

Welcome to Spratton



On behalf of Spratton Parish Council, I would like to welcome you to our village and wish you and your family all the very best for the future.

Please find enclosed some information about the many organisations and groups in Spratton. You will see a list of these together with contact details on the Parish Website (www.sprattonpc.org.uk) and in our quarterly village newsletter. We would welcome your participation in our village groups. There is also an independent village Facebook group (Spratton Let Us Know) with over 3,000 followers.

The village has a long history, with farming at its core and we are sure you will appreciate the beautiful countryside that surrounds Spratton. This includes walks along the Brampton Valley Way (accessed from the car park on the road between Spratton and Brixworth) and the walk to Teeton village, starting from the kissing gate at the junction of Brixworth Road and Welford Road (opposite the allotments.)

There are two excellent schools in Spratton; the Spratton Church of England Primary School, rated 'good' by Ofsted, and the Spratton Hall Independent School established in 1951. Details of both are included in this pack.

There are many local venues hosting events or available for bookings. These include the Village Hall next to the Primary School, St Andrew's Church, The King's Head Pub and the Spratton Community Centre on the Recreation Field in Smith Street. Café Doris runs every Tuesday and Thursday in St Andrew's too, with a lovely community atmosphere, cakes and a cuppa.

We hope you will consider getting involved with village life by joining one of the regular village groups or activities including photography, table tennis, history and gardening groups, youth activities including scouts, brownies and the youth club or helping out at occasional community events such as our litter picks.

Welcome to the village and enjoy your read through this information pack.

Best regards

Jane Marshall, Chair, Spratton Parish Council.



History of Spratton

Newcomers to the village can learn much about the history of Spratton through the webpages of our local history society www.sprattonhistory.org

Spratton Local History Society was founded in 1999 with the aim of bringing together people with an interest in the history of Spratton, Northamptonshire and the surrounding area. They hold regular meetings, often with speakers, undertake local history research and hold exhibitions and events. They have also published seven books about the history of Spratton, available by emailing information@sprattonhistory.org, or visiting Spratton Village Store.

The society is a member of the Northamptonshire Heritage Forum and collaborates with other groups. SHLS gives guided tours of the church and village, illustrated talks, maintain archives of old photographs, maps & drawings and a genealogical database of the many families and residents of the village in the 19th century. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Spratton and costs just £5 per year.

Spratton Parish Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter is published by the parish council to provide parish and village information and news. This is delivered to every house in the village. There are articles giving up-to-date news of Spratton organisations and also advertisements from local businesses. Contact the editor Enid Jarvis on jarvis.enid@btinternet.com if you would like to send in some news or if you would like to enquire about advertising rates.

Enjoying the Spratton Countryside

There are some lovely walks around Spratton and the surrounding area. Whether you're walking to improve your health or simply for the pleasure of exploring, your local area on foot, www.northantsramblers.org.uk walks make it easy to enjoy the great outdoors. Walks are organised all year round and accommodate a range of ages and walking abilities. Local walks include the Millennium Walk across fields towards Teeton, from the junction of Welford Road and Teeton Lane; the walk from the end of The Walk, across fields to Spratton Grange; the walk from East View Cemetery to Creaton; and of course the nearby Brampton Valley Way, running from Northampton to Market Harborough along the route of the old railway line. There's also a little path from Yew Tree Lane that emerges onto Brixworth Road. Please check out these walks as you start to explore Spratton.

Natural Spratton conservation group and Brixworth Road pocket park

John Hunt heads up the activities of the conservation group. These have included tree planting and the creation of a woodland in participation with the Woodland Trust. If you want to know more about wildlife and habitat conservation activities in Spratton, contact John at jfhunt@talktalk.net

The pocket park occupies the closed cemetery on Brixworth Road to the east of the village. It is an area now dedicated to growing wild flowers, and has been cultivated to attract birds and insects for over 20 years. Last year there were over 120 species of wild flower growing on the site. David Cooke provides regular updates on the pocket park in our quarterly newsletter delivered free to all households in the village.

Spratton Recreation Field

The recreation field boasts a wide range of facilities including a community club, football club and fitness and play facilities for all ages. The playground has a section for younger children including swings, a slide, seesaw, roundabout and climbing frame. There is also an area better suited to older children, with more challenging climbing and play facilities. Just outside the playground is an all-ages fitness area with balancing and other fitness equipment. Elsewhere on the recreation field, you will find a shelter for teenagers, a basketball park and ramps for skateboarding, scootering and biking. The rec is also a great place to walk the dog or take daily exercise, and a lovely spot to bump into other villagers doing the same. There are also occasional events including car boot sales, dog shows and music and sporting events. The field and its facilities are operated by the Recreation Field Charity. For more details or to find out how you can get involved with the work of the charity, please contact Julian Gaywood on 07973 405837 or email sprattonreccharity@gmail.com.

Spratton Garden Club

The garden club was formed in 1979. Each year the group has a mix of talks, coach outings and self-drive garden visits. There are coach trips from May to July as well as a summer social evening in a member's garden. Spratton residents also open their gardens to visitors each summer. More information about dates and addresses is available at www.nsg.org.uk. You can also order seeds at a discounted price through the group. Subscription costs just £5 a year plus £2 for each meeting. The group meets at Spratton Community Centre on the Recreation Field at 7.30pm every Wednesday. Visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information please contact cherill.hammond@hotmail.co.uk or call Cherill on 01604 847428.

Allotments in Spratton

If your ambitions extend beyond the confines of your garden, you are most welcome to take up an allotment plot at the west side of the village.

Spratton Town and Charity Land owns the allotment land between Welford Road and Teeton Lane. The charity has been part of the village since 1676! The charity commissioners recorded that several people in Spratton had given money for those less fortunate than themselves. This was used to buy land which was let as allotments, and the income used for charitable purposes in the village. These purposes include small grants to Spratton residents aged 18-25 who are leaving school to take up an apprenticeship, university or further education. The group also gives money to village projects and the church each year.

Half a plot costs just £20 annually. A full plot is £40 and a plot with hens/ducks is £50. Please contact parishpat79@gmail.com or phone Pat on 01604 847734.

Spratton Football Club

The club meets on the recreation field every Saturday during the season, with fixtures against other local teams from across the county. Spratton and Pitsford Pumas FC also plays its games on the Rec or the football ground at Pitsford. To find out more about these clubs, visit their pages at www.sprattonandpitsfordpumas.co.uk or https://www.facebook.com/SprattonFootballClub/?locale=en_GB, or contact Iain Wiseman on 07791 844731 or email iainwiseman@btinternet.com

Spratton Community Centre

The community centre is based on the recreation field and offers shower and toilet facilities for football games, TV screening of national sporting events and a licenced bar. The venue is available for public hire and also hosts a range of public events throughout the year in partnership with the recreation field charity and other groups. If you want to book the facilities or find out more, please contact Iain Wiseman on 07791 844731 or email iainwiseman@btinternet.com

Spratton Women's Institute

The WI has been running in Spratton since 1923! Meetings of the WI are held at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month at the Village Hall, next to the Primary School. This friendly and sociable group organises a variety of talks, activities, practical demonstrations and outings throughout the year. They also hold an annual Christmas meal. New members are always welcome and can come along for free for the first couple of visits. Membership is open to all women and girls and you are assured of a warm welcome. Please email carol.constable@gmail.com, or call Carol on 01604 845252.

Spratton Photography Group

The group has been running since 2011 and aims to help people better understand and enjoy digital photography. It is open to people of all ages and abilities; under 16s need to be accompanied by an adult please. The programme of events includes a mix of practical, education and inspiration evenings, and meetings usually start with a display of members' images. Meetings are held at Spratton Hall School on the first Monday of each month (or the second if the first is a bank holiday). Subscription costs just £40 for the whole year, and you may see your images displayed in

village magazines near and far, as well as occasional displays in places like Brixworth Library, Guilsborough Surgery, our own Café Doris and elsewhere. There are also competitions, collaborations and talks with other clubs in the area. The group is very eager to increase its membership, so please contact Veronica Johnson-Roffey at veronica.johnson@btinternet.com (07721 623714) for more information or visit www.sprattonphotog.co.uk.

Spratton Table Tennis Club

This club meets 6pm to 7pm every other Tuesday at the Village Hall. There are three table tennis tables for club use, and games throughout the session. Club members also arrange ad hoc games between themselves at other times too. Please pop down on a Tuesday to find out more or contact John Hunt on 01604 846705 or jfhunt@talktalk.net.

St Andrew's Church

Our 900 year old church remains a vibrant part of our village, with a regular café and regular services. It is part of the Uplands group of churches, so there are services here and in neighbouring churches throughout the week and across key church calendar dates throughout the year. There are a range of services aimed at all ages, with a small but dedicated following, as well as an active lay team to support the church clergy. The Uplands Group of churches also has a Mother's Union, a Prayer Chain and other activities you might like to get involved with. You can find out more at www.uplandsgroupchurches.org.uk or by contacting Reverend Allison Twigg on 01604 846099 or revallisontwigg@gmail.com. The church building contains some fascinating memorials. These include the memorial to Sir John Swinford, a 14th century knight. There is also a connection with the first American President, George Washington; his great-great-grandmother was baptised at the church in 1602. There is information in the church about both of these historical figures and the regional and national importance of Spratton and our county at that time. A guide book is on sale in the church and in the Village Store.

St Andrew's Heritage Society

The group's mission is to help maintain and improve the fabric of St Andrew's Church. This grade 1 listed building has been a focal point of our community for 900 years and still relevant today. Recent fund raising activities have seen the restoration of the church organ and the completion of roof repairs. The group always welcomes new members and is keen to expand its future activities to include more concerts, social gatherings, gardening and maintenance parties and tea and coffee chats. For more information, please contact Bill Blowfield (07887 510520) or David Bennett (07962 231798.)

Café Doris

The café is open 9.30am to 12.30pm on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. With freshly roasted 'proper' coffee, organic tea and home made cakes, the café is a great place to get to know others in your community. You can also pre-order artisan bread made at thegoodloaf.co.uk (order on Thursday for collection the following Tuesday). Why not pop in on a WFH day (they have great wifi) or after you've dropped the kids at school. If you're interested in using the café for events of your own, please get in touch. For more information, email cafedorisccs@gmail.com or contact David Bennett on 07962 231798.

Spratton Youth Club

The club meets 6pm to 7.30pm at the Spratton Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays during term time. The club offers a variety of activities that cater to a range of interests and skills, ensuring that there is something for everyone to enjoy and learn from. Activities include movie nights, sports, arts and crafts and cooking. For more information, please contact liam@cypn.org or on 07427 073395.

Spratton Scouts, Cubs and Beavers

These groups meet weekly on a Thursday at the Scout Hut in Yew Tree Lane or at the Village Hall. The Beavers, aged 6-8 years, meet at the Scout Hut from 6.00pm to 7.15pm (contact Carol Constable on 01604 845252 carol.constable@gmail.com). The Cubs, aged 8 -10 ½ years, meet at the Village Hall from 6.45pm to 8.15pm (contact Jenny Woodford on 01604 842460). And the Scouts meet at the Scout Hut from 7.30pm to 9pm (contact Graham

Smith on 01604 847176 grahamsmith8hh@btinternet.com). These groups are well attended with great activities each week, and subscription costs for attendees are just £30 per school term. If you would like to volunteer your time to help support the work of these groups, please contact any of the leaders for more information.

Spratton Brownies, Guides and Rangers

We have very active and well attended guiding groups in Spratton. Recent activities across the various groups include climbing at Pinnacle, a visit to the Panto, ice skating, paddle boarding, and of course undertaking challenges to obtain badges. The Guides also join other groups in the division for outdoor events and activities at the Overstone Scout Grounds, including archery, grass sledging, and caving (in a bus)! The Rangers also join with other Rangers from the County for a weekend camp, with lots of fun, food and friendship. Please contact Linda Fletcher (Guides and Rangers - 07808 734124) or Katherine Rose (Brownies – email 1stsprattonbrownies@gmail.com) for information about waiting lists, membership fees and volunteering your time to help with these groups too. It's a great way to get to know others in the village.

Spratton Parish Council

Your village has its own Parish Council. The council meets once a month on a Tuesday evening at the Village Hall from 7pm. Each meeting is open to the public and starts with a public session to invite your comments, observations and ideas, before moving onto an agenda of village related business. This can include relatively mundane matters like street lighting or maintenance, as well as more interesting and forward thinking subject. These include areas for new investment, fund raising and grants to help improve the facilities and services available to all residents and visitors to Spratton. Whether you just want to listen in, volunteer your support or become a councillor, your attendance at meetings is a great way to find out about plans for the future. An agenda is published ahead of each meeting and posted on the village notice board, and minutes are published afterwards. You can find out more by visiting www.sprattonpc.org.uk.

Spratton Village Hall Committee

This team is committed to improving the hall for all users and we are currently working towards the Hall's centenary in 2028, when they hope to hold a big day to celebrate 100 years of the hall. They work to raise funds, maintain and improve the hall and are always happy to hear from people in the village who want to help keep the Hall a vibrant part of village life. Please email Sprattonvillagehall@gmail.com for more information. If you are a Co-Op member then please support the Hall by selecting "Spratton Village Hall" as your chosen community project!

Spratton Church of England Primary School

Since September 2024, the school has been operating as three classes: Koalas (ages 4- 7), Meerkats (ages 7-9), and Otters (ages 9-11). With an average class size of 16, each child gets great individual attention and support. The Trust is committed to the future of our school as an important part of the community. If you know families looking for a warm and welcoming school with smaller than average class sizes and lots to offer, please do spread the word—there are spaces available in all year groups! The school has recently redecorated and refurbished key areas including the Hall, Library and Nurture Room, and also carried out important tree maintenance to develop a fantastic Forest School area, where the children love learning outdoors. There is a huge amount going on at the school, so please visit www.sprattonprimary.org.uk or follow their social media pages to find out more. The school is led by head teacher Mrs Liz Crofts (contact 01604 846530 or email office@spratton.pdet.org.uk.)

www.facebook.com/SprattonCEPrimarySchool

www.instagram.com/spratton_ce_primary_school

Friends of Spratton School (FOSS)

The active PTA aims to raise funds to benefit the whole school and enrich the children's school experience. They organise events through the year for pupils, parents and the wider community. New members are always welcome. For more information, please contact Jonathan Pykett on 0115 727 0012 or email info@fosspta.co.uk.

Spratton Hall School

Spratton Hall is an independent co-educational, day school for 400 girls and boys aged 4 to 13. Established in 1951, the standalone, independent prep school can ensure that every Spratton Hall pupil has the educational journey that is right for them and their unique abilities. Parents choose the school because it offers their child an exceptional educational experience in a beautiful rural environment. The school publishes a comprehensive weekly newsletter on their website so you can see firsthand what it has to offer its pupils and wider school community. To find out more, visit www.sprattonhall.com, email office@sprattonhall.com or call 01604 847272.

Spratton Village Store

The friendly Village Shop is open 8am to 8pm most days (2pm Sundays), and sells all your essential day to day groceries, sweets, bread, cakes, newspapers and magazines, alcohol, tobacco & lottery tickets. There is also a post office in store open throughout the same hours as the shop and an EVRI and Parcel Force parcel drop. The store also offers local and fresh produce and are always looking to stock new products to meet your needs, so do let them know if there is something you'd like to buy regularly and they'll get it in for you. You can email them on sprattonstores@hotmail.com, call 01604 847287 or pop in to say hello. Check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SprattonStores/>

The Kings Head pub

The Kings Head is the perfect venue to relax with family and friends. The décor provides a warm, welcoming atmosphere to locals and visitors alike. They offer a wide range of tasty country pub food using fresh ingredients sourced directly from producers across the county; Lunch runs from 12noon – 2.45pm; Evenings 5pm – 8.45pm; and Sunday 12noon – 5pm. They also have a wide range of drinks for any occasion, whether an evening spent with friends or a big celebration. They also have themed nights, such as Curry on Monday, Pies on Tuesday, and special menus on occasion, such as Spanish cuisine. Major sporting events are on the TV in the pub too, and there's a fortnightly Sunday night quiz night with cash prizes.

Call 01604 847351 or email BRASSERIE23@KINGSHEADSPRATTON.CO.UK. You can sign up for a newsletter or book a table at <https://kingsheadspratton.co.uk/>. You can also follow them on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083272843962#>

Other businesses and local services

The quarterly village newsletter includes adverts for a wide range of local services including plumbing, physio, legal services, odd jobs, hair dressing, healthcare, fitness and much more.

UNO 59 and 60 bus service

The service runs through Spratton to Market Harborough and Northampton daily on week days. Google "uno bus 60" to see the timetable.

Other nearby services and facilities – Google for more information

Spratton is fortunate to have a wide range of other services and facilities close by. These include:

Creaton is walking distance from Spratton or 3-minutes in the car. It has a range of facilities including a secure dog walking area, a local shop and post office and an Indian restaurant.

Brixworth is a 5-minute drive from Spratton. It has the following facilities: Brixworth Library; The Saxon Spires Surgery and Pharmacy; Cafes, takeaways and restaurants; Chip shop; Barbers; Pubs; Co-op and other stores; Northampton sailing club; Brixworth Cricket Club; household waste recycling centre. The X7 Stagecoach bus runs daily through Brixworth to Northampton and Leicester.

Chapel Brampton and Church Brampton are a 5-minute drive away, and offer services including pubs and restaurants, a golf course and driving range, Sedgebrook Hall hotel, Northampton & Lamport heritage railway, and horse riding, training and stabling facilities at Brampton Stables.

Hollowell is a 6-minute drive and is home to the famous steam rally each July, bonfire and fireworks display in November and the Hollowell Sailing Club.

Guilsborough is an 8-minute drive. Its facilities include the Guilsborough Secondary School (with buses between Spratton and the school); The Saxon Spires Surgery and Pharmacy; Village shop; Amateur Dramatics Society and other community groups.

Long Buckby is 14-minutes in the car. As well as a wide range of shops, pubs and restaurants, Long Buckby also has a train station with regular services running between London Euston and Birmingham, and beyond, including Birmingham International Airport.

The closest towns with a wide range of services and facilities, all within about a 25-minute drive, are Northampton, Market Harborough and Daventry.