

## Dates for your diary:

**:: Charity Coffee Morning and Christmas Card Sale, Spaldwick** - Tuesday 5th November (see details below)

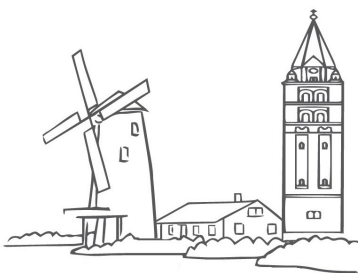
**:: St James Church Remembrance Gathering** - Sunday 10th November, Spaldwick Village Green, 10.50am

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

**:: Escape Youth Club** - 1st, 15th, 29th November, 7-9pm, Spaldwick School (£2 per session)

November 2019

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



# SPALDWICK NEWS



## Thank you to St James Church volunteers

We would like to say a huge thank you to the gardening team of Peter Rimmer, Eddie Roughsedge, Gerry Southerington, Simon Richards, Guy Parks and William Brown who have kindly spent many hours of their time caring for the church yard. It is no small task and yet this large area looks loved and cared for all year round.

Thanks also to those who gave up their Saturday morning recently to sweep, dust and polish the church – although as you can see from the pictures some people were clearly having far too much fun!

We now plan to have a regular church cleaning session on the

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from 9.30am. If you can spare half an hour for a clean and chatter (and maybe even a coffee if you are lucky) - please drop in to join us.

Thanks to the cleaning fairies, and those who kindly donated flowers and produce, the church looked amazing for our Harvest service. Once again The George hosted a great supper, and that together with our raffle/auction (thank you Mark Hunter), helped raise some much needed funds for the church.

The Harvest service gave us a chance to publically thank John Blatch for his tremendous work for the church over many, many years. Having recently stood down as church warden – a role he has been doing for more years than he can remember – it seemed an appropriate time to acknowledge his service. His dedication extended far beyond the role of church warden often encompassing the jobs of treasurer and secretary too - not to mention event organiser, ticket seller and the keeper of the clock tower. Thank you John.

**To get in touch with Rev Philip Howson please email**  
[revphilphowson@icloud.com](mailto:revphilphowson@icloud.com) or call the office on 01480 869081.



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## Charity Coffee Morning and Christmas Card Sale

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
10.30am – 12noon  
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**From the beehive to the kitchen table: Spaldwick Honey Co.**

If you managed to secure a jar of Spaldwick Honey this year, then you'll know just how delicious this locally-made produce is. Beekeeper James Britten has been busy with other projects, but made time to raise another colony earlier in the year. His bees produced enough supplies to fill a limited batch of 60 jars in spring, which were promptly snapped up by villagers!

The bees forage among the fields, gardens and hedgerows of Spaldwick, creating a honey that has a delicate flavour and light colour with hints of apple and elderflower.

Speaking about the potential for a second batch of honey this year, James said: "It doesn't look like there will be much of a summer honey harvest this year, anything they do collect I'll probably leave for them over winter."

"I have always been interested in beekeeping. I suppose it's something to do with taming something infinitely fierce, I don't quite know, but it definitely wasn't anything to do with honey, because I never really liked it."

**How honey gets from the hive to the kitchen table:**

First up, get the bees out of the hive! It's much easier to pilfer a honey stash with no angry little critters trying to defend it.

There are a number of tools available to the beekeeper to achieve this, but the one I have opted for is a 'Rhombus bee escape'. Basically the premise being that the bees make their way through a hole in the bottom and along a corridor that gets smaller and smaller, until it is the size of one bee. The bees that are outside of this funnel corridor are unable to find the entrance to the honey above! Genius.

Next, remove the bee-less frames and get them to safety. For this I have an empty super (where bees store their honey) and enough fresh frames to replace any that I take. I only take frames that are full and capped, because any uncapped honey might not be ripe and have a high water content, which can lead to fermentation. As ever, this is not plain sailing as there are always a few stragglers left on the frames which are



simply brushed off with a goose feather - it works a treat, although they do get a little tetchy about it!

At home, I begin by washing everything thoroughly. The extractor, uncapping tray, settling bucket, filter, lid, tools and surfaces are all cleaned thoroughly. Although honey has anti-bacterial and anti-septic properties, I insist on having a hygienic work area. I begin by using a knife to cut the wax capping off of the comb and use an uncapping fork to pick off the last caps. Some people use these exclusively and can get really quick at it. Not me sadly...The oozing frames are placed in the extractor, ready to be spun and let the laws of centrifugal force do the hard bit.

Once all the frames are completely extracted it is time to open the honey gate on the extractor and pour the goods through a course filter to remove any bits of bee or wax, which drains through into a bucket to settle for a couple of days because the honey will be full of air bubbles from the spinning.

With the honey settled and the bubbles on top skimmed off I'm ready for the next step. Bottling! The jars and lids are thoroughly cleaned, then baked in an oven for half an hour to dry and part sterilize them. Like I said, water is the enemy of honey... I've heard that some beekeepers don't clean their jars beforehand because the honey is unaffected by any bacteria. I, however would not wish to taint my honey with anything!!

The fancy bit. This is one of my favourite bits because it completes the finished product to a high standard. Labelling the jars! And of course adding the Spaldwick Honey Co wax seal of quality to the tops. There you have it. From hive to table!

**You can read the full Spaldwick Honey story at [www.spaldwickhoneyco.uk](http://www.spaldwickhoneyco.uk)**



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- 20th October - 9.30am, **Parish Communion** - with Philip Howson
- 2nd November - 9.30am, **Morning Worship** - with Jill Dighton
- 10th November - **Remembrance gathering on the Village Green**, 10.50am
- 17th November - 9.30am, **Parish Communion** - with Philip Howson
- 1st December - 9.30am, **Morning Worship** - John Rawlinson
- 15th December - 9.30am, **Parish Communion** - John Rawlinson

**Christmas dates for your diary:**

- Thursday 19th December - **Christmas Carol Party** – more news next month
- Tuesday 24th December - 4pm, **Crib service** - Philip Howson and Amba Harbour
- Tuesday 24th December - 11.30pm, **Midnight Mass** - John Rawlinson

**Raising money for Save the Children over a cup of coffee, by Jean Haines**

The annual Save The Children Coffee Morning and Christmas Card Sale is a great opportunity to meet friends and neighbours, old and new.

There will be a superb range of Christmas stationery for sale, plus refreshments and a raffle. This annual get-together has built up over the years and is a thoroughly enjoyable event.

- **Tuesday 5th November - 10.30 to 12.00 at Orchard House, High Street, Spaldwick.**

Look out for the red and white balloons!

## Robinsons Budgens of Kimbolton

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## the WI INSPIRING WOMEN

If you are new to Spaldwick or are looking to meet new friends and have an interesting and social evening, why not come to an Ellington WI meeting?

The WI holds a mixture of demonstrations, outings, meals, hands-on activities, or talks on fascinating subjects.

Here are some upcoming dates:

On Tuesday, November 5th there is the AGM and supper starting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The AGM business will be dealt with as quickly as possible - before a supper of cold meats, jacket potato and salad, followed by ice cream and plenty of time to catch up with everybody. Please bring your own tipples.

On Tuesday, December 3rd our speaker is Major Lucy Lewis talking about her career in the Army. Starting at 19.30 in the Village Hall.

For more information please contact: Ann Bentley, President ([nigelbentley@btinternet.com](mailto:nigelbentley@btinternet.com)) or Sue Rice, Secretary ([normanrice@btinternet.com](mailto:normanrice@btinternet.com)).



The Goat Garden is now open in Kimbolton!

Why not come along to meet Bob, Prim and Ivy - three very cheeky and entertaining little pygmy goats.

Packages available from as little as £15, ranging from meeting, greeting and feeding; to taking the goats for a walk.

Please get in touch to discuss your visit:  
[thegoatgardenkimbolton@gmail.com](mailto:thegoatgardenkimbolton@gmail.com)  
07341 828494





## Spaldwick Parish Council News

**September's meeting of Spaldwick Parish Council was held on Thursday 19th.** It was Chaired by Steve Fane de Salis - also present were Mike Robinson (Vice-Chairman) S Jackson-Rimmer and G Smith.

County Councillor Ian Gardener provided an update:

- **Cambridgeshire Energy Switch is back** - This is a scheme whereby households can register their interest to receive cheaper energy bills. The scheme is run by IChoosr and at the last event in February 2019 500 households signed up, receiving savings on average of £121.83pa. More information can be found by searching "Cambridgeshire Energy Switch" at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk)
- **Free NHS Health Checks** - are currently available to all those aged 40-74.
- **E- Permits for Recycling Centres** - The County Council have decided to introduce an e-permit scheme for its local Recycling Centres. Permits will now be required if you have a van, pick-up/crew cabs or a trailer more than 1.5m in length or 570l. Permits are available online and are free of charge. The scheme will launch in October and the registration site will be open from the end of September. More information is here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centre-e-permit-scheme/>
- **Car Parking Charges Increases** - It was noted that some local parking charges have increased notably in St Neots and Huntingdon
- **A14** - with the opening of the new A14M expected in December, it is expected that works in and around Huntingdon will start, and it is proposed that the bridge at Huntingdon Station will be removed over the Christmas period when the railway is closed for maintenance. It is expected Highways England will send out information nearer the time.

**Here are some of the other points discussed:**

- **Monthly Ferriman Road Play Area's Inspection** - Hedges have grown back although Cllr R Johnson with a local resident did some cutting back. Cllr R Johnson is struggling to find contractors to come out to do the work. A quote has been received for grass cutting and awaiting a further two. It may be necessary to run a weekend working party. It was agreed that the annual play area inspection is to be carried by Wickstead at a cost of £45 per play area.
- **A financial request has been received from Spaldwick St James PCC** - asking for financial assistance to upgrade/resurface a footpath in church grounds. Once quotes for the upgrade/resurfacing have been received SPC will revisit the request for assisted funding for the project.
- **A financial request has been received from Spaldwick St James PCC** - asking for financial assistance with creating a roadway joining Church Lane to Chandlers. SPC regards the huge costs involved in such a project that funds would not be available.
- Cllr Mike Robinson indicated he would like to step down as Vice-Chair with immediate effect but will continue to attend meetings when possible.
- Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer updated the meeting regarding dog-poo bags and their associated success around the village. It may be worth considering purchasing manufactured dispensers and Cllr Jackson-Rimmer will obtain 3 quotes for purchase and installation and purchase of bags.
- Cllr S Jackson-Rimmer discussed the possibility of wheelie bin stickers with the speed limit logo on for those residents on the main streets to serve as a reminder to drivers passing through the village of the speed limit. Although it was pointed out they would only be visible on bin days it was still thought to be a worthwhile cause and Cllr Jackson-Rimmer will look further into the costs.

## Spaldwick Community Room

- Flooring and curtains have all been replaced.
- **Extra Tables** - It was proposed to purchase two extra tables making a total of six available for hirers of the Community Room. Approximate cost of like for like are £130 each and Cllr S Fane de Salis will obtain three prices before the next meeting.
- **Purchase of new water boiler** - It was proposed to purchase a new water boiler to replace the current one which is ineffective, the cost is less than £100.

**To hire the Community Room**, check the calendar at [www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.spaldwickparishcouncil.org.uk) - if there is availability please contact the Parish Council Clerk to make a booking: [clerkspaldwick.pc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkspaldwick.pc@gmail.com)

- £2.50 per Hour for Spaldwick Residents and Groups
- £5.00 per Hour for others

## Town & Poors Charity Field Update

Topics included in the latest meeting included:

- **To consider purchase of gates, fencing and hard standing** - Three quotes have been received regarding gates for the site. Options were softwood and hardwood and it was agreed to go with the cheapest quote of hardwood a 3.7m access gate including a personnel gate at a cost of £1726.00 hardwood oak.
- **Setting up an Allotment Association** - Cllr Smith has received 20 applications for a plot and a waiting list has been opened. Cllr Smith will liaise and organise an inaugural evening to set up an Association.

**:: The next Spaldwick Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 21st November at 8pm in the Community Room.**



The Friends and Supporters of Kimbolton Royal  
British Legion invite you to a

## JACKET POTATO AND PUDDING SUPPER

ON SATURDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019,  
7 for 7.30 pm

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Roger Watson 01480 861431

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## Youth Club

Escape is open to all children in Year 6 and above.

We will be meeting on the following dates:

1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> November  
13<sup>th</sup> December

at Spaldwick School.

Entry costs just £2 per session.

There will also be a trip to Big Rock climbing wall on 22<sup>nd</sup>  
November. Please ask for details.



If anyone is interested in helping at the sessions, or if you  
have any ideas for activities, fund raising etc., please  
contact us at [escape@spaldwick.com](mailto:escape@spaldwick.com).



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

We would also like to thank Woolley Hill Wind Farm  
Community Fund for their generous grant which will  
allow us to keep the youth club running for another year.

Woolley Hill Wind Farm Community Fund, is a charitable fund  
managed by Cambridgeshire Community Foundation.



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# Festive Coffee & Shopping Morning

Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

9am to 12pm



Join us for **coffee and cake**.  
Browse for last minute **Christmas gifts** from a variety of local stalls including jewellery, original artwork, jams and pickles, stationery, floral arrangements, gift wrap, cards and soaps. Take part in a festive **raffle**.

Proceeds from the Coffee Morning will go towards Alex, Benny and Olly's fundraising for their trip to Essaman United School in Ghana where they will be working as volunteers in July 2020 in conjunction with Partner Schools Worldwide and Kimbolton School.

## Alex Rice's Fundraising Mission for Ghana



As you may recall from the June issue of Spaldwick News, young village resident Alex Rice has been busy fundraising towards his trip to Ghana next summer.

First of all, he would like to thank everyone who has supported him, either by entering the famous faces (Ugly Mugs) quiz, or asked him to take care of gardens, clean cars, wash wheelie bins or babysit - it has all helped greatly with his funds.

Alex is also planning a sponsored bike ride at Easter from Kimbolton to Hunstanton - watch this space for more details in the New Year.

In the meantime, Alex has also teamed up with two school friends and their families to organise some larger events, such as wine tasting, a quiz night and next month they are arranging a Christmas Coffee and Shopping Morning on Thursday 12th December.

The coffee morning (Gassing for Ghana!) will be held at The Mandeville Hall in Kimbolton from 8:30 to 12 noon.

As well as home made cakes, tea and coffee, there will be a range of fantastic local stallholders with unique Christmas gifts, stocking fillers and essentials for the most discerning.

Currently, stalls include Mr Pickles, The Kimbolton Flower Shop, Sally Day, Sophie Botsford, Silver Fox Jewellery, the Crafty oINK Pen, DottieMae Candles, Gift it 2, and Old Fox Art. There will also be a selection of print photographs for sale, kindly donated by the St Neots & District Camera Club.

You will also be able to enter the Ugly Mugs quiz with the chance to win £50!

We would love to see you there!

**If you would like to know more about our fundraising, please follow our Facebook group:**

[www.facebook.com/ghanafundraiser/](https://www.facebook.com/ghanafundraiser/)

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When the first snow has sprinkled the whole of Jukkasjärvi with white, artists from all over the world come together in the village to take part in creating the art exhibition of snow, ice and light that makes up the world famous Ice Hotel.

The Ice Hotel is all about ice and creativity, that is why artists who are invited to take part are not required to have worked with ice before, they are selected from applicants who send in their ideas based on originality and creating them in real natural ice, each year some 40 artists are invited to take part in The Ice Hotel.

Oundle Travel suggest a three night stay at The Ice Hotel spending one night in 'cold' accommodation after which you will move into the warmer option, the beds in the cold accommodation are made from thick ice blocks covered in a thick mattress and reindeer skins.

During the evenings experience traditional Sami cuisine, there is even a Chef's Table for real foodies or just relax after Dinner and sip on Champagne in the coolest ever hotel bar – The Ice Bar.

Optional activities and excursions to tempt you range from Wildlife Snowmobile Tours, Northern Lights by Snowmobile, and Reindeer Sledding with a Sami Lunch or why not try carving your very own ice art where you be instructed and guided by professional sculptors.

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## Restoration of historic Manor Farm nears completion

Dear Villagers and Friends of Manor Farm,

Following the many visitors' supportive feedback to our work at Manor Farm this summer we have taken the decision to apply for further Listed Building Consent. We will be asking that 'Manor Farm' remains as she currently looks, with her sixteenth century uncovered mullion windows and external timbers exposed for the village and visitors to enjoy for many years to come.

Manor Farm is not only a very beautiful historical example of a Timber Framed Building, dating from 1547, she is also a key part of this historical village. During the restoration the building has had to undergo a great deal of repair. The building was collapsing, however wherever possible the buildings original materials, timbers, flooring and wattle & daub have been reused, retained and repaired.

We have been considering asking for the historic internal and external timbers to remain exposed. However, it will entail a further financial and emotional undertaking from our family, but with the supportive feedback we have received from the community we now believe this is how the village and its many visitors would also like to see Manor Farm going forward.



Manor Farm also needs to accommodate families in the future, young and old, and a part of ensuring the home is accessible to all members of a family will be to make internal non-intrusive changes under a Listed Building Consent.



### Richard Johnson Restorations

Tel: 07811 344926  
[rcaj@restoringlistedbuildings.co.uk](mailto:rcaj@restoringlistedbuildings.co.uk)  
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If the application is not successful, then the uncovered 16th century mullion windows you see pictured above, the internal historical apotropaic marks, the historically important chamfered ceiling joists and timber frame will be covered over once again.

If you would like to hear how to help support Manor Farm in regards to the application please text or phone: 07815 287259 or email [jjmanorfarm@icloud.com](mailto:jjmanorfarm@icloud.com)

We have always said we are not Manor Farm's owners, only her custodians and despite the personal hurdles we have experienced as a family, her restoration continues. As many of you are aware Richard's illness and recovery slowed down the restoration process, however, we are pleased to say that Manor Farm is nearing completion.

Historically the uncovered internal timbers have exposed many apotropaic (witches) marks, various sixteenth century mullions windows and original doorways have been discovered as the building has been repaired. Now as fixtures are returned and floorings re-laid the building is really starting to feel like a home.

In the meantime, research into Manor Farm's history continues. Current research has shown over 200 years of links to milling and baking. We would love to hear from anyone with any more historical photographs and stories that relate to Manor Farm's past.

Janine, Richard & Rosie Johnson

**Thinking of remodelling your period home then contact us to discuss further:**  
**Tel: 07811344926 [rcaj@restoringlistedbuildings.co.uk](mailto:rcaj@restoringlistedbuildings.co.uk)**

## Spaldwick Waste Bin Collections for November/December 2019:

Grey		Tues 12th Nov	Tues 26th Nov
Blue	Tues 5th Nov	Tues 19th Nov	Tues 3rd Dec
Green	Thurs 7th Nov	Thurs 21st Nov	Thurs 5th Dec

A complete list of materials that can be recycled can be found at:

[www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/whatgoesinwhichbin](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/whatgoesinwhichbin)

### November news from Playtimes



The beginning of the term has been a busy one, welcoming new children to Playtimes.

We have been lucky enough to be able to watch some caterpillars cocoon themselves and turn into beautiful butterflies before we released them, so if you see some red admiral butterflies flying around the village, they may well be ones that we helped to grow!

We are now doing a forest school session every Tuesday and we have the opportunity to use the secret garden over at the school. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this and they have been on lots of bug hunts, as well as drawing the bugs they see on chalk boards. We have also been enjoying a story and a snack in the secret garden.

We still have spaces in our lovely pre-school. If your child is aged between 2- 5 years-old why not come and have a look around and see what beautiful facilities we have to offer your little ones.



**Spaldwick Community**

**Primary School**

**FOSS**

**Christmas Activities**

*On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November between 7pm and 9pm we are holding a Christmas Wreath making workshop (Tickets are £30 and available from the school office)*

*Come and join us on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 3:40pm for our Christmas Fair (raffle, gifts, children's stall and lots of fun)*



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