get worse. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently considered likely scenarios for oil price increases of 60% in the short-term, and 200-600% within twenty years. The question is *when, rather than if* oil and fossil fuels more widely, become unaffordable.

The problem is that conventional sources of energy are declining in availability and becoming more expensive. Production from known oil and gas reserves will fall by around 40-60% by 2030, according to the International Energy Agency. Furthermore, as WWF highlights, if we continue to depend on fossil fuels it will mean substantially higher and more volatile energy costs, along with increasing energy security issues including supply disruptions, accidents and disputes. Nuclear may be a part of the answer, but the investment is expensive and takes many years to deliver, let alone any concerns for safety, and dealing with the long-term effects of waste. Not much to look forward to, then.

But, there is some good news. Renewable energies are becoming more affordable, more widely available, and more popular, despite some of the *noise* to the contrary. Given the upward cost trend of conventional, fossil fuels and the downward trend in renewable energy costs, it becomes a matter of when, not if, we reach the *tipping point* at which renewable energies, even without subsidy, become more affordable than dwindling conventional sources.

Our local units undertake many and varied activities. Last year we took a group of Guides to camp at our Regional Centre in Norfolk where amongst other things they built some rafts, climbed the centre's brand new climbing wall and visited the Wroxham Broads.

Meanwhile our Brownies had a Christmas themed weekend holiday at Stibington where they helped to cook a full Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. Throughout the past year the girls have enjoyed pond dipping sessions, taken part in sponsored walks to raise funds for local charities and worked on badges such as Wildlife Explorer, Gardener, Science and Team Leader, and some of the Guides have even earned a badge that's all about Chocolate!

Girlguiding UK has an ongoing campaign to seek out more adult members. The organisation is hugely popular, with more than half a million members and volunteers around the UK

Guiding is fun, and it is great to see the girls develop as a Brownie from a shy 7 yr old to become confident 10 yr old willing to try new and varied experiences. As they go onto to become a Guides you see them develop further into confident, self reliant young women and sometimes you even get to see them go on to become young leaders and new guiders; guiding of the future!!

On top of all this comes great fellowship and support from other guiders in the district, who are there to back you up when you need them. As was said by one appreciative parent after our last Brownie holiday "The great thing about guiders is that you can rely on them, they just get on with it, whatever happens."

Girlguiding UK offers a range of flexible volunteering opportunities to enable girls and young women to grow in confidence in a safe, girl-only space.

For further information call GirlguidingUK 0800 1 69 59 01, visit www.girlguiding.org.uk or call the local District Commissioner Liz Wetzel on 01480 811580



Church Roof Many thanks to Gavin Lessing-Caller, Peter Rutherford, Mark Sturdy and Ian Harbour who spent a day on the church roof replacing the tarpaulin with a more permanent covering. It looks a real professional job and should easily last for the time that it will take us to raise the money for the final repair. Thanks also to Grahame Leach who supplied the material..

We are now awaiting the replies to the tenders that have been circulated to several firms and we have also started the process of getting the necessary permissions and, of course, financial help from the various organizations that do have funds for this sort of work.

EASTER FAYRE 14TH APRIL

Inspired by the feedback and range of people's talents another category of a Needlecraft has been added for the Craft Fayre (See last month or notice boards for categories). We have displays of village talent and skilled villagers sharing their expertise and letting you have a go at their craft. Come and do some jewellery making, card making, vegetable art and other craft. If you would like to display some of your crafting hobbies please do not be shy just let us know. Please bring entries on the morning between 9-10am giving us plenty of time to display and judge before opening to the public at 2.30pm.

During the afternoon you can learn how to set up the perfect Spaldwick Hanging basket or take a tour of the tower, even have a go at chiming the bells. There will also be the first ever Spaldwick "Jarping" competition and teddies parachuting out of the tower!

DO COME ALONG FOR A TALENTED, INSPIRING AFTERNOON.

If you are able to support further we would like to have a plant and book stall and donations of plants, books would be gratefully received as well as cakes for refreshments.

Monies raised will go into the church development fund to support the project of modernising the church with toilet and kitchenette. This will enable an improved fundraising facility to continue raising funds for the church roof.