



SWATON NEWSLETTER – MAY 2016

SUPERFAST BROADBAND

We all rejoiced at the news that Swaton was to get Superfast broadband, we sat and listened to the rhetoric of Stephen Brooks (Lincolnshire Programme Manager) on how we would all benefit and relished the opportunity to work from home, download a TV programme which didn't take days, conduct speedy research for homework, do a quick online shop or actually see an email the same day it was sent to us but alas, for some that isn't the case. Having signed up for superfast with my current supplier I didn't see any improvement, in fact at times it seemed worse so I contacted Sky who tested the lines, confirmed it was indeed slow and sent out engineers. Despite being told "problem solved" our service was still extremely slow to non-existent! Anyway, to cut a very long story short it hadn't been upgraded, after the 4th BT Openreach engineer's visit she explained that we aren't connected to Cabinet 3 (the new one near the telephone box). We are in fact still connected to Cabinet 2 in Helpringham over 3km away. So, that started me thinking, if I'm not connected could there be others? After some research, I found an Openreach web page that tells you (either by postcode or by phone number) how a house is connected . . . so I checked it out and it looked like there were at least 12 properties in Swaton connected to Cabinet 2 that can't get superfast due to the fact there is a gap in the cabling roughly between my house and the north end of the village.



I also followed-up my research by speaking to most of the excluded households. I have since been in contact with our District Councillor as well as Stephen Brooks by email and more recently face to face. Stephen Brooks said he is going to elevate this issue up but an earlier email reply to me was very clear . . . *He had spoken to BT & they confirmed my address, along with the others are fed from Cabinet 2 as the BT DSL Checker shows but quite why it shows FTTC speeds as being available is a mystery and BT are sorting out their data. The engineer that attended is correct in her assessment that the only way for us to get better broadband is to be connected to the new Cabinet 3, but it isn't as simple as that. BT has what is called an 'Equivalence' agreement with all Internet Service Providers that use their infrastructure and under that agreement, they are not able to divert individual numbers to a new cabinet. This is regulated by Ofcom, so they will not carry out the work.*

So what is the next step? I've been advised to put sufficient pressure on to my supplier and others affected should do likewise – get your ISPs to investigate and they'll raise an order for the work with BT openreach. You must complain and keep on complaining. In the meantime, I am going to pursue various avenues to try to get to the bottom of this scenario some of us find ourselves in but think we are unfortunately some way off any resolution. Not sure if you're affected or want to discuss this - then please call me – all ammunition will help - **Elaine Penketh – 0785 222 3535**

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE HUT

SATURDAY 7TH MAY - CINEMA CLUB 3.30pm and 7.30pm

Cinema Club is the first Saturday of each month between February & December. A listing of 2016 films is on display in the Hut & on the village notice board. Kids cinema: Doors open at 3pm. Ticket price includes the film, hot dog, sweets and a drink. Adults evening Cinema: The bar opens at 7pm & the film starts promptly at 7.30. Hot dogs, ice creams & hot & cold drinks are available during the interval and the bar is open too. Membership £10pa or £2 on the night.



NB: Due to a church function the August Cinema Club has moved to 30th July. For membership info please contact Nicola Arnold on 07905 155 359.

SATURDAY MORNING CAFE - 9.30AM TO 12PM

A range of delicious cakes are on offer as well as freshly made bacon rolls and hot beverages - *a great way to start the weekend!* You can also collect your Saturday newspaper (which must be ordered in advance from Liz Harborow – 01529 421 217).



SOUP KITCHEN - MONDAY 9TH MAY

12PM TO 1.30PM - Second Monday of every month.

You'll find a choice of soups as a starter or main course as well as freshly baked jacket potatoes with beans &/or cheese and side salad. Excellent value – a bowl of soup & bread is £1.50 or two bowls for £2.50, Jacket spud with fillings and salad also £2.50.

EVERYONE WELCOME – NO NEED TO BOOK . . .



SWIGGERS BAR – 8.30PM TIL WE CLOSE

The bar is open every **Friday evening from 8.30pm** so come along for a drink and support YOUR VILLAGE HUT. The bar has a selection of soft drinks, bottled / local beers & chilled lagers, red / white wines and a variety of spirits. Crisps, chocolate and snacks are also available - all offered at competitive prices.



CRAFT GROUP - EVERY TUESDAY 9.30AM IN THE HUT

If you're creative and enjoy any form of art or craft why not come along and work on your creative project amongst friends, have a chat, enjoy a cuppa and share, exchange or improve skills . . . so if its Crochet or Tattling, Beadwork or Cross Stitch, Lace or Patchwork or you're simply a dab hand with a pair of knitting needles or a paint brush and canvas then don't be shy – after all you'll be amongst friends.

Contact Liz Harborow for more info – 01529 421 217



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



STEEL BAND WORKSHOP - SATURDAY 28th MAY 2pm - 4pm

As you can see on the back page, Saff Murphy is starting up a Steel Drum Group with the chance for all to try it out on Saturday 28th May in the Hut. It's a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys playing music or for those who want to learn to come along and give it a go **AND you don't even have to be able to read music.** Children and adults alike are all welcome. For more info contact Saff 0784 11 44 193.

The Hut Committee wish Saff and the band good luck and best wishes in this new venture – it will be a great success.

AFTERNOON TEA – SUNDAY 29th MAY - 2.30pm to 5pm

A Sunday tea is always a delicious way to while away a few hours so lets hope the sun is out for the last weekend in May.

Sandwiches, homemade scones with jam and cream are on the menu so come along to The Hut for a cuppa amongst friends and neighbours and support the church in their fundraiser on Sunday 29th May to celebrate the Queen's birthday. There is also a craft display

Tickets can be booked in advance or take a chance and just pop in with friends or the family and let someone else wait on you. For further information contact Wendy Kerby (421930) or Gill Abbott (421278)



VINTAGE DAY VOLUNTEERS – SUNDAY JUNE 26th



Many thousands of pounds are raised for various charities on Vintage Day. The event draws in thousands of visitors from around the region and its successful running depends upon it's volunteers - if you are free that day and happy to spare an hour or so to help make the day run smoothly then please make contact. Help is needed across the event including on the front gate, the parking area, in the tea tent or baking cakes.

STALLS - LOTS OF SPACE AVAILABLE

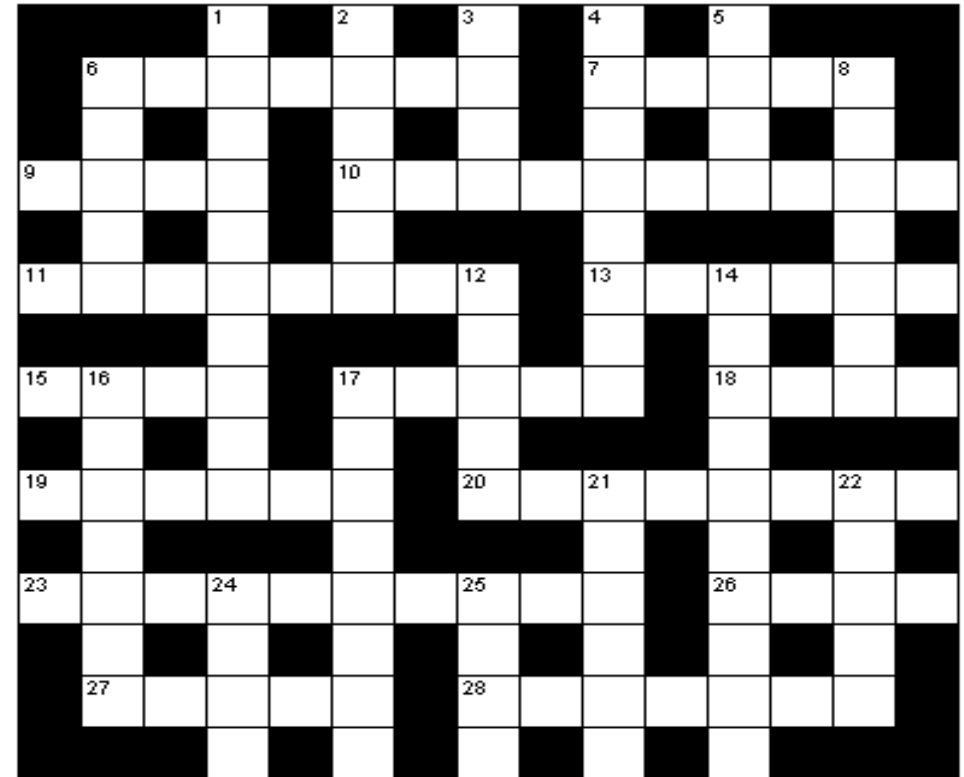
If you or a friend are interested in hiring a stall to sell your goods then please contact Jonathan Forbes on 07710 782 943. There is ample space to spread out, plenty of potential customers passing by and it is a very enjoyable way to spend the day whilst working and making some money – and hopefully the sun will be out too.

SUMMER EVENING BBQ –

The Hut Committee is hoping to hold a Friday evening summer BBQ – its still in the ideas and planning stage so watch out for more info and dates in future newsletters.

If anyone has any other ideas for social events, then please contact the Hut committee.

COFFEE BREAK CRYPTIC CROSSWORD *(Solution on page 11)*



ACROSS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 6. Recuperate (7) | 7. Rehabilitation (5) |
| 9. Hairdo (4) | 10. Make legal (10) |
| 11. Those without seats (8) | 13. Influx (6) |
| 15. Kind of bean (4) | 17. Coming and _____ (5) |
| 18. Orange pekoe (4) | 19. Gap (6) |
| 20. Described (8) | 23. Dispense (10) |
| 26. Classify (4) | 27. Audacity (5) |
| 28. Our language (7) | |

DOWN

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Bookkeeper (10) | 2. Slender (6) |
| 3. Naval jail (4) | 4. Squirming (8) |
| 5. Leveling wedge (4) | 6. Fit out again (5) |
| 8. Rocket launcher (7) | 12. Bake in a shallow dish (5) |
| 14. What some science fiction is (10) | |
| 16. Belief (7) | 17. Rumourmonger (8) |
| 21. Promise (6) | 22. Our planet (5) |
| 24. Faeces (4) | 25. Utilized (4) |

DIGITAL HUBS

A joint initiative between West Lindsey, City of Lincoln and North Kesteven councils is under way to help people to get online or improve their digital skills at community level by setting up 'Digital Hubs'.

This initiative is aimed at people within communities who need to be on-line but don't have regular or personal access to a computer or smart phone. There are many reasons we need to be on line but for some this may be a vital link.

One of the reasons behind this digital initiative is the changes happening in the Benefits System - the changes are to simplify the system by merging a string of working-age benefits and tax credits into one single payment, called 'Universal Credit' and this will be totally on-line so anyone claiming benefits will need to be computer literate and have access to the internet to make a claim.

Anyone looking for a job needs to be able to access the internet – job centres don't have rows of boards with job cards on display anymore, so unless a job seeker can get in to their local job centre or library to access a PC the digital hub could be a vital resource for them too.

Digital Hubs are in their infancy in our region, some areas of the country are up and running and lessons are being learned from those. It isn't clear how or where these will be set up, whether they will be regionally based somewhere within the Osournby Ward or ideally one in each village. Although there may be some renovated PCs to be had there is no Government funding being given for these projects so this isn't something that's going to happen overnight.

Local and Parish Councils across the country will be assessing what the needs are within their communities and how this unfunded project can come to fruition, especially in remote villages and isolated regions.



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – 7.30pm Tuesday 17th May

All Swaton residents are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings. The first 15 minutes of all PC meeting are open for the public to make comment or raise concerns, it is your chance to voice your opinion, ask a question or make suggestions after which if you wish you can stay and hear what is happening in Swaton...



FUTURE 2016 PC MEETINGS

Tuesday 19th July
Tuesday 20th September
Tuesday 15th November

Police Commissioner and EU Referendum Vote

Voting for Lincolnshire's Police Commissioner takes place on **Thursday May 5th** – the Polling Station will be open from 7am for you to cast your vote and closes at 10pm.

The Polling station will be open again on **June 23rd for the EU Referendum.**

If you haven't already registered to vote – maybe it's your first time voting and you'll be 18 by the 23rd June or you've recently moved in to the region then you must register to vote by June 7th if you want a say in the EU referendum.

The register simply go on-line and type in <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

When you register, you'll be asked for your personal details including NI number – it is very simple to do. After you have completed the on-line pages your application will be sent to NKDC.

If you don't have access to a computer then ask a friend or neighbour – it only takes 2 mins and sure someone in the village will be happy to help you.



10 FACTS ABOUT MAY



1. The month of May was named for Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.
2. In any given year, no month ever begins or ends on the same day of the week as May does.
3. The priests of Vulcan in Ancient Rome used to sacrifice a pregnant sow on the first of May.
4. In 1644 maypoles were banned in England as a 'heathenish vanity'. Local officials who defiantly put them up could be fined five shillings a week.
5. In 1661, a maypole 123ft tall was put up in the Strand, London for the return of Charles II. Isaac Newton later used it as a support for his telescope.
6. S'Let no man boast himself that he has got through the perils of winter till at least the seventh of May." (Anthony Trollope).
7. According to the roman poet Ovid: "Bad girls wed in May."
8. According to old Cornish superstition, it is unlucky to buy a broom during the month of May.
9. No US president has ever died during the month of May. Harry S Truman and John F Kennedy are the only ones born in May.
10. In response to May 1 being Labour Day, the first World Tramps Congress in Argentina in 1966 named May 2 as the International Day of Idleness.

JOBS TO DO IN YOUR 'MAY' GARDEN

Top tips: After all risk of frost has passed this month, plant out tomatoes, courgettes and pumpkins that were previously sown under cover. Other young plants can be planted out once conditions are suitable, and once they've been hardened off.

Sowing and planting - Fruit:

- Plant out alpine strawberry seedlings sown in early spring.
- Sow outdoor melons in a heated propagator.

Sowing and planting - Vegetables:

- Sow French beans, runner beans, squash, cucumbers and pumpkin seeds directly into prepared beds outside. Be alert to late frosts (for which a covering of horticultural fleece should provide sufficient protection).
- Sow sweet corn outside in blocks, at least 45cm (18in) spacing, with two seeds per hole. The strongest seedling can be selected later.
- Sow cauliflowers and purple sprouting broccoli for harvesting next winter.
- Try sowing some unusual vegetables such as kohlrabi (like a large white above-ground turnip), scorzonera and salsify.
- Witloof chicory can be sown this month, to have some ready for forcing next winter. Sow in drills directly outside.
- After all risk of frost has passed, plant out tomatoes, courgettes and pumpkins that were previously sown under cover.
- Other young plants can be planted out once conditions are suitable, and once they've been hardened off (acclimatised to the colder outdoor conditions) for 10 to 14 days.
- Brussels sprouts for next winter should now be ready for transplanting after early or mid-spring sowing.
- Plant out artichokes that were previously sown under cover.
- Self-blanching celery can also be planted out towards the end of the month.
- Ridge cucumbers can be sown indoors now, for planting out in early June.

Pruning and training - Fruit:

- Remove wayward shoots on fan-trained trees and tie in better placed ones.
- Thin out crowded raspberry shoots.
- Thin gooseberries if you want large fruit.
- Tie in leading and side shoots of kiwifruit.

Problems

- Keep an eye out for asparagus beetles, and pick them off by hand.
- Watch for small holes the flea beetles make on brassica seedlings.
- Water plants well to help them continue growing despite the pest damage.
- Protect carrots with insect-proof mesh to prevent carrot root fly.
- Slugs pose a threat, and slug controls are necessary now, as always.
- Protect brassicas and peas from pigeons.
- Pick yellowing leaves off brassicas promptly, to prevent spread of grey mould and brassica downy mildew.
- With apple sawfly and capsid bug and prevent blossom wilt if it struck last year.
- Put up codling moth traps in apple trees.
- Look out for spur blight, cane spot and cane blight on raspberries, blackberries and hybrid berries.
- Put bird protection in place for all soft fruit.
- Deal with raspberry leaf and bud mite and raspberry rust from now on.
- Keep on top of weed control and continue through to summer.

For more info go to www.rhs.org.uk/advice/grow-your-own/in-month/may

IN THE 'MAY' GARDEN (cont.)

GENERAL CARE

Fruit :

- Pull off suckers appearing around the base of fruit trees.
- Liquid feed fruit trees growing in pots with a balanced feed every fortnight.
- De-blossom strawberry runners planted since September.
- Water blueberries, cranberries and lingonberries when needed with rainwater, but use tap water when butts are empty.
- Take softwood cuttings of kiwifruit.
- Remove any winter protection from figs and carry out pruning.
- Move growing-bags into the greenhouse to warm up two weeks before planting indoor melons, and water well two days before planting.
- Gently run your hand over indoor grape vine flowers to pollinate them.
- Make sure fruit isn't drought stressed, especially those in containers, against a wall or newly planted.
- Make sure bees can access caged and cloched fruit flowers to ensure pollination.
- Keep a check on late frost forecasts and protect blossom as necessary.

Vegetables :

- Earth up potatoes when the shoots are 23cm (9in) high, in order to prevent the new tubers going green. Earthing-up is the drawing up of soil around the stems of the plants, leaving just 5cm (2in) of shoot uncovered so that the plant has enough foliage to continue growing.
- Start to remove side shoots from cordon tomatoes as you see them. The side shoots develop in the leaf axils (i.e. between the stem and leaf), and if allowed to develop will sap the energy of the plant and reduce the quality of the yield.
- Strings stretched along the tops of broad bean plants can support them, and prevent them flopping once pods develop.
- Peas need staking with pea sticks, netting, or pruned twigs from the garden.

6					9	5
2					7	
9			7		6	4
		6	3	4		2
		8				
7					8	
	5	7		6		3
	3		8	5		4
		2			5	8

Easy Sudoku
(Solution on
page 11)

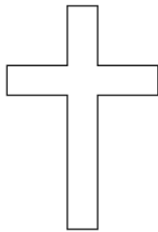
RECREATION PARK

The plans for the park are coming along nicely and grants will be applied for once the quotation stage has been finalised – unfortunately dealing with quite a few playground companies has made it a lengthy process. Due to the consultation process, the initial plans were slightly amended with additional pieces of equipment added in or some changed so we are awaiting updated quotes.



The electric cables that ran along the park have now been relocated as they would have prohibited the installation of the Zip Wire and Tennis Court. Now it's a case of dealing with the neighbouring trees to the right of the park which have to be pruned back and made safe so we are currently awaiting news from the landowner on what is happening with those. We appreciate the process appears to be taking its time but be assured the park is moving forward.

A MESSAGE FROM CHRIS HARRINGTON - OUR REV



Art for art's sake? Just before Easter I was fortunate to be at Lincoln Cathedral for a special service and afterwards was able to see one of the finest exhibitions of modern religious art, which is owned by the Methodist Church. The exhibition was called 'Passion in Paint' and featured a wide variety of styles of painting as artists have tried to capture particular Biblical stories, theological ideas or images through the medium of painting. As I walked around the exhibition I spoke to a number of people and asked them which picture they liked

best and everyone pointed to a different one, confirming that beauty is more about the eye of the beholder than the object itself. In St Paul's letters it says that we are all God's works of art and that in his eye we are all beautiful – the apple of his eye. So remember that next time you look in the mirror. In the eyes of God, you are beautiful and a precious work of art. There is no one else quite like you.

Also we are made in God's image and that image is creative – God being the creator of life itself. So in order to live life fully I believe we each need to exercise those creative talents God has given to us. For some that might mean their creative talents are expressed through music. For others it might be knitting, or sewing, or woodwork, or metalwork, or flower arranging, or pottery, or drama, or painting, or writing. Art itself has many mediums.

During May we want to celebrate some of that creativity and so **on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th May we are holding an Art Exhibition in Heckington church.**

If you are a local artist and would like to exhibit some of your work, please contact either myself (460904) or Chris Cullen (460272). It doesn't have to be pictures you are selling, but if you do want to offer them for sale then we are happy to help facilitate that. During the exhibition refreshments will be available and there will be a chance to perhaps meet and chat with some of the artists themselves. All are welcome

A MESSAGE FROM THE REV (CONT)

Military Wives at Helpringham - On Saturday 7th May Cranwell Military Wives Choir are in concert at Helpringham Church at 7pm. Tickets (if they are still available) are available from Marian and Vince (421395) priced £10 which includes a buffet supper and a drink.

Mission Shaped Intro Course - This course is running at Heckington Church on Monday evenings at 7pm beginning on 16th May and five other Monday evenings through to July. If you want to come and explore the idea that Fresh Expressions of Church are now needed in a rapidly changing culture and world, then do come contact me and come along.

High Tea at Swaton - To celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday Swaton church is holding a special afternoon tea in the Hut between 3pm & 5pm on Sunday 29th May. Cakes, sandwiches, scones and jam are being served to celebrate our devoted Queen who has served her subjects well over the many years of her reign. There will also be a craft display and some old pictures of Swaton on show in the church. More tea vicar? Yes please. See you there.

So whether its painting, singing, collecting, learning, swigging or eating, enjoy this precious gift called LIFE this glorious Spring time. Cheers !.

SERVICES DURING MAY 2016

8th MAY – 7th Sunday of Easter - 11am Swaton (Morning Praise)

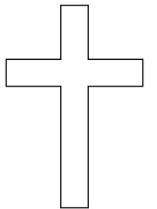
Wendy

22nd MAY – Trinity Sunday - 9.30am Swaton (Holy

Communion) Rev Chris

www.heckingtonandhelpringhamgroup.org.uk

Rector - Rev Chris Harrington (01529) 460904



	2	5					6
1						7	9
4				1			
		9				6	8
				9			5
	1		7	3			
8				5			
			8	7		5	2
		7	2				

Medium Sudoku (Solution on page11)

COFFEE BREAK CROSSWORD & SUDOKU SOLUTIONS



6	7	1	4	2	8	3	9	5
2	5	4	3	6	9	7	8	1
9	3	8	1	5	7	6	2	4
5	8	9	6	3	4	1	7	2
3	1	6	8	7	2	4	5	9
7	4	2	5	9	1	8	3	6
8	2	5	7	4	6	9	1	3
1	6	3	9	8	5	2	4	7
4	9	7	2	1	3	5	6	8

9	2	5	3	4	7	1	6	8
1	6	3	5	2	8	7	9	4
4	7	8	9	6	1	2	3	5
7	3	9	4	5	2	6	8	1
2	8	4	6	1	9	3	5	7
5	1	6	7	8	3	4	2	9
8	4	2	1	3	5	9	7	6
3	9	1	8	7	6	5	4	2
6	5	7	2	9	4	8	1	3



GREAT VENUE FOR A PARTY OR MEETING
 The HUT is an ideal location for a get-together, group activity, kids party, play group or business meeting.
 To book 'The Hut' please contact Liz Harborow to book the Hut on 01529 421 217
 Discount given to Swaton residents.

EVENTS, GROUPS & SWATON SOCIAL CALENDER . . .
 If anyone has any suggestions for a Village social event, then please do approach any of the Hut Committee - you'll always find a few committee members in the hut on a Saturday morning or pop a suggestion in to the letter box which can be found to the left of the Hut's front door. Our social events are always popular such as the village quiz and Christmas meals so more ideas are welcomed.
 The Hut is a great location for group activities . . . in the past we've had a Youth Group, a Baby and Toddler Group and Pilates sessions and currently we have the Tuesday Craft Group and Book Club which meets monthly and includes an evening meal often themed around the book that's being read, so if you have an idea for a group or an activity please do come forward and sow the seed !!
SAFF MURPHY IS FIRST UP THIS YEAR WITH HER STEEL BAND
Discounted rates for Swaton residents.

28th May 2016 - 2pm til 4pm

The Pilgrims, Lincolnshire's newest steel band.

I am currently recruiting for members of this exciting new venture.

Steel band is an exciting opportunity to play many different kinds of music in many different venues.

I have played steel pans for over 20 years and have 10 years' experience teaching pan, I hold an enhanced DBS certificate.

To introduce people to the new band I am holding an afternoon workshop in:
 The Village Hut, next to St Michael's church on Swaton High Street, NG34 0JR.

For more information, please contact:
 Saffron Murphy
saffmann@gmail.com
 07841144193