

SPEEN PLAYING FIELDS

Serving your community since 1935



Speen Playing Fields

How it all started....

- The 2 acre 3 rods 20 perches field behind the King William IV public house was bought in 1935 from Wheelers Wycombe Brewery Limited
- Prior to Wheelers it was part of John Free's Farm when the field was a Cherry Tree Orchard behind the farmhouse
- A further 0.3-acres where the Pavilion is sited was bought in 1971
- In 2005 The 1.8-acre field off Moses Plat was bequeathed to the community by Dan Ridgeley "exclusively for the children of the village"



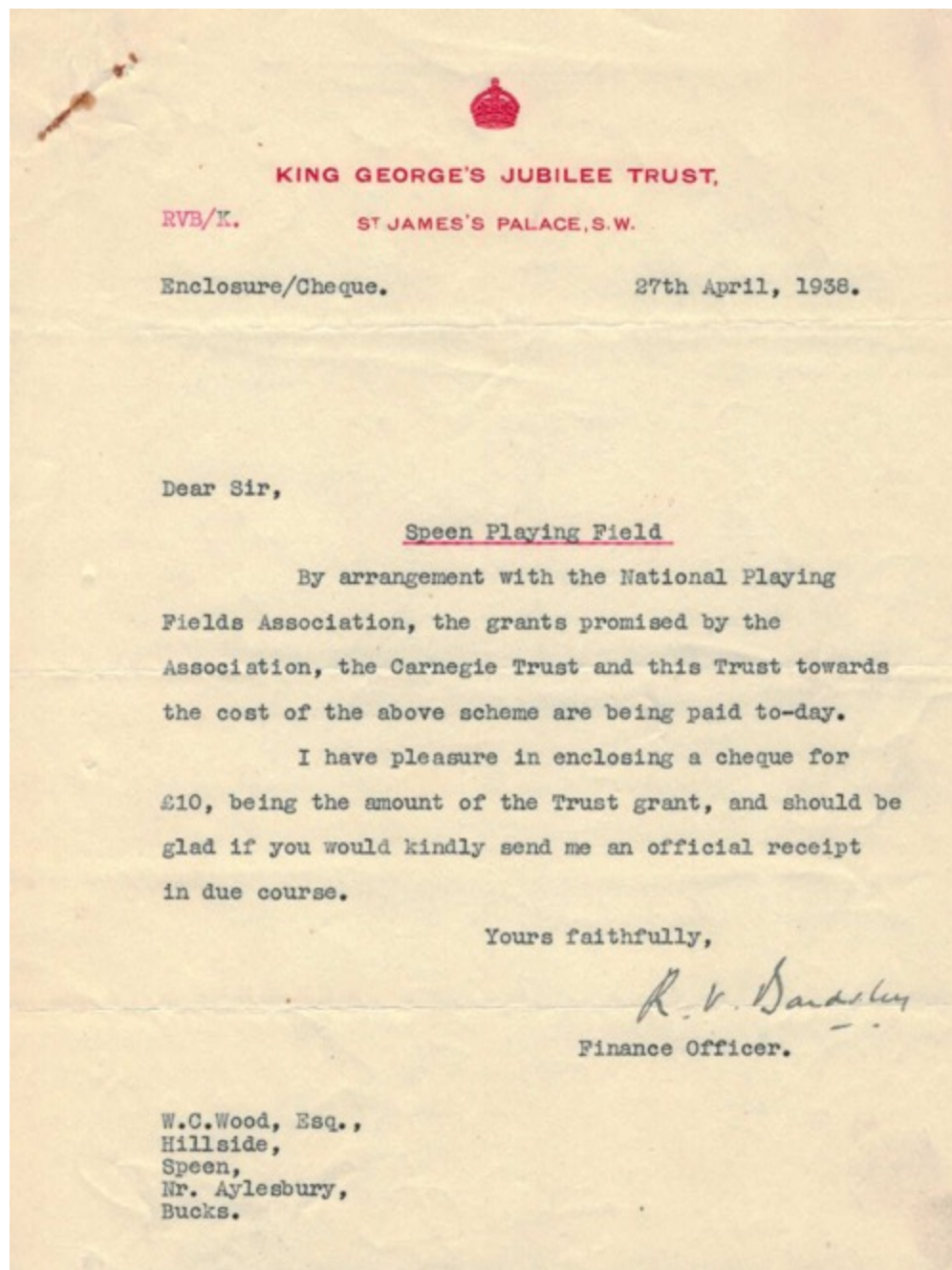
Speen Playing Fields

Ownership of the Fields

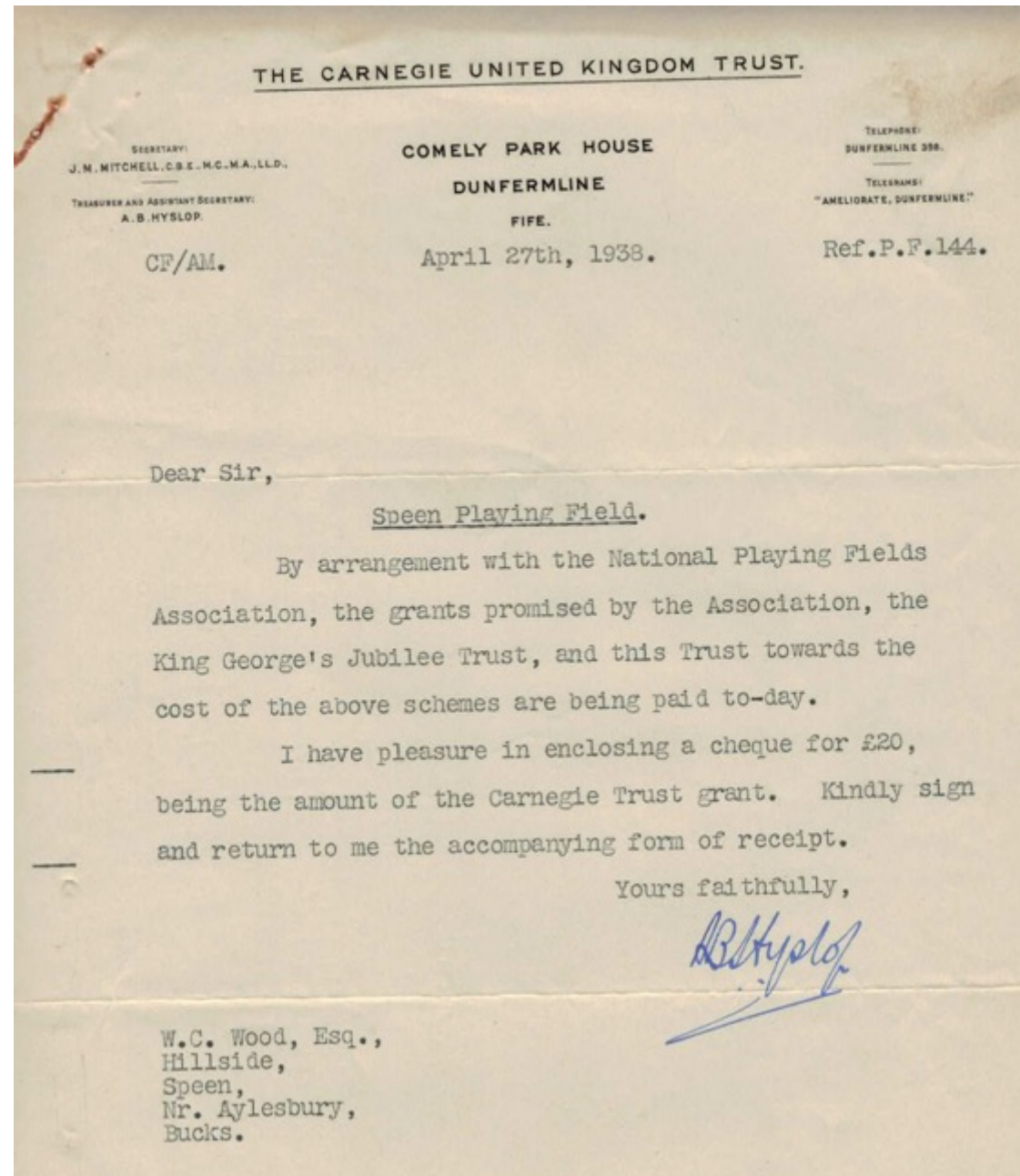
- Main Field bought by the village for £160 with the help of King George V Jubilee Trust, the Carnegie Trust and the National Playing Fields Association.
- The Ownership was vested with the Charities Commission and managed by a committee of Trustees on behalf of the village under the terms of a Trust dated October 11th 1935.
- IMPORTANT... it is not Local Authority owned AND not Local Authority supported



Funding letter from King George Jubilee Trust



Funding letter from The Carnegie Trust




Speen Playing Fields

Funding letter from National Playing Fields Association



Speen Playing Fields

THE NATIONAL PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION
(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER)

<p>Officers: FIELD-MARSHAL THE EARL OF CAVAN, K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., G.B.E. (Chairman) THE RT. HON. EARL OF DUDLEY, M.C. (Vice-Chairman) SIR ARTHUR CROSFIELD, BART., G.B.E. (Deputy Chairman) THE RT. HON. SIR THOMAS INSKIP, C.B.E., K.C., M.P. (Deputy Chairman & Chairman of Grounds Committee) SIR NOEL CURTIS-BENNETT, K.C.V.O. (Honorary Treasurer) BRIG-GEN. P. MAUD, C.M.G., C.B.E. (Chairman of Grounds & Lay-Out Committee) W. W. WAKEFIELD, ESQ., M.P. (Chairman of Organisation Committee) MAJOR B. C. HARTLEY, O.B.E. (Chairman of Appeals & Propaganda Committee)</p> <p>SIR LAWRENCE CHURCH, General Secretary. C. H. GARLAND, I.S.O., M.B.E., Organising Secretary. WARREN ZAMBRA, M.A., Deputy Secretary.</p>	<p>Date: H.M. THE KING.</p> <p>President: THE RT. HON. EARL OF DUDLEY, K.G., G.C.B., G.C.V.O.</p>  <p>IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE PFG/837</p> <p><small>ALL LETTERS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY.</small></p>	<p>Bankers: LLOYDS BANK LTD., 31, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.1</p> <p>TELEPHONE: VICTORIA 9274-6 TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: NATPLAFION, SOWEST, LONDON</p> <p>71, ECCLESTON SQUARE, BELGRAVE ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1.</p> <p><small>(KINDLY SENT BY THE DUKE OF WESTMINSTER, G.C.V.O., D.S.O.)</small></p>
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MJB/EPJ.

27th April, 1938.

W.C.Wood, Esq.,
Hillside,
Speen,
Nr. Aylesbury,
Bucks.

Dear Sir,

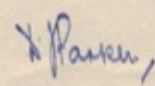
Speen, Playing Field.

I have pleasure in enclosing cheque value £5.0.0.
being the grant promised by this Association in aid of
the above scheme.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly sign and return the
accompanying form of receipt.

May I add that it has given the Association much pleasure
to be able to afford some assistance to your scheme, and
my Committee trusts that the ground will prove of great
value to the local community.

Yours faithfully,


Assistant Secretary.

The War Years

- By 1937 the Field was in use for Cricket and School Sports, maintenance costs for were £5.16s.5p
- After war broke out in 1939 a stream of evacuee children arrived in Speen and made huge use of the field.
- The records note that in 1947 a Mrs Jack was for a short time given permission to graze a goat on the playing Field!
- Whilst by 1949 Mrs Dove was given permission to lead her Goats across the Recreation Ground but not graze!!



Goat Business

"Hillside",
Speen,
Mr. Aylesbury,
Bucks.
20th September, 1947.

Mrs. Jacks,
Speen.

Dear Madam,

An application on your behalf to graze a goat in Speen Playing Field was considered by the Committee and I have been instructed to convey to you their consent - it being understood that they accept no responsibility in the matter and that the goat is securely tethered and that the grazing is confined to the bottom end of the field, beyond the present site of the swings.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.
Speen Playing Field.

luttonbank.
Whitelock.
Aylesbury.
4. 2. 49.

The Speen Recreation
Ground Committee

Dear Sir

I am coming to live at 'Chudleigh'
Speen and have a small herd of
pedigree goats. They are still fed
but taken out on the roads for exercise.
Owing to the awkwardness of the
approach to the village, the driveway
being fringed by unfenced cottage
gardens I should like to make use of
the small gateways from the boundary
of my land to the roadway opposite,
leading the goats across the
recreation ground.
They will not be untended or remain
upon the village ground at all
and I shall be most grateful
for your sanction of this proposal.

Yours truly
F. C. Dove.
(Hes)



Speen Playing Fields

Developments

- The Tennis Court was constructed in 1973 and completely resurfaced by the Tennis Club in 2019
- The Roundabout was purchased in 1975 for £224
- The Pavilion was built in 1988
- First Marquee purchased in 2000



The Purpose of Speen Playing Fields

- To allow the Fields to be used in perpetuity as playing fields and recreation grounds for the benefit of the inhabitants of Speen
- We try to continuously upgrade and renovate the play equipment, the latest additions being the Cube, Climbing frame and Cradle Swing and not forgetting the roundabout refurbishment!
- Major village events held on the fields are Funday, Fete & Bonfire Night and the bi-annual Speen Festival stages many events on our fields both in and outside the Marquee
- We also love to celebrate special occasions on the field such as the Lockdown Freedom Party and the forthcoming Queens Platinum Jubilee Party



Speen Playing Fields

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



Speen Playing Fields

Clearing Ridgeley's Field



We love
driving big
stuff



Speen Playing Fields

And digging
too!



Speen Playing Fields

Village Fete



The Classic Funday Kiddy Curling



Games for All



Speen Playing Fields

HS2



Speen Playing Fields

Pudding Lane



Speen Playing Fields

Ground Control Speen



Speen Playing Fields

Nottingham Castle



Speen Playing Fields

Jurassic Park



Speen Playing Fields

Dr Who



Speen Playing Fields

Bike Park



Speen Playing Fields

Using the Fields

- Village Groups/ Charities use the field and Marquee for special events
- Speen Festival
- Villagers can also make use of the fields/marquee for their own private use too e.g Birthday Parties, Anniversaries, Weddings etc....



Speen Playing Fields

Kick 'n' Rush

Comedy Skiffle Band

Appearing On
Friday 10th of June
at 8.00pm
Speen Playing Fields
Tickets available at Speen Stores
Adults £10 Kids (U16) £5

www.kicknrush.co.uk



All profits to Speen Playing Fields



Speen Playing Fields



De Olde Speen

Fun Day



Sat 13th June



Picnic Lunch 1pm ~ Medieval Games 2pm

Crossing the Moat - Jousting - Cannon Ball Run - Bear Baiting
Ballista Catapults - World Famous Kiddie Kurling

Entrance to Fun Day - Voluntary Donation on the Gate

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## Roasting De Pig 6pm

## Music & Dancing 8pm

Everyone welcome to Pig Roast and Evening Entertainment

£10 Adult & £5 Children

Tickets from King William IV and Speen Shop

All proceeds from this event go to support **your** Playing Fields.  
This year we want to raise enough funds to provide new swings and play  
equipment please come and support us.

# Lockdown Freedom Party



Speen Playing Fields



We do  
like a  
party!



Speen Playing Fields

# Our Expenditure splits into ongoing costs of about £6,000 per year plus special projects,

## ➤ Ongoing

- Insurance £1,700
- Grass Cutting / Strimming £2,800
- Utilities £500
- General Maintenance £1,000

## ➤ Special Projects

- Cube, Cradle & Climbing Frame £35,000 (Grant of £20,000 from PC)
- Roundabout £4,000
- Ridgeley's Resurface £1,500
- Bike Park Half Pipe refurb £1,000



# Financed by

- SPF Draw £2,500
- Bonfire Night £500 to £2,000
- Xmas Tree Collection £550
- Grants..... Fete, Festival £1,400
- Parish Council £250
- Bucks CC Covid special Grant of £10,000 (in 2020)
- We try to keep a contingency reserve to cover a year's expenditure





# Trustees

- The Constitution requires the Trustees to be elected each year at the AGM
- Members must be resident in the village
- 4 meetings a year (including AGM)
- The current members are Matt Davis, Tony Bobroff, Andy Thompson, Adrian Farley, Cristina Delgado, Jo Allen, Duncan Wilson, Greg Cook & Peter Symonds
- We need more and newer Trustees to join us so we can allocate specific roles to each Trustee such as Events, Communications, SPF Draw, Field Maintenance, Secretarial/Admin etc.



# Friends of Speen Playing Fields

- We are also launching today “The Friends of the Fields.”
- A group of supporters, our Volunteer Army, whom we can call upon, on an ad hoc basis for maintenance, events and work parties
- So today we are recruiting for a few more Trustees and many more “Friends”
- If you would like to become a Trustee, please do speak to one of us tonight or leave your contact details or email [playingfields@speenbucks.org.uk](mailto:playingfields@speenbucks.org.uk)



Speen Playing Fields



# You can support us and your community by

- Joining us as a Trustee
- Become a “Friend of the Fields”
- Helping at the Spring and Autumn work parties - the first is tomorrow between 1 and 5pm
- Helping set up and clearing up after events
- Buying Monthly SPF Draw tickets, our main income source
- Attending village events on the fields



Your fields belong to you

We have to take  
responsibility for them

THANK YOU!

