

Spadgve

RETIRES



written by **Ivan Wilson** illustrated by Les Holmes



Published 2026
by Ivan Wilson

ISBN 978-0-473-78881-0

© Copyright 2026
All rights reserved.

Except for the purpose of fair reviewing, no part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior written permission from the publisher.

COPYPRESS

Printed by CopyPress, Nelson, New Zealand.

www.copypress.co.nz

To our Grandchildren,
mack, Leah & Ellie





Spadge is the leader of a flock of sparrows,
The boy birds have beanies, but not the girls.



They all live in a country town
with plenty of proper sparrow food.
Seeds, fruit, caterpillars, bread, bugs
and beetles of all sorts,
but which of those would **YOU** eat?





Spadge had been thinking about when they went to the city. There was noise and fumes and no proper sparrow food. It could be a dangerous place for Sparrows.



He remembered the takeaway scraps they'd eaten,
making them so unwell they had to go home.
And he remembered some of them didn't make it.
Some of the sparrows were too sick to fly all that way.