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# **Speldhurst News**

February 2025



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# Welcome & Contents

#### Dear Readers



I hope this finds you warm and cosy! We've had some very grey days but there's evidence all around us, from those hints of Spring blooms, that the colour will soon be returning to our village. A chilly month but there's plenty going on with important developments to our new community shop and special updates from the Parish Council as well as a variety of excellent events and opportunities. Thank you to all our contributors this month—please send us your news for the next issue. See details below. Best wishes

Maria

News Editors: Maria Turner, Andrea Burgess & Judith Malim Please send emails <u>before 10th February 2025 for the February Issue</u> to: speldhurst.news@gmail.com. Word, Publisher or pdf files preferred.

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SPELDHURST NEWS endeavours to include articles in addition to village, church and chapel news. These are taken in good faith and without prejudice, therefore the committee will not be held responsible for the accuracy of the content, nor will it be held responsible for any work or treatment received from the advertisers. Readers should satisfy themselves of advertisers' abilities before accepting a job quotation or undertaking a course of treatment. All articles & inclusions should be sent as a word, pdf or Publisher file. The editors reserve the right to amend submissions where they feel it is appropriate.

# Diary at a Glance

### February

Mondays	Library 2-4.30pm	
Mondays	Bumps and Babes (excluding school holidays)	p.3
Wed & Fri	Praise & Play (excluding school holidays)	p.3
Sat 1st	Penshurst Farmers' Market	p.4
	Blackham Farmers' Market	p.13
Mon 3rd	SPC Meeting	p.8
	Speldhurst Lunch Club	p,9
Sat 15th	Tonbridge Music Club	p.15
Sat 22nd	Tonbridge Music Club	p.15
Wed 26th	The Filling Station	p.4

### March

Mon 3rd	Speldhurst Lunch Club	p.9
Mon 10th	Speldhurst Book Club Author Event	p.5

# Local News & Events

If you have a child under 2 you may like to join Bumps and Babes, the fortnightly coffee mornings for new Mums. We meet in each other's homes on a Monday morning from about 10.30am. Do message Jenny if you are interested in joining the group.

Praise and Play, St Mary's Toddler Group, meets on Wednesdays from 9.30 - 11.00 and on Fridays from 9.00 - 10.30 in St Mary's Church during term time. There are toys to enjoy, crafts to try and songs to sing but what the children love the most is the chance to ring the church bell. You may have heard us. Do come along if you have a preschooler of any age. All are welcome.

For more information contact Jenny Fitzsimmons on 07891 318123 or at jenny50fitz@gmail.com

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#### Kent Fire and Rescue Service— Home Fire Safety Visit

Kent Fire and Rescue Service offer free home fire safety visits to the people of Kent and Medway, helping them lead safer lives at home.

We would like to offer you a free visit to your home where we can provide you with helpful advice tailored to your needs. The visit is carried out by a number of our specialist Safe and Well Team and is free, confidential and safe.

To book your home fire safety visit, please call our friendly team on Freephone number 0800 923 7000 or email home@kent.fire-uk.org. Also find information about staying safe at www.kent.fire-uk.org/homesafety





### Weds 26th Feb 7:30 for 8pm - 9:30pm

Fordcombe Village Hall, Fordcombe, Kent, TN3 ORY Every 4th Wednesday (not July, Aug, Dec)

Join us in Feb for West Weald Filling Station. Worship, led by Cabin Worship. and band, prayer and hospitality

Future dates

26 Mar • 23 April

#### Main speaker Jasper Warwood

Jasper is a committed Christian who is passionate to grow the Kingdom of God. He is Head boy at Bennett and starting up an Alpha.



He has spoken in assemblies, seen other pupils healed and he is ready to share his faith with anyone. Jasper is an example of

the way in which God is equipping young people to make a real difference in this country. Come to find out how we can support or join in. Bring some young people if you can.

More info at... www.thefillingstation.org.uk/station/ west-weald



#### Penhurst Farmers' Market will be on Saturday 1st February 9.30am—12.00pm

#### Speldhurst Book Club - Author Event Speldhurst Village Hall Monday 10th March 2.00-3.00pm

Local author Sarah Jane Butler discusses and reads from her recently published book - STARLING Free entry - everyone welcome!

"A beautifully written debut. Sarah Jane Butler explores the challenges of treading lightly in this modern world, the power of community and the process of recovering from difficult mothering."



Sarah lives in rural Sussex just over the border from where she grew up in Kent. Her novel Starling was published in 2022 and Judith Heneghan wrote, "Sarah Jane Butler writes with a visceral lyricism: she doesn't so much observe the natural world as plunge us into its ditches, woods and rivers." She is currently writing a non-fiction book about rivers and people through time, which will be published in 2027 by September Publishing. Her short story 'The Swimmer' appeared in Best British Short Stories 2011, and she has performed her work in pubs, festival tents and a disused light vessel. <u>https://www.sarahjanebutlerauthor.co.uk</u>





working for the

#### NEWS FROM SPELDHURST PARISH COUNCIL



Speldhurst Chapel – Good News! We are pleased to announce we completed the purchase of the Speldhurst Chapel property on 3rd December 2024. At the same time, we signed a lease with Speldhurst Community Shop so they will now have exclusive use of the chapel.

The lease runs for 25 years, allowing the Community Shop to operate as a shop and post office, and provide a community hub meeting space. As part of the lease, the Community Shop will be responsible for all operating costs including council tax, utility,

insurance, and security, plus normal repair and maintenance obligations. The lease has break clause provisions that either party can exercise including specific break options to account for exceptional circumstances.

Speldhurst Community Shop has received planning permission to renovate and extend the chapel building at their own cost. As some of you will know they have raised over £400,000 to pay for the work which is planned to start towards the end of Quarter 1 2025 and will last about 9 months.

To ensure these works are undertaken according to the commitments Speldhurst Community Shop has made to the parish council, a Licence for Alteration Agreement has also been signed between both parties.

Acquiring the chapel protects an important community asset in the Parish and safeguards the long-term future of Speldhurst Community Shop and Post Office. We look forward to a successful relationship with all involved.

You can follow Speldhurst shop on Facebook; search 'Speldhurst's Community Shop and Post Office' to find them.

Visit <u>www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk</u> For Emergency Planning Advice We have updated our Community Safety & Police webpage to include information resources about how to plan for an emergency. From infectious diseases to security incidents and extreme weather conditions, it is worth looking at the guidance given by the Kent Resilience Forum to help you think about what you might need to do to keep yourself and family members safe. And with the winter season well and truly here, the advice on floods, high winds, cold weather, and snow is timely.

#### Look Out For...

An update on the 2025-26 precept – the portion of your council tax allocated to us – and details on how it will be spent in our next article.





Keeping your pre-schoolers active can be a challenge at this time of the year. So it's fortunate that there are some super places to pass the time here in Speldhurst parish without having to go far from home – some of which are owned and maintained by us!

If you've visited Langton Green Recreation Ground recently you may have seen that we replaced the rubber matting in the playground. Not only do the colourful patches brighten up play but they are also made from highimpact material designed to protect little ones if they take a tumble.

Also at the recreation ground, Langton Pavilion Community Hub is open weekdays from Tuesday to Friday. Here, you can join in toddler-focused activities such as 'Sing with Ellie' and enjoy food and drink from The Pavilion Café. If you haven't been yet it's a relaxed, family-friendly setting with toys for children and excellent coffee for grown-ups. Langton Green Village Society runs the Community Hub in association with Thrive Langton.



Alternatively, if you're looking for a nature walk that's manageable for small legs, we also own a small 'pocket' of land in Roopers, Speldhurst (which we call Pocket Park). We have been carrying out a project to encourage biodiversity in Pocket Park for over 3 years now and have recently planted some Crab Apple and Rowan Trees. This little park is a lovely place to kick some leaves around in your welly boots, pick up sticks and have a look at what's starting to grow as February turns into March. We recently installed a notice board in the

park which tells you more about what we're doing and gives tips on encouraging biodiversity in your own garden. It also includes photos of interesting plants and wildlife to spot in the park – a nice way to start teaching your children about the natural world. You'll find Pocket Park just across the road from Little Court Nursing Home.

Finally, a big thank you to all who lead and help at the baby and toddler groups in Langton Green and Speldhurst. With last year's county council funding cuts which saw the closure of the Harmony Centre in Rusthall, these volunteer-led groups are more important than ever for young families living in our community.

#### Full Council Meetings – Everyone Welcome

7.30 pm, Monday 3rd February, Committee Room, Speldhurst Village Hall

To Contact the Parish Council: Call the Clerk, Katie Neve on 01892 862927/07760 769513 or email <u>clerk@speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk</u> For helpful information, visit <u>www.speldhurstparishcouncil.gov.uk</u>

#### Join us! at Speldhurst Lunch Club in the Village Hall

Speldhurst Lunch Club now has a new home in the Village Hall and has vacancies for any senior member of the Speldhurst Parish community. Lunch club meets for good company and a delicious, hot, two-course meal with tea or coffee on the first Monday of the month from noon until about 1.30pm at a cost of £8.

If you would like to come along, ring Jan on 07808 299628 or 01892 863 931 who will give you more information. Or, if you are someone who has a senior family member or friend you think would enjoy some friendship and food, please tell them about Lunch Club, encourage them to join us and let Jan know. If he or she would benefit from you accompanying them to lunch, you would be most welcome.

The next meeting is on Monday,  $3^{rd}$  February and following that on Monday,  $3^{rd}$  March.

Jan Mann





### **Speldhurst Chapel Project**

This month we are combining news for both the Chapel Project and the Shop as we are now all under one umbrella and the news relates to both! Many of you will already have heard that The Speldhurst Parish Council are now the new owners of the Speldhurst Chapel and the Community Shop has taken over as tenants. A huge thank you to the Parish council for their efforts to ensure that this has taken place, it has been no mean feat..

It is now that the Chapel Project team are really able to put on their skates, (literally as I write this!) and it is full steam ahead to deliver a new shop to you all by the end of 2025 and with a bit of fairy dust just in time for a bumper Christmas! I am sure that having just revisited your lofts with the decorations put away, this seems a little premature but time will fly by and our first major event in the new premises will be December and Christmas celebrations.

Looking back on Christmas 24, the shop was decorated with much festive spirit and the lone Christmas tree on the forecourt survived the harshest of weathers, we were in fact, surprised it was still standing even before Christmas. The village elves decorated the front banisters at the entrance and the insides were laden with ideas for Christmas. Each day an Advent calendar was posted on Facebook with many photos of Speldhurst old and new, which encouraged much discussion amongst the community and brought back some memories of winters past. If you are not technologically inclined these photos are available to view, should you wish to see them purely for interest. These social media entries were posted to encourage you all to continue to fully support your shop in the last months leading up to our move. It is very important that we continue to trade as usual, or even with greater footfall in readiness for our move to the new premises.

Dima, the shop manager is getting his feet well under the table now and gaining much confidence in being a member of this community. We thank him for his efforts so far and are very much looking forward to enabling him to really put his mark on the brand-new shop in a beautiful building in the coming months. Our volunteers in the shop have been exceptional through the Christmas period and harsh weather, particularly reliable given that so many have been struck down by winter bugs. Without these lovely ladies and gentlemen, our shop would not be in existence, and once again, we truly value your input. Should you wish to spend a few hours helping in the shop, please do consider volunteering, it is a great way to meet people when the winter months keep you indoors, and every hour makes such a difference to the hard-working volunteers currently doing their bit. There is always something that needs to be done, and not necessarily customer facing if that is too daunting. Pop in and have a chat to anyone there who can give you some insight.

Moving forward, our next calendar celebration for your delight is Valentines Day. The shop will be stocking chocolates as well as other items to show your loved ones what they mean to you. Forget parking in town, just pop to your shop and you will find a great gift and cards for your Valentine.

With regards to the Chapel Build we have now secured a builder to transform this space and over the coming weeks you may see activity in the grounds of the Chapel and hear works inside going on prior to the official start date in March. Much of this work is being done by volunteers once again. Well done you.

Should you wish to be on a list of volunteers for the Chapel project, please contact me on 07834159605 (ideally message or whatsapp) and I will add your name to our list of helpers. At this stage we cannot say when you will be needed but if you message with your preferred help offered, I will endeavour to let you know how you can help as soon as possible.

Thank you Speldhurst for trusting that our village shop is in good hands and that we can deliver to you a venture that will be in the midst of our community, in fact, will be a big part of our community for another hundred years.

With two new babies in the past twelve months in our family, I keep hearing the words from my daughters, "it takes a village" Whilst I think they are referring to Grandparenting help, I believe that saying should be assigned to this project as well, because it truly does take all of us.

Keep warm and look forward to spring, which by the time you read this will be just around the corner.....

**Deb Cambridge** Chapel Project volunteer.





# **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to Frankie Markin for winning the Fete logo competition! You have won free entry for your family, 25 Grand Draw Tickets and unlimited bouncing.

We are so looking forward to using your design in our future publicity - thank you! Congratulations to our runners-up too:

2nd place goes to Charlotte Lodlum, winning 20 Grand Draw tickets and unlimited bouncing.

3rd place to Ben Lambert winning their choice of 10 grand draw tickets or unlimited bouncing.

Big thank you to all those who submitted entries, and to the Brownies for their artistic enthusiasm.

Mike Harrowing

#### **TONBRIDGE MUSIC CLUB**

In February, something completely different and which demonstrates TMC's aim of providing variety in its programmes. On Saturday, 15 February in the Parish Church, Samuele Telari, an accordion player will be playing works by Mozart, Schubert and Tchaikovsky. While one might not think of the accordion and classical music going together, you will be in for a big surprise. This young, Italian player has won many awards for his musical skill.

Finally, on the afternoon of Saturday 22 February, there will be two performances of 'Peter & the Timber Wolf' performed by the Kidenza Orchestra and Ann Bryant, the author and narrator herself. It is a re-telling of the classic piece and has all of Prokofiev's music. This takes place at the EM Forster theatre at Tonbridge School. We have been told this show will be enjoyed by you if you are 2 or 92 and everyone will learn something while enjoying the music. So, a wonderful family event! Tickets are £12 per person.

TMC invites you to come and join us for one, two or all of these events. Everyone is welcome at our concerts whether a member or not. As mentioned earlier, much more information about the Club and its activities is available on our website. We hope to see you soon!

#### **Rachel Davies**







It seems such a long time since Christmas and New Year but all the same I want to share with you some lovely reminders of the festive spirit in school including a pantomime visit from the Cat's Grin Theatre Company with their version of 'A Christmas Carol' to the nativity and 'worship' display in the school hall. We also welcomed the Posada as Mary and Joseph continued their journey onto St Mary's Church for Christmas Eve with a number of stops along the way including the School.

Whatever the time of year, Speldhurst School aims to provide a rich nurturing environment – and we couldn't be prouder of our amazing PTA who work tirelessly all year round to support our school, raising funds which benefit every child . The Bonfire night alone topped £7,600. Their incredible contribution has quite rightly been recognised by the National PTA Awards 2024 where they were the winners of the 'Changing the Life of the School' award for their work raising £25,000 in six months for a new school kitchen.

The judges commended their dream for 'children to enjoy meals freshly prepared on site' rather than food being transported from outside. Meals are now specially prepared in the new kitchen by our own chef and they are delicious and healthy (As Governors, we had a chance to try the menu on Governor's Day from a choice of mild chicken curry with rice, poppadom etc or Mixed vegetable and potato omelette or Jacket potato with a choice of fillings, followed by a delicious pudding or fruit salad. I had the curry but no pudding! All food for the brain.

Pupils are now very much back in the classroom enjoying their new topics which include 'Starry Nights' in Pippin class where the reception children are learning about the night sky and nocturnal animals with a 'space station' role play area to fire their imaginations.

At the other end of human history as we know it, Year 3 in Bramley Class are finding out about the Roman's ancient civilisation, constructing a timeline and discovering what life was like then including the use of money (see photos below) and in Year 5 Crispin Class explored the mythology, architecture and legacy of the Ancient Greeks whilst closer to home Year 4 in Empire Class learnt about the Anglo Saxons and Vikings.

Meanwhile the topic for Yr I in Jazz class is 'Bright lights, Big Cities ' and year 2 in Galaxy Gala are exploring coastlines. But these topics provide much more than just history or geography lessons. They open a door to learning in other subjects such as science, creative writing, reading and comprehension, spelling, music, art, food and even maths.

This term Year 6 pupils in Russet Class have been enjoying the vibrancy and colour of Mexican culture and history including a 'stunning start' of Mexican snacks and even a mocktail for the beginning of an immersive journey into this wonderful country. Their previous topic had been the Victorians – and I want to leave you with photos of their remarkable work as well as that of Year 5 in Crispin Class who'd previously studied the Tudors. Both classes designed and made their own houses and interiors out of shoeboxes. The results are too fantastic not to share!

Until next month dear reader - stay warm and stay happy

#### SARA ANDREW COMMUNICATIONS GOVERNOR.







# **Nature Watch**

February 2025 already, so let's look back a bit on the last year, a wet year but not cold. Butterflies generally had a poor year and moth numbers on common species were also on the low side. It was good growing weather for plants and grasses. Hopefully this year is a bit drier throughout the summer.

Now is a good time to decide what to plant in the garden to give as much benefit to wildlife as possible, to provide you with flowers and fruit and not to use pesticides if at all possible.

Bank voles, though you might expect them to hibernate, stay active throughout winter. They are very active, agile animals and are frequently seen - they even visit bird tables. They eat fruit, nuts and small insects, but are particularly keen on hazelnuts and blackberries. They always look a warmer brown colour than the very similar Field vole.

If you are walking through Pocket park this month keep an eye on the nest boxes to see what birds show an interest in them for this breeding season. Blue Tits and Great Tits are most likely and will the new trees flower and bear any fruit this year.

My last moth of the year was found on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, the aptly named December Moth [picture] and I had 5, 1 male 4 Females, The fluffy body is dark brown, with a creamy white head. Males are smaller than females and have feathery antennae. The picture is of a female. As I am writing this I have just seen on Facebook that a Humpback Whale has been seen breaching off Hastings, the world is changing and there will be winners and losers in the animal kingdom.

#### Alan Ford





#### Is beetroot just about the best thing to grow?

This is seed buying season. The time when we plan what we are going to grow and eat. And it's a great period of anticipation, when there is a chance to grow produce we like and know to be successful as well as experimenting with new things. One thing I would never be without is beetroot. Apart from being a superfood, beetroot is fairly easy to grow. Also, for some reason, they are largely trouble free. No aphids. No beetles. Neither caterpillars or pigeons seem to take a fancy to them. They are also quite untroubled by slugs or snails that seem to prefer other produce. And they can offer a long cropping season. It's possible to start beetroot in small 'plugs' from March. Sown in the house they will germinate and if you have a conservatory or greenhouse they can be grown in there to be planted out in May. A beetroot seed is a little knobbly brown thing that is in fact a capsule containing several seeds. Two, three or four of these can be sown in a cell for later planting out. Whilst there are globe varieties - Boltardy being the most common - I really like the variety Alto. These are cylindrical, can be grown more closely together and are wonderfully tasty when pulled relatively 'young'.

Beetroot was domesticated in the ancient Middle East, primarily for their greens, and were grown by the Ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans. By the Roman era, it is thought that they were also cultivated for their roots. From the middle ages, beetroot was used to treat various conditions, especially illnesses relating to digestion and the blood. In terms of health benefits, beetroot and its juice help heart and lungs work better during exercise. Nitric oxide from beets increases blood flow to muscles and apparently, some athletes eat beetroot or drink beet juice when exercising to improve their performance. Beets are rich in folate (vitamin B9), which helps cells grow and function. If you are interested in these topics / types of discussions, there is a Facebook page where we go into a lot of this type of stuff. It is called Speldhurst Allotmenteers & amp; Gardeners and the web address is: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/305824050847755. Hope to see you there. And finally:

 If you are interested in acquiring an allotment and doing your bit grow your own food and save our planet, please contact Mark Oddy on 01892 862746.
If there is any topic you would like to address relating to matters gardening or horticultural, please send an email to kytehouse@stepex.co.uk.
If you would like to submit something for this article, please also email it to kytehouse@stepex.co.uk.

#### **Rob Kyte**

## February 2025





2 <sup>nd</sup> Februar	Y
10 am	Holy Communion at <u>St. Mary's, Speldhurst</u>
11am	Matins at <u>St. John's, Groombridge</u>
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Februar</b>	<b>y</b>
10 am	Morning Worship at <u>St Mary's, Speldhurst</u>
11am	Holy Communion (BCP) at <u>St John's, Groombridge</u>
<u>16<sup>th</sup> Februa</u> 8 am 10 am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) at <u>St Mary's, Speldhurst</u> Holy Communion (CW) at <u>St Mary's, Speldhurst</u> Evensong at <u>St Martin's, Ashurst</u>
<u>23<sup>rd</sup> Februar</u>	Y
10am	All Age Worship at <u>St Mary's, Speldhurst</u>
11am	Holy Communion at <u>St Martin's, Ashurst</u>
6pm	Evensong at <u>St Mary's, Speldhurst</u>

#### Registers

Funerals and burials: 13<sup>th</sup> December Joh

13<sup>th</sup> December John Topliss at St Mary's, Speldhurst

#### Internment of Ashes:

5th December Carolyn Calcutt at St Mary's, Speldhurst

The Church Office can be contacted on 01892 861187 / 07960296027 or admin@speldhurstchurch.org See our website: www.speldhurstchurch.org St Mary's Facebook page: facebook.com/StMarysSpeldhurst/

# A Letter from St Mary's



#### February 2025

#### Dear Readers

I recently was talking to a friend of mine about his Christmas and the world at large generally and he said that he felt that the world was so bleak and the future so disappointing that he could not face the news either on tv or in the papers .He really felt that his life was in the middle of "The bleak midwinter " in Christine Rosettis poem .He has never commented on any form of faith and I tried to imagine life without the hope, light and kindness that shines through so strongly at Christmas time . I also share my friend's feelings of sadness with the world at present and am aware of the blackness in the world around.There is such suffering in many parts of the world such as Gaza The Ukraine, Sudan and other places too numerous to mention but I am kept going by my belief that there is still that shining light of the hope bought to us by the birth of Jesus at Christmas time .The light and hope brought by the message of Jesus remains ,if distant, so clear for us if we look hard within our hearts and our hopes .

I believe that by prayer and faith we may see the light of hope in our belief of the Christian message

However strong or otherwise our faith may be ,by turning away from that one true light we can only turn to darkness and gloom which is not what Christine Rosetti sets out so clearly in the remainder of her lovely poem/carol .May we all clearly see the true message of hope light and kindness however dark the future may seem .May we not forget some of the final words in that lovely carol/poem "what can I give him-give my heart "

May God bless you all this new year

DAVID LAMEY

## **GLOVES ARE OFF!**

#### DONATE TODAY IN PREPARATION FOR ROUND TWO TO STOP GATWICK'S NEW RUNWAY PLANS

#### Crowdfunding -

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/stop-the-new-runway-atgatwick-airport



Gatwick Airport has not yet secured a new runway – the Secretary of State for Transport (Heidi Alexander) will decide this on 27th February. Whatever her decision, we will need to take action quickly to ensure this environmental disaster is not allowed.

#### Will you help by making a donation, however big or small?

Whether Heidi decides 'Yes, let's add over 1.5m tonnes of extra carbon a year with a new runway for leisure flights!', or to allow with restrictions, or to put the planet first and turn down Gatwick shareholders, we will need to have our legal team engaged and ready.

We will only have 10 days to either serve a Judicial Review (there is much to challenge this application on through poor procedure) or support Heidi in opposing a new runway, as Gatwick are sure to continue to put forward a legal fight if they don't get their way.

Donate today and save the planet for future generations. Stop the impact of over 80m passengers on our roads and stop the noise of planes every minute of the day with 386,000 flights a year planned.

CAGNE is your umbrella aviation community and environment group for Sussex, Surrey and Kent. We have led the way in opposing this new runway and you can trust us to speak up for all residents and the planet.

#### Donate Today and Share with Friends Crowdfunding -

https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/stop-the-newrunway-at-gatwick-airport or at www.cagne.org or by post c/o The Treasurer, Porters Farm, Friday Street, Rusper, West Sussex RH12 4QA cheques made payable to 'CAGNE'

A full set of accounts for expenditure to date can be provided on request. Email cagnegatwick@gmail.com



### **GLOVES ARE OFF!**

CAGNE is your umbrella aviation community and environment group for Sussex, Surrey, and Kent, who seeks to be fair to all, you and the planet.

**Donate** to the team of qualified experts that have challenged Gatwick Airport like never before and continue to work on your behalf.



CAGNE continues to engage with the Secretary of State for Transport over the unsustainable plans for a new runway at Gatwick Airport.

Additional funding will be needed as the Secretary of State Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP decision is due on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (<u>www.cagne.org</u>) to either support her refusal or legally challenge her approval.

#### If approved, the new runway would -

- Increase in aircraft noise an additional 101,000 flights a year to 386,000 flights a year going from 46.6m passengers to 80m with no cap.
  - Further decline in air quality directly from the airfield and roads
  - Increase lack of affordable housing locally to enable workers to walk or cycle to work. And an increase in lack of amenities.
- Offer low skilled jobs with little job security due to the volatile nature of the airport's seasonal leisure business.
- Increase traffic jams as Gatwick sits on a single main road, the M23 which is deemed an unsafe smart road.
  - Place over 32m passengers on the expandable Brighton Main Line
    - Add a significant amount of carbon (1 1 1/2m tonne a year) and greenhouse gases – Evidence CCC (2020) The Sixth Carbon Budget – Methodology Report. Available at: <u>www.theccc.org.uk</u> And SAF and alternative fuels produces the same as fossil fuel when burned!

Thank you. CAGNE Committee

> Est Feb 2014 www.cagne.org cagnegatwick@gmail.com #pledgetoflyless Twitter Facebook Instagram LinkedIn

#### SPELDHURST VILLAGE CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

Age UK Lunch	Jan Mann	863931
Allotments	Mark Oddy	862746
Beavers	Jo Smith	518706
Bowls Club	Debbie Moon	861317
Bridge Club	Heather Hughes	863367
Brownies	Louise Scott	862972
Bumps and Babes	Jenny Fitzsimmons	541200
Cricket Club	Ed Wesson	07799 731247
Junior Cricket section	Francis Booth	07738474144
Cubs	Karol Leeves	531104
Flower Show	lain Fenn	864908
Football: Speldhurst Rangers	Ollie Crees	07919467576
GP Surgery		863040
Guides	Sybil Oddy	862746
Library	Pat Carter	861646
Men on Wednesday	John Perkins	863239
Mothers' Union	Christine Baker	540793
Mothers & Toddlers	Jenny Fitzsimmons	541200
Nursery School		860557
Parish Council: Chair	Paul Curry	07515 938765
Vice Chair	Katrina Lyle	862070
Parish Clerk	Katie Neve	862927
Parish Councillors	Richard Ellery	864077
	Alan Rowe	863404
Police Community Support Officer		
Primary School	Stephanie Hayward	863044
Rainbows	Alex Brown	
	speldhurstrainbows@g	
Recreation Ground	Ed Wesson	07799 731247
Running Group	Paul Eames	07975 577630
Speldhurst Association of Men	Brian Tasker	862301
Snooker Club	Nick Fenton	864144
Speldhurst Art Exhibition	Maria Turner	863394
Speldhurst News Editors	Maria Turner	863394
	Judith Malim	864268
	Andrea Burgess	863362
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St Mary's Church Rector Administrator	Rachael Foster	861187
Stoolball	Donna Burden	524793 07810 048599
Scouts Shop & Post Office Village Fete: Chair Village Hall Village Website Walking Group	Nick Burgess Dima Taran Mike Harrowing Rachel Bourdin Miranda Hawkins Brian Tasker	863362 862824 0772 5561154 07766 830303 863601 862301

### Opening Hours & Local Information

Buses	Timetables for bus 285 Speldhurst to Tun Wells - Hams Travel 01580 879629 For info: https://hamstravel.com/services
George & Dragon PH:	Mon-Thurs & Sun midday to 10-00pm. Fri & Sat midday to 11-00pm. 01892 338549
GP:	Mon - Fri 8am-6pm Tel: 01892 863040
Dispensary:	Mon - Fri 8.30am-1pm; 2.30-6pm (dispensary calls 8.30-11.30 only)
Library (village hall):	Monday 2-4.30pm.
Shop: Post Office:	Mon-Fri 7.30am-5pm; Sat 8-1pm; Sun 9-11 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 9-1pm; Sun Closed

#### To advertise please contact Eric Roughley Email: e.roughley222@btinternet.com Telephone: 01892 863222

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