

# IT'S OUR TIME TO SHINE

By **JENNY BEAKE**  
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**Spalding looks set to bask in sunshine this weekend — with good weather set to help attract a bumper crowd to the flower parade.**

Spalding Flower Parade takes place at the weekend with 59 floats making their way from the Castle Sports Centre at 11am on Saturday.

Organiser Stephen Timewell said: “The weather is going to be stunning.

“That’s exactly what we need.

“The only thing we can’t order is the weather.”

The Met Office has forecasted that temperatures could even top 20C on Saturday.

Grahame Madge, a spokesman for the Met Office, told the Spalding Guardian: “The weekend looks to be fine particularly for Lincolnshire and the eastern side of the UK.

“We are expecting temperatures in the range of 20-23 degrees

celsius. Saturday is the better day possibly though Sunday looks largely fine with temperatures in the low to mid 20s.”

Clear skies and warmer weather will help to bring the crowds out for the parade — though visitors are advised not to get caught out by the sunshine.

Mr Madge said: “We want people to be able to enjoy the fine weather, but even if cloudy ultra violet rays (UV) can still be a challenge.

“The parade sounds like it will be a great show but we urge people to use sunblock and sunscreen.

“UV can catch people out when they are out all day.”

It is advised that people wear sun hats, sunglasses and use sunscreen before the head out to see the procession of colourful floats.

Mr Madge added: “We want people to get out into the nicer weather and enjoy it. There is not much in the way of wind to speak

of and no rain predicted.

“Conditions leading up to the weekend are clear and bright with slightly higher temperatures each day.”

Sunday is predicted to mark a little change in weather conditions due to clouds over the North Sea and there will be a transition later in the day, which could then see Monday return to unsettled conditions.

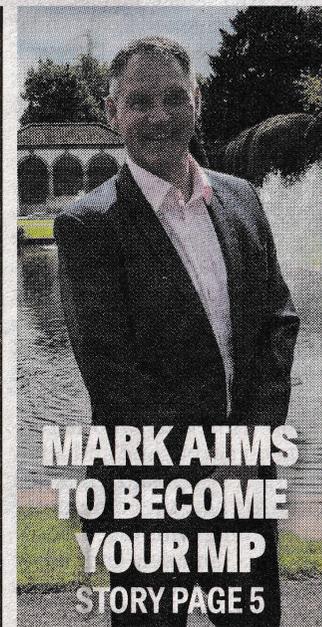
This year Mr Timewell has organised a two-day event — with an illuminated display of the floats on Saturday night followed by a family fun day at the Castle site on the Sunday to keep the festival atmosphere going for the whole weekend, with tens of thousands of people due to descend on the town.

The flower parade was revived last year after a ten-year absence — and this year the floats will be themed around famous films.

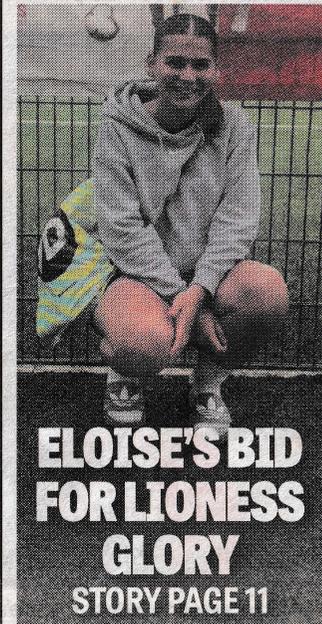
■ See pages two and three - and our special preview magazine - for all the build-up to the big day.



Spalding Flower Parade organiser Stephen Timewell and volunteers have been working hard to get the floats ready for Saturday



**MARK AIMS TO BECOME YOUR MP**  
STORY PAGE 5

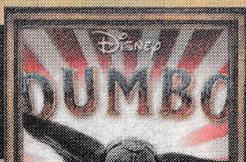


**ELOISE'S BID FOR LIONESS GLORY**  
STORY PAGE 11

Look out for the Baytree team taking part in the parade!

**Baytree**  
Nurseries and Garden Centre

Get your Commemorative Flower Parade badge from the store now  
£3 each or 2 for £5



If you're having some serious flower power vibes after the Spalding Flower Parade, make sure you head down to Baytree Garden Centre! Now is the time to plant up pots, window boxes and hanging baskets with beautiful summer bedding plants, available instore now!



POLITICS

# Nurse and councillor puts himself forward for election

By **DUNCAN BROWNE**  
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**A nurse and district councillor has announced he will be standing for parliament at the general election.**

Mark Le Sage will stand as an independent in the South Holland and Deepings constituency, a seat currently held by Sir John Hayes.

"In a recent survey by Good Morning Britain almost 70% of British people think the country is broken," said Mr Le Sage, a lifelong resident of the area. People, including myself, have lost all hope and faith and feel disillusioned by today's politics.

"I feel that having no one, in my view, I can vote for means we need to give the people of South Holland and The Deepings someone they can trust and rely on to put them first."

Mr Le Sage, an independent South Holland district councillor, believes that his experience and dedication make him the ideal candidate to represent the interests of the local community.

He says he has a thorough understanding of the issues facing the community, due to serving as a local councillor and from working as a nurse in The Deepings.

Mr Le Sage's campaign will focus on safety, anti-social behaviour, access to health services and health and well-being, with a focus on children's health and dental care.

However, he is also calling on local people to help him mould the manifesto.

"The local problems that affect you are the same problems that affect me and my family, it's time for action and it's time for change," added Mr Le Sage.

"By listening to the voices of our community means together we can resolve issues that affect us all."

He has been supported by fellow South Holland Independent councillor Jane King.

She said: "He knows what he is doing and is passionate about what he does. I wholeheartedly believe that he will put everything into it."

Mr Le Sage is the fourth candidate to throw his hat



Mark Le Sage with supporters at his campaign launch

into the ring for the election, for which a date has not yet been set.

Jack Braginton (Liberal Democrats), Rhys Baker (Green Party) and current incumbent Sir John Hayes

have already announced they are standing.

The Labour Party was canvassing in Spalding town centre on Saturday but is yet to announce its candidate.

# Budgens

