

Dates for your diary:

:: **St James Church Services** - 3rd March (Morning Worship) and 17th March (Holy Communion), 9.30am

:: **ESCAPE Youth Club** - 1st, 15th and 29th March, Spaldwick School, 7-9pm.

:: **Playtimes:** 7th March, World Book Day; 29th March, Mother's Day Tea (2-3pm)

:: **Parish Council Meeting** - Thursday 21st March, Community Room, Spaldwick Primary School, 8pm.

March 2019

To advertise or contribute news: Chris Hubbard - spaldwicknews@gmail.com



SPALDWICK NEWS

Spaldwick's Superfast Broadband Star, by Jane Sneesby

Village resident Mark Heath (pictured right) is featured in a new social media campaign recognising Spaldwick's role in the rollout of Superfast Broadband in rural areas across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

A short video of Mark talking about the benefits of faster internet access is part of a series of 'soundbites' being promoted online by the Connecting Cambridgeshire programme, led by Cambridgeshire County Council, as part of a take-up campaign funded by the Government.

In 2014, Mark was awarded a Points of Light Award from then Prime Minister David Cameron for his work as a broadband champion campaigning to show the high demand for superfast broadband in Spaldwick. He has also organised workshops to help older generations get to grips with the internet, and provides useful tips on his website: www.increasebroadbandspeed.co.uk/cambridgeshire



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Within a few months of going live, Spaldwick had some of the highest take-up of superfast broadband in the county. Now, over 80% of residents connected to the fibre cabinet serving the village have upgraded to get superfast speeds of 24mbps or more.

However, it's not automatic! You need to upgrade to a fibre broadband package with your chosen Internet Service Provider, and some premises may be too far from the cabinet to get superfast speeds. **(Continued on Page 2...)**

Spaldwick Church at Sunset

The winter's sky over St James Church recently caught the eye of village resident Gary Chopping.

He managed to capture this impressive and atmospheric shot of the church and churchyard just before sunset on January 8th.

Do you have a photo of Spaldwick that you're particularly proud of?

Please send pictures to: spaldwicknews@gmail.com and we will try to include them in a future edition.



Gary Chopping



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Superfast broadband is changing the way we live

(Continued from front page...)

Use the postcode checker to check what's available and find useful advice at www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk

Demand for faster broadband is growing among businesses and busy households. Mark is continuing to work with Connecting Cambridgeshire to understand how the current superfast broadband infrastructure can be enhanced to deliver higher speeds, particularly for those who may not get the fastest speeds.

Please contact mark.heath@spaldwick.com for more information.

Find out more at www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk

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Mother's Day
Sunday 31st March



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- **Sunday, March 3rd** - 9.30am, Morning Worship, Jill Dighton
- **Sunday, March 17th** - 9.30am, Holy Communion, Revd R. Lancaster
- **Sunday, March 31st** - Sorry, but there will be no Mothering Sunday service in Spaldwick. You can find one at 10am in Easton or 10.45am in Kimbolton.

Advance notice: We will be welcoming Jonathan Young back to take our Easter Day service on 21 April at 9 o'clock.

We will also be running a fun community Easter event on Easter Saturday - there will be more news about this next month!

'Messy Church' will be back in the spring.

To get in touch: stjamesspaldwick@aol.com or call Amba on 890565 or Julia on 890203.

Did you know...?

People have been living and working in Spaldwick since the Bronze Age, and excavations near Spaldwick Church have previously revealed a series of ditches and pits dating from 1000 BC.

The village was recorded in 1086 in the Domesday Book as comprising an area of land of about 450 acres, although the Domesday Book did not record a church.

It is believed that a small stone church was here in the late 12th century, of which the north wall and small parts of the east wall remain. The church stood in a large area enclosed with a ditch and bank at the west end of the village. This enclosure, known as Bury Close, was probably the site of the Bishop of Lincoln's manor house or grange, but there has not been a house here for many years. The Church of St James the Great is a Grade 1 listed building.

The height from the ground to the top of the spire is 46 metres (152 feet). Construction of the tower begun about the middle of the 14th century. The tower, together with its spire, was completed by the end of the 14th century. It was struck by lightning on 30th May 1904, before being partly rebuilt. The spire was again damaged during a storm on the 25th May 1953.

:: You can read more about the history of Spaldwick Church at www.spaldwick.com/history-of-spaldwick-church



Spaldwick Church, January 2019 - Mark Heath

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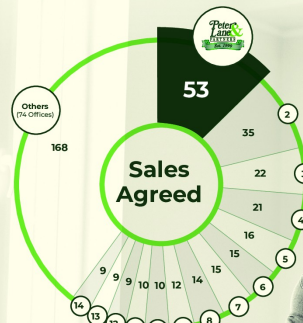


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Spotlight on Spaldwick Community Room



Have you been along to an event, group or meeting at Spaldwick Community Room yet?

Since it officially opened for bookings at the start of the year, a number of people have booked the facility, including a yoga class, Spaldwick Escape Youth Group, the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council.

The room is carpeted & heated and has a kitchen, disabled toilet, double-door access via a ramp, tables and chairs. The kitchen is fully kitted out with a cooker, microwave, fridge, kettle, cups and saucers, plates, glasses, saucepans, baking sheets and cutlery.

Availability is from 8am to 11pm, 7 days a week (**Hire charges:** £2.50 per hour for Spaldwick Residents & Groups; £5.00 per hour for others)

You can check the room's availability in the calendar at www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk



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Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting, January 2019

January's meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council was held on Thursday 17th. The Chairman is Steve Fane de Salis. Also present were: G Smith, S Jackson-Rimmer, I Harriman and R Johnson.

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

- **Allotments - £3,000 will be transferred from CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money to the Charity Field Account.** This will pay for gates, hard standing and fencing. (Proposed by RJ and seconded by GS, all in favour and it was resolved to transfer £3,000).
- **Community Room - Councillors considered the purchase of a Vacuum Cleaner and key safe, smart TV, more tables, updating the kitchen, redecoration of the room, new curtains or blinds, cleaning equipment, First Aid Box, a Fire Blanket and a Notice Board:**
 1. **Proposal to purchase a Vacuum Cleaner** - Proposed by SFdS, seconded by SJR, all in favour and it was resolved that IH should purchase a Henry from Tesco (Price less than £100)
 2. **Proposal to purchase a new key safe to enable a change of code, cleaning products and a first aid kit** - Proposed by SFdS, seconded by SJR, all in favour and it was resolved to approve the proposal.
 3. **Proposal to replace the carpet tiles, curtains and old kitchen cupboards** - Proposed by SFdS and seconded by SJR, all in favour and it was resolved to obtain quotes for the work.

:: Full minutes from Spaldwick Parish Council meetings can be viewed online at www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk

:: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 18th April, 8pm in the Community Room. All are welcome.



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Spaldwick Village Hall AGM

*Thursday 4th April, 8pm - Community Room,
Spaldwick School.*

Agenda on www.spaldwick.com/villagehall

Any contributions prior please email
villagehall@spaldwick.com
or by post to Ivy House, 38 High St
on behalf of the Committee

The Doctor will see you now...at Playtimes!



It has been a busy month for pre-schoolers at Playtimes. The little ones have enjoyed a whole range of exciting activities including a special 'Doctors Surgery,' to help them understand more about the human body.

As part of the activities, they drew around themselves on huge sheets of paper and learnt what different parts of our body are called.

If your child is at Playtimes, you may have also heard them talking about a 'hairy toe'! This is because they are absolutely loving a story called 'The Hairy Toe'. When coming back from half term they will be doing lots of activities based around this story, as it has captured the imagination of so many of them.

On the 7th March it is World Book Day and Playtimes will be having a 'dress-up day', where everyone can dress up as their favourite book character.

The children have been very busy this month, making Valentine's Day hearts and biscuits, as well as exploring with various messy play materials, such as coffee beans and funnels, shaving foam and spoons.

They have also enjoyed creating their own masterpieces with plasticine and making their own treasure maps in a bid to find out where 'X' marks the spot!

Pictured below: All set for sensory fun at Playtimes...



Over half-term, primary school children joined the pre-schoolers and enjoyed lots of activities, including forest school, cooking and crafts.

:: S-club News

The children have been busy creating various animals and bracelets, using loom bands.

They have been making Valentine's Day cards and have been busy playing in the mud kitchen.

The children have also been very creative with plasticine this week!

:: Dates for the Diary

- **7th March** - World Book Day, come dressed as your favourite character!
- **29th March**- Mother's Day tea, 2-3pm
- **1st April**- Parents evening, 6-7pm
- **18th April**- Easter bonnet parade & party, 9.30 am



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The global issue of plastics in our environment will be given the cinematic treatment in Kimbolton in April, with the showing of the multi-award-winning film *A Plastic Ocean*. Released in 2017, the film tells the story of ocean plastics and the effect it is having on fish, birds, marine mammals and ultimately, us.

World-record holder free diver Tanya Streeter and journalist Craig Leeson bring the story to us from the middle of the ocean gyres, to the depths of the Mediterranean. World leading scientists and conservationists share their stories, and the impacts on communities the remotest parts of the world foretell of what could happen here - if we don't reduce the amount of single-use plastic in our lives.

With an estimated 8 million tonnes of plastic entering our oceans each year, the time to act is now before it is too late. And there is hope - the Plastic Oceans Foundation aims to drive behaviour change through raising awareness and challenging our modern consumer lifestyle.

The hosted screening, with Dr Geoff Brighty from the Plastic Oceans Foundation, will be at the Mandeville Hall at 7:30pm on Friday 5 April, followed by a panel discussion on the problem, and solutions to help stop plastic pollution within a generation.

Admission by ticket only from:

David Watson - davidwwatson50@gmail.com (01480 890650)

Joel Weaver - joel_weaver_37@yahoo.com

Kimbolton Flower Shop

(tickets are free, donations to the PLASTIC FOUNDATION appreciated)

Congratulations to Spaldwick School ballet star Emily!

Congratulations to Spaldwick School pupil Emily Wakefield, who has been accepted into the Cambridgeshire Youth Ballet Company!

It comes just five years after she started dancing with the Linda Allen School of Dance at the school and discovered her 'absolute passion', according to proud Mum Vicky.

Linda Allen told Spaldwick News: "Emily quickly learned that she had an unprecedented love of dance and an appetite for performing.

"Over the last five years Emily has continually challenged herself to do better and in her last exam session achieved the top award of Honours Star in all disciplines.

"Ballet, tap and modern jazz. This award has eluded Emily in the past but she has a determined attitude and is always hard working, practising again and again to achieve her best."

Linda continued: "In 2017 Emily also gained a scholarship with British Theatre Dance Association for the second year running. Quite an achievement!

"Emily regularly competes in dance competitions and has had many successes. She competes with a troupe of dancers too and is a great leader but more importantly a valued member of a wonderful team. They have achieved great marks, won several medals together and have a lot of fun practising and spending time in each others company.

"They also take part in an annual Charity Gala. Performing to raise money for various charities. Emily recently auditioned for the Cambridge Youth Ballet company who bring together the best young ballet dancers from across the region to help enhance their existing dance training.

"She was accepted into the higher group and is rehearsing weekly with them in preparation for a production of The Nutcracker in the Autumn!

"This includes taking a weekly one hour ballet class followed by two hours of learning the repertoire. An intense three hours of dance which Emily seems to be thriving on."

Linda concluded: "Emily is getting stronger in her technique of dance and continues to improve in her performance. She is an absolute joy to watch dance and is an up and coming star!"

:: You can follow Linda on Twitter:
@LindaAllenDance



Photo: Vicky Wakefield

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Spaldwick Community Primary School

Term Times - Spring & Summer 2019

Spring term 2019:

Last day of term: Friday 5th April

Summer term 2019:

*School closed for professional day
Tuesday 23rd April
School opens Wednesday 24th April
May day: Monday 6th May
Half term: 27th – 31st May
Last day of term: Wednesday 24th July

The school is closed for 5 Professional Training Days each academic year. These are arranged at the discretion of the school.

SPALDWICK CARPET BOWLS CLUB

New Meeting Details

Where: Mandeville Hall Kimbolton
When: Thursdays 7.30pm-10pm
Free taster sessions are available

For further details, contact Andrew on (01480) 891201

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

Myself & a few friends are now using up spare balls of wool to make Bonding Squares for Hinchingsbrooke Maternity Unit.

Bonding Squares are generally used by mums whose babies are in a neonatal unit. Each mum is given 2 squares. One is kept with the baby & one is kept on mum's body. Every 12 hrs they are swapped over. This helps both mum & baby to bond by smell in these cases where they cannot physically touch.

These squares are approx. 5/6" & are needed in matching pairs. Easy & fun to knit whilst using up odd balls of wool.

If anyone would like to join us in making some please let me know & I can let you have a few patterns even though any stitches & ideas will do. I have already sent 50 pairs to the unit but they would like us to make this an ongoing project as they can never have enough.

Donations of double knitting wool would also be gratefully accepted.

Thanks a lot

Anne Lea
Tel: 01480 812030
Mobile: 07887 846401
e-mail: annelea4@gmail.com



Escape is a youth club for children aged 11 and over.

We will be meeting on the following dates:

1st, 15th & 29th March

First date back after the Easter Holidays is 26th April

Between 7pm-9pm, at Spaldwick School.

Entry costs just £2 per session.

We have a range of activities available and arrange trips out such as sledging at the SnowZone MK and Xtreme360 Trampoline Park in St Neots.



Escape is run on a voluntary basis by a small group of parents, so we are always looking for more help. We would love to hear from any adults who would be interested in helping on an occasional basis or joining the committee. If you are interested, or you have any ideas for activities, fund raising etc., please contact us at escape@spaldwick.com.

Or get in touch on Facebook:



@spaldwickescapeyouthclub
for children aged 11 and over.

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Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for March/April 2019:

Grey	Tues 5th March	Tues 19th March	Tues 2nd April
Blue	Tues 12th March	Tues 26th March	Tues 9th April
Green	Thurs 14th March	Thurs 28th March	Thurs 11th April

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

Spaldwick Community Primary School

Keen singers from Spaldwick joined thousands of other youngsters at the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham (pictured below right) to take part in Young Voices 2019 on January 23rd.

They came together with over 6,000 other children from primary schools across the country to form part of the world's biggest school choir, beautifully singing a medley of songs.

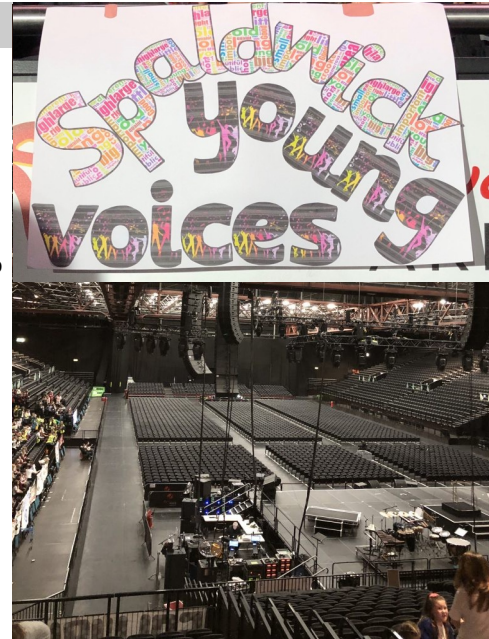
Organisers of the national event say they "believe passionately in inspiring the next generation to find their love for music".

In other school news, children have been learning about what 'consent' means as part of Safer Internet Day, promoting the safe and positive use of digital technology for youngsters.

40 parents joined the school for 'Open Classroom' on February 7th. They made and labelled mouths, painted masks and celebrated Chinese New Year!

In the words of Headteacher Louise Worrell, "What a fantastic time we have had for making memories at Spaldwick School! An amazing trip to Young Voices and a fabulous residential for Year 3 at Grafham Water."

:: You can now follow Spaldwick Primary School on Twitter: @SpaldwickPrima1



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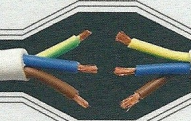
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