

# SPEEN FESTIVAL 2025

30TH AUGUST -  
14TH SEPTEMBER



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# Welcome to the 2025 Speen Festival!

Wishing you a warm welcome to Speen Festival 2025. We have a fantastic programme of events lined up for you to enjoy. From AI to Yoga, there is something for everyone to come along to, and we really hope you take advantage of having these on your doorstep!

A particular highlight this year, as in previous years, is the production. Zoe Littler-Clark has brought together young and not so young (!) to entertain you in *Annie the Musical*. There are three shows for you to choose from and we know the little ones who have been busy rehearsing would really love a full house!

The Festival raises money for a range of good causes, both local and national. Last time in 2023, over £7,000 was shared with 14 organisations. Due to those volunteering their time and skills and the very generous support of our sponsor, advertisers and Lacey Green Parish Council, we are able to keep ticket prices for events low.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of the events. If this is your first Speen Festival, we hope you dip your toe in the water. And, if you feel inspired and think you might want to be a part of Speen Festival 2027, let us know!

On behalf of everyone who has helped bring the Festival together *(listed on the inside back page)*.

Liz Patroe

*Speen Festival Coordinator 2025*

Saturday 30th August  
2pm

*Jessica Jordan*

## Glass Painting Age 16+

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £20.00

Milk paint is a high-quality, powdered paint that follows a traditional recipe, containing milk protein, lime and natural earth or mineral pigments. We will use ready-made colours and mix our own to paint our glassware (please bring your own item). With a chalky finish, milk paint adheres well to glass and without the need for primers, and when layered can crackle beautifully. Ticket price includes milk paint, varnish, sandpaper and sundry items. Refreshments provided.



Saturday 30th August  
3.30pm

*Martin Blagojevic*

## Survival Night

Meet at Speen Pavilion

TICKETS: £5

Wild overnight camping for parents and children aged 6–15, with hike, food and fireside fun. Please register your interest at [boxoffice@speenfestival.org](mailto:boxoffice@speenfestival.org).



To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)



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Sunday 31st August

10am-12noon

Kate Vale

## Harvest Bread Workshop

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £10

Come and spend the morning crafting your own bread wheatsheaf complete with pet mouse! You will leave with notes and your completed bread to bake at home.



Sunday 31st August

2pm

Peter Symonds

## Speen Heritage Walk

Meet at Speen Playing Fields

TICKETS: £2

A guided walk around the village of Speen focusing on key historical facts and features. *Includes Heritage Trail Map.*



Sunday 31st August

7.30pm

Mary Walton

## Ensemble La Notte

Speen Chapel

TICKETS: £12

Music for a summer evening: voyage to an enchanted Isle through summer tempests with Ensemble La Notte. Baroque music from Vivaldi to Purcell on historical instruments.



Monday 1st September

10am-12.30pm

Lucy Johnston

## Creation Station Children's Workshops

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £5

10am-11am (under 7s)

Pizza Chefs! Come to our creative pizza workshop! We will be making hats for our creative chefs, decorating recycled pizzas to put in our specially crafted pizza boxes and finally some pizza cutters! *(Please note, no real pizzas at this event!). Children to be accompanied by an adult please.*



11.30am-12.30pm (over 7s)

Create like Kandinsky! Children will explore geometric shapes and bright colours to paint their own versions of Kandinsky's Concentric circles. 20 spaces. *Children may be dropped off to this workshop.*

To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)

Speen Festival  
presents

The logo for the musical 'Annie' features the word 'Annie' in a large, red, bubbly font with a white outline. Above the letters, a grey silhouette of a city skyline is visible, with a bright yellow sunburst rising behind it. Below the main title, the text 'THE MUSICAL' is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# Annie

## THE MUSICAL

*Zoe Littler-Clark*

Thursday 4th September	7pm
Friday 5th September	7pm
Saturday 6th September	2pm



Tuesday 2nd September  
7pm

## An evening with ...

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £5

### David Worlock

#### AI in Education: Will technology completely change the way in which our children learn?

In the 1970s children were barred from using calculators because it was said that they would never learn maths if they did. Today there is similar resistance to using AI as a shortcut to writing essays or passing examinations. But what if AI could provide tutoring and mentoring that supported teachers and which is currently unavailable in schools? Or help teachers to monitor learning levels or mark homework, enabling teachers to spend more time face-to-face with pupils and solving their problems. What if AI could help us to see what pupils really know and what skills had really been developed, rather than the ability to pass memory-test examinations. The way we use machine intelligence and AI in schools, and allow it to be used by our children and grandchildren, could be a defining moment in the way in which our society develops.



### Dr Vinay Patroe

#### Medicine: How we got here and where next ...?

Early anaesthetics and medicine were often as traumatic as they were innovative and very different from the highly regulated and expensive world of medicine development today. Vinay will share insights and stories that allow modern medicine to be as it is and describe what might be possible in the future.



Saturday 6th September  
9am - 10.30am

Naomi Proudlove

## Nature Walk

Meet at Speen Village Store

FREE EVENT

seag SPEEN ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTION GROUP

A morning stroll through a range of environments around Speen to inspire and inform about flora and fauna to look out for. The walk will pass through woodland, meadow and semi-urban habitats, where wildlife expert Guy Andrews will share knowledge about different species present, spot signs of wildlife in the area, and encourage us all to appreciate the biodiverse-rich habitats in our own wonderful Chilterns neighbourhood.



To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)

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Saturday 6th September  
11am - 12noon *Peter Symonds*

## Children's Miniature Garden Workshop

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £3

A workshop teaching children aged 6 to 12 to make their own miniature 'plate' garden with materials provided. Children can enhance their gardens by bringing along some small figures - humans or pets.



Saturday 6th September  
7pm *Matt Davies & Vinay Patroe*

## Pop-up Pub Quiz

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £5

# PUB QUIZ

There's only one thing better than a pub or a quiz, and that's a pub quiz! Come along for a drink, chat and laugh and maybe also answer a few questions correctly. Teams of 7 max.

Saturday 6th &  
Sunday 7th September  
11am - 4pm *Chris Dunnington*

## Photography & Art Exhibition

Speen Village Hall

**FREE EVENT**

Local photographers and artists will be exhibiting their work this weekend, transforming Speen Village Hall into the Tate Gallery of the Chilterns.



Sunday 7th September  
11am - 12noon *Lucy Johnston*

## Speen Dog Show

Ridgleys Field

TICKETS: £1 voluntary contribution

Come and celebrate the four legged friends of Speen at our fun dog show.

Classes include:

- Waggiest tail
- The dog the judge would most like to take home
- Cutest eyes
- Best trick
- Scruffiest dog



*Open to dog-residents of Speen only please.*

To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)

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Saturday 10am - late

Sunday 10am - 3pm

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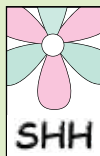
Sunday 7th September

3pm - 5pm

Speen Helping Hospices

## Sip & Sparkle: A Luxury Afternoon Tea by Speen Helping Hospices

Festival Marquee **TICKETS: £15**



Enjoy a selection of freshly prepared finger sandwiches, scones with cream & preserves, a variety of homemade cakes, meringues and macaroons, a choice of teas with an optional glass of Fizz - and all whilst helping to raise much-needed funds for our local hospices.



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Wednesday 10th September

7.45pm

Peter Symonds

## Wildlife of the High Arctic

Speen Chapel

**TICKETS: £5**

A talk with photographs taking a close up look at the varied wildlife that survives in the harsh conditions of the Arctic.



Thursday 11th September

11.30am

Organised by Kay Knight

## Yoga for Relaxation

with Leticia

Speen Village Hall

**TICKETS: £8**

Yoga session focusing on releasing physical and mental tension through the connection to our breath. We will use gentle movement to release stress and tightness in the body allowing for our nervous system to reset from the challenges of everyday life.



Thursday 11th September

2.30pm - 4.30pm

Christine Symondson

## Memory Café Tea Dance

Speen Chapel

**FREE EVENT**

Come and join the Memory Café Team for a delicious tea accompanied by singing (led by a singer) and maybe even some dancing!



To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)





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Thursday 11th September  
8pm

*Fleur Ridley*

## Wine & Painting

Speen Village Hall

TICKETS: £15

Please come and join us for a sociable evening where you will complete a lovely painting to take home. All artistic abilities are very welcome. Materials will be provided.



Friday 12th September  
8pm

*Frank Walden*

## Jazz Night Frank Walden Quintet Songs I've Loved

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £15

Saxophonist and Speen resident Frank Walden brings his quintet to the village to play jazz and other good music.

Small plates of artisan British cheeses provided by No.2 Pound Street will be available to preorder with your ticket at £8 a plate.



Saturday 13th September  
9.30am

*Organised by Kay Knight*

## Yoga Practice

with Leticia

Festival Marquee

**FREE EVENT**

Come and join Leticia from Lime Tree Yoga for an early morning yoga session. Suitable for all abilities.



Saturday 13th September  
7.30pm

*Organised by Peter Symonds*

## The Dung Beatles Gig

Festival Marquee

TICKETS: £20

The Dung Beatles blend authentic arrangements and top-drawer musicianship with high-energy performances. We are delighted to bring this popular band to Speen for what will be a truly authentic Beatles experience. Mexican street food available for purchase from 5pm until 7.15pm.



To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)

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Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September

10:45am / 1.30pm / 3.45pm / 5.15pm

*Joe Walton*

## Making Sense Art Installation

Speen Village Hall

**TICKETS: £5**



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 local artist Joe Walton unleashes the power of sound and light to transport you to realms of imagination and escape.

Sunday 14th September

9.45am - 1pm

*Sharon Clark*

## Guided Ramble

Meet at Playing fields Pavilion

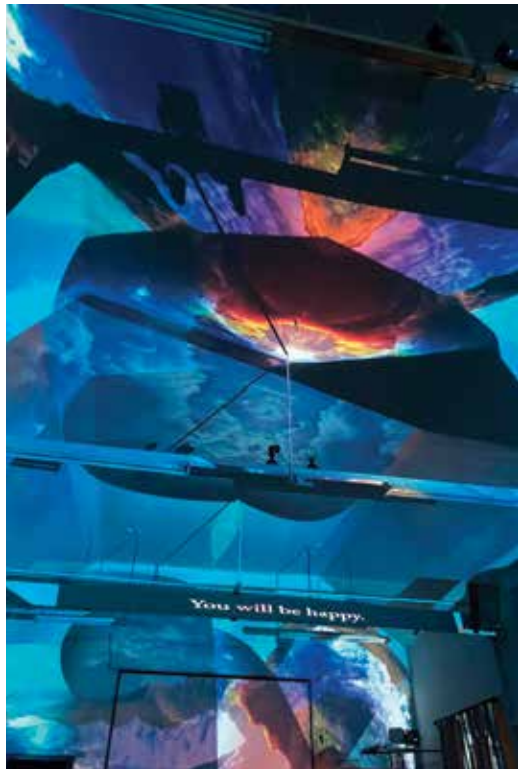
**TICKETS: £5**

A 5.5 mile, relatively flat circular walk through Speen, Monkton Wood, Great Hampden, stopping for a quick coffee at Oxmoor Farm then on to Hampden Church and woods, Spring Coppice Lane and back to Speen. Please feel free to bring your dogs!



To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)







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It is my great pleasure to be the main sponsor of the Speen Festival 2025, as a thank you to the people of Speen and North Dean who have supported my business. I first came to Speen some 14 years ago to clear the drain for a lady on Chapel Hill, that was Mrs Oury. She and her friend Mrs Westray became my agents, and between them they introduced me to some good people over the following years, and my business carried on growing. Although, sadly, both have now passed away, I still feel their presence when working in the village. I enjoyed working for Mrs Westray very much, and she helped me through some dark times when people turned against me.

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

Dennis Cook  
Proprietor  
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To book tickets for any of the events, please visit [www.speenfestival.org](http://www.speenfestival.org)

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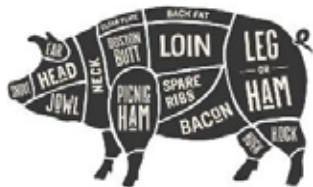
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# About Speen Festival

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](http://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.

## Events Planning Team

Chris Dunnington	Jo Binder
Christine Symondson	Kay Knight
Cristina Delgado	Liz Patroe (Coordinator)
Corinne Symonds	Mary Walton
Heather Nicolls	Pete Symonds

## Operational Support

Advertising & Sponsorship .....	Philip Suter
Bar .....	Helen Davies
Car Park Co-ordination .....	Tony Bobroff
Logistics .....	Vinay Patroe
Programme Design .....	Jacqui Laing
Technical Support .....	JNC Events (Wendover)
Treasurer .....	Nick Knight
Website Hosting & Production .....	Andy Forkgen & Heather Nicolls
Box Office .....	Heather Nicolls & Cristina Delgado

**Our grateful thanks** to Festival Event Organisers, Speen Playing Fields Committee, Speen Village Hall, Speen Chapel, The Marquee Team, and to all our helpers and volunteers.

## Sponsors and Supporters

The Festival would not exist without the generous financial support of our main sponsor, Dennis Cook Village Environmental Services, Lacey Green Parish Council and all the businesses and organisations that have chosen to advertise in this programme. Thank you.

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