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### Welcome to the 2023 Speen Festival!

Welcome to Speen Festival 2023. It is great to be back with a full schedule of events including our community musical show Yellow Brick Road. We haven't put on a show since Peter Pan in 2019, thanks to Covid-19, so it is exciting to have Speen resident Zoe Littler-Clark directing and producing for us for the first time. As the Festival is a biennial event we have many newcomers to the village who have not experienced a Speen Festival in all its manic, eclectic glory. I hope residents old and new enjoy what has been created by your fellow locals.

This is my last Festival at the helm. It is time to let someone else shape the offerings and tap into new seams of enthusiasms. Having done the Festival advertising and marketing in 2013 and 2015, I took the reins from Sam and Kate Laughton in 2017 and since then there have been a few evolutions. With the demise of KWIV, there was the important addition of the Festival bar (thank you Andrew and Jane) which has significantly helped with our profit and therefore our ability to donate to charity. We have introduced the online box office and website creation is now so routine that Speen teens are in charge, ticking off their DofE volunteering. Hove that the festival is delivered by young and old and I have met so many people in the village and connected with many local businesses. It really has been an honour. I look forward to supporting whoever follows; no doubt the Festival will evolve further, as it should. Thank you to all those who have contributed, created events and helped me deliver the Speen Festival this year, and all the years before.

> Cat Cook Speen Festival Coordinator 2023

#### Survival Night

Meet on the Playing Fields

TICKETS: £5

A chance to spend a night out under the stars at a hidden location with only your wits to keep you alive. The aim is to create a bonding experience for all around a small camp-fire and survive the night! No tents allowed - just tarps & string!



Please register your interest at boxoffice@speenfestival.org

#### Saturday 2nd September Kate Vale

#### Kids' Baking Let's Bake Bread

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £10

Join us for a fun packed time learning about and making your bread. Leave with focaccia to bake, dough for flatbreads or pizza and

a bread kit to use at home from Kitty's Kits.

Suitable for all budding bread makers aged 7-16 years old. Parents do not need to stay.

#### **Meditation Masterclass**

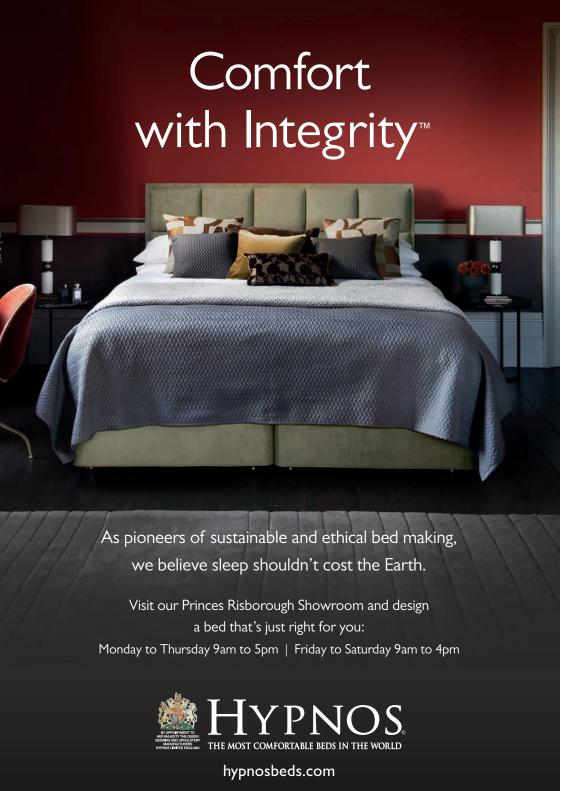
Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £10

An in-depth lecture and practice seminar on meditation and different meditation techniques brought to you by Pete from Cutivate Your Mind



Course. Tea and coffee included.



#### Monday 4th September

10.30am Organised by Speen School PTA

#### Creation Station Kids Craft

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £5

Let's get creative! Come and explore our 'Under the Water' themed class, with bubble painting and parachute fun!

This class is aimed at ages 3-7.
Parents will need to remain for the duration.



### Monday 4th September

Yoga A healthy lower back for life

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £5



You probably only appreciate what an important job your back does for you when it 'goes' and you find yourself in a lot of pain and unable to move. If you have ever found yourself in this situation, come along to this session and learn how you can show your back some appreciation by keeping it happy.



**Festival Marquee** 



# YELLOW BRICK ROAD

#### **SPEEN FESTIVAL PRODUCTION 2023**

Thursday 7th September 7pm
Friday 8th September 7pm
Saturday 9th September 7pm

Stranger Things have happened!

Take a step back in time to the 80's and join Dorothy on her magical journey along the yellow brick road. Dorothy makes lots of friends along the way including Munchkins, Scarecrow, the Terminator, Cheshire Cat and Little Mermaids. Dorothy's travels are challenged by the Wicked Witches & other sinister creatures! Can she make it to the Emerald City and find her way home? The Wizard of Oz is not who she thought he was!

Featuring dance and singing to a mixture of 80's hits, as well as songs from the original Wizard of Oz. Performed by local, very talented residents and this production is written just for Speen Festival 2023.

You will never see anything like this again! Don't miss out!

TICKETS: £12 Adults / £5 under 16s

## Tuesday 5th September 8pm

## Jazz Night Celebrating the Big Bands

Martin Hart and his Jazz septet celebrate the Big Band era with hits from the 40s & 50s featuring the music of Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Duke Ellington & Count Basie. With compositions such as Serenade in Blue, Airmail Special and Getting Sentimental Over You. We hope to feature the return of Alan Graham on Vibes and the talented Sue Greenway on Tenor Sax and vocals and as ever Mike Wills will be the arranger and M.D.



Wednesday 6th September 6pm - 7.15pm Claire Page

Yoga Relaxing Response with Claire Page

Speen Village Hall TICKETS: £5



Learn revitalising techniques to release the body's hidden defences against fatigue, stress and stress-triggered illnesses.

This yoga session uses a range of techniquesgentle movement and stretching, breathing exercises, guided relaxation and mediation - to help you to train your mind and body to enter a deeply relaxed state. This session will set you up for a great night's sleep.

Suitable for all ages and abilities. Bring a yoga mat and a blanket and settle in.

### Saturday 9th September 10am - 2pm Kate Va

#### Sourdough Workshop

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £15

Learn from Kate Vale all about gut friendly bread and how to make it over a leisurely session including lunch. Leave with full instructions, recipes, a loaf to bake and one to shape.





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"We started Cracking Nuts when we moved to North Devon from Loosely Row over 10 years ago, we still have lots of connections in the Speen area and have always supported and attended the festival since it first began." Jon & Jax Sunday 10th September 9.30am - 10.30am

Yoga Flow with Jess from Rogue Yoga Speen Playing Fields

An invigorating outdoor yoga experience that incorporates music, breathwork, dynamic movement and joyful energy.

All abilities welcomed warmly. Please bring a mat and any props with you and let Jess know at the beginning of the session of any injuries or limitations.



Sunday 10th September 10.45am/1.30pm/3.45pm/5.15pm

#### Being Human Art Installation

Village Hall Joe Walton

FREE EVENT

Step into a world of immersive art, where space, light, and sound intertwine, you'll be taken away on a mesmerizing stream-of-consciousness narrative, where artist Joe Walton unleashes the power of sound and light to transport you to realms of imagination and escape. Don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to explore the limitless possibilities of 'Being Human'.



#### Sunday 10th September

m - 3.30pm Led by Peter Symon

#### Speen Heritage Walk

Meet outside KWIV car park

A guided tour on roads and tracks of just over a mile in distance focusing on key points of village heritage. *Includes Heritage Trail Map.* 



TICKETS: £2

Sunday 10th September

## Speen Toots Classical Music for Toddlers

Festival Marquee TICKETS: £8 1 adult+ 1 child £2 each extra child

A great way to introduce your toddler to classical music in a relaxed environment. There will be three 10 minute slots of live classical music with intervals for refreshments, nursery rhymes and the chance for the little ones to join in on some of the instruments. There will be toys out for the children to play with and refreshments and tasty treats.

Sunday 10th September 7.30pm Mary Walton

#### Ensemble La Notte

Speen Chapel

TICKETS: £10

Ensemble La Notte return to Speen Festival with a new eclectic programme of English and French baroque solo



and dance music from for recorders, baroque bassoon, baroque cello and harpsichord.

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## Monday 11th September 7pm Exhibition, 7.30pm first talk

Organised by Louise Brookes-Usher

#### Black Swans Studio: An Evening with the Designers

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £5

Join us for an informal exhibition with the artists and designers of the Black Swans Studio of Culverton Farm, Princes Risborough. You'll have the opportunity to browse their work and latest projects and listen to presentations covering their processes, inspirations, the importance of art and design for wellbeing and how aesthetics and function can co-exist in your home.

There will be Q&A and plenty of time to mingle with a drink at the bar.

## Tuesday 12th September ••• DOUBLE BILL •••

ma08.6

FREE EVENTS

8pm

## Al: Terminal Risk or Industrial Revolution?

Festival Marquee

with David Warlock

Some very well qualified people believe that artificial intelligence poses a potential extinction risk for humanity. Others, equally well qualified, see the possibility of a vast and beneficial increase in human knowledge and its deployment in saving lives, educating our children and improving our society. We aim to raise and debate the critical issues in an agenda driven by the questions that we as villagers ask ourselves.



## Above and Below Why Boosting Diversity Matters

Festival Marquee Organised by Naomi Rogers

Hosted by SEAG, a panel discussion among local growers and environmental organisations about how biodiversity both in our natural environment and the soil underneath supports healthier ecology, and different approaches to boosting this.





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### Wednesday 13th September

#### Wildlife Talk The Realm of the Tiger

Speen Chapel

TICKETS: £5

An illustrated talk on Indian wildlife and the results of 50 years of Project Tiger.



## Thursday 14th September

#### Elegy in the Mountain

Speen Chapel

TICKETS: £8 adults/£4 kids

Viola music for a summer evening. Solo viola recital featuring music by Vieuxtemps, J.S Bach, Britten, Reger and Tabakova presented and performed by local violist Eleanor Walton.

#### Programme:

- Capriccio for Solo Viola op. 55 (Op. Posth. 9), Henri Vieuxtemps
- Partita no. 2 (Allemande, Courante, Sarabande, Gigue) BWV 1004, arr. Viola, J. S. Bach
- Elegy for Solo Viola, Benjamin Britten
- · Suite no. 1 in G minor Op. 131d, Max Reger
- · Pirin, Dobrinka Tabakova



## Friday 15th September

#### Notflix and DJ Set

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £15



'The Spice Girls of Improv' star in their five star, totally improvised musical comedy Notflix. Inspired by audience suggestions, the all-female cast improvise the musical version of your favourite films, creating movies with 100% more singing, 99% more women and a full live band. Broadway World Best Comedy nominee. As seen on Sky TV, STV, BBC 5 Live. Festival bar will be open from 7pm with street food available to purchase.



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## Saturday 16th September

#### Lampshade Workshop

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £20

Learn how to hand make your own drum lampshade! Pre-cut panels of PVC lining and ring sets will be provided and together

we will make a 30cm x 20cm drum shade. In the spirit of reducing waste and upcycling, please bring your own fabric and wallpaper, and other craft materials where possible.



#### Saturday 16th September

#### Ukranian Headdress Workshop

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £5

Get into the festival spirit creating your own beautiful traditional Ukranian headdress, using ribbons and artificial flowers with Natalie, a Ukrainian mother living in Loosely Row. For any ages, under 10s must be accompanied by an adult.



#### Comedy Night

Festival Marquee

TICKFTS: £20

Elliot Wengler hosts another comedy night inviting rising stars and comedy circuit legends. Headlined this year by Paul Tonkinson, this promises to be an unforgettable and glorious spectacular finale for the festival.



#### Tai Chi

Stillness in Movement for Health & Tranquility

Village Hall

TICKETS: £10

An introduction to Tai Chi Chuan which will guide you through the harmonious movements of this beautiful art.



**FREE EVENT** 



A triumphant return of the Speen Festival Prom on the Playing Field. Professional and amateur musicians come together in aid of charity to celebrate film and popular classics under the baton of Sam Laughton. An orchestral feast for the whole family with a traditional final singalong!





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#### SpeenSchoolFest

Speen Festival are pleased to be able to support SpeenSchoolFest whereby funds generated from Speen Festival are used to engage local school children in activities that broaden their curriculum. This year all of Speen School and Year 2 from St John's will be involved through science based workshops to further the children's understanding of climate change. The workshops will take place at Speen School in October and cover the following learning outcomes:



Understanding Climate Change: Students will explore the causes and effects of climate change, understanding its far-reaching impacts on our planet.

Climate Science: Students will delve into the core science behind climate change, fostering a deeper understanding of the global challenge.

Sustainable Actions: Students will learn how sustainable actions can mitigate climate change, empowering them to make a difference.

We hope the children have a fascinating time.

••• A message from our Main Sponsor •••

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A thank you to the people of Speen and North Dean who have supported my business over many years. I first came to Speen on Fete day over 12 years ago to clear a drain for a lady in Chapel Hill. That lady, Jane Oury who sadly passed away a couple of years ago, became my agent and introduced me to many fine people (and some bad) over the following years.

One who I became close to (I don't use the word friend) was Daphne Westray, late of Studridge Lane. Through her help the business carried on growing. Even though both ladies are now gone from the village I still feel their presence when working here. Daphne in particular helped me through some dark days in my life when people turned against me.

To my many customers in the area a big thank you; my sponsorship of the Festival is a way of giving something back. Enjoy the festival and remember, a village that pulls together, stays together.

> Dennis Cook Proprietor Village Environmental Services



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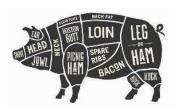
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#### **About Speen Festival**

Speen Festival has become a biennial celebration since it was first run in 2001 based on a festival founded by villagers Martin and Marjorie Stockley in 1999 to celebrate the passing of the Millennium. It is testament to our little hill top village that we have continued to produce our eclectic celebration of local musical, artistic, theatrical, creative and adventurous talent. As a volunteer generated production, every year represents an evolution of the community which remains as diverse and talented as ever. Speen Festival is truly a community event, by the community, for the community in and beyond Speen.

#### Venues

Please visit the Festival website at www.speenfestival.org for a map of venues.

#### Car Parking

Speen is a small village and parking is limited! Please be respectful of residents when visiting the Festival and share transport wherever possible. Parking is available on Speen Playing Field and Festival stewards will direct parking at each event. Visitors to Speen Festival are reminded that dogs are not permitted on Speen Playing Fields.

#### Core Team

| Festival Co-ordinator               | Cat Cook                    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Marketing & Publicity               | Cat Cook                    |
| Admin Support                       | Charlotte Downing           |
| Sponsorship & Advertising           | Philip Suter                |
| Logistics Support                   | Frances Gater               |
| Bar                                 | Andrew Price                |
| Car Park Co-ordination              | Toby Lucas                  |
| Technical Support                   | Alasdair King& Jessica Cook |
| Treasurer                           | Nick Knight                 |
| Website Hosting & Production        | Andy Forkgen & Lotte Cook   |
| Website & Online Box Office Support | Ed Davies                   |
| Programme Design                    | Jacqui Laing                |
| Programme Distribution              | Ellie Dunford               |

Our grateful thanks are due to Speen Playing Fields Committee, Speen Village Hall, Speen Chapel, The Marquee Team, Festival Event Organisers and all the other helpers and volunteers.

#### **Festival Sponsors and Supporters**

We are grateful for financial support from Dennis Cook Village Environment Services, Lacey Green Parish Council and all businesses and organisations advertising in this programme or giving us help in-kind.

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