

**5** Introducing the new Mayor

**7** New West Surrey councillors

**10-13** Summer in Spelthorne

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# Letter from the Leader



**Dear Residents,**

Welcome to our summer edition of the Spelthorne residents' magazine.

It is a great honour to have been elected Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council. I am excited to work alongside residents, councillors and local partners to make a positive difference for our communities and to tackle the issues that matter most to local people. As

we move through a period of local government reorganisation, I will work closely with all those involved to help ensure a smooth transition and to achieve the best possible outcomes for our residents, businesses and the borough as a whole.

This edition introduces our new Mayor and welcomes the newly elected West Surrey County Councillors representing Spelthorne. We also provide an update on Local Government Reorganisation and what it could mean for local services in the future.

Across the borough, we continue to invest in initiatives that support residents and strengthen our communities. You can read about our Extra Care housing schemes, advice available for carers, and the support being provided through our Jobs & Skills Hub and Business Growth Programme.

We are also proud to showcase the many cultural and community events taking place over the coming months, including Music in the Park, the Arts and Culture Festival, Staines Regatta, Sunbury Regatta, village fairs, exhibitions and open days. These events celebrate the creativity, heritage and community spirit that make Spelthorne such a special place.

Protecting and improving our environment remains a key priority. In this issue, you can find out more about our climate change work, new Miyawaki forests, recycling small electricals and textiles, and how residents can help keep our borough looking its best through initiatives such as Spelthorne in Bloom and our "Love Where You Live" reporting campaign.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

*Cllr Greg Neall, Leader of the Council*

[cllr.neall@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.neall@spelthorne.gov.uk)

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- 01784 451499
- Spelthorne Borough Council, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 1XB

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- @spelthorneboroughcouncil
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**Sign up to our monthly newsletter:** [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/enews](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/enews)

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The Bulletin is our community magazine produced by Spelthorne Borough Council, delivered free to every home in Spelthorne. Circulation 47,500.

Printed on recycled paper.

**LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE**  
Proud of Our Place

We all want to feel proud of where we live. Reporting graffiti helps keep our streets welcoming for everyone. Our teams will act quickly to remove it.

**SCAN ME!** Small actions make a big difference. Spot it. Report it.

**Spot it. Report it.**

# Love where you live

Small actions really do make a big difference. When residents take a moment to report things like graffiti, litter, dog fouling, antisocial behaviour, or concerns about illegal houses of multiple occupation, they are helping to protect the places we all share. These reports allow the Council to respond more quickly, target resources effectively, and prevent small problems from becoming bigger ones.

Reporting issues is quick and easy. Simply scan the QR code, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/report](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/report), or call us on 01784 451499.





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# A new Mayor for Spelthorne

Cllr Sandra Dunn was elected as the new Mayor of Spelthorne at the Annual Council Meeting on 22 May. Cllr Michele Gibson was elected as Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Dunn was first elected in 2007 to represent Halliford and Sunbury West and, over the years, has served on a wide range of Council committees. She has previously chaired both the Community, Wellbeing & Housing Committee and the Licensing Committee, and most recently served as Deputy Mayor alongside Cllr John Doran.

With a professional background in Human Resources, Cllr Dunn has brought a strong people-focused approach to public service throughout her time on the Council. Having lived in the Sunbury area for more than 50 years, she has a deep connection to the local community and a long-standing commitment to supporting residents.

Family and community remain central to her life. Sandra is the proud mother of two children, grandmother to six grandchildren and a great-grandmother. Her children attended local schools, further strengthening her passion for supporting young people and families across the Borough.

During her mayoral year, Cllr Dunn will support four charities that reflect causes close to her heart, including cancer support, mental health and



family wellbeing:

- The Patient Cancer Support Group – a Shepperton-based charity providing a safe and supportive space for cancer patients, carers and bereaved families
- Holly's Heroes – a Staines charity bringing happiness and support to children affected by cancer
- East to West – helping young people facing mental health challenges and difficult circumstances
- Home-Start Spelthorne – offering practical and emotional support to local families with young children who are experiencing difficulties

Speaking after her election, Cllr Dunn said: "It is a great honour to be elected as Mayor of Spelthorne. Having lived in the Borough for many years, I care deeply about our communities and the people who make Spelthorne such a special place to live. I am looking forward to meeting residents across the Borough, supporting local organisations and working with the Deputy Mayor and fellow councillors during what promises to be an important year for local government."

For information about the Mayor's events, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/mayor](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/mayor), email [mayor@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@spelthorne.gov.uk) or call 01784 446275



## Staines survey

Have your say about our town and be in with a chance of winning some fantastic prizes!

Together with Two Rivers, the

Elmsleigh Centre and Visit Staines, we want to hear your thoughts. Simply complete the survey and you could win:

- one year's free parking at Two Rivers
- £50 to spend at Nostrano Lounge
- £50 Primark voucher

Scan the QR code to enter.



## Advice for carers

citizens advice

We have introduced a free and confidential advice service for carers in Surrey. We can help with:

- Welfare benefits
- Social Care funding
- Debt
- Energy advice
- Income maximisation options

Visit [www.randscab.org.uk/](http://www.randscab.org.uk/) get advice/advice for carers, email [carers@randscab.org.uk](mailto:carers@randscab.org.uk) or call 01932 827187

## Spelthorne Partnership Assembly

The Spelthorne Partnership Assembly is a residents' meeting held every three months, hosted by the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council.

Open to all residents and residents' associations, each meeting focuses on a theme chosen by the community. Previous topics have included crime and antisocial behaviour, flooding and Environment Agency matters, and houses in multiple occupation.

Residents can submit written questions in advance and also ask brief questions on the night. Meetings take place in the Council Chamber and are streamed online, making them accessible to a wider audience.

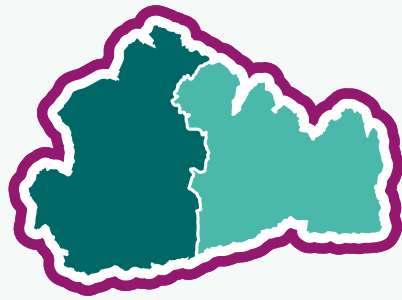
County Councillors and the leaders of the four borough political groups are invited to attend in person, while all borough councillors are welcome to join online.

The next meeting will be from 6.30pm - 8.30pm on Monday 14 September.

The theme will be confirmed nearer the time.



To attend the next meeting, please email [community.development@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:community.development@spelthorne.gov.uk). Details of previous meetings can be found at [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/SPA](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/SPA)



# Future Surrey

Local government in Surrey is changing. From April 2027, the existing county council and 11 district and borough councils will be replaced with two new unitary councils - East Surrey and West Surrey. Spelthorne will become part of West Surrey Council together with Guildford, Runnymede, Surrey Heath, Waverley and Woking.

Shadow councillors will become full councillors and take on responsibility for all local services from 1 April 2027.

## What happens to my existing councillors?

Your existing county and borough councillors remain responsible for all council services until 1 April 2027. They will still be your contact for any questions you have about council services.

### Councillor responsibilities until 1 April 2027

#### Existing county and borough councillors

- responsible for all current council services
- responding to residents about council services
- support a smooth transition to the new councils

#### Newly elected 'shadow' councillors for West Surrey

- agreeing the structure and budgets of the new councils
- agreeing how the councils will operate once they formally begin
- responding to residents about the new councils



## What West Surrey Council will be responsible for

West Surrey Council will provide all the local services residents rely on, including education, waste collection, roads, housing, play areas, children's services and adult social care. It will be made up of 90 councillors, with two councillors representing each of its 45 wards.

The 14 councillors featured on page 7 were elected in May to represent the seven West Surrey wards covering Spelthorne. They will serve until May 2031.

## What's next for the West Surrey councillors?

The newly elected councillors are not yet responsible for running council services. Their sole focus is preparing the new West and East councils to take over on 1 April 2027.

This is an essential task to make sure that services continue without disruption during the transition. To reflect this, the newly elected councillors will be called 'shadow councillors' for the next year.

## Who should I contact?

If your enquiry is about a day to day council service, or if you need help with a service issue, you should continue to contact your existing county or borough councillor, just as you do now. You can find their details at [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/about-council/councillors-and-mp](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/about-council/councillors-and-mp) or call 01784 451499.

If your question is about local government reorganisation, or about how the new West Surrey council is being set up, you can contact your shadow councillors, shown here on page 7.

You can find out more about what's happening over the next year, in the run up to the new councillors taking over on 1 April 2027, at [www.surreylgrhub.gov.uk/homepage/28/shadow-authorities](http://www.surreylgrhub.gov.uk/homepage/28/shadow-authorities).



# Your new West Surrey councillors

## Ashford



Richard Barratt



Joanne Sexton

## Laleham and Shepperton



Maureen Attewell

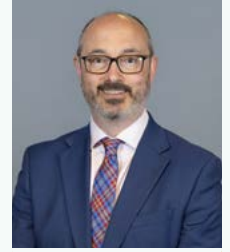


Sinead Mooney

## Lower Sunbury and Halliford



Richard Herman



Paul Vanni

## Staines



Laura Barker



Chris Bateson

## Staines South and Ashford West



Phil Basey

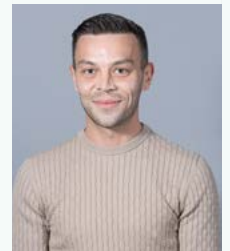


Harleen Boparai

## Stanwell, Stanwell Moor and Ashford North



Jim McIlroy



Harry Phillips

## Sunbury Common and Ashford Common



Harry Boparai



Rory O'Brien

-  Liberal Democrats
-  Conservative Party
-  Reform UK
-  Independent Party

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## Seeking a Nursery or Reception place?



### Open Events in 2026/2027:

Open events operate throughout the year and prospective families are warmly invited to come and visit the school and nursery. Our Open Morning tours start at 9.30am, and Open Afternoons start at 1.30pm.

#### Open Mornings

Friday 11 Sept 2026  
Thursday 24 Sept 2026  
Thursday 8 Oct 2026  
Monday 2 Nov 2026  
Thursday 19 Nov 2026  
Friday 4 Dec 2026  
Monday 7 Jan 2027

#### Open Afternoons

Friday 18 Sept 2026  
Tuesday 29 Sept 2026  
Friday 16 Oct 2026  
Tuesday 10 Nov 2026  
Thursday 26 Nov 2026  
Wednesday 9 Dec 2026  
Tuesday 12 Jan 2027

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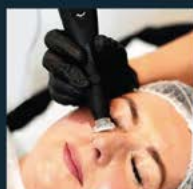
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- Exosomes
- Women's Health

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- Prolapse
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- Eczema
- Psoriasis
- Nail Fungus
- Rosacea



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# Live independently, with support when you need it

Extra Care housing offers independent living with on-site care and support, a flexible alternative to residential care for people aged 55+ looking for care in a supported environment, while maintaining their independence. There are 123 Extra Care units in Spelthorne, across three locations - Beechwood Court and Mitchison Court in Sunbury, and Chestnut Court in Stanwell.

Living in Extra Care means you continue to live independently as you do now, but with the peace of mind that help is on-hand.

The units are self-contained one and two-bedroom flats. All have wheelchair access and accessible showers, lifts and an emergency call system in each flat. In Beechwood Court and Chestnut Court, there are restaurant facilities and activities, with Chestnut Court also having a Day Centre on the premises.

All the schemes offer on-site carers, with the needs of each resident being individually identified by an Adult Social Care assessment. The support includes personal care, medication, meal preparation, cleaning, laundry and shopping. More information about the facilities at each location is listed below:

## Mitchison Court in Sunbury

Located near Junction 1 of the M3, a short walk from Sunbury station and

local shops.

- 39 one and two-bedroom apartments
- Independent living with 24-hour on-site care
- Lounge, restaurant, gardens, hair salon and activities



## Chestnut Court in Stanwell

Close to Junction 13 of the M25 and within easy reach of Staines and Ashford.

- 44 self-contained apartments with kitchens and wet rooms
- 24-hour care and support tailored to your needs
- Lounge, restaurant, guest room, hair salon and regular social activities



## Beechwood Court in Sunbury

Close to local amenities and transport links.

- 40 one and two-bedroom flats
- 24-hour care and support with accessible facilities throughout
- Lounge, restaurant, gardens, hair salon and regular activities



## Key Eligibility Criteria

- Aged 55+ (or younger with disabilities)
- Assessed care needs requiring regular support
- Local connection to the borough
- Housing need for more suitable accommodation
- Subject to social care and financial assessment

For more information or to apply, visit [www.homes4spelthorne.co.uk](http://www.homes4spelthorne.co.uk), email [h.needs2@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:h.needs2@spelthorne.gov.uk) or call the Council's Housing Options team on 01784 446380

## New rights for renters

New Renters' Rights legislation introduced in May strengthens protections for tenants by improving security of tenure, increasing standards in the private rented sector and giving councils clearer powers to prevent poor practice by landlords.

It aims to ensure tenants can challenge unsafe or unfair conditions without fear of retaliation, while supporting fair, proportionate enforcement action against non-compliant landlords through civil penalties and other sanctions.

Overall, the legislation is intended to create a more balanced, transparent and accountable rental market, with

councils playing a central role in enforcement and tenant protection.



For more information, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/page/1833/renters\\_rights](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/page/1833/renters_rights)



# Luminarium

Thursday 23 July - Monday 27 July, 10am-4pm, Memorial Gardens

Visit Staines is proud to bring one of the UK's most unique and celebrated art experiences to the heart of Staines this summer. From 23–27 July 2026, Memorial Gardens will be transformed by the spectacular Luminarium, an immersive, walk-through sculpture created by the world-renowned Architects of Air.

This landmark event is a major highlight of the 2026 Visit Staines programme, reflecting their ongoing commitment to delivering ambitious, high-quality cultural experiences that inspire residents, support local businesses and showcase Staines-upon-Thames as a vibrant, creative destination.

Inside the Luminarium, visitors will wander through a glowing maze of domes, tunnels and serene light-filled spaces - all powered by natural daylight and each piece handmade. The result is a peaceful, otherworldly encounter that has captivated millions of people in more than 40 countries.

Visit [www.visitstaines.co.uk](http://www.visitstaines.co.uk) for special events inside the Luminarium including a Parent and Baby session, a Relaxed session, and storytelling session with children's author and illustrator Kim Hillyard.

Advance tickets now on sale. Sponsored by Business Spelthorne.

Visit [www.visitstaines.co.uk](http://www.visitstaines.co.uk) for full details and to reserve tickets

# Music in the Park

Join us for a free afternoon of music in the beautiful surroundings of either the Walled Garden, Thames Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6AB or The Lammas Band Stand, Lammas Recreation Ground, Wraysbury Road, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4XZ.

All performances start at 2pm and finish at 4pm. Please bring your own chairs or picnic blankets. Refreshments are available to purchase at both venues.

Date	Venue	Performer
Sunday 5 July	Lammas Band Stand	Herd of Sax
Sunday 12 July	Walled Garden	YWDB
Sunday 19 July	Lammas Band Stand	Staines Lammas Band
Sunday 26 July	Walled Garden	Staines Brass
Sunday 2 August	Lammas Band Stand	Rock Choir
Sunday 9 August	Lammas Band Stand	Saxophony
Sunday 16 August	Walled Garden	Thameside Harmony Chorus
Sunday 30 August	Walled Garden	All That Jazz

Walled Garden parking: If you are physically able, please park in Green Street car park (TW16 6RA) and walk across Sunbury Park or use Thames Street car park (TW16 5QF).



Visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/music](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/music), email [leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk) or call 01784 446433



# Free outdoor theatre events in Staines-upon-Thames



Get ready for a spectacular summer of live entertainment as Visit Staines brings a season of outdoor theatre to the heart of Staines-upon-Thames.

## Tea Break by Trigger Thursday 30 July, 11am and 1.30pm, Costa Ring in Two Rivers

Take a moment to pause, breathe, and enjoy a free, freshly brewed cup of tea in this heartwarming outdoor show by Trigger. As you sip, you'll be guided on a gentle audio journey through the story of tea and how it has travelled across continents and centuries to become one of the world's greatest comforts. Served from Trigger's beautifully hand-painted tuk tuk, this gentle performance brings an uplifting moment of pause.



## Treasure Island by Quantum Theatre

Thursday 6 August, 1pm, Memorial Gardens

Bursting with buccaneers, brouhaha and dastardly double dealings, this lively new adaptation delivers an action-packed adventure for the whole family.



## The Bin Rat by The Last Baguette

Thursday 13 August, 11am and 1.30pm, Memorial Gardens

A rat-astic and realistic look into refuse and recycling. Rummage through the rubble with Bin Rat to discover where all the junk goes! Scrape scraps off the streets and find out what happens to litter in this outdoor interactive puppetry show.

## The Tales of Peter Rabbit and Benjamin Bunny by Quantum Theatre

Thursday 20 August, 1pm, Memorial Gardens

Join Peter and Benjamin on their hair-raising adventures in this enchanting adaptation of the much-loved Beatrix Potter classic – a treat for all the family.



## Bambolina and Dodo's Dream by Circle of Two

Thursday 27 August, 11am and 1.30pm, Memorial Gardens

When the clock strikes twelve, magic begins and a doll comes to life...

With physical theatre and acrobatics, Circle of Two tell a simple and touching story about an eccentric inventor who struggles to control his latest creation.



The Outdoor Theatre season is sponsored by Arts Council and Escalate Arts. Visit [www.visitstaines.co.uk](http://www.visitstaines.co.uk) for full details and to reserve tickets



## Laleham Village Fair

Saturday 4 July, 11.30am-4.30pm

Come along and enjoy a fun-filled family day out with entertainment for everyone including a bouncy castle, hot and cold food, licensed bar, arts and crafts, cakes, plants and flowers, raffle, dog show, classic cars and a brass band.

**Venue:** Laleham Recreation Ground and The Lucan Pavilion, The Broadway, Laleham, TW18 1RZ

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit <https://lalehamresidentsassociation.org.uk/lraevents>

## Feltham & Ashford Choral Society

Saturday 11 July, 7.30pm

A concert featuring "Old World, New World" - a combination concert of English romantic partsongs and late 20th century pop songs.

**Venue:** St Matthew's Church, Church Road, Ashford, TW15 2NY

**Cost:** £15 including a buffet supper during the interval. Pay on the door.

For more information, email [felthamchoralsociety@gmail.com](mailto:felthamchoralsociety@gmail.com)



## Ashford Horticultural Society's Summer Flower Show

Saturday 18 July, 2.30pm-5pm

A celebration of growing! An exhibition of flowers, vegetables, handicrafts, photographs, cakes, jams and chutneys made or grown by members of Ashford Horticultural Society. Refreshments available, raffle, plant sale, auction of some produce at end. Everyone is welcome.

**Venue:** St Matthew's Church, Church Road, Ashford, TW15 2NY

**Cost:** Free entry

For more information, email [barbara.baghapour@live.co.uk](mailto:barbara.baghapour@live.co.uk)



## Staines Amateur Regatta

Saturday 25 July, 9am-5pm

Staines Amateur Regatta is an annual event held on the River Thames at Silvery Sands in Laleham. The event dates back to 1851 and features competitors of all ages and abilities from local rowing clubs. Racing takes place from 9am to 5pm.

Come along and watch on the towpath. Catering and bar facilities available.

**Cost:** Free for spectators

For more information, visit [www.stainesregatta.com](http://www.stainesregatta.com)



## Spelthorne Resource Centre: Summer Art Open Day

Saturday 25 July, 10am-2pm

A creative summer craft session for children aged 4-11 at Spelthorne Resource Centre. Spaces are first-come, first-served and children must be accompanied by an adult. Booking not required.

**Venue:** Spelthorne Resource Centre, Staines Park, Commercial Road, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 2QJ

**Cost:** £1 per child, 50p for siblings

For more information, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/resourcecentre](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/resourcecentre) or call 01784 4611769



Photo: Courtesy of Laleham Camera Club

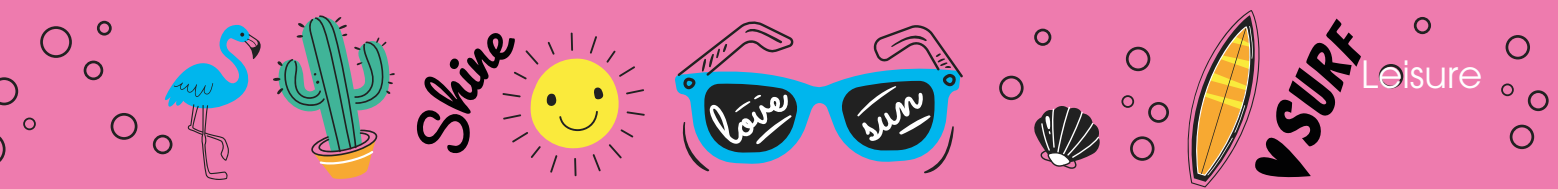
## Staines 10K

The Mayor of Spelthorne got runners underway for the start of the 2026 Staines 10K on Sunday 10 May.

The race, organised by Staines Strollers and Runnymede Runners, with support from Spelthorne Borough Council, saw 744 runners complete the course. The men's race was won by Charlie Punter from Windle Valley Runners who completed the course in 34 minutes and 6 seconds. The women's race was won by Jodie Judd from West 4 Harriers in a time of 35 minutes and 42 seconds.

Thank you to this year's sponsors and the dozens of volunteers who gave their time to ensure the event ran smoothly.

The full results are available on the Staines 10k website at [www.staines10k.co.uk](http://www.staines10k.co.uk). Details of the 2027 race will be available in the autumn (entries open in February 2027)



**Exhibition by textile artist, Karen Nicol**  
Showing until 16 August, Tuesday to Sunday, 10.30am -4pm

A show of work celebrating the joy of embroidery in fashion and style - including wearable art. Karen Nicol is a London based mixed media and embroidery textile designer/artist working in fashion, interiors and gallery who has designed and produced interior textiles for many clients including the King of Qatar, Chanel, the Pope, Estee Lauder and Gwyneth Paltrow. Karen also creates own-label collections of home pieces.

**Venue:** The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery, The Walled Garden, Thames Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6AB

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit [www.sunburygallery.org](http://www.sunburygallery.org), Instagram, Facebook, or call 01932 788101



**Sunbury Children's Regatta**  
Sunday 16 August, 10am-5pm

Open to children aged 7-15. If you would like to learn how to row and compete in the regatta, practice sessions commence on Sunday 5 July and run every Sunday until the regatta on Sunday 16 August.

**Venue:** Desborough Sailing Club, Ferry Lane, Shepperton, TW17 9LQ

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit <https://sunburyregatta.co.uk> or email [sunburyjuniorregatta@outlook.com](mailto:sunburyjuniorregatta@outlook.com)



**Surrey Youth Arts and Culture Festival**  
Saturday 26 September, 11am-3pm

Want to have a go at DJing, coding for video games, filmmaking, music technology and more? Join us for the Surrey Youth Arts and Culture Festival.

The festival, now in its fourth year, offers free workshops, performances and shows for young people aged 11 to 18. There will be lots of fun activities to help young people get involved in the arts and develop their creative skills.

**Venue:** Staines Library Hub, Unit MSU 2, Elmsleigh Centre, 62 South St, Staines TW18 4QB

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit [www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/culture-box-surrey/youth-festival](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/culture-box-surrey/youth-festival)



**National Embroidery Award winners 2026**

18 August-11 October, Tuesday to Sunday, 10.30am-4pm

The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery is thrilled to be exhibiting the winning entries from the inaugural National Embroidery Awards (NEA) which took place this March at the Fashion and Embroidery Show at the NEC Birmingham.

**Venue:** The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery, The Walled Garden, Thames Street, Sunbury-on-Thames, TW16 6AB

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit [www.sunburygallery.org](http://www.sunburygallery.org), Instagram, Facebook, or call 01932 788101



**Sunbury Amateur Regatta**  
Saturday 15 August, 10am-4pm

Come along to the Sunbury Regatta to see Sunbury Skiff and Punting Club compete with other local clubs in this annual event for the local community.

**Venue:** Desborough Sailing Club, Ferry Lane, Shepperton, TW17 9LQ

**Cost:** Free

For more information, visit <https://sunburyregatta.co.uk> or email [sunburyjuniorregatta@outlook.com](mailto:sunburyjuniorregatta@outlook.com)



**Walking for Health**

The Spelthorne Walking for Health Scheme aims to improve the health and fitness of local people. Walks are 1-5 miles long and take place three times a week. They are held in the mornings during the week, as well as occasional weekends and in the evenings during the summer months.

They are free and a great way to meet new people. If there's a café or pub nearby, the group often stop for a drink and a chat.

For more information and to view the current programme, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/walkingforhealth](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/walkingforhealth), email [leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@spelthorne.gov.uk) or call 01784 446433



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## OPEN EVENTS

Admission to Year 7 in 2027

### Open Mornings

Thursday 24th September, 1st October and 8th October

Tours from 8.45am, 9.00am and 9.15am

Please note that tour bookings are NOT required

### Open Evening

Thursday 24th September from 5.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Headteacher Evening Address at 5.45pm and 6.30 pm

#### Enquiries

Year 7

T: 01932 754213

E: [admissions@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk)

Sixth Form

T: 01932 754203

E: [sixthform@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:sixthform@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk)

### Sixth Form Open Evening

Admission to Year 12 in 2027

Wednesday 30th September from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Head of Sixth Form Evening Address at 6.30pm

St Paul's Catholic College,  
Manor Lane, Sunbury on Thames, Surrey, TW16 6JE  
[www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk)



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# How to recycle small electricals and textiles

Residents across the borough can take advantage of a convenient weekly kerbside collection service for small electrical items, often referred to as Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and unwanted textiles. These collections make it easier than ever to clear out clutter while ensuring valuable materials are reused and recycled responsibly.

To make use of these services, all you need to do is tie your unwanted small electrical items or textiles in a standard carrier bag and leave it alongside your household bins on your usual collection day. Keep textiles and electricals in separate bags as this helps collection crews identify them easily and ensures they are handled appropriately.

We also ask you to only put out one bag of textiles and one bag of WEEE each week.

Small electrical items include everyday household objects such as kettles, toasters, hairdryers, cables, and small gadgets. These items contain valuable materials like rare metals that can be recovered and reused. When disposed of incorrectly, they can also pose environmental risks. Recycling WEEE ensures these materials are safely processed and kept out of landfill.

Once collected, our WEEE is handed over to Surrey County Council who organise its transportation to specialist facilities where it is dismantled and sorted. Hazardous components are removed safely, and valuable recyclable materials are processed for reuse in manufacturing.

Your textiles are taken to a facility in the Midlands where they are sorted by hand into over 150 different types and grades depending on their suitability for reuse, reselling or recycling into fibres to be re woven and made into new clothing and textiles. All the textiles we recycle, regardless of quality, have value. Around 17% stay in the UK to be resold as second-hand clothing, while up to 25% are sold in Ghana. Lower-quality items are sent to Asia to be broken down into fibres and re woven into new materials. The rest are reused or recycled across Europe and Africa, depending on their quality.

By making use of these convenient kerbside services, you can directly help reduce landfill waste, cut carbon emissions and support a more sustainable community.



## Spelthorne in Bloom

More than 120 gardeners and pupils from local primary schools met at Squires Garden Centre in Halliford on 30 March to launch the annual Spelthorne in Bloom campaign and to recognise the winners of the Children's Poster Competition for 2026.

Sarah Squire, Chair of Squire's Garden Centre, welcomed the guests and thanked them for their help in keeping Spelthorne looking beautiful. Nick Wood-Dow, Chair of the Spelthorne in Bloom Committee, introduced the guest speakers: Inspector Matthew Walton of Surrey Police, Terry Collier Deputy CEO at Spelthorne Council, Lincoln Jopp MP for Spelthorne and the former Mayor of Spelthorne, Cllr John Doran.

The overall winner of the poster competition was Ynigo from St Michael Primary School in Ashford, whose beautiful themed design features on this year's competition entry forms and posters. Ynigo and the other winners were presented with prizes by the Mayor.

Category	Winner
<b>Overall winner</b>	<b>Ynigo, age 10, St Michael Catholic School</b>
SEND poster winner	Oscar, age 9, Manor Mead School
Hand drawn posters, age 4 - 6	Ella, age 6, Our Lady of the Rosary
Hand drawn posters, age 7 - 8	Phoebe, age 8, St Nicholas Primary
Hand drawn posters, age 9 - 11	Ynigo, age 10, St Michael Catholic Primary
Computer generated posters	Chevalier, age 10, St Michael Catholic Primary

Judging for Spelthorne in Bloom will soon take place and the winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in November.

## Bonfires and BBQs

If you are heading outdoors this week, please remember:

- ✗ BBQs are not permitted in any of Spelthorne's parks and open spaces
- ✗ Do not light fires or use camping stoves
- ✗ Do not discard cigarettes or glass
- ✓ Be vigilant and report any signs of fire - no matter how small



### Small electricals

#### Yes please

- ✓ irons, toasters, kettles with cables
- ✓ laptops, calculators, mobile phones, chargers, hairdryers, clippers and straighteners
- ✓ lamps, torches, cameras, power tools, smoke detectors and thermostats, remote controls, remote controlled cars
- ✓ batteries, connectors, clocks and watches

#### No thanks

- ✗ lightbulbs, large items like televisions, vacuum cleaners, PC monitors and white goods



For more information, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/rubbish and recycling](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling) or call 01748 451499

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## Cllr Harry Boparai wins national award

Cllr Harry Boparai has been named as the Community Champion of England & Wales at a ceremony at the Guildhall in London. He is the first Spelthorne Councillor to receive this prestigious national award.

The judging panel noted Cllr Boparai's tireless, hands-on problem-solving approach as he was praised for his impact on the everyday quality of life of residents. His focus on issues that matter to residents, including tackling rogue landlords and fly-tipping, and improving road safety, were also acknowledged. Cllr Boparai was also recognised for the practical support he provides to local causes, the leading role he plays in protecting the green belt and other heritage projects, and his support for organisations working with young people and the local food bank kitchen.

Cllr Boparai was elected to Surrey County Council in May 2022 and has served as a Liberal Democrat councillor on Spelthorne Borough Council since 2023. In May 2026, he was elected to the newly established West Surrey Council. Deputy Leader, Cllr Chris Bateson, said: "No-one works harder for his residents than Cllr Boparai. He was nominated for this award by appreciative local residents. Harry thoroughly deserves this national recognition, which also reflects well upon Spelthorne Council."

After he received the award, Cllr Boparai said: "It was a great honour to receive such a prestigious award on behalf of Spelthorne. This award belongs to all of us; I simply had the privilege of accepting it. Thank you to everyone who nominated me and a huge thank you as well to all the council officers who helped us to get things done."



## Congratulations to Staines Brass!

Staines Brass Band competed in the Regional Area Brass Band Contest in March, one of the most significant events in the brass band calendar. It brought together ensembles from across the region, all performing the same set test piece and judged on musicality, precision and overall performance.

Staines Brass delivered an outstanding performance and were crowned Regional Champions, winning their section outright - an exceptional achievement in a highly competitive field. In addition to first place, the band also received two further accolades for Best Bass Section and Best Conductor.

As a result of their performance, Staines Brass Band secured promotion to the First Section from January 2027, placing them among a higher tier of bands nationally. The band also qualified for the National Finals in September in York, where they will represent London & the South.

Staines Brass is made up of a diverse group of musicians, including civilian and military performers, united by a shared passion for music-making at the highest level.

To find out more about the band, visit [www.stainesbrassband.co.uk](http://www.stainesbrassband.co.uk)

## Staines Shopmobility

Staines Shopmobility is a registered charity based in the Two Rivers shopping centre, opposite Vue Cinema. It provides wheelchairs and mobility scooters to help people with limited mobility access Staines town centre. Equipment is available for short-term use, as well as longer hires for holidays and outings.

Open Tuesday to Saturday, 9.30am – 4pm (last hire 3pm), the service offers daily and annual membership. Users do not need to be registered disabled or hold a Blue Badge. The accessible premises have parking outside, and the charity also provides information, repairs and maintenance services for mobility equipment.

For more information, contact Shopmobility on **01784 459416**, email [stainesshopmo@gmail.com](mailto:stainesshopmo@gmail.com) or visit [www.stainesshopmobility.com](http://www.stainesshopmobility.com)

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## Update from the Police Borough Commander



Your Neighbourhood policing team remains firmly committed to local policing and to delivering on the principles of the five pillars of the National Neighbourhood Guarantee – ensuring visible, accessible policing that responds to the priorities of our communities.

We are pleased to report that crime across the borough continues to fall, with a maintained reduction of 8%, alongside a consistent solved outcome rate of 17%. These results reflect the hard work of officers, staff and partners, but most importantly the continued support and cooperation of our communities.

Our key areas of focus remain clear and targeted. We are prioritising retail crime, serious acquisitive crime, violence, and anti social behaviour. By concentrating our resources and working closely with local businesses, partners and residents, we aim to prevent harm, pursue offenders and keep neighbourhoods safe.

We encourage everyone to continue reporting crime and suspicious activity. Information from the public is vital in helping us build intelligence and take effective action. We are particularly keen to hear from residents at our public engagement events, where you can speak directly with officers, share local concerns, contribute intelligence and help us improve our key contacts list so we can communicate quickly and effectively.

You may be aware that police force divisions are changing to align with the new unitary authorities. Reassuringly, there will be no immediate changes to your local Safer Neighbourhood Teams, and you will continue to see the same officers working in your area.

Please also look out for updates on our project Safer Ashford on our social media page on Facebook, we've had some brilliant results already!

*Matt Walton, Borough Commander,  
Surrey Police*



## Staines Parochial Charity

Staines Parochial Charity will be allocating their annual financial grants in the autumn to local residents who are facing financial difficulties due to problems such as poor health, disability, low income or homelessness. Relevant charities can also apply.

To be eligible for a grant, you must have lived in the Staines area for at least two years (or in the case of charities, been active in Staines for at least two years).

The deadline for completed applications is Monday 5 October.



To request an application form, email the Secretary, June Stillwell, at [june.stillwell@btinternet.com](mailto:june.stillwell@btinternet.com) or call 01784 463013



## Spelthorne honours volunteers

Seventeen residents were recognised by the Spelthorne Civic Awards Trust for their voluntary service in the borough at a special ceremony held on Tuesday 21 April at Spelthorne Borough Council's offices.

Nominations are invited annually for individuals who have shown dedicated service for at least 12 years. Letters of Commendation were introduced in 2003 and are presented to those who have already received a Civic Award and have continued that service for at least a further 10 years.

The awards shine a light on those who often work quietly behind the scenes, giving their time and energy to strengthen community spirit, support those in need, and improve the borough as a whole. Many congratulations to the following recipients:

### Civic Awards

- Catherine Batt, 6th Staines Scout Group
- Richard Batt, 6th Staines Scout Group
- Gary Dawson, Academy Boxing Club
- Margaret Goodgame, Shooting Star Hospice and Sunbury Methodist Church
- Olive Hogan, Ashford Helping Hands
- Samia Jackson, Sunbury Skiff and Punting Club
- Verena Kemp Smith, Groveley Road Allotments
- Keith Nash, Ashford (Short Lane) Sports
- Christine Pepall, 6th Staines Scout Group
- Carl Phillips, Shepperton Residents Association and Shepperton Big Tree Night
- Ruby Platt, Friends of Long Lane Recreation Park
- Michael Ramlakhan, Ashford Rotary and Spelthorne Business Forum
- Gary Rixon, 1st Stanwell Air Scouts
- Sarah Squire, Littleton Brownies and Shepperton Girl Guides
- Alexis Woods, Manna Foodbank

### Letter of Commendation

- Christine Davenport, Ashford Girl Guides and St Hilda's Church
- Carol Sullivan BEM, Spelthorne in Bloom, Stanwell WI and Stanwell Village Hall Committee



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# Environment and climate change



## Our new Miyawaki forests

This spring Spelthorne Council planted two new Miyawaki micro forests in the borough. These forests are planted much closer together than traditional woodland, helping them establish up to 10 times faster and providing better space for insects, bees and birds.

These forests show how small areas of land can make a big difference for nature and the climate. Head over to Littleton recreation ground in Shepperton or Hengrove recreation ground in Ashford to have a look.

## Grow a greener future from home

You don't need a large garden to help nature thrive. Nature based solutions use plants, soil and water to tackle climate and biodiversity challenges, and a lot can be done at home.

Simple actions like planting native flowers, leaving areas uncut for pollinators, adding water butts, or creating a mini wildlife pond can help reduce surface water flooding, cool your garden in summer and provide food and shelter for wildlife. Even balconies and window boxes can support bees and butterflies. By working with nature rather than against it, we can create healthier, more resilient communities starting right outside our front doors.



Cornflower



Corncockle



Field Poppy

## Solar panels powering Sunbury Leisure Centre

Sunbury Leisure Centre is now benefiting from a new solar panel installation, marking an important step towards lower carbon council buildings. The 58.3kW system has already made a strong impact, with one of its first full weeks of operation in March generating enough electricity to cover all of the centre's electricity consumption.

By producing clean, renewable power on site, the solar panels are helping to significantly reduce operating costs while cutting carbon emissions associated with grid electricity. These early results highlight the potential of solar energy to support the council's climate ambitions and deliver long term savings for public facilities.



## Get involved with climate action

Taking climate action is easier when we do it together. Residents can get involved with local initiatives like Talking Tree, which shares advice, events and opportunities to support nature and sustainability in your area.

You can also support the transition to clean energy by working with Surrey Community Energy, a not for profit organisation helping communities generate and use renewable power locally. From solar projects to energy advice, there are many ways to get involved.

Whether you have time to volunteer, ideas to share or simply want to stay informed, your involvement helps build a greener future for our borough.

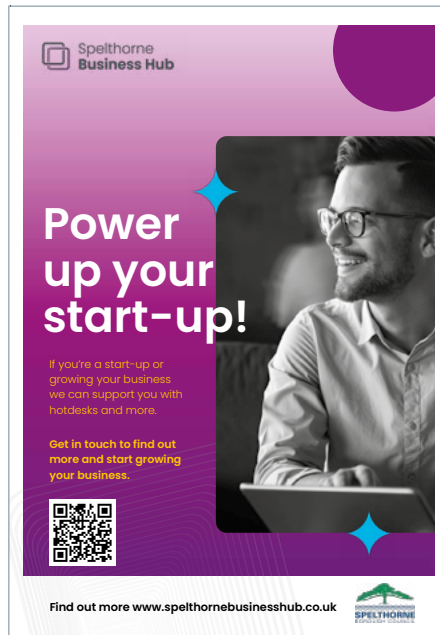


For more information visit <https://talkingtree.org.uk> or [www.surreycommunityenergy.org](http://www.surreycommunityenergy.org)

## Spelthorne Business Hub

The Spelthorne Business Hub, located at the Council offices in Knowle Green, provides a supportive environment for local start ups, freelancers and small businesses to grow and succeed. By offering high quality coworking space at below market rates, alongside expert advice and learning opportunities, the Council is investing in local enterprise and helping ensure Spelthorne remains a great place to start, run and grow a business. Hub members benefit from:

- a vibrant and collaborative business community, ideal for networking, sharing ideas and building new contacts
- coaching, mentoring and training delivered through the Spelthorne Business Growth Service, alongside support from trusted partners including Spelthorne Business Forum, Federation of Small Businesses, Surrey Chambers of Commerce and Visit Staines
- a regular programme of networking events, workshops and seminars focused on practical business growth



The Hub operates Monday to Friday, with desks available from £99 per month. The monthly fee includes:

- ongoing business advice and events
- wi-fi and printing
- on-site parking
- access to a meeting space
- tea and coffee facilities



For further information or availability, email [info@spelthornebusinesshub.com](mailto:info@spelthornebusinesshub.com) or call Chris Norrington, Economic Development Manager, on 01784 446208

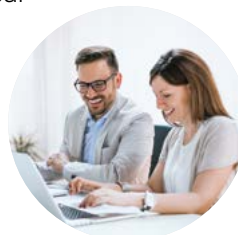
## Business Growth Service – free support for businesses

Based at the heart of the Spelthorne Business Hub, the Spelthorne Business Growth Service offers free, tailored support to freelancers, start ups, micro businesses and SMEs across the borough. Delivered by specialist business advisers, the service includes:

- one to one mentoring and personalised growth support
- start up and scale up programmes
- workshops and masterclasses covering leadership, finance, sustainability and digital skills

- networking opportunities

Whether a business is just getting started or planning its next stage of growth, the Business Growth Service provides practical tools, expert guidance and local connections to help enterprises build confidence, resilience and long term sustainability.



For full details and to register for support, visit our Business Spelthorne platform for business resources, events and news at [www.businessspelthorne.co.uk](http://www.businessspelthorne.co.uk)



Located in the centre of Staines-upon-Thames, the Spelthorne Jobs & Skills Hub offers support to people of all ages and backgrounds. Whether you're starting out, returning to work, or considering a change, it offers practical, tailored support.

Many residents come to the Hub during times of change. Some feel unsure where to begin, lack confidence, or need help presenting themselves to employers. For many, simply talking things through is an important first step - and that's where the Hub makes a difference.

The Hub is delivered by an experienced team with backgrounds in youth work, recruitment and employability. They take time to understand each person's situation, offering respectful, professional, and personalised support.

Support includes CV writing, interview preparation, job searching, confidence building, training and understanding employer expectations. The team also works with trusted local partners to provide specialist support where needed.

The Hub supports a wide range of residents, including young people aged 16–24, those over 45 returning to work, and anyone seeking full-time or part-time opportunities. You don't need to be unemployed - just a Spelthorne resident who could benefit from support.

Open Monday - Friday, 10am - 4pm.  
1-2 Friends Walk, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4PG.

For more information, visit [www.spelthornejobsandskills.com](http://www.spelthornejobsandskills.com), email [info@spelthornejobsandskills.com](mailto:info@spelthornejobsandskills.com) or call 01784 448564

## Are you paying more Council Tax than you need to?

Many residents may be entitled to a Council Tax discount or exemption but are not aware they qualify. If your circumstances have changed, or if you have never checked your eligibility, it could be worth taking a few minutes to review your situation.

Discounts and exemptions are available for a wide range of circumstances. You may qualify if you live alone, are a full-time student, or are on a low income. Support is also available where someone in the household has a disability or a long-term health condition such as dementia or Parkinson's disease.

Some properties may qualify for an exemption for a period of time, for example if a home is empty, if someone has moved into residential care, or if the property includes a self-contained annexe used by a dependent relative.

Applying is usually straightforward, and any reduction can make a real difference to household finances, especially at a time when many people are feeling the pressure of rising costs. Even a small change in circumstances could mean you're eligible for support.



To find out more, visit [www.spelthorne.gov.uk/counciltax](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/counciltax) or call 01784 451499



## Staines Masterplan



The Staines Masterplan is a planning document currently in development. Residents are encouraged to get involved to help shape how the town grows, changes and serves its community over the coming decades, determining the character of streets and spaces, the mix of uses, the quality of connections and the experience of everyday life in Staines.

As part of the project, a group of local residents were involved in a design workshop which took place in April 2026. At the day-long 'Design Charrette', the group worked with a team of urban design experts, exploring ideas for four key sites within the Staines Masterplan area. The group also helped to start building a shared picture of what a thriving Staines Town Centre could look and feel like.

To learn more about the Staines Masterplan and see how to get involved, you can scan the QR code to go straight to the Staines Masterplan engagement hub. To stay up to date with the project's progress and be notified of engagement opportunities, subscribe with your email on the home page.



Visit <https://stainestmasterplan.commonplace.is>

## Shaping Spelthorne: New online community engagement hub

Spelthorne Borough Council's Strategic Planning Team, responsible for creating planning policy and guidance, has just launched a brand-new engagement hub on Commonplace. The hub will make it easier for residents to take part in consultations related to strategic planning work, all in one place.



Visit <https://shapingspelthorne.commonplace.is>



# LUMINARIUM

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