



Spalding Flower Parade

Saturday, May 2, 2009



PROGRAMME

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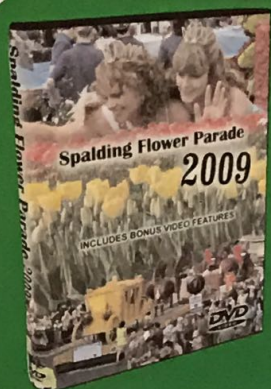
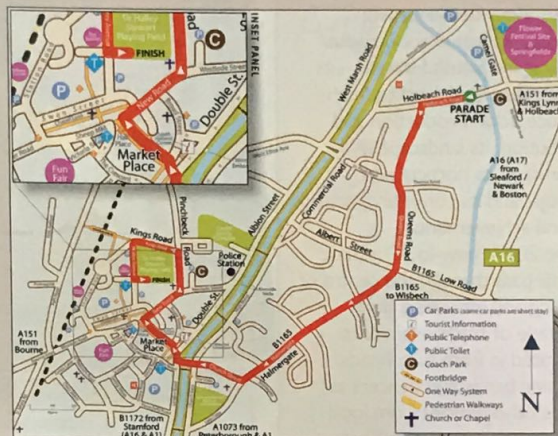
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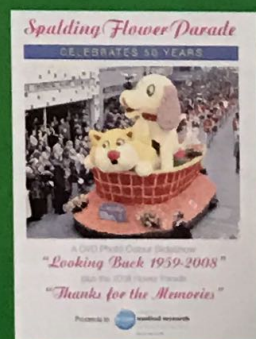
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Welcome one and all

A word of greeting from 2009 Spalding Flower Parade manager DAVID NORTON

THIS year's parade has been organised in record time. It was only in mid-December that the decision was finally made that it could go ahead.

During last summer there had been considerable public debate about its future. This resulted in a campaign to highlight the importance of the parade as a visitor attraction, as well as reminding everyone of its significance as a celebration of South Holland's links to tulip growing and the many years of community participation connected to the parade weekend festivities.

The response demonstrated the affection that many local people still hold for the event, 50 years on from the first official Tulip Parade in 1959, and acknowledged the important role the parade had played in making Spalding such a well-known tourist destination (wherever you go in the world, if you say you come from Spalding someone will always say "isn't that where they have the flower parade?").

The outcome of this action was a commitment from Lincolnshire County Council and South Holland

District Council to support the parade for a further five years and to work with the organisers on the development of the event as part of a broader based festival reflecting all that is good about Spalding and South Holland – its major industries linked to fresh produce, food production and distribution; its landscape and waterways; its horticultural heritage, and its community and cultural achievements.

The 2009 "new-look" parade will still pass through the centre of Spalding and includes a floral cavalcade of traditional floats decorated in fresh tulip heads, marching bands and dancers as well as other entries from local community groups and villages. There will also be a carnival section, with more than 180 school children taking part in a choreographed music and dance performance all along the parade route.

The parade involves many other voluntary groups and commercial sponsors and is still recognised as one of the UK's most important annual events.

It brings much needed income to many local charities and good causes as well as attracting a roadside audience of tens of thousands of visitors from all over



the country.

In addition to the parade, many churches will be holding their own flower festivals during April and May and throughout the parade weekend the Spalding Flower Festival, which is being organised by the Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust, will be held in the Springfields Festival Gardens and Events Centre. It will include flower arrangement displays, Chelsea Gold Medal plant growers, marching bands and even a circus.

Throughout South Holland there

will be a wide range of other activities and attractions, including a window dressing competition for Spalding's town centre shops, street entertainment, Tuby's funfair and a parade in the village of Moulton Chapel on the Bank Holiday Sunday, as well as special events in many local towns and villages.

The organising committee, officials, volunteer helpers, sponsors and participants very much appreciate you coming to join us in celebrating our world-famous parade.

Whether it's your first parade or you are a parade veteran, I am sure you will have a most enjoyable day.

After the parade weekend, when you're showing your photographs to your friends and family, remember that Spalding and South Holland has something to offer all year round, so why not come back to see us some time later in the year, perhaps when it's a little bit quieter?

On behalf of all of those involved with the parade and the residents of Spalding, we look forward to welcoming you here and hope you have a memorable parade day.

David Norton

HE'S A STAR ...

DAVID Norton, the 2009 Spalding Flower Parade manager, is the recipient of this year's Worshipful Company of Gardeners Award. The award is made each year in recognition of the contribution made by an individual or group to the parade, which as well as being a major tourist attraction is still seen as an important means of promoting the agricultural and horticultural industry of South Holland.

David is the chief executive of Springfields Horticultural Society, which is the charitable organisation which owns and operates Springfields Festival Gardens in Spalding.

The gardens were opened in 1966 and have always been used by the flower bulb industry to raise public awareness about the growing and cultivation of flowers from bulbs, and the broader social benefits of horticulture and gardening as a

means of relaxation and enjoyment.

Organising the parade has for many years been one of the duties undertaken by the society's chief executive, and as well as being parade manager for 2009 David has organised eight other parades (from 2000 to 2007).

He also introduced the Spalding Flower Parade as the UK's representative event within the World Tulip Summit Group which resulted in the 2008 World Tulip Summit being held here in Spalding.

David said: "I have to thank the trustees of the society and the officers of South Holland District Council for nominating me for this important award. Recognition by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners is something special and when I look back at all the other individuals and groups that have received the award in the past, I can appreciate the important role that so many people

have played in ensuring the significant reputation of the Spalding Flower Parade is passed on from year to year.

"During my time as organiser I have seen many changes – fewer tulips grown in the area and therefore fewer of the traditional flower floats, the introduction of live musical performance floats and the integration of the very popular carnival section.

"I have also experienced the terrific support of many other people who help to make the parade happen and without whose experience and dedication we would not have achieved our 50th birthday last year.

"This award is also for them, and for our sponsors and volunteers, all of whom have helped me through this enjoyable 'challenge' each year and make the May Bank Holiday Saturday such a great occasion for Spalding and South Holland."



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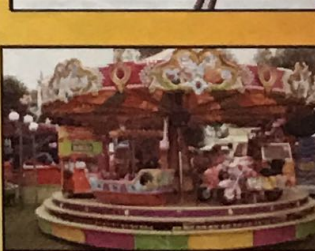
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Thanks for all your help

Acknowledging the many sponsors and supporters of the 2009 Parade and Carnival

THE SPALDING Flower Parade, which is a non-profit making event, relies upon many unpaid volunteers, organisations and companies for their goodwill and support.

The major sponsors are listed in the Order of Parade (page 19) and it is through their generous contributions that the tradition of the parade and its unique design of flower floats, decorated with more than 300,000 freshly picked tulip heads, is able to continue to provide such enjoyment to all visitors, young and old, from near and far.

In addition, the support from Lincolnshire County Council and South Holland District Council has been instrumental in ensuring that the 2009 parade can go ahead.

The spectacular and lively carnival section has also had many helpers and supporters and the whole of the float and costume design, music and choreography has been undertaken by Polka Dot Academy.

Several other companies have helped meet the costs of certain parts of the parade and we would

like to thank them as well.

These will be listed on the acknowledgement list on the Friends of the Parade "Smiley Train" parade entry. Watch out for it.

In addition, the Parade Steering Group would like to express its sincere thanks to the following without whose co-operation and assistance the 2009 parade could not be staged:

■ The residents and traders of Spalding and all the local charitable organisations for welcoming the thousands of visitors to the parade

■ Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust (for the floral cavalcade floats)

■ Springfields Horticultural Society

■ Lincolnshire County Council Highways Division

■ Lincolnshire Police

■ St John Ambulance

■ Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian

■ Lincolnshire Fire Service

■ East Midlands Ambulance Service

■ Spalding Flower Lovers' Club (for float flower arrangements)

■ M L Smith and Son (tulip heads)

■ Mr and Mrs P Bowman (equipment and use of facilities)

■ Tulip Foods (coach parking)

■ Kingsway Tyres (tractor batteries)

■ Chislett Hire (scaffolding equipment & tractor)

■ Rabtrack and Pecks (for supplying tractors)

■ T and B Containers, Wrangle (float boarding)

■ Plus many individual growers and farmers for the loan of tractors and equipment, all the stewards and casual helpers and those organisations and individuals responsible for picking the tulips and decorating the floats.

We would also like to thank Lincolnshire Field Products and Robin Chappell for once again allowing us the use of their premises for the float heading and preparation.

As always there will be a number of charitable groups, schools and flower clubs involved in this year's heading on the Thursday and Friday before the parade.

On the day of the parade they will all be experiencing the pain of pinning the thousands of tulip heads on the floats.

We hope their fingers will feel better by next week and they are not put off trying again next year!

There will undoubtedly be those contributors and supporters who come along after the deadline for printing this programme, but whose contributions are equally as important.

We will try to include them in the souvenir issue of the Lincolnshire Free Press, which comes out the week after the parade, and contains pictures of all the floats and a news review of the event.

Our thanks to everyone for their help in making sure the 2009 parade will be a great success.

From all the members of the Parade Steering Group, the Parade Planning Group, the Parade Safety Advisory Group, all our participants and sponsors and the residents of Spalding and South Holland



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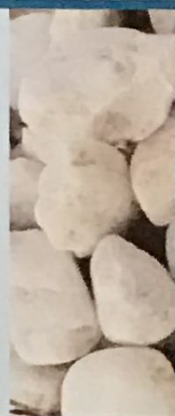
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All Saints Church Moulton

Flower Festival 2009

Saturday 25th April to Monday 4th May

Theme: Two By Two



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4th May 6.30pm - Songs of Praise

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Magazine sellers have got it covered

If you're reading this, chances are you've already met a member of Holbeach and District Round Table. Its members sell Spalding Flower Parade programmes in return for a share of the proceeds made from the sales. It then donates this to selected charities.

It's 35 years since the organisation was formed and members participate in a full programme of activities throughout the year, including karting, volleyball, cricket and other sports plus visits to local organisations and talks and presentations.

Members also organise many family events in conjunction with Holbeach Ladies' Circle.

Raising money for charity is an important part of the year and Holbeach and District Round Table has been able to support many charities over the years.



Two members of Holbeach and District Round Table who helped raise funds for their organisation last year by selling the flower parade programme. Photo: 0305083w125

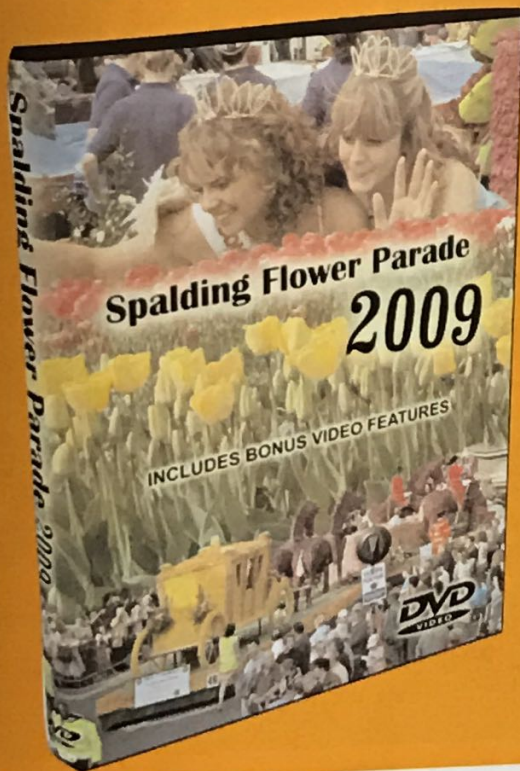
SOUVENIR NEWSPAPER

THE Lincolnshire Free Press on Tuesday, May 5, will carry full coverage of the Spalding Flower Parade 2009 and associated events.

If you would like a copy posted to your home for £1 (including postage), please telephone our reception on 01775 725021 or visit www.spaldingtoday.co.uk for further details.

First aid help will be easily accessible throughout the parade. There will be five St John Ambulance posts in the town centre, along with foot patrols, a minibus and an ambulance, all available to help people if needed. The Welland Hospital and the Johnson Hospital will also have doctors on duty.

GET THE PARADE DVD!



FOR the second year running, Deeping St Nicholas-based production company BigScreen Productions will issue a souvenir DVD of the Spalding Flower Parade.

The 90-minute DVD will feature video of the parade captured by four camera crews strategically placed along the route.

It will feature all the floats and displays as well as interviews with the 2009 Parade Queen.

There's also bonus video footage

of the flower picking and pinning the heads on the floats

The video will be launched a few days after the parade and can be bought:

- Online at www.bigscreenproductions.net
- At the Lincolnshire Free Press offices, The Crescent, Spalding
- By completing the order form below and enclosing a cheque.

The DVD is priced at £14.99 (no charge for postage and packing).

SPALDING FLOWER PARADE DVD ORDER FORM

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Church flower festivals a stunning show of colour

LINCOLNSHIRE has one of the finest collections of medieval churches in England. In Anglo-Saxon times, the areas of dry land that rose above the fen attracted religious communities, which explains why the oldest churches are situated in a ring around the Wash.

The churches of South Holland can take you on a journey through time and the area displays a wealth of architecture from Norman times to the 20th century.

Each church has its own story to tell, from the famous leaded timber spire of St Mary's Church in Long Sutton to the St Laurence Church in Surfleet, which until recently had the lightest peal of 12 bells in the world.

Many of South Holland's churches have flower festivals in the spring or summer.

As well as breathtaking floral displays, many offer refreshments, local produce, crafts and music.

Take time out to enjoy the peaceful atmosphere and the beautiful displays which volunteers have worked so hard to create.

■ St Bartholomew's Church, West Pinchbeck

Flower festival, Wednesday, April 29, to Monday, May 4, 10am-6pm. Theme: A Festival of Flowers. Refreshments, stalls.

■ Moulton Chapel Methodist Church

Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4, open Saturdays and Bank Holiday Monday 10am-6pm, Sundays 1pm-6pm, closed Monday and Tuesday, Wednesday to Friday 2pm-5pm. Sunday worship 10.30am. Refreshments. Contact 01406 381257.

■ St Mary and the Holy Rood, Donington

Flower festival, Friday, April 24, to Monday, May 4, 10am-6pm. Theme: Poetry. Refreshments served 10am-5pm. Thursday,

April 23 – Blessing of flowers service followed by a preview, 7.30pm. Contact Jane Stanley on 01775 821515.

Other events: Friday, April 24, bingo; Friday, May 1, wine tasting. Contact Alan Inns on 01775 820055.

■ St Laurence Church, Surfleet

Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4. Theme: Trades and Professions. Art exhibition, refreshments, stalls. Contact Mary Sharrocks on 01775 680746.

■ **St Paul's Church, Spalding**
Flower festival, Thursday, April 30, to Monday, May 4. Theme: England's Holy Places. Refreshments Saturday and Sunday. Contact Lisa Thomas on 01775 722817.

■ **All Saints' Church, Moulton**
Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4. Theme: Two by Two. Refreshments, plants, china, crafts, souvenirs, art. Sunday, May 3, Songs of Praise 6.30pm. Contact Pam Stanley on 01406 371201.

■ **Gosberton Methodist Church**
Flower festival, Thursday, April 30, to Monday, May 4, 10am-7pm. Refreshments. Sunday, May 3 – 10.30am family service, 6pm Songs of Praise. Contact Mrs B Taylor on 01775 840441.

■ **St John's Church, Weston Hills**
Flower festival, Saturday, May 2 to Monday, May 4, 10am-6pm. Theme: Childhood Memories. Contact Marjorie Ostler on 01406 380406.

■ Spalding Methodist Church, Broad Street

Flower festival, Friday, May 1 to Tuesday, May 5, from 10am. Theme: God's People. Refreshments, stalls. Sunday, May 3 – 6pm Songs of Praise. Contact Miss A Butters on 01775 768336.

■ Fleet Baptist Church

Flower festival, Friday, May 1 to Monday, May 4, open from 10am. Theme: God's Wonderful Timing. Hot and cold meals, plant and craft stalls. Saturday, May 2, concert, 7pm; Sunday, May 3, Songs of Praise, 4pm. Contact Pastor Ross Dean on 01406 424556.

■ St Mary's Church, Pinchbeck

Flower festival, Tuesday, April 28, to Monday, May 4, 10am to 6pm. Theme: Jesus is ... Refreshments, stalls. Contact Hilary Allen on 01775 640435.

■ St Mary's Church, Weston

Flower festival, Friday, May 1, to Monday, May 4, 10am-5pm. Theme: Bible Stories. Refreshments, stalls, arts, crafts. Contact D Balchin on 01406 371423.

■ The Parish Church of St Mary and St Nicolas, Spalding

Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4, church open until 5pm. Theme: A Lincolnshire Benedicite. Booked meals, teas, refreshments. Concert, 7.30pm, Saturday, April 25. Contact 01775 722772.



The churches of South Holland
can take you on a journey
through time and the area
displays a wealth of architecture
from Norman times to
the 20th century

■ St Mary The Virgin, Long Sutton

Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4, from 10am-7pm. Theme: London – Street by Street. Refreshments, souvenirs, craft and farm produce stalls, evening concerts. Contact Father Jonathan Sibley on 01406 362033.

■ St Peter and St Paul's Church, Gosberton

Flower and craft festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4, 10am-5.30pm. Theme: Planet Earth. Stalls, crafts, raffle, refreshments. Contact Iris Bennett on 01775 841027.

■ United Reformed Church, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding

Flower festival, Thursday, April 30, to Monday, May 4, 10am-5pm. Theme: God's Glorious Gifts. Refreshments. Contact 01775 766128 or 766403.

■ St Mary's Church, Sutterton

Flower festival, Saturday, April 25, to Monday, May 4, 10.30am-5.30pm. Theme: Scarecrows in Lincolnshire – Past and Present. Refreshments, plants. Sunday, May 3 – Festival Songs of Praise. Contact Janice Despicht on 01205 460590 for more information.



Last year's tribute to convenor Joan Crowden, who died the week after deciding to do a display based around the Eden Project. Pictured are Barbara Clark, Roger Human and Daphne Human



LEFT: Pat Ashley at work on an arrangement in last year's display at Holbeach All Saints'.

BELOW: Volunteers at St Bartholmew's, West Pinchbeck, from left – Alice Cook, Jean Gotobed, Iris French, Jackie Cook, Christine Cole and Hil Gotobed.

RIGHT: Flowers at St Mary's, Weston.



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St Batholomews West Pinchbeck Festival Flowers

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Festival of Praise
in church

Friday 1st May 2009 at 7pm
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St Laurence Church Surfleet FLOWER FESTIVAL 2009

April 25th - May 4th

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- Art Exhibition

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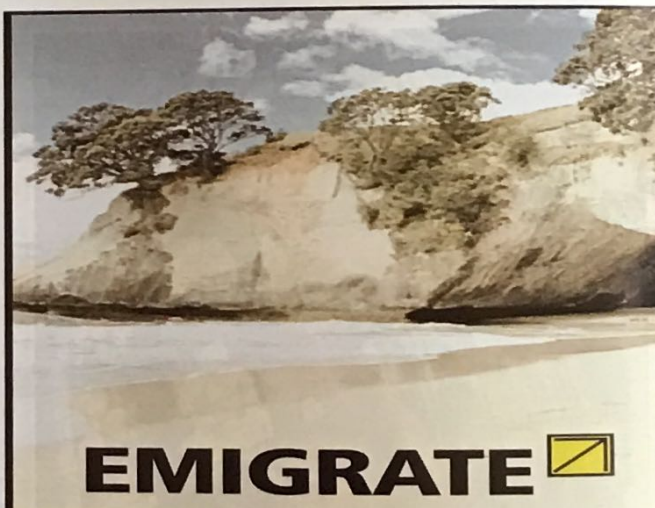
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Meet this year's parade prince and princess ...

THIS year's flower parade will be a very special occasion for two South Holland youngsters.

Callum Lewis (10) and Rebeca Adcock (9) will have a starring role in the parade, having been chosen as the Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian Prince and Princess.

Callum, of Gosberton, and Rebeca, of Spalding, were picked from 74 hopefuls.

The pair will ride in the parade

in a decorated car provided by Crowsons of Spalding, Volkswagen main dealer of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck, and they will each get a special outfit to wear on the day.

Rebeca will wear a dress supplied by Masquerade, of Spalding, while Callum's suit will come from Robert Goddard's Mens and Ladieswear, Spalding.

Paul Lawrence (9), of Moulton, and Ebony Munn (10), of Holbeach, were runners-up and will ride in the Moulton Chapel flower parade on Sunday, May 3.



Parade prince Callum Lewis.



Parade princess Rebeca Adcock.

Be sure to wave at our 'royal' couple
Callum Lewis and Rebeca Adcock

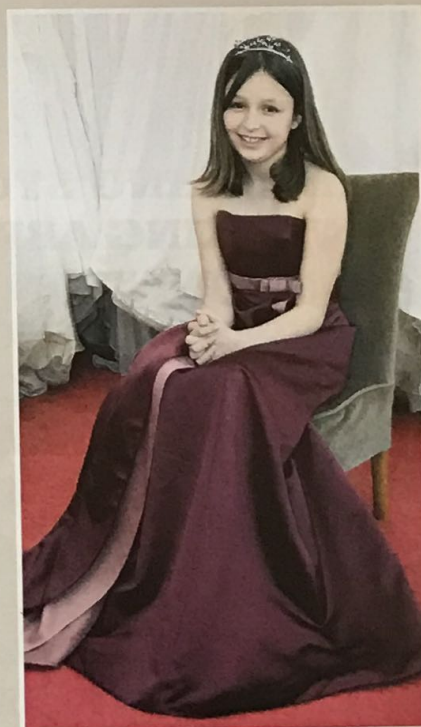
Which dress did Rebeca choose?



LINCOLNSHIRE Free Press and Spalding Guardian Princess Rebeca Adcock will be wearing a dress on parade day kindly donated by Masquerade, specialists in bridal and evening wear. Which one did she

choose? You'll find out on the big day but our photographer shadowed Rebeca as she tried on a selection of dresses.

■ Masquerade, 86 Winsover Road, Spalding, PE11 1HA, Tel: 01775 724234



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Spalding Flower Parade – how it works on the day

A REMINISCENCE of the last 50 Years will be the theme of the floral cavalcade section of this year's parade, with a single memorable flower float chosen from the 1960s, '70s, '80s, '90s and the 2000s being recreated to demonstrate the wide range of float designs which have made an appearance throughout the 50 year history of the parade (see facing page).

These floats have all been built with the assistance and support of the Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust and each one has been made with the traditional methods used since the parade first started.

Firstly the Trust's blacksmiths Ian Cauldwell and Richard Creasey construct the metal frameworks, often with a vintage farm tractor underneath where the float driver will sit.

They work with designs and drawings provided by float designer Jacquie Barnes. The frames are then covered with sheets of polystyrene foam which are glued on to provide the smooth surface to which the tulips can be attached. Every float then has thousands of tulip heads

pinned on by hand in the two days before the parade. Final decorations and bouquets are added before the float riders get into position about an hour before the parade.

There is a wide range of other float entries in the parade plus bands, community groups and the exciting carnival section at the end.

During the morning of the parade, the stewards – in their distinctive tabards and caps – will join Spalding Police and their colleagues, who have been drafted in from other areas, all along the route to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all our visitors.

We hope everyone will co-operate with them in their duties. If you are asked to move, please do so to assist the progress of the



floats are passing, particularly in the town centre.

Any lost children should be reported to the nearest police officer who will be able to radio the parade control office and pass on the details.

In addition to the stewards, you

At 1pm the floral cavalcade section of the parade will travel around the arena in the Spalding Flower Festival site at Springfields, where the parade queen will also be enthroned on the newly designed queen's float, being seen in the parade for the first time this year.

At 2pm the cavalcade of floats will join up with the rest of the parade on the Fulney Road field and then set off on its two-hour journey around the town to the Sir Halley Stewart Field.

There will be another change to the route this year and the parade will not travel up Love Lane or along Churchgate, but will turn directly up Church Street instead and end up going straight over High Bridge and on into the centre of town.

There will be no public access to the Sir Halley Stewart Field, where the parade ends, although the floral cavalcade floats will remain on display on Sunday and Monday, from 10am to 4pm for photograph opportunities.

The only official collectors during the parade will be the Spalding and District Young Farmers' Club.

The proceeds of the collection will be used to help with the costs of the parade and by the Young Farmers' Club itself to support the work that they do within the community and with local charitable organisations.

They make every penny count, give their services voluntarily and would like to thank everyone, in advance, for their generosity.

And so the 2009 parade begins – please give your support to all those taking part and cheer them on their way!

WATCH OUT FOR THE NEWLY DESIGNED PARADE QUEEN'S FLOAT – IT'S A FIRST FOR THIS YEAR

parade and for your own safety.

We ask that you do not stand directly in front of the floats for photographs or filming, and that children are kept safely away from the edge of the pavement as the

will also see parade marshals on cycles, with yellow sweatshirts. They will be travelling with the parade to guide and control its progress along the route and to deal with any emergencies.





ABOVE: The 1988 World Wildlife Fund float featuring a panda. LEFT: Dougal from The Magic Roundabout was a popular hit in the 1972 parade.

Floats take us all down memory lane

THE floral cavalcade in this year's parade will feature a redesigned lead float to carry the Lincolnshire Free Press Parade Queen and five others representing each of the five decades since the parade began:

- 1960s – The Tortoise from 1967
- 1970s – The Magic Roundabout/Dougal from 1972
- 1980s – World Wildlife Fund/panda from 1988
- 1990s – Space Odyssey from 1999
- 2000s – Chitty Chitty Bang Bang from 2003.

They have been brought up to date and all have some relevance to South Holland as it is today.

The cavalcade leaves PA Bowman's yard in Camel Gate at 1pm and will parade around the festival site at Springfields before travelling up Camel Gate and turning right at the roundabout on to Holbeach Road.

The cavalcade will then turn left into Queen's Road and the rest of the parade will be waiting to fall in at Fulney Playing Field before continuing its journey around the town, finishing at the Sir Halley Stewart Field at about 4.30pm.



ABOVE: A detailed spaceship from the 1999 parade.
BELOW: Chitty Chitty Bang Bang appeared in the 2003 parade.



Health and safety considerations ensure good time for crowds

WITH around 100,000 people descending on Spalding on parade day, crowd safety is of paramount importance.

Each year parade organisers and Spalding police work together in a bid to keep visitors safe and avoid any accidents.

Floats are staggered as they travel through the town to allow emergency vehicles access.

Parade organiser David Norton said: "We have done various exercises to see how we would cope with emergencies on parade day and we will have more stewards on the day, particularly to lead the floats through the town centre."

People are asked to exercise care along the parade route and not to cross in front of the floats to help avoid accidents.

If it's a particularly hot day heat stroke can be a major problem, especially for those people riding on floats in the sun for about four hours.

St John Ambulance has people on hand at various points around the town to treat anyone who falls ill or is injured and, of course, ambulance crews are always on standby to deal with emergencies.

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PARADE FLOATS

WHAT YOU'LL SEE

1 THE ROMSEY OLD CADETS
Making a welcome return to Spalding, this popular band has been asked to lead the parade again this year as the "warm-up" entertainment. They have taken part in the flower parade 31 times since their first appearance in 1975. The band chairman is Pete Pullen and Mac McArthur will be leading the band on the day.

2 PARADE ARRIVAL – TAYLOR'S BULBS PA VAN
The Parade Master of Ceremonies will be announcing the arrival of the parade as it travels around the town, welcoming everyone to Spalding and giving updates on the progress of the parade and the special entries to look out for. Our thanks go to Taylor's Bulbs for supplying the PA vehicle and driver.

3 TULIP RADIO CAR
This is the second year Tulip Radio has teamed up with Smart Cabs to be in the parade with their uniquely liveried cab, which is now a familiar sight around Spalding. Inside will be Tulip Radio's own Little Prince and Princesses, who are thrilled to have been asked to wave to the crowds and represent the work that Tulip Radio does within the community.

4 TULIP FLOWER POWER
This is a mobile stage float with a live performance by Minus One supported by some of the entrants in the local Teen Idol competition. They are all getting into the spirit of the Flower Power Days and will be singing songs from the '60s. The float is the main entry by the area's community radio station, Tulip Radio, and is kindly sponsored by the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership.

5 BAYTREE VINTAGE VAN
Baytree Nurseries Garden Centre is proud to be involved once again with the parade. To celebrate 40 years in the gardening industry, Baytree has decorated its vintage van with fresh flowers and shrubs for inclusion in the parade. Baytree is one of the country's largest independent garden centres, incorporating its very own 240-seater licensed restaurant. With free parking for up to 1,000 cars, Baytree is a "must-see" destination on any visitor's list. The centre at Weston can provide everything that your garden needs to keep it looking colourful all year round.

6 SURFLEET SCAMPS
Entering for the first time, the Surfleet Parent and Toddler Group and the Surfleet Young People's Group are all getting into the community spirit of the parade and walking the whole route.

7 BUDOKAI ACADEMY
This is the first time in the parade for the Budokai Blackbelt Academy and they will demonstrate martial arts moves on a low-level trailer. The academy, which is based at Spalding Common, has a mix of students spanning a wide range of ages, gender and ability. There is no segregation, only integration. For children it means a safe environment where confidence, focus and discipline are developed, leaving them better equipped to build constructive relationships with parents, academics and peers. For the parents it offers a chance to exploit the value of positive role models. Older members can look forward to the opportunity to improve their fitness and flexibility while beating the stresses and strains of everyday life as well as meeting people and making new friends and, most importantly, having great fun!

8 LONG SUTTON AND DISTRICT CYCLE CLUB
This will be the club's 49th appearance, having first joined the parade in 1960. You will see members, all dressed in period costume and riding a range of "vintage" bikes, delighting the crowds. They always put on a great display of cycling skills as well when the parade has to stop and start!

9 13TH COVENTRY SCOUT BAND
Revelling in their reputation of being Britain's best-known scout band, the 13th Coventry will be taking their place in the parade for the 43rd consecutive time since their first invitation in 1966. Their band leader, Roy Nowell, has been present at every one of these performances and always regards the Spalding Parade and its friendly and appreciative supporters as one of the highlights of their year.

10 STRIKE UP THE BAND
This year's entry from Moulton Chapel village will include a touch of "brass" for everyone to enjoy. Don't forget that you can see this float again in Moulton Chapel's own parade on Sunday, May 3.



PARADE FLOATS

BREAKDOWN TRACTOR

Kindly supplied by Peck's of Spalding. Just in case!

THE FLORAL CAVALCADE

12 1960S – TORTOISE FAMILY

This float was first entered in the parade in 1967 by Ground's Transport Service and has been selected to represent the 1960s.

13 1970S – DOUGAL (FROM THE MAGIC ROUNDABOUT)

This float was first entered in the parade in 1972 by Lowland Bulb Company and has been selected to represent the 1970s.

14 1980S – WORLD WILDLIFE

This float was first entered in the parade in 1988 by Geest plc and represents the 1980s. The float has been created with the support of the Donington in Bloom Group and will feature a koala to reflect the village's association with Australia. Taking part in the parade gives the village an opportunity to inform visitors about its famous son, Matthew Flinders. Committee member Liz Walker said: "All the children get involved and do what they can to help. There's a real community spirit about it." The village church will be beautifully decorated and

is well worth a visit while you're in the area. Forthcoming events in the village include open gardens, plant sales and a Party in Flinders Park.

15 DERBY SERENADERS INTERNATIONAL SHOWBAND

This entertaining marching band from Derby will certainly let you know the parade has arrived – adding a great sound to the Floral Cavalcade. Watch out for their exotic costumes and energetic marching routines which are quite breathtaking.

16 1990S – SPACE ODYSSEY

This float was first entered in the parade in 1999 by Geest, and has been selected to represent the 1990s. This year the float has been recreated with the support of the Spalding Energy Company. Their Spalding plant incorporates the latest technology to make it one of the cleanest, safest and most efficient power stations in the world. Spalding Energy would like to wish all their neighbours and the Spalding Flower Festival good luck and lots of sunshine

19 WISBECH ROSE FAIR

Entered into the parade for the first time please welcome this special float prepared by the community Payback Team, Wisbech Probation Service. It represents the Wisbech Rose Fair, which takes place from July 1 to 5 in the award-winning gardens of the St Peter and St Paul's Church in the town centre, with floral displays, crafts, plants and local produce, strawberry teas and entertainment. Three other churches also open for floral displays and there is a parade of carnival floats on the Saturday.

20 DREAMZ DANCE

The Dreamz Dance group has been running for around two years and teaches street and free flow dancing. The group was involved in the parade last year for the first time and enjoyed themselves so much they asked to come back again. The dance choreographers are Becky Grover and Emma Unwin. The group is based in Pinchbeck Church Hall where they meet and rehearse every Saturday. Our thanks to Savanna Construction for sponsoring their entry once again by providing a vehicle and sound system.

21 SPALDING WATER TAXI

Out of the water to take part in the parade (but back in service on the Sunday), the water taxi is one of four electric boats that operates between Spalding town centre and Springfields. You can take a relaxing 30-minute trip throughout late spring, summer and early autumn. Each taxi seats 12 adults. The single fare is £3 each way and £9 for a family ticket. Embarkation points are Bridge Street or at Springfields in the west car park. The taxis are also available for private hire by larger groups for themed trips.

TIMINGS

- Floral Cavalcade – 1pm to 2pm around the festival arena and Camelgate
- Queen's Road/Halmergate – 2pm to 3pm
- Church Street/town centre – 3pm to 4pm
- Pinchbeck Road/King's Road – 4pm to 4.30pm

for this year's parade! Spalding Energy – Power for the 21st century.

17 2000S – CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

This float was first entered in the parade in 2003 by Flower Plus and has been selected to represent the 2000s.

18 FLOWER QUEEN 2009

Entered by South Holland District Council and the Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian, this newly designed queen's float conveys the 2009 Free Press Parade Queen, Amy Coates, who has been chosen to represent Spalding and South Holland for the day. She is accompanied by the eight queen's attendants: Emily Day, Lily East, Molly Fox, Ameila Martin, Rebecca Paul, Victoria Paul, Jessica Portass and Megan Turnbull.

22 SPALDING HOSPICE FOUNDATION BED-PUSH

With the first bed-push in the parade for many years, the Spalding Hospice Foundation is hoping to publicise the new Johnson Community Hospital which opens in June. The Hospice Foundation works with adults and young people with life-threatening illnesses, in Spalding and surrounding areas, and provides funds to support hospice beds and associated palliative care.

23 BREAKDOWN VEHICLE

Kindly supplied by Dave Woods. Hopefully it won't be called into action!

24 SPALDING AMBASSADORS

While the band has always been involved in the entertainment of visitors on parade day, this is only their third appearance as a marching band in the parade.

25 YOUNG FARMERS

Entered, built and prepared by Spalding and District Young Farmers' Club who have had an entry in the parade since it first started. They are also organising the parade collection this year.

26 A FOREST OF CRANES

The Giles School is pleased to be part of the Spalding Parade and has entered its own float with a Japanese theme. The Giles School, a Leading Edge and Specialist in Visual Arts secondary school, is situated in the village of Old Leake, near Boston. The school is part of the Boston Hakusan exchange, a programme that involves visits and home stays for pupils and staff from the Boston area and Hakusan City in Japan. The school has a Japanese garden to celebrate this friendship.

The float contains Japanese cranes that have been created by pupils from the Boston area. The project was based at Woodland Organic Farm in Kirton, who also provided the trailer. The willow birds were constructed by pupils from the Giles School, Boston High School, Boston Grammar School, Thomas Cowley and Haven High School. The students worked with willow artist Spencer Jenkins for

a week at Woodlands Farm to create the sculptures that will be permanently sited on the farm. The float also contains a modern interpretation of Japanese seating created by staff at the Giles School.

27 LIGHTHOUSE PENTECOSTAL DANCE TROUPE

The Lighthouse Pentecostal Dance Troupe has been meeting for six years now and unites dancers of all ages. They will be entertaining the crowds with exuberant dance routines choreographed to Christian rock and pop music.

28 FLOWER PARADE PRINCE AND PRINCESS

Callum Lewis and Rebecca Adcock were crowned Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian Prince and Princess 2009. They will be riding in a decorated open top vehicle kindly supplied by Crowsons of Spalding, Volkswagen main dealer of Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck.

29 FRIENDS OF THE PARADE - SMILEY TRAIN

This entry will feature train passengers dressed up for their holidays, so don't forget to give them all a wave as they pass. This entry is dedicated to those businesses and individuals who have kindly made a donation to the parade.

30 NORTHAMPTON PIPE BAND

The band was formed in 1987 and is based at Wooton Hall Police Headquarters in Northampton. It was once the Northampton Police Pipe Band and still performs for the police pensioners' Christmas concert at Wooton. The band also does lots of charity events around the county and in July of each year it is invited by the Burger Master of Rehau in Bavaria Germany, to take part in their annual Wiesenfest and Stadtfest parades

31 IT'S A SMALL WORLD - SOUTH HOLLAND

This is the first entry for the friends of Queen Elizabeth Doll Houses. Members have created a miniature scene featuring houses,

gardens and bunting, on the back of a trailer.

The project is the brainchild of Christine Meggitt, an eccentric miniaturist, addicted since receiving an unfinished doll's house when aged six. She said: "When it started I imagined a little trailer with two rows of doll's houses with gardens at the front with tulips in them. It just escalated from there and now we're looking at a really big project."

Christine shares her interest through displays, exhibitions, talks and workshops and would like to create a doll's house museum in the area.

Supporters include Jim Critchley, who traded as the "miniature Estate Agency" and has an eye for detail; Robert West is advising on keeping the little street intact for the journey through town; Dorothy Foreman is assisting in teaching miniature tulip making to groups such as the Boston Dolls House Club and Expert Patients who are all helping to make the flowers for the gardens. Lots of people will ensure this smallest entry is a big wow on the day!

32 BILLY BLOOD DROP

The need for blood never stops and more donors are needed in Lincolnshire. This is why the National Blood Service is at the festival site today to give visitors some information and hopefully enrol them all as blood donors, helping to save and improve people's lives. Billy Blood Drop is in the parade, and it's his job to ensure that the National Blood Service collects the 8,000 units of blood it needs every day. If you're not a donor already please think about helping Billy to reach his target.

33 CHEERLEADERS DANCERS

Diamondz D.G. has been running classes in Spalding for two years and specialises in hip hop, cheerleading and freestyle disco. It also teaches Latin and ballroom dancing, singing and break-dancing. Diamondz D.G. is full of talented individuals who thoroughly enjoy their classes. The cheerleading teams will be in the parade for the first time, and the event will help them prepare for their friendly competition in Sleaford the following week.

Where to find all the action

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BEST VIEWPOINTS FOR THE PARADE

- Get there early
- Don't be afraid to move away from the main town.
- The main tree viewing sites are High Bridge (very crowded), Market Place (with no market this will be a prime viewing site), Hall Place, New Road and Winfrey Avenue.



Enjoy a water taxi ride on the Welland

SPALDING'S popular water taxi may not be running on parade day but there will be plenty of opportunities to enjoy a ride up the Welland over the weekend.

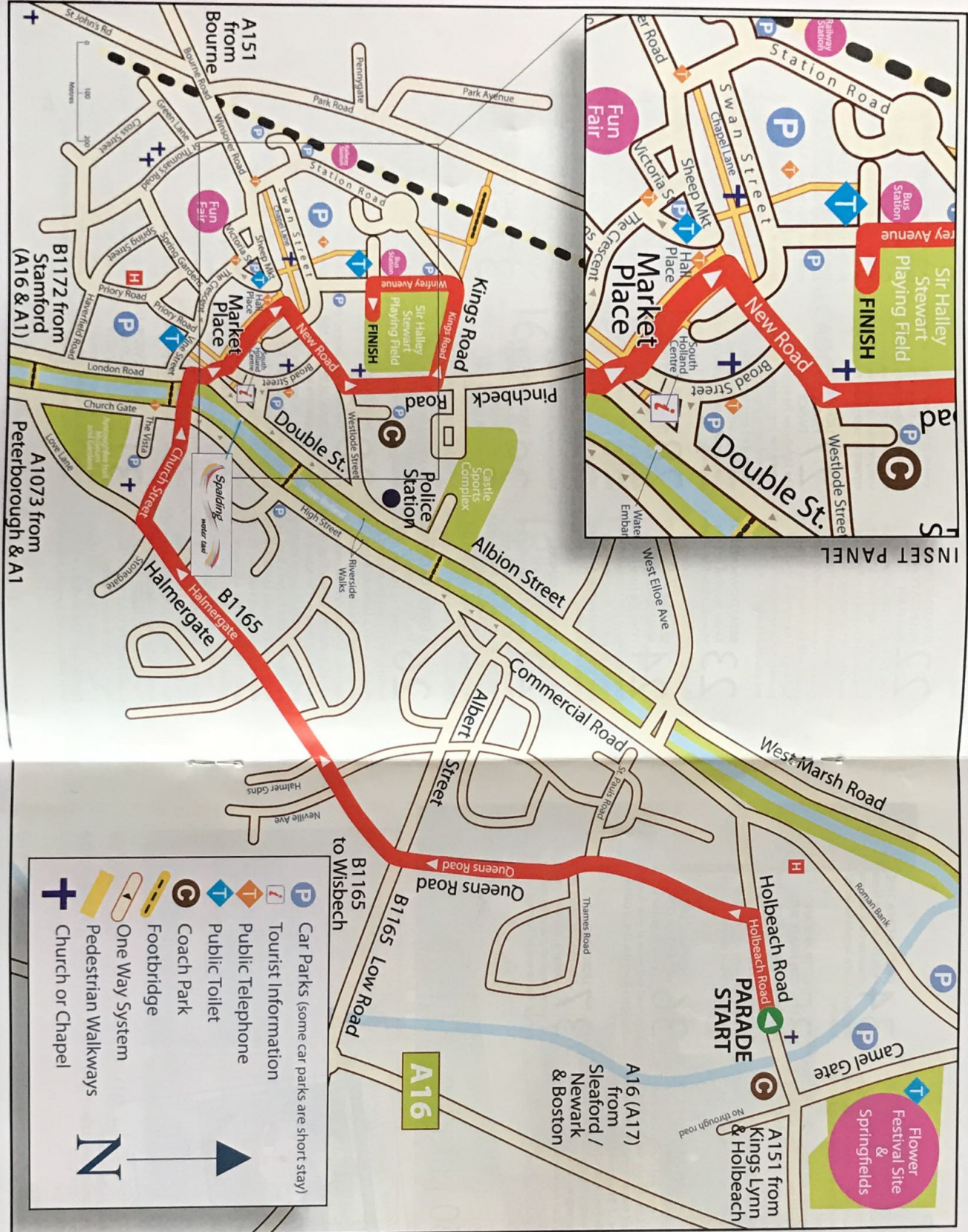
The water taxi service opened in July 2005 and has proved extremely popular with thousands of people taking in the sights of the River Welland and the Coronation Channel during the 30-minute cruise.

Boats leave every half an hour from embarkation points at High Bridge, Spalding, and Springfields west car park.

The service operates four boats, each holding 12 adults.

The water taxi was formed as a successful partnership between South Holland District Council, Broadgate Homes and Springfields. The number of people using the service has exceeded all expectations.

Spalding Water taxi costs £3 each way and tickets are available at the South Holland Centre, Fenscape and the Springfields Information Point. The service runs until late October.



PARADE FLOATS

THE CARNIVAL LINE-UP

THIS year's carnival promises to be more dazzling than ever and with more than 300 people taking part, this street party will be the perfect finale to this year's parade. The carnival will build on the success of the previous years, combining a stream of spectacular floats and costumes. It is a great opportunity for schools and community groups to take part in a vibrant celebration of choreography and costume.

The children have been taught the energetic dance routines by professional choreographers from Polka Dot Academy and will perform three routines throughout the carnival procession. Getting 300 people to perform the routines isn't easy but it will look stunning when it all comes together on the day and the participants can't wait to showcase their talents to the thousands of spectators on the route.

There will be four different floats which will be integral to the carnival, and with the inclusion of flowers they will weave seamlessly into the parade.

The first float will tell the story of fairytales. It will be hosted by our favourite fictional characters, including the Giant from Jack and the Beanstalk, guaranteed to create plenty of Fee Fie Foe Fun!

Spectators will also see Peter Pan with Wendy and the Lost Boys boasting a magnificent pirate ship owned by Captain Hook.

A third decorated float will catapult spectators into the wonderful Wizard of Oz and the Emerald City with Dorothy, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Lion and "Toto Too".

The fourth float will represent the plains of Africa where you will see Simba, Timon and Pumba with their animal friends from The Lion King.

And if that isn't enough, the sheer volume of dancers and children in the carnival from local schools and communities involved with the floats and the choreography of the whole event makes it an extravaganza not to be missed.

The line-up will be:

34 ONCE UPON A TIME
Favourite famous fictional characters will welcome spectators to the wonderful world of fairytale.

35 PETER PAN AND THE PIRATE SHIP.
A specially adapted float re-creating the famous pirate ship. Enjoy the swashbuckling adventures of Peter Pan as he and the Lost Boys try to defeat the evil Captain Hook.

36 THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ
Journey down the yellow brick road and wave at your favourite characters from this classic children's story.

37 LION KING
The plains of Africa will appear in this circle of life, as the animal kingdom makes its way through the streets of Spalding.

Relive the first 50 parades

IF YOU have enjoyed today's parade, why not relive the first 50 parades with the special DVD, *Looking Back 1959-2008*?

The DVD photo colour slideshow was produced last year in celebration of 50 years of the Spalding Flower Parade and includes more than 350 photographs from the past 50 years of parades with music from the album *Tulips*.

The DVD costs £10 (postage is free) with all proceeds going to Action Medical Research. Sales have already raised £2,500 for the charity.

To view photographs from the past 50 years of flower parades or for the DVD order form, visit www.spaldingflowerparade.co.uk

The DVD is also available in Spalding at Ayscoughfee Museum, Welc in New Road, Fenscape at Springfields, and Birchgrove Garden Centre in Pinchbeck. Alternatively, send your details and a



cheque (made payable to Spring Colour Publications) to Spring Colour Publications, 13 Birch Grove, Spalding, PE11 2HL.

WE HOPE you enjoyed our 2009 Parade and your visit to Spalding and South Holland. Please come back and join us next year on Saturday, May 1.

Of course, we would like to see you at any time. There will always be something to enjoy – a water taxi ride, museums and gardens to visit, churches, a good selection of pubs and restaurants, and our wide selection of shops around Spalding, at Springfields Outlet Shopping and Festival Gardens, and elsewhere in South Holland.

And don't forget that the Spalding Flower Festival, organised by the Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust, is taking place at Springfields throughout the three days of the Parade Bank Holiday weekend, with a great fireworks finale on the Monday evening.

Thank you for coming and supporting our parade. We hope you have a safe journey home.

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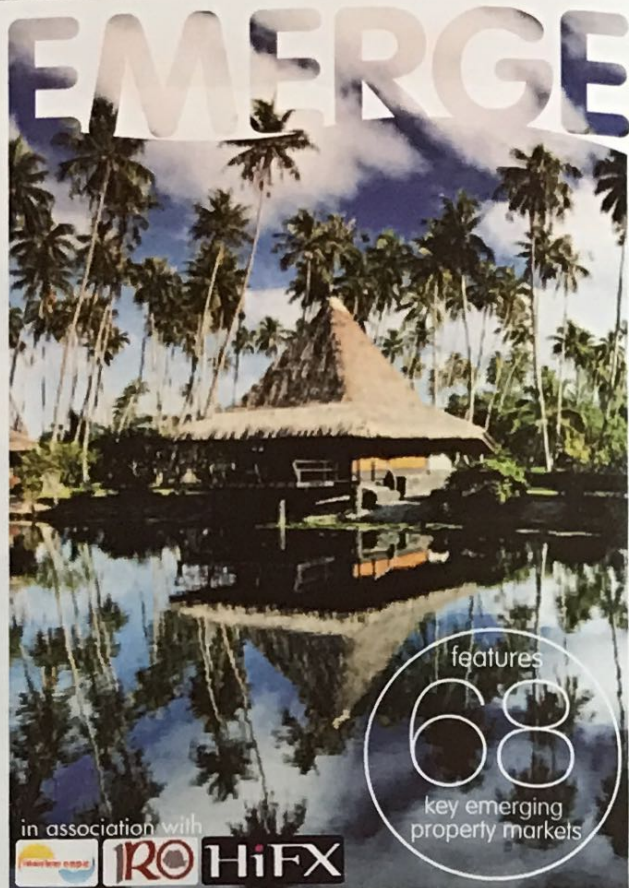
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

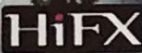
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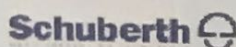
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Pretty Amy is Flower Queen 2009!

THIS year's Spalding Flower Parade will be extra special for Kirton girl Amy Coates as she will be waving to the crowds from the parade queen's float.

Amy (20) was crowned Free Press Parade Queen during a glamorous ceremony at Spalding's South Holland Centre in April.

Taking part in the parade on Saturday, May 2, will be a dream come true for teacher Amy, of Kirton.

She said: "I'm really overwhelmed by it all. I'm really excited and looking forward to everything, especially the parade, which will be fantastic.

"I did it for the experience really and to be chosen as the winner from 40 girls is amazing."

An audience of around 300 people looked on as Amy was announced as the winner and crowned by outgoing queen Katie Morton.

Judges Adrian Jansen, vice chairman of the Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust; Nick Woodhead, former editor of

Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian; Sarah Grundy, of Spalding jewellers Number One, and property manager Sarah Patterson had the difficult task of choosing the winner.

Compere for the evening was Michael Cross, artistic director at Peterborough's Key Theatre, who interviewed all the girls on stage before announcing the six finalists as Katie Browne, Amy Coates, Sophie Franks, Abby Moon, Jessica Newson and Emma Rust.

He then interviewed them again before the judges made their decision.

The event was organised by the Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian in association with Tulip Radio.

As well as being queen for the day at this year's Spalding Flower Parade on Saturday, May 2, Amy will receive:

- A dress, shoes and necklace of her choice to keep, courtesy of Spalding dress shop Fancy Frox (www.fancyfrox.co.uk)
- £100 cash, from the Lincolnshire Free Press



Flower Queen 2009 – Amy Coates.

- A year's gold membership to Harper's Gym, Spalding, worth £445, courtesy of Leisure Connection
- A Refresh and Revive Day worth £112 at Ragdale Hall, courtesy of the Leicestershire spa
- A £25 gift card from Springfields Outlet Shopping and

Festival Gardens

- a selection of No 7 products and a perfume, from Boots of Spalding;
- Her hair styled on the day of the Spalding Parade, Pumpkin Parade and Spalding Christmas lights switch-on, and a selection of products, thanks to Image International, Spalding.



The 2009 Free Press Parade Queen Amy Coates (seated) with (from left) finalists Katie Browne and Sophie Franks, 2008 South Holland Flower Queen Katie Morton, finalists Abby Moon, Jessica Newson and Emma Rust. Photo: SG070409-376NG



Compere Michael Cross interviews winner Amy Coates on stage. Photo: SG070409-311NG



NORTHAMPTON PIPE BAND

The Northampton Pipe Band was formed in 1987 and at that time was known as the Northampton Police Pipe Band.

As there are now no active policemen in

the band, the decision was made to drop the word police from the title.

In the early days the band used to compete at Highland gatherings around the country, but now enjoys entertaining the

public at carnivals, parades and steam rallies. It also takes part in local armistice parades.

Every year the band is invited by the Burger Master of Rehau in Bavaria, Germany, to take part in parades there.

It wouldn't be the same without marching bands

SPALDING Flower Parade will have the whole audience tapping their toes and clapping their hands thanks to all the wonderful bands that take part. From the Derby Serenaders to Spalding's own Marching Ambassadors, there promises to be something to suit

everyone's musical taste. Many of the bands have been regular visitors to Spalding for the parade for years, especially the 13th Coventry Scout Group, who have taken part in the parade for 43 years. Here's a round-up of the bands you can expect to see – and hear!



13TH COVENTRY SCOUT BAND

Founded in 1929 originally as a drum and fife band, the 13th Coventry has for the last 55 years been the most innovative and progressive of Britain's scout bands.

It has 34 royal performances to its credit, appearing in such prestigious events and venues as Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, St Paul's Cathedral, The Royal Tournament, Wembley Stadium, Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, London's Guild Hall, The Lord Mayor's Show, Horse Guards' Parade, Coventry Cathedral, London's Easter Parade and The Jersey Battle of Flowers.

Nine times in ten years they were heralded as the National Scout Supreme Champions and they have won hundreds of prizes in open competitions throughout the country.

The members of the band are all bona fide members of the scout movement and undertake band duties as an extra activity.

This is the band's 44th appearance in the Spalding parade.



ROMSEY OLD CADETS CARNIVAL MARCHING BAND

A group of friends from the Romsey area, (who all had been youths together and joined the Army Cadet Force) decided, due to their love of fun and their ability to play instruments, that they would enter a local carnival dressed as Arabs or, as they titled themselves, "The Sons of the Sand".

After causing a sensation, they advertised for like-minded gents to broaden their musical sound. As numbers grew, an association was formed in 1963.

The Romsey Old Cadets take part in carnivals and displays but also have a serious side, taking part in what they call 'green jacket' events including the Remembrance Day parade in Romsey, St George's Day parade in Bishops Waltham and, up until this year, the Earl Mountbatten Memorial Parade in Romsey.



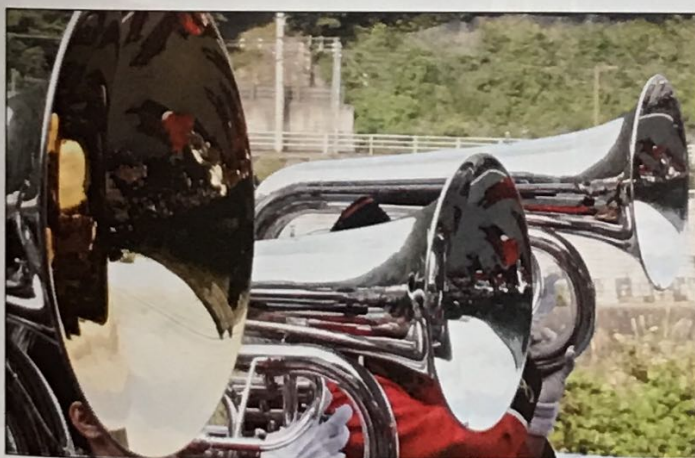
SPALDING MARCHING AMBASSADORS

A regular stalwart of the flower parade weekend, the Spalding Marching Ambassadors have long been entertaining the crowds with their great sounds. This is their third year marching in the parade.



LIGHTHOUSE PENTECOSTAL DANCE GROUP

This group, based in Spalding, has been meeting for six years and unites dancers of all ages. They will be entertaining the crowds with exuberant dance routines, choreographed to Christian rock and pop music.



THE DERBY SERENADERS INTERNATIONAL SHOW BAND

The Derby Serenaders are a Latin American style show band who travel all over the UK and Europe.

The band, which was formed in 1936 and has won more than 250 first prizes, prides itself on achieving a high standard in the disciplines of music, marching, display and dress.

The Derby Serenaders have won all the major titles in this country and were twice placed first in international competition in Belgium, and twice have gained first place in The Spanish Classic Open Championship.

Notable appearances have included performances at the Royal Albert Hall, The Grand National at Aintree, The British Grand Prix at Silverstone, The Lord Mayor of Westminster's New Year Parade and on television's The Generation Game.

Flower festival, marching

SPALDING will be looking its best and brightest this spring with the first ever Spalding Flower Festival on May 2, 3 and 4.

The event takes place at Springfields Event Centre and will include the Festival Gardens and the new fountains which were recently installed as part of a £500,000 upgrade.

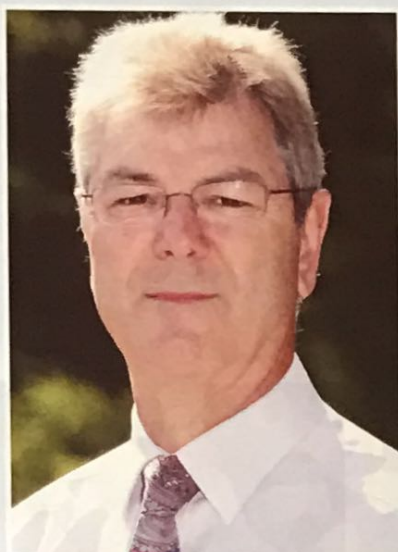
Everything that has delighted the visiting public for many years, such as structures covered in fresh tulip heads, marching bands and children's activities, will be on offer.

Added to all that will be magnificent flower displays by RHS Gold Medal winning exhibitors, a church flower display marquee and exhibits by the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies.

And there's more ...

The Spalding Flower Parade and Carnival Trust has arranged a circus on site as well as participation by Long Sutton Butterfly and Wildlife Park, local flower importers, and nurseries – and it's all free to ticket holders (prices at the end).

Schoolchildren will be taking part in



Chris Elliott, Flower Festival organiser.

various competitions including a Scarecrow Competition and a Design a Fairy Garden Competition as well as entertaining the crowds with everything from a junk band to a choir.

Art will feature strongly with a marquee dedicated to local artists, both amateur and professional, who will display art predominantly on a horticultural or local scenery and wildlife theme.

The festivities will end on Monday night with a grand finale including entertainment, illuminated displays and a spectacular fireworks display in the Springfields Festival Gardens.

The Springfields Event Centre will be open from 9am until 6pm on Saturday and Sunday and on Monday from 9am to 5pm and again from 7pm to 10.30pm with the fireworks at 9.30pm.

Tickets for the event are £7 per day for adults, £6 for concessions and £3.50 for children aged five-16.

Monday's ticket will include the evening festivities, although an evening only ticket will be available at £5 (half price for children).



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WHAT'S ON AT SPRINGFIELDS



Saturday, May 2, to Monday, May 4

■ Flower Hall – dedicated to RHS Gold Medal exhibitors and National Association of Flower Arranging Societies

■ Churches' Flower Festival Marquee – displays by 20 churches

■ Schools' Marquee – schoolchildren's entries into Scarecrow, Fairy Garden and Mural competitions

■ Arts Marquee – displays and demonstrations by professional and amateur artists

■ Free Circus – five 30-minute performances each day with three different themes and shows

■ Floral Cavalcade – Saturday 1pm only

■ Marching Bands – at least two different bands each day

■ Butterfly and wildlife exhibit with free flying exotic butterflies and animals – guaranteed to delight children

■ Horticultural trade stands

THE STATIC DISPLAYS

- The Owl and the Pussycat
- The Golden Compass
- World of Beatrix Potter
- Scenes from Alice in Wonderland
- Dinosaurs in The Land That Time Forgot
- Enchanted Castle
- Toyland

The Finale – Monday, May 4, 7pm-10.30pm

■ Illuminated displays

■ Live music from local bands

■ Fountain displays

■ Fantastic fireworks display

Daily ticket prices - Adults £7, Seniors £6, Children £3.50; Fireworks Finale only – Adults £5, Seniors £4, Children £2.50

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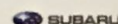
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**TULIP RADIO
IS ON A NEW
FREQUENCY
107.5 FM**



LEFT: Jan Whitbourn (left) in the studio with some of the Spalding Teen Idol contestants.



Chris Carter and Jan Whitbourn interview George Scott, chairman of the Spalding and Peterborough Transport Forum.

Friends on the airwaves

SPALDING Flower Parade will have a touch of the 1960s about it thanks to Tulip Radio. Spalding's popular local radio station will be manning a music trailer float entitled Tulip Flower Power.

Local singing duo Minus One will be performing on the float, along with some of the Teen Idol competition contestants.

Everyone will be wearing authentic 1960s dress and singing songs from the era.

Tulip Radio has been involved with the parade for several years and as well as entering its trailer float, the station will have a car taking part in the parade.

Business development manager Jan Whitbourn said: "It's a really exciting time of year for us.

"We love being involved in the parade.

"We ask all the children who will be on the float on the day to help with pinning the flower heads on beforehand and that way everyone gets to know each other."



Tulip Radio staff and presenters on their Top of the Pops trailer float in last year's parade.

After eight years of temporary broadcasts, Tulip Radio is live on air full time throughout South Holland, broadcasting on

the new frequency of 107.5FM.

The station aims to bring listeners the very best contemporary and classic music coupled with the latest news and views from around the south Lincolnshire area.

Station staff will attend and promote as many local events as they can and look forward to forging new links with community groups as well as working with schools.

Since gaining the full time official community radio licence for Spalding and South Holland in April 2008, preparations have been continuing to help Tulip Radio provide the community with the radio service it deserves.

The station is always looking for new volunteers and anyone who is interested should contact station manager Chris Carter on 07836 522229.

● For further information about the station, visit www.tulip-radio.co.uk.



Jan Whitbourn (front right) with visitors from the Garth School, Spalding.

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OTHER ATTRACTIONS OVER THE WEEKEND



Village parade at Moulton Chapel

VISITORS to Spalding Flower Parade will be able to enjoy double the fun if they visit Moulton Chapel on Sunday, May 3. The day after Spalding's parade, the village stages its own spectacular flower parade, which is now in its 30th year.

Moulton Chapel is only a few miles from Spalding and its residents work tirelessly throughout the year to organise the parade, which includes floats and musical entertainment.

This year's parade starts from the youth club in Woodgate Road at 3pm and will include floats from village organisations, as well as the Moulton Chapel float carrying the village queen, prince and princess.

Before the parade starts local children will perform country dancing, also at the youth club, and there will be stalls around the village.

As well as the float the village enters into the Spalding parade, there will be home-built floats, walkers in fancy dress and vintage cars.

Lincolnshire Free Press and Spalding Guardian runner-up prince and princess Paul Lawrence (9), of Moulton, and Ebony Munn (10), of Holbeach, will also take part.

Refreshments will be available from the pub, the youth club and the decorated church and chapel.



Paul Lawrence and Ebony Munn, runner-up Free Press and Guardian prince and princess, will be in the parade.



Riverbank exhibition

SPALDING artists John Gray and Helen Webber will be staging a spring exhibition over parade weekend. The exhibition at Riverbank Studio, Double Street, Spalding, will feature work by both artists.

Admission is free and the exhibition will be open 11am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays between April 24 and May 10.

Wide range of attractions add to special weekend



AYSCOUGH FEE HALL MUSEUM AND GARDENS, SPALDING

This fantastic Grade II listed building reflects the changing tastes and times of its successive owners. It has architectural details from the medieval, Georgian and Victorian periods.

There's lots to see and do including events, re-enactments, craft sessions and exhibitions.

Free admission. Open: April to September – Tuesday to Friday 10.30am-5pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am-4.30pm; October to March – Tuesday to Friday 11.30am-4.30pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am-4.30pm. The museum is closed on Mondays (except Bank Holidays 10.30am-4pm).

Gift shop, seasonal garden cafe. 01775 764555. www.ayscoughfee.org.

SPALDING BULB MUSEUM AND HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, BIRCHGROVE GARDEN CENTRE, PINCHBECK

A fascinating insight into the history and heritage of the bulb industry which once thrived around Spalding and South Holland.

Pictures, including photographs of Tulip Parades from 1964 to 1974, and exhibits, including a 1904 flower forcing glass house, blacksmith's shop and the Spalding Cattle Market auction hall which was re-sited at Birchgrove in 1995.

Horse carts, ploughs, bulb graders, weighing scales, sack winders and more help to explain the story of the industry from its conception through to its heyday and into its decline.

Open: Monday to Saturday 9.30am-4.30pm, Sunday 10.30am-3.30pm April to October. Party bookings taken for illustrated talks on the bulb industry. 01775 680490. www.birchgrovegc.co.uk/bulbmuseum

FENScape, SPALDING

The free interactive discovery centre for the Fens. Get involved in the issues and choices faced by people living in the Fens. Immerse yourself in the lifestyle of the Fenlanders.

Become absorbed in the reality of how this unique Fens landscape has been shaped by mankind.

Find unique Fens products, including produce and crafts, in the gift shop or explore the site which features outlet shopping, festival gardens, garden centre, celebrity gardens, PlayBarn and adventure golf.

FUN FARM AND LASER STORM, WESTON

Indoor adventure play experience for children under 12. Ideal whatever the weather. Separate toddler area with biff bash, stepping stones, rope bridges, ride on vehicles and ball pools, outdoor play area, cafeteria and gift shop.

Admission: Children £4.50 Monday to Friday, £5.75 Saturday, Sunday and school holidays; adults and under-ones free. Open: 10am-6pm Sunday-Thursdays, 10am-10pm Fridays and Saturdays. 01406 373444. www.funfarm.co.uk.

Laser Storm – all action laser tag game in a fully themed computer controlled battle arena. Real lasers, ultraviolet light effects, music videos, video games, pool table, Laser Cafe (free entry).

Open: During school term – Friday 4pm-10pm, Saturday noon-10pm, Sunday noon-6pm, during school holidays – Monday to Thursday noon-6pm, Friday and Saturday noon-10pm, Sunday noon-6pm, one game £4, two games £7. 01406 373111. www.laserstorm.co.uk



BUTTERFLY AND WILDLIFE PARK, LONG SUTTON

Bringing the wild within your reach. One of the largest walk-through tropical butterfly and bird houses in the UK. Reptiles, ride-on tractors, crazy golf, adventure playground, Lincolnshire birds of prey centre with flying displays daily at noon and 3pm, gift shop and tea room.

Open March 21 to November 1, from 10am, seven days a week. Admission: Adults £7.95, senior citizens £6.95, children (3-16 years) £5.95, family ticket (two adults and two children) £24.95, extra children: £4.95 each. 01406 363833. www.butterflyandwildlifepark.co.uk

MOULTON MILL

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BAYTREE NURSERIES GARDEN CENTRE, WESTON

Garden centre with departments including Roseland, Bulbland, pets and aquatics, plants, book shop, stoneware, garden tools, furniture, display gardens and children's play area, craft centre, restaurant, florist and gift shop.

Open: Monday to Saturday 9am-5.30pm, Sunday 11am-5pm (browsing from 10am), free admission. 01406 370242. www.baytree-gardencentre.com.

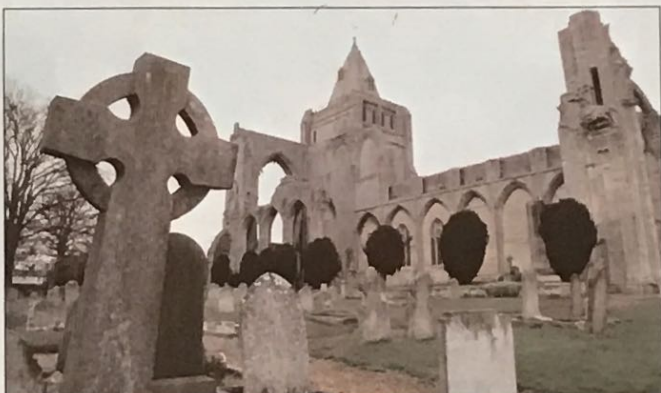
WYEVALE GARDEN CENTRE, CROWLAND

Large garden centre with indoor and outdoor plant displays, pets, giftware and a restaurant. Open: Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm, Sunday 10.30am-4.30pm. 01733 212900. www.wyevale.co.uk.

PINCHBECK ENGINE AND LAND DRAINAGE MUSEUM

Renovated working beam engine, a unique survival of the steam powered pumping stations used to drain the Fens. Built in 1833, it has now been restored to working order. The drainage museum illustrates the remarkable story of keeping water off the land.

Open: April to October 10am-4pm. Admission free. 01775 725468.



CROWLAND ABBEY

Partly ruined pre-Reformation monastery, renowned for west front carvings and Norman arch. Founded 716AD, now a dignified parish church, near famous triangular bridge. Open daily 8am to 5pm. Free admission, 07761 549865. www.crowlandabbey.org.uk.

RIVER GLEN BOAT TRIPS, SURFLEET

Relax and explore the River Glen on board a classic clinker-built boat. The hour-long trip along the river offers not only a different perspective of the village but also a chance to see the varied wildlife that inhabits the river and river bank. Booking essential, contact Stephen Ward on 07764 514145.

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Boarding points: Spalding Town Centre and Springfields Outlet Shopping.

Running times: Easter-October – Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-5pm. Single journey £3, return £6, family £9 (each way).

Private charters available daytime or evening. 01406 380532 or 07970 832131. www.spaldingwatertaxi.co.uk.



GORDON BOSWELL'S ROMANY MUSEUM, SPALDING

Collection of Romany vardos (caravans), carts, harnesses, cooking utensils and photographs dating back 150 years. Lecture room for slide show and talk on Romany life.

Open: March to October, Friday to Sunday 10.30am-5pm. Open Bank Holiday Mondays. Admission: Museum and photograph collection only – adults £4.25, children £3, senior citizens £4; museum, photograph collection, conducted tour, slideshow and talk – adults £6.25, children £5, senior citizens £6. 01775 710599. www.boswell-romany-museum.com.

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Still feeling brave? Then take a ride on Scarab Bouncers, boosting children to new heights – but beware, this may leave you feeling a little jumpy.

If this isn't enough for your explorers then check out the fantastic special events this season including LEGOLAND Live! which will be held over two days this year for even more family festival fun.

For further information or to book visit www.LEGOLAND.co.uk

To be in with a chance of winning, simply answer the question in the coupon. Fill in your details and send your entry to: LEGOLAND Competition (Editorial), Spalding Parade Magazine, Lincolnshire Free Press, Priory House, The Crescent, Spalding, PE11 1AB.

Sender of the first correct entry drawn will win. Entries must be received by first post on Saturday, May 16. A set of family tickets includes four tickets that can be used by either adult or child. Tickets are valid from March 21 to November 8, 2009 inclusive and are valid for the special event days.

Employees of Johnston Press and LEGOLAND, and their families, are not eligible to enter. There is no alternative prize and no correspondence will be entered into. The editor's decision is final.

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