

Winter 2007

Talking Point

Keeping warm, safety
& security tips

**South
Holland**



NOW

Helping to keep you

Inside :

Easier access to
our services

Winter events
and activities

Young people in
South Holland

**Safe Warm
& Secure**

this winter

Translation available



**Refuse and
recycling holiday
collection dates
on the back
cover**



www.sholland.gov.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Welcome

This magazine's 'Talking Point' covers keeping warm, saving energy, obtaining winter grants and some tips on crime prevention and flood information.

Our 'Community Page' concentrates on what young people are doing in the district and what the Youth Council is all about.

The back page contains information about the Christmas waste and recycling collections.

At the time of writing the full results of the Holbeach survey are not yet known. These will be shown in the Easter 2008 edition and on our web site www.sholland.gov.uk.

We hope you find the magazine informative and useful and we wish you a Happy Christmas and the very best for 2008.

Contacting South Holland District Council

Telephone: 01775 761161

Fax: 01775 711253

Email: info@sholland.gov.uk

Web: www.sholland.gov.uk

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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 11p per copy to produce and distribute.

Council News

Equality Questions - please don't be offended

If you have received surveys from us you might have noticed that we ask some questions at the end that are about the person completing the survey. We want to assure you that we don't wish to cause any offence by asking these questions, which is why these are always optional.

It might put your minds at rest to explain why we do this. We ask them because we are committed to providing fair and equal access to services, which is one of our six priorities. To do this we need to be able to make sure that we understand more about the people of the district to meet their needs effectively. This is in addition to recent Government legislation that says we have a duty to ask these questions on surveys.

Domestic Abuse Directory

Domestic abuse usually goes on behind closed doors, but it is a serious crime that affects the whole community.

This crime involves physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse between people who are in a relationship or have been in one in the past. Victims are often reluctant to report incidents for many reasons.

We take domestic abuse very seriously and have produced a Domestic Abuse Directory,

which provides information on how to get help, support and advice. It will help you to work out the best way for you and any children to remain safe and will provide you with information about the options available.

The directory will be found in the Customer Services area in our offices in early 2008. If you haven't got a leaflet and need to speak to someone - call 01775 761161 and ask to speak to a housing officer.

Access to Council Services in libraries

As part of our Priority of 'Providing Access to Services' Crowland, Donington and Holbeach libraries will be installed with



the latest technology, which allows you to access both our own and Lincolnshire County Council services. Touch screen

interactive kiosks will provide immediate information on travel and route planning, events, job vacancies and local maps, alongside details on how you can contact your local councillor. The screens are really simple to use and will allow you to find information independently, although assistance is available from nearby staff if required. This is one of many areas where both councils are working jointly together to increase the quality and choice of access to services.

Readers' Questions



How much does it cost the council tax payer to clean up chewing gum from the pavements?

Just one example of costs is: It costs £3000 to clean a short section of the Market Place in Spalding - so the lesson is DON'T DROP IT!

What do we do with old household batteries?

At the moment these can go in to your domestic refuse, which goes to landfill, but this might change in the future and we will keep you informed.

50 Years of the Flower Parade

On 3 May 2008 South Holland will be celebrating in style with the 50th Spalding Flower Parade. To mark the occasion the theme for the 2008 parade will be



'Thanks for the Memories' and some of the great floats from the past will be seen again on the streets of Spalding. Marching bands, specially designed musical stages carrying bands, pop groups, actors and dancers along with over 300 children in carnival costume join the floats to make the whole event the most colourful and memorable in the region.

Ever thought of working for the Council? We are one of the largest employers in South Holland - check our website www.sholland.gov.uk for details of our latest vacancies.

Community News

Young people in South Holland

This page features some of the things young people in South Holland have been doing and also some details on the South Holland Youth Council.

The South Holland Youth Council - your chance to be heard...

Oliver Needham, Youth Council Member and Portfolio Holder for Communications says: The South Holland Youth Council aim to promote youth democracy through it's website. It also aims to get young people involved with local events that may interest them. As the youth council grows, it too will grow,

with more information and advice for young people. It's not just about democracy but about getting young people to be part of the community and building relationships and a place where young people can be active in the community in which they are growing up.

What has the Youth Council ever done for you??

- Visited Hungary twice as part of the 4 Seasons Trans-national project.
 - Exhibited at the South Holland Skills Exhibition.
 - Been consulted on health issues across the district.
 - Been consulted on future leisure activities across the district.
 - Received grants of cash to establish their website and to promote the Youth Council across the district.
 - Received £5000 to create a Youth Garden in Whaplode St Catherine for South Holland.
- And there is more to come...

Our Youth Council is not just a 'talking shop' so far our members have:

How do I join the Youth Council?

- You need to be between the ages of 11 and 19.
- You need to live in South Holland.
- There are elections every two years, which are held in all secondary schools and colleges in the area.
- After the election the members of the council will decide who will take which positions - so far the groups are:
 - Cultural affairs
 - Financial affairs
 - International relations
 - Communication

Young Parents - making it happen...

We met Natasha Craig, Vickie Wells and Lauren East from the Spalding Young Parents' Group; which meets every Friday between 10am and 1pm at the town's Youth Centre on New Road.



Natasha Craig, Vicki Wells & Lauren East.

The group's aim is to help young parents get back to work. With funding from Lincs County Council and Learn Direct, nine of the members have recently qualified in Food Hygiene, others have passed exams in English and Maths and others have achieved qualifications in Health and Safety and in Information Technology.

There is a crèche facility where the children can have fun; which allows the parents to get together and have somewhere quiet to study.

The message to other young parents is 'Just turn up! It's free and you can come along for a coffee and a chat, you don't have to do the courses if you don't want to.'



Spalding Young Parents' Group

This is the only one of it's type in Spalding but the bad news is that funding will stop in March 2008 and the girls will have to look to other sources. They are considering applying to the National Lottery and are hopeful that this will not mean the end of this valuable asset to the town.

www.sholland.gov.uk

The Four Seasons Project

A chance for young people in South Holland to experience how young people in another country live.



The Four Seasons Project aims to build a bridge between the young people of the Lincolnshire Fens and the Bukki Hegyat region of Hungary.

South Holland's Youth Council met the Hungarian Youth

Parliament, and the country's senior politicians, when they visited Hungary and when they hosted representatives from Hungary in South Holland. In addition to this there have been a number of creative projects, educational and social events and IT initiatives taking place.

The performers from the very successful 'Robin Hood' production took the show to Hungary, accompanying members of the Youth Council who took part in activities targeted at learning more about democracy in the country.

Charlie Long, a member of the Youth Council and performer in Robin Hood, had a great time in Hungary as recorded in his daily blog:



"Visiting the Hungarian Houses of Parliament was interesting and I found it fascinating how their government worked. This was one of my main goals of this trip and I am delighted I got this opportunity. The trip was a once in a lifetime experience and I'm glad I was involved in this ground breaking project - it was great!"

For further information please visit www.fourseasons.org.uk

Talking POINT ▶

Safe & Warm & Secure in the winter

We are working with our partner organisations throughout the district to make sure that you are, and feel you are, safe warm and secure, here are some of the ways in which we are doing this:

Keep your house warm in the winter and save on energy

- Set the central heating to come on earlier, rather than turning up the thermostat.
- Draw curtains at dusk and keep windows and internal doors closed to stop heat escaping and reduce draughts.
- Try to keep the temperature at 21C (70F) in rooms used during the day.
- Insulate your loft/cavity walls - contact Lincs Energy Advice Centre for information.



Freephone 0800 512012 - or ring us on 01775 761161 and ask for Building Control administration.

Winter Fuel Payments - Don't lose out!

The Government is making Winter Fuel payments again to provide help for older people and heating bills. To qualify you must have been aged 60 or over in the qualifying week of 17-23 September 2007 and normally live in Great Britain or Northern Ireland. The payment will be either £100 or £200 depending on your circumstances, and

people who were aged 80 or over during the qualifying week will get an extra amount of £50 or £100.

Call the Winter Fuel payment Helpline on 08459 15 15 15 (0845 601 5613 for textphone users). Calls are at local rates and the line is open from 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday - or visit

www.thepensionservice.gov.uk/winterfuel

Warm

Grants to help keep the winter outside

Warm Front is funded by Government to provide grants to make homes warmer, healthier and more energy efficient.

Just ring freephone 0800 3166011 to find out if you qualify for a Warm Front Grant or visit: www.warmfront.co.uk

For more information on how to apply for a top up grant and other forms of assistance contact our Community Housing team on 01775 761161.

Emergencies in Lincolnshire

Comprising of an Emergency Action Checklist and Contact List and information on how to prepare for emergencies.

Pick up this credit card sized fold out A4 leaflet from our offices at Priory Road, Spalding and our satellite office at The Market House, Market Street, Long Sutton, or contact us on 01775 761161 and we will send one to you.



In the unlikely event of a flood...be prepared

South Holland has a very good record of flood prevention but it doesn't hurt to be prepared. We have information on our website www.sholland.gov.uk on how you can take steps to be prepared or just call us on 01775 761161 and ask for Emergency Planning.

You can also call the Environment Agency Floodline on 0845 988 1188 or visit

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/floodline

Remember that you can buy sandbags and sand from most builders' merchants and make sure you check that your buildings and contents insurance covers flood damage.

Want to calculate your carbon footprint? - To know more, visit:

www.direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/actonco2/DG_067197





Feeling and keeping safe

Lincolnshire is one of the safest counties in which to live and South Holland continues to remain a low crime area. From the period 03/04 to 06/07 domestic burglary is down 36% and criminal damage is down 9%.

We want to see the police linking more closely with local people: We have helped to set up Community Panels across the district. These panels are made up of residents who highlight neighbourhood issues to the Police.

For more information please contact your local Parish Council or visit the Lincs police website www.lincs.police.uk.

We are part of the South Lincolnshire Community Safety Partnership; which has attracted **£30,000** of funding from the Home Office and is currently engaging in a number of programmes to address issues such as anti-social behaviour and community confidence.

For more information please contact the Partnerships Team on 01775 761161.

To make sure you keep safe we spoke to Pete Tyrrel, South Holland's Crime Reduction Officer, who gave us some top tips - **If you want advice on crime reduction call Pete on 01476 403332.**

Safe

If your house is empty make sure you:

- Leave a radio on - tune into a 'talking' channel rather than music.
- Use multi light timers - put them on for different times and don't put one in the hall.
- Leave a car in the driveway.

NB - We have a 'Handy Person' scheme who can help with small repairs and installing security measures and you can also apply for a Decent Homes loan to fund security devices as part of a larger scheme - for more info call us on 01775 761161.

If you are in:

- Make it obvious you are at home.
- If you are a woman on your own, think about what you can do to give the impression your are not. One idea is to buy a pair of mens' second hand working boots and leave them near the doorstep.

If you are out of the house on your own:

- Park your car somewhere that is well lit and check for signs of damage to other cars.
- If you are a woman on your own, take a second to slide the car seat as far back as you can when you leave the car - this creates the appearance that it has a male driver.
- Let someone know where you are going and the route you will take and how long you expect to be out.

Nominated Neighbour Scheme

These are two ways to make sure that your neighbourhood is safe.

The **Nominated Neighbour Scheme**, which is a simple, effective and very safe way to prevent bogus callers getting in to your home by enlisting the help of a neighbour, and the **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**. For information on both Call Sally Picker from Lincs Police on 01476 403331 or email sally.picker@lincs.pnn.police.uk



Be a good neighbour

Winter can be a difficult time for some older people so be a good neighbour and keep an eye out for:

- Milk still out on the doorstep late in the day.
- Newspapers stuck in the letterbox.
- Curtains drawn during the day.
- Lights on during the day.
- Home in darkness when there should be someone at home.
- Dog barking or the cat scratching to be let in.

You could save someone's life by just these simple steps

Secure

Do's and don'ts in bed...

- If you use an electric blanket **DO** make sure that it's not faulty and that it's plugged in correctly.
- If you have a hot water bottle **DON'T** overfill it and **DO** make sure the cap is screwed on correctly.
- And **NEVER** use the two together - you could suffer an electric shock if you do.

CCTV cameras... CCTV cameras...
Lincolnshire Police are looking for people to join the team of volunteers who monitor the CCTV cameras in Spalding - if you are interested please contact Inspector Tony Smith at Spalding Police Station on 01775 722233.

We are looking for suggestions for Talking Point - we are asking YOU what you would like us to cover. Call us on 01775 761161 and ask for the Communications Team - you might find yourself as a roving reporter!!

Events in SOUTH HOLLAND

For details about events at the South Holland Centre and for bookings, call the Box Office on 01775 764777 between 9.30am to 8.30pm (Monday - Saturday)

- ☎ Phone for booking details
- 😊 No booking required
- South Holland District Council event

Community Events

For listings of your community events visit 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.

Spalding Walks and Donington Walks

Walks around Spalding and Donington to help keep you fit and active!

Spalding walking your way to health!

From the: South Holland Centre Spalding

Every Monday morning at 10.30am

Donington walking your way to health!

From the: Ruby hunt centre, Donington

Every Tuesday morning at 10.30am

Please call Dan Matson, Sports Development Officer on 01775 764826 for more information.



Walk your way to health!

Art on the Map



Sat / Sun 1 & 2 December

A County-wide event offering the opportunity to visit studios and workshops of many of Lincolnshire's finest artists and craft-makers. For a brochure please visit South Holland Centre or SHDC's Priory Road Offices. Over 10 artists exhibiting in the South Holland area. 11.00am - 4.00pm

Xmas Shopping Day

Sunday 2 December

Spalding Town Centre



All the shops will be open and there will be lots to see and do. A Victorian theme will add to the day: Market stalls and street entertainment will help to get all your shopping done with a magical atmosphere in Spalding. See Santa turn on the lights at 4.00pm. Free Event 10.00am - 4.00pm

Special Winter Stories

Saturday 8 December

Ayscoughfee Hall Museum

Come along to Ayscoughfee Hall today and experience live storytelling, told in a fun, interactive and enjoyable way. Open to children and accompanying adults, you will move around the museums rooms bringing the Hall and the history of the Fens to life! Ages 6-12 years 10.00am - 11.00am £2.00 per child To book, call the South Holland Centre Box Office on 01775 764777

Films in South Holland - Miss Potter (PG)

Friday 14 December

Whaplode Village Hall



South Holland District Council's Rural Cinema visits Whaplode. For further information about this screening or about the FISH Scheme, please call Karl Gernert on 07949 446728.

Christmas Craft Workshop

Sat / Sun 15 & 16 December
Ayscoughfee Hall Museum

Get into the festive spirit with our children's Christmas workshop. Let your children add their own creativity to the tree this year with their own tree decorations! Under 7's must be accompanied by an adult. 11.00am - 1.00pm OR 2.00pm - 4.00pm £4.00 per session. Materials included.

NTC Touring Theatre Company - Pinocchio

Wednesday 9 January 2008
Gedney Hill Primary School, PE12 0NL

Pinocchio tells the tale of a poor carpenter, Geppetto, who has no wife and no child. He carves himself a puppet boy out of wood and calls him Pinocchio. 7.00pm For tickets call 01406 330817

Open Arts Exhibition

Friday 11 January - Wednesday 16 January 2008
South Holland Centre, Spalding

South Holland 8th Open Arts Competition Free entry to the exhibition. Various times



The Delicious Revenge of Princess Ruby Slippers

OTTC Touring Theatre Company
Thursday 17 January 2008
Long Sutton - Scout and Guide Hall, PE12 9DJ

With a surprise round every corner and a twist in every tale, Princess Ruby Slippers is guaranteed to tickle the ribs of children, parents and grandparents everywhere. 6.30pm For tickets call 01406 366767



Riccardo Tesi and Maurizio Geri - In Concert

Tuesday 5 February 2008
Shepeau Stow School, PE12 0TX

Join Riccardo and Maurizio for a wonderful, evocative evening of Italian music and song with accordion, guitar and vocals; a joyful musical event in the company of two internationally renowned musicians who play with warmth and passion. 7.30pm For tickets call 01406 330817



If you have any events coming up then use the 'Get your event listed form' (details above) to get listed on our website.

Events at Spalding's South Holland Centre

Cash on Delivery

SADOS
Wednesday 21 to Saturday 24
November
Michael Clooney's riotous farce
7.30pm

National Youth Jazz Orchestra

Spalding Jazz Club
promoted by FPMusic
Thursday 22 November
'one of the best (jazz) bands
you will ever hear'
8.00pm
Food available 7.00pm to 9.00pm



Lisa's Sex Strike

Northern BroadSides
Thursday 29 &
Friday 30 November
A fun night out awaits as
Northern BroadSides return
with Blake Morrison's saucy
comedy based on Aristophanes'
Lysistrata. Over 16s only.
7.30pm

Nigel 'Boy' Syer & Hayley Moyses

Saturday 1 December
7.45pm

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Polka Dot Productions
Family pantomime
From Sunday 9 to
Monday 31 December
(excluding 25 & 26 Dec)
various times



Heath String Quartet

South Holland Concerts
Saturday 12 January 2008
7.30pm

Claire Martin

With Gareth
Williams and
Clark Tracey
Spalding Jazz Club
Thursday 31
January 2008
8.00pm



The Hired Man

New Perspectives
Thursday 7 February 2008



A new British musical written
by Melvyn Bragg and Howard
Goodall.
7.30pm

High School Musical

Polka Dot Productions &
Limelight Youth Theatre
Week commencing
Monday 18 February 2008.

Barb Jung & Band

Friday 29
February 2008
The Music of
Nina Simone



Beijing Modern Dance Company

Thursday 6
March 2008
7.30pm



New Theatre Writing Night

Including 'Big Sister' by Karl
Gernert & Charlotte Graper
Friday 7 March 2008

Timothy Orpen

Promoted by
South Holland
Concerts
Saturday 8
March 2008
7.30pm



Events confirmed from
Monday 19 November 2007 to
Monday 10 March 2008

FILM - Look out for our
bi-monthly film guide from
January 2008.

Box Office: 01775 764777

To book on-line visit www.southhollandcentre.co.uk



**NEW LOOK
NEW NOSH**
*is on
the way!*

SOUTH HOLLAND
CENTRE



New Look Café Bar

- Our Café Bar is getting a modern new look in early 2008.

New Evening Café Bar Menu

- From January you will be able to buy hot food throughout the day and into the evening offering a convenient meeting place for a drink or light meal after work and an obvious choice for supper before a show or film. Look out for our new evening menu!

Special Package Offers

- If you want to arrange a night out for a loved one, a group of friends, or as a gift, let us do the organising for you with one of our inclusive ticket packages. They will be available on specific dates and include a meal with wine in the Centre's Café Bar and tickets to a show or film. See our spring 2008 Live and Film Guides for details.



Refreshments for the film?

- Did you know that we offer the cheapest 'pepsi-popcorn combo' in the area? - especially popular with our cinemagoers.

Are you getting married next summer?

- Our lovely wedding reception venue overlooks the River Welland and comfortably seats up to 200 guests. Call Emma or Jo on 01775 764819 and ask about the South Holland Centre's 'Wedding Package' which includes hall hire, table and chairs, stage and exclusive use of the lounge bar. Our in-house caterers offer a wide range of menus covering all tastes and budgets. We are currently taking bookings for 2009 and there are a few available dates remaining for the 2008 wedding season.



www.southhollandcentre.co.uk

Looking for a new job? Visit our website to view current vacancies at South Holland District Council

Ever wondered how you could save money and help your local Environment?

then come and see us at...

Environment Day

Friday 30th November 2007

9.30am - 4pm

**at the Peele Leisure Centre
84 Little London, Long Sutton***

- ✿ Exciting displays and demonstrations from Environmental groups
- ✿ Your chance to ask the experts
- ✿ Competitions
- ✿ Help name our new mascot!
- ✿ Watch a short play 'Harry Snotter and the Eco Warriors' by Polka Dot Productions
- ✿ Collect your free 'I love living here' cotton bag!!

*Open to schools in South Holland and members of the public



recycle
for South Holland

Make 'Help My Local Environment' one of your New Year resolutions!!!



Fill up your bags!

By mid January all properties in South Holland will have received their new green recycling sacks. If you are on the kerbside collection route, please make sure you fill your bags with as much material as you can to help make full use of the sacks, reducing plastic waste where we can. Either wait until your bag is full before you put it out or, if you have only a small amount to recycle, why not re-use an old carrier bag instead?

Christmas Recycling

Please remember, we all produce extra waste at Christmas and most of this can be recycled including:

- ✓ cards and envelopes
- ✓ wrapping paper
- ✓ catalogues
- ✓ cardboard packaging
- ✓ sweet tins and boxes
- ✓ bottles and jars



Extra sacks

If you need extra recycling sacks please call Customer Services who will happily order you some more. Remember you can use cardboard boxes or all those carrier bags left from Christmas Shopping!

NO polystyrene please.

New Year Tips!

Do you have any good tips about recycling, composting or helping your environment that you can share with other readers? We want to hear about them... Email or write to us!



Christmas & New Year Collections

NO refuse or recycling collections on:
Tuesday 25th December,
Wednesday 26th December
or Tuesday 1st January.

We are currently reviewing the way we collect your refuse and recycling over Bank Holiday periods... **Have your say!** When would you prefer your collections over future holiday periods? **Write or email us.**

Get in touch

- ☎ 01775 761161
- ✉ info@sholland.gov.uk
- 🌐 www.sholland.gov.uk/environment/waste

All other collections will be as normal	collection would have been due on:	leave out for collection on:
refuse 	Tuesday 25th December Wednesday 26th December Tuesday 1st January	Saturday 22nd December Saturday 29th December Saturday 5th January
recycling  ♦ Recycling will not be collected in black sacks.	Tuesday 25th December Wednesday 26th December Tuesday 1st January	Tuesday 8th January Wednesday 2nd January Tuesday 8th January

