

# south holland now



**more affordable homes**

**swimming pool splash**

**twitter pieces**




**excellent news!**

**The Wash**



**Bank Holiday collection  
dates - see back cover**

**Translation available**

-  доступный перевод
-  Тімаження дотепре
-  a tradução disponível



► Our priority: Affordable homes

## South Holland Homes More Affordable Housing for you



South Holland Homes

There is a need for more affordable housing in the district. This is why we have identified this as our Council's number one priority. Because of this need we have set up a Housing Company, 'South Holland Homes', which is the first one of its type in the country.

Forming the company has given us the opportunity to apply for a social housing grant of initially £267,000 from the government; which was only previously available to housing associations. This money will be used to build new affordable homes on land that we own, which is suitable for development.

### What does this mean for you?

It means that there will be more affordable homes in the district for people on the waiting list.

The new build programme will also

support the construction industry at a time when house building has declined because of the current economic downturn.

We are currently in the process of selecting the contractors to undertake the work and will be finalising the arrangements with the expectation that work will commence on site in November subject to planning approval. If planning is approved, the company will build six social rented houses at Tydd St Mary and two at Deeping St Nicholas, with more properties to come in the next phase of development.

This is a really exciting time for us and we are looking to the future development and growth of South Holland Homes, as a key contributor to the development of affordable homes for the residents of South Holland.

## Did you know...?

We have produced, with our partners, over 600 additional affordable homes since April 1998 of which 90 were delivered last year.

### For more information contact:

- Customer Services
- tel: 01775 761161
- email: [info@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:info@sholland.gov.uk)





► Our priority:  
Care of our villages and towns

# Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

Together we crack it!

Recent survey results showed that, although crime figures are low in the district, you would like to know more about how we work with the Police to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour.

A wide range of organisations, including the Police, form our Community Safety Partnership, where with South Kesteven District Council, we identify the major local crime issues and then work together to solve them. Recent examples are the work we've carried out with young people in the Whaplode Motor Project and the Lincolnshire Young Fire Fighters Scheme which have given our youngsters positive activities to occupy their spare time. Visits from 'The Scary Guy' and 'The Rightside Trust's' mobile prison cell have also been used to show young people the results of choosing to act outside the law. Whilst these are just two of the things we've been doing we would like to encourage you to become involved.

You can do this by going to a neighbourhood policing meeting, joining a neighbourhood panel or Neighbourhood Watch or other schemes in your community. Also you can make sure the police are aware of what is happening in your area by reporting crime and anti-social behaviour so that they have a real picture of what needs addressing.

**All of us working together in this way will help to make sure South Holland stays a safe place to live.**

For more information contact:  
► Anti-Social Behaviour Officer  
► tel: 01775 764457  
► email: info@sholland.gov.uk

# Castle Sports Swimming Pool has a whole new look

Major improvements to access and facilities



► Our priority: Improving health through cultural and sporting opportunities

We've made major improvements to the Castle Sports Swimming Pool which will make it function better and be more accessible for you.

When you arrive you will notice that the car park has been improved and that there are new sliding doors to the reception area. We have given the ladies changing room a full makeover and we hope you will notice that the air quality is improved in the whole of the building because of work on the installation of a new air handling unit. We have a new changing area for people with disabilities and for school parties, also a new poolside sauna. Hopefully it won't end there, as we are bidding for more funding through Sport England to provide a lift that will give the pool even better accessibility.

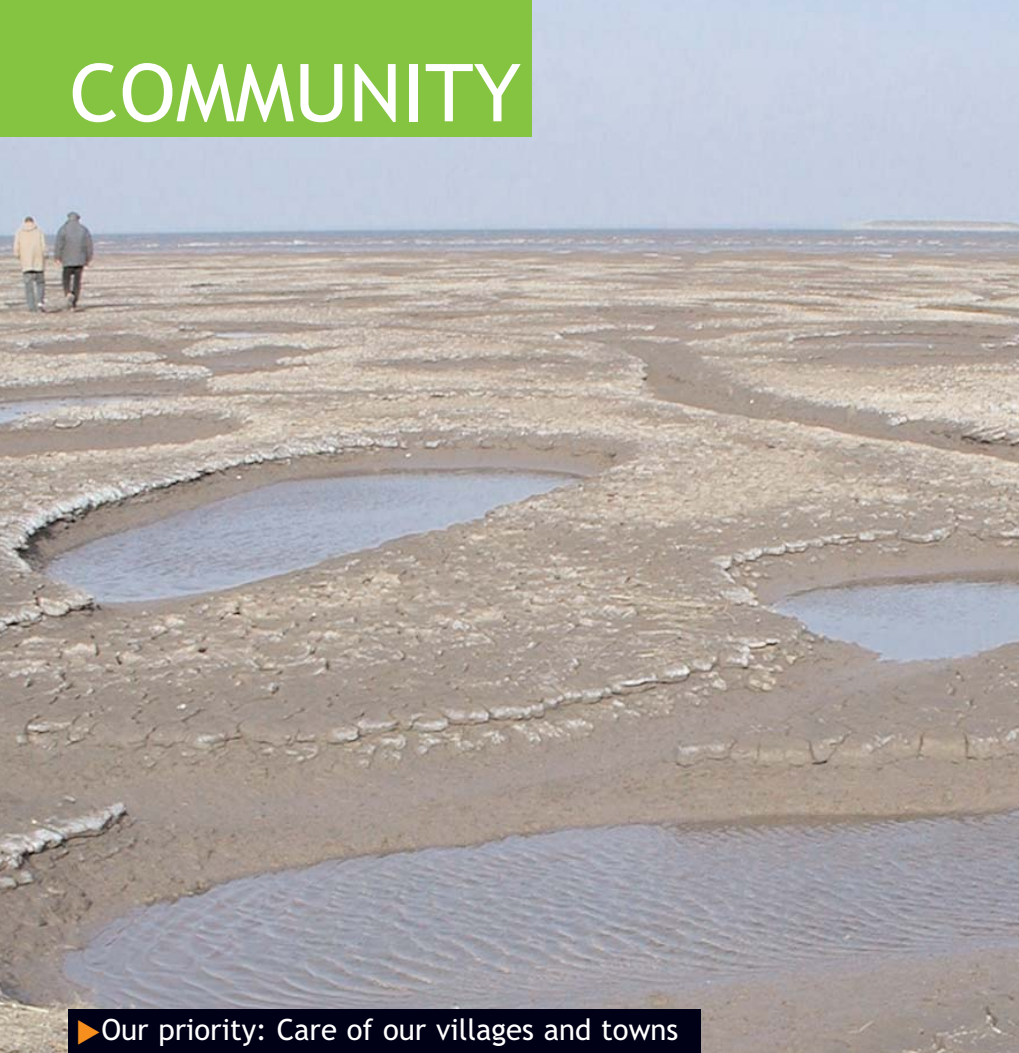
All in all we hope present users of the pool facilities will enjoy the experience and that we can encourage new users to give it a try. The free swimming programme for those aged 16 and under has been a success and we hope that more people who are over 60 will take

advantage of the free swimming that's on offer for them until the end of April 2011.

If you want to take advantage of this programme then take some form of identity with you showing your name and age to register and you will be issued with a card to enable you to enjoy the benefits of the newly improved pool facilities.

For more information contact:  
► Leisure Connection  
► tel: 01775 762178  
► email: spalding@leisureconnection.co.uk





► Our priority: Care of our villages and towns

## Wash Shoreline Management Plan

### your chance to have your say!

You may not have heard of The Wash Shoreline Management Plan but if you live near The Wash it will be very important for you.

This plan covers the area of coastline between Gibraltar Point and Old Hunstanton and looks firstly at the possible effects of rising water levels on our sea defences and secondly on how to make sure that the area is adequately defended over the next hundred years.

The plan is led by the Environment Agency working with representatives of local authorities and others including farmers' groups, internal drainage boards and national bodies like English Nature.

Consultation events will take place later this year where people will be asked their views on the way that sea defences are intended to be managed. These events

will be held locally and venues will be advertised in the local press, posters and on the website which is [www.thewash-smp2.co.uk](http://www.thewash-smp2.co.uk).

The results of these consultations when they are known will be fed in to the final plan and will be advertised as above and everyone who took part will receive a letter.

This plan will link with the Lincolnshire Coastal Study which is currently being undertaken and will deal with some very challenging issues. It is all about the long term future of our coast and your help is needed to make sure it does the job.

For more information contact:

- The Environment Agency
- email: [washsmp@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:washsmp@environment-agency.gov.uk)

## We're closing in with fraud investigators working in this area

We take benefit theft very seriously. The tiny minority of people who claim benefits dishonestly are picking the pockets of law-abiding taxpayers.



If you suspect someone of benefit fraud you can choose from any of the following options to report your concerns:

- use our free confidential 24-hour hotline to report your suspicion - the number is 0800 0851 737
- email the fraud team at [BenefitFraud@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:BenefitFraud@sholland.gov.uk).
- visit our website for more information and to download a fraud referral form [www.sholland.gov.uk/benefitfraud](http://www.sholland.gov.uk/benefitfraud)

You can remain anonymous if you do not wish to be involved. All information you give us will be treated in confidence.

**We're closing in**  
with fraud investigators working in this area

If you suspect someone of benefit fraud, call us in confidence on:  
**Freephone 0800 0851 737**  
or visit [www.sholland.gov.uk/benefitfraud](http://www.sholland.gov.uk/benefitfraud)

TARGETING BENEFIT THIEVES  
[dwp.gov.uk/benefit-thieves](http://dwp.gov.uk/benefit-thieves)

For more information contact:

- Customer Services
- tel: 01775 761161
- email: [info@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:info@sholland.gov.uk)

# Direct Debit

## Your Questions answered

More people are paying their household bills by Direct Debit and we offer the same service. These are the answers to some of the questions people often ask us.

### What can I pay by Direct Debit?

You can pay council tax, business rates, council house and garage rents and what are called 'sundry debts' (such as market stall fees, rubbish clearance, leases and lifeline).

### How do I set up a Direct Debit?

- You can download a form from our website [www.sholland.gov.uk](http://www.sholland.gov.uk)
- call in at our offices on Priory Road in Spalding or at the Market House in Long Sutton
- call us on 01775 761161 and we'll send you a form.

For council tax and business rates you can also set up a Direct Debit over the phone - just call our DD line 01775 764691 and we'll do it for you straight away.

### What are the benefits of paying by Direct Debit?

**It's convenient** - no more cheques and no more queues.

**It offers peace of mind** - no missed payments so no reminders!

**It's safe** - if we or your bank ever make a mistake, you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund.

**You stay in control** - we give 14 days notice of the dates and amounts of your payments, so if you have any questions there's plenty of time to check.

**Direct Debit - no cheques, no queues, no worries**

► Our priority:  
Improving access to Services

For more information contact:

- Customer Services
- tel: 01775 761161
- email: [info@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:info@sholland.gov.uk)

**NO MORE CHEQUES  
NO MORE QUEUES  
NO MORE WORRIES  
&  
MUCH MORE CONVENIENT!**

**Switch to Direct Debit**  
Just call our DD line  
01775 764691  
(Monday - Friday, 9am - 4.45pm)

**What could be easier?**

# Excellent for you!

## We are planning for an excellent future

In January of this year the Audit Commission carried out an inspection of all areas of our work .

For local government this is as important as OFSTED is to schools and provides an MOT on the organisation. There are five categories from Weak, Poor, Fair, Good and Excellent.

Our last assessment took place in 2003 and we were judged as Fair.

After the June election the results were received and we were delighted to learn that we had been judged as 'excellent'.

One of the benefits of earning the 'excellent' rating is that it raises our profile and could put us in a better place to receive funding other than through council tax which allows us greater flexibility in the way we provide our services.



“Most importantly I want us to do an excellent job for the people of South Holland.”

Terry Huggins, Chief Executive, South Holland District Council.

Our Chief Executive, Terry Huggins, says : “Most importantly I want us to do an excellent job for the people of South Holland. Being judged by the Audit Commission as 'excellent' doesn't make us perfect and we pledge to continue to improve.”

We did not achieve this rating on our own: we work with many different organisations throughout the county through the Rural Action Zone (RAZ) which links us with the County Council, Primary Care Trust and the Police to name only three of the organisations.

It is with these organisations that we will work to improve your quality of life and keep South Holland a great place to live, work and visit.

**Our plans to improve have been set out in our Corporate Plan,** which you can read on our website. This shows what we will be doing until 2014 to address the priorities you have told us are important to you.

### These are:

- Affordable Homes
- Care of our villages and towns
- A secure and diverse economy
- Improving health through cultural and sporting opportunities
- Improving access to services
- Democratic community leadership

**It's worth a read if you want to find out how your council tax is going to be spent and the targets we are working to.**

If you need to claim Housing or Council Tax Benefit, do not delay, it doesn't pay. Benefit usually starts from the Monday after you register an intention to claim.

## benefit tweets

For an instant online estimate of how much Housing or Council Tax Benefit you could get, try our benefits calculator on [www.sholland.gov.uk](http://www.sholland.gov.uk) or call 01775 761161.

More families will qualify for Housing or Council Tax Benefit from October 2009 as Child Benefit will be ignored when we work out how much benefit someone can get.

For people 60 or over on Housing or Council Tax Benefit, the first £6,000 of savings and investments is ignored, this limit is increasing to £10,000 in November 2009.

Depending on your circumstances Discretionary Housing Payments, paid in addition to your benefit, can give you extra help you with your housing costs.

We always recover overpaid benefit so don't delay telling us of any changes to your circumstances.

Step back in time to the 15th century at Ayscoughfee Hall Museum and check out the summer craft activities. Turn up, join in and have fun!

## leisure tweets

Did you know that Pumpkin Festival '08 attracted over 16,000 people throughout the day.

Pumpkin Festival '09 starts with pumpkin throwing championship on Saturday 3rd October and other attractions over the week leading to Parade day on Friday 9th October.

Did you know that Pumpkin Festival '08 helped local charities raise a whopping £3,500.

## council tax tweets

We'll soon be checking Council Tax Single Person Discounts - if you've forgotten to tell us you should no longer be getting this discount get in touch now!

Did you know that there is a penalty for anyone who fails to tell us about a change in circumstances that will affect their Council Tax?

## tweet for the over 60's

Call Connect bus service operates six days a week across South Holland - over 1000 passengers since April, available to everybody includes concessionary passes - call 0845 234 3344 and get on board!

Aged 60 or over? Ask about 'First Contact' - you may be eligible for free smoke alarms, help with house improvements and other kinds of help. Call us on 01775 761161 or pop into the council offices.

## transport tweet

Improve your English speaking and grammar skills. Come to the University of Lincolnshire OPEN DAY and see what courses are available. Wednesday 2 September 2pm - 8pm at the Holbeach Campus.

## learning tweet

### Contacting South Holland District Council

Telephone: 01775 761161  
Fax: 01775 711253  
Email: [info@sholland.gov.uk](mailto:info@sholland.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.sholland.gov.uk](http://www.sholland.gov.uk)

Address:  
Council Offices,  
Priory Road,  
Spalding, Lincs.  
PE11 2XE

### South Holland Now for the Blind and Partially Sighted

We can provide this magazine in large print form or on tape. If you, or any of your friends or family, would be interested please call us on 01775 761161 and let us know.

This magazine has been produced by South Holland District Council and printed by Classic Printers, on environmentally friendly paper. It costs under 15p per copy to produce and distribute.

# EVENTS South Holland

## STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

YOU CAN DO IT at the South Holland Centre



The Voice Factor



Rock School



Dance Essential

### South Holland Centre

#### Stand Out From The Crowd

##### Have you got the Voice Factor?

Tuesdays 22nd Sept - 24th Nov

Be part of South Holland's NEW COMMUNITY CHOIR.

5-9yrs: 4.30-5.30pm

10-16yrs: 5.45-7.15pm

£2.50 per session

##### Rock School

Two 4-week blocks beginning 21st Sept and 19th Oct.

If you have ever wanted to sing or play in a band, then Rock School is for you. Guided by two professional musicians from soundLINCOS.

£20 per 4-week block.

4pm or 5pm start. 12-18yr olds.

##### Dance Essential

9 week term from

30th Sept to 2nd Dec.

Under 19 and have your own moves to make? Led by dance professional. Juniors 8-11 yrs

4.30- 5.30pm £38 per term

Seniors 12-18 yrs 5.30-7pm

£42 per term

##### Stacey Kent in Concert

Fri 18th Sept 8pm

With songs from her 2009

Grammy nominated album,

Breakfast on the Morning Tram

£10.50 (£10), £6.50 Stu & U16s

Limited FREE tickets for U26s

### Folk Music

Sun 11th Oct

Adrian Edmondson & the Bad

Shepherds. Punk songs on folk

instruments fronted by cheeky

Ade Edmondson. 7.30pm

£15, buy 9 get 10th FREE

### Ayscoughfee Hall

#### J Lincoln exhibition

Geest Gallery

Mon 24th Aug. Free

#### Children's craft workshop drop in sessions

Thurs 27th Aug

1pm-4pm. Free to £1

#### Lord Burgh's Retinue

29th-31st Aug

Medieval re-enactors in

Ayscoughfee Gardens. Free

#### W Hime exhibition

Geest Gallery

1st-30th September. Free

#### Band concert

Friends of Ayscoughfee

Ayscoughfee Gardens

Sun 6th Sept. 2-4pm. Free

#### Lincolnshire Heritage Open Days

10th-13th Sept

Museum and Gardens. Free

#### Take 5 Artists exhibition

Geest Gallery

1st-31st Oct. Free



### Exhibition to celebrate Scouting in South Holland

1st-31st Oct.

Throughout the Museum. Free

### Faces of South Holland

Create a mini clay replica of

yourself to add to an exciting

new exhibition. Sat 10th Oct.

11am-4pm. £5

### 'Genetics' exhibition by David Lloyd-Brown

Geest Gallery

1st-30th Nov. Free

### Wild Winter Craft Fair

7th-8th Nov. Free

## Other Events

### London Mozart Players

Croyland Abbey, Crowland

Tues 13th Oct. 7.30pm

St Laurence's Church, Surfleet

Wednesday 14th Oct.

7.30pm £7 & £3 (students/u18s)

### Spalding Pumpkin Festival '09

Spalding Town Centre

Fri 9th Oct. 10am-9pm. Free

### Spalding Christmas Light Switch-on

Spalding Town Centre

Fri 20th Nov. Free

### Stained Glass Workshops

Strawberry Glass

Unique Cottage Studios

August to November

Call Gillian Wing on 07714 458813

### Lincolnshire Rural and Community Touring Scheme

Helen Barrett Presents

The Lady Loves Jazz

Long Sutton Market House

Thurs 5th Nov. 7.30pm

Tel: 01406 366767

### 10th South Holland Open Arts Competition and Exhibition

Application forms available in

September. Exhibition January

2010. Call 01775 761161 or visit

www.sholland.gov.uk. £5 per entry

## Fit For Life

### Battling childhood obesity in South Holland



Free ten week

program starting mid September.

Children in South Holland aged

between 8 and 12 with a high

body mass index can become

fitkidz when the new course

starts imid September.

Funded by South Holland District

Council and delivered by the

Fitness Company.

For more information call the

Fitness Company on 01775

766775, call Mel on

07789 206246 or email:

activekidsrus@aol.co

### Spalding Amateur Boxing Club

To join call John Sutton on

07887 833054.

**The Quick Fit scheme** - Exercise with a trained instructor.

There is no joining fee - just turn up on the day and pay £1.50.



Come and lose weight, improve your health and physical condition with the quick fit scheme! at **Holbeach Hurn**

Starts Wednesday 22nd July

At the Village Hall, Marsh Road, Holbeach Hurn

One session per day at £1.50 per session

Wednesday / 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Saturday / 10.30am - 11.30am

Places are limited so please call Dan Matson, Sports Development Officer on 01775 761161 to register



Brought to you by South Holland District Council

## For more details

For more details of the above events and for a full listing of events across the district, call or go online:

South Holland District Council

Tel: 01775 761161

www.sholland.gov.uk

South Holland Centre Box Office

Tel: 01775 764777

www.southhollandcentre.co.uk

Ayscoughfee Hall Museum

Tel: 01775 764555

www.ayscoughfee.org

## Community Events

For listings of your community events visit [www.sholland.gov.uk](http://www.sholland.gov.uk) click on 'Leisure and Culture' and 'What's On' where local events and opportunities for getting your event listed are shown.

Using the 'Get your event listed form', you can electronically submit your event to us for listing on our website.

# Love Food Hate Waste



**43% of the material within the black waste bags collected in South Holland is food waste!**

This is approximately 600 tonnes of food thrown out per month (the weight of 600 family sized cars!)

The average household wastes £400 every year on food that wasn't eaten and is thrown away.

Half of this waste food could have been eaten. Food waste releases methane which is a damaging greenhouse gas. The amount of food we throw away is a major contributor to the production of greenhouse gases in the UK.

**Reducing food waste saves you money, and reduces the volume of waste sent to landfill.**

Here are some tips on how we can reduce the amount of food that we waste:

### Plan ahead

For your Bank Holiday BBQ or party, find out the number of people attending & stick to a shopping list.

### Check the freezer

Many of us forget what we may already have in there!

### Fridge

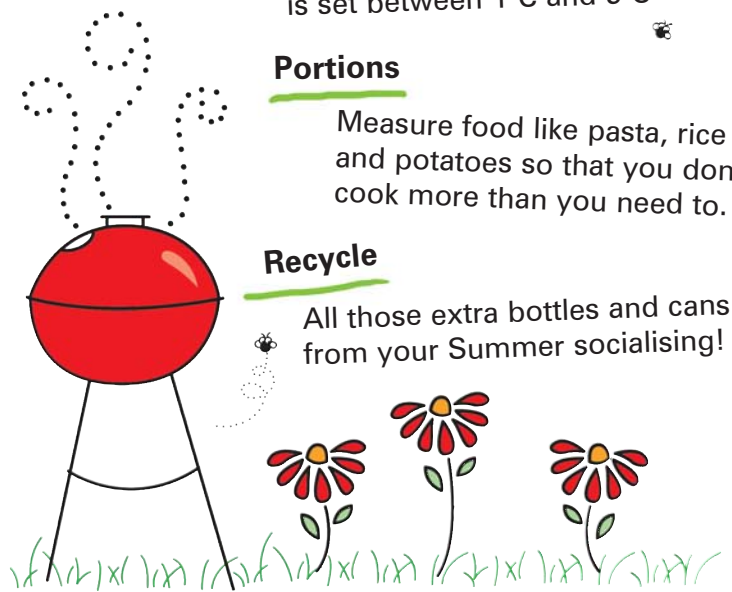
Food will last longer if the fridge is set between 1°C and 5°C

### Portions

Measure food like pasta, rice and potatoes so that you don't cook more than you need to.

### Recycle

All those extra bottles and cans from your Summer socialising!



The Love Food Hate Waste campaign shows that by doing some easy practical everyday things in the home we can all waste less food, which will ultimately benefit our purses and the environment too.

For further ways to reduce food waste, please visit

**[lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://lovefoodhatewaste.com)**

## Collections over August Bank Holiday 2009

All other collections will be as normal

collection would have been due on:

leave out for collection on:

**refuse**



Monday 31st August ▶ Saturday 29th August

**recycling**



Monday 31st August ▶ Monday 7th September