

JUNE

SWATON NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2016



VINTAGE DAY VOLUNTEERS – SUNDAY JUNE 26th

Vintage Day is a great day out for all ages with various attractions and this year includes the World Egg Throwing Championships, Steam Engines, Vintage & Classic Cars, Dog Show and Terrier Racing, Giant Tortoises, a Climbing Wall, Crafts and goods stalls as well as live music. For refreshment there is a

Hog Roast, a Beer Tent and a Tea Tent selling scrumptious cakes.

A lot of effort from the committee and volunteers goes in to making Vintage Day a real success and the day raises many thousands of pounds for various local and national charities.

HELP WANTED: Vintage Day draws in thousands of visitors from around the region and very much depends upon volunteers to make the day run smoothly - if you are free on the last Sunday of June (26th) and willing to spare an hour or so helping out at the event then please make contact with Andy Dunlop (Vintage Day Chairman) on 07900 267 870 who will gladly put you in touch with the people responsible for specific aspects of the day.

Help is needed across the event including the vehicular entrance, parking area, the tea tent or if you can't be there on the day to help why not bake a cake.

SALES STALLS: If you or a friend are interested in hiring a stall to sell goods then please do make contact with Jonathan Forbes on 07710 782943.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017

Every year the Parish Council regrettably declines the request to enter the 'BEST KEPT VILLAGE' run by *The Campaign To Protect Rural England* so we'd like to change that. We're looking for green fingered villagers, keen gardeners or anyone who enjoys being outdoors & is interested in learning about gardening to form a working group. Don't worry if you don't know a weed from a rose as long as you're willing to get involved in making Swaton look gorgeous for judging day in July 2017. We'll all benefit from this but it won't happen unless we can get a group of committed people together. If this exciting new project interests you, please contact Elaine (421769) or John (421 294). **SWATON NEEDS YOU TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.**



Summer evening BBQ - JUNE 10th

You get to the end of a working week and you're ready to flop so instead of reaching for the takeaway menu join the HUT committee for an evening BBQ on **Friday June 10th**. **The bar will be open and there is no need to pre-book.**

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE HUT

SATURDAY 4TH JUNE - 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. For membership info please contact Nicola Arnold on 07905 155 359.

NB: Due to a church function the August Cinema Club has moved to 30th July.



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 13TH JUNE

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 Tatting, 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**



MAY EVENT REMINDER - THE PILGRIMS STEEL BAND



Saff Murphy-Mann is starting up a Steel Band right here in Swaton. Saff has many years' experience teaching and playing Steel Pans. She is holding a workshop audition in The Hut on **Saturday 28th May between 2pm and 4pm**. You don't have to be able to read music or have any experience at all. Come along and give it a try – it will be fun and something very different.

There will be limited places so don't leave it too long to contact Saff – 01529 421 487. Once the band is created there will be regular rehearsals held on Wednesday evenings.

MAY EVENT REMINDER - CREAM TEA – SUNDAY 29th MAY

Afternoon tea with an exhibition of local art is being held in the Church this coming Sunday. There will be sandwiches, cakes and delicious homemade scones with jam and cream on the menu so come along for a cuppa amongst friends and neighbours and support the church in their fundraiser in celebration of the Queen's birthday. Doors open 2pm until 5.30pm



Tickets can be booked in advance or just turn up on the day. For further information contact Wendy Kerby (421930) or Gill Abbott (421278).



AVON

You might have recently had an AVON catalogue dropped through your letterbox by Sarah-Jayne. Sarah is a qualified freelance make-up artist and your local Avon rep living right here in Swaton with her three sons.

If you are interested in AVON products or would like to **HOST AN EVENING MAKE-UP PARTY** (a great way to get together with friends over a glass or two of wine) or if you're interested in a **MAKE-OVER** or makeup lessons or need ideas for an event such as a wedding, then contact Sarah for a chat.

AVON don't just sell make-up, you can get excellent skin care products including skin protection for your summer holiday, haircare products, jewellery, fashion, footwear and lingerie – great ideas for birthdays and Christmas (well there are only around 212 days to go !)

AVON isn't just for the ladies – there are also skincare, toiletries and fragrance ranges for the men.

Sarah is at 2 The Row or email her at 'thecakeole@outlook.com' or phone Sarah anytime between 9.30am-7.30pm on 0782 481 8434.



Rest In Peace

A Sad Loss to Swaton

Wally Green, a long term Swaton resident sadly passed away last week following his courageous battle with Cancer which he faced with dignity and at times with humour. Wally was a lovely, kind man who I recall warmly welcomed myself & my husband to the village 4 years ago not seeming to mind the invasion of a couple of Londoners. I'm sure everyone in Swaton who knew Wally is as saddened by this news as we were and like us, would like to pass on their sincere condolences to Wally's family and friends. If you would like to say a final farewell to Wally and pay your respects by attending his funeral, Wally's nephew Mike is arranging the service to be held 11am Tuesday 31st May at Swaton's St Michael's church

DATES TO REMEMBER

FATHERS DAY is always the third Sunday in June so this year it's the 19th. Father's Day started in America in 1910 and like many things wasn't long before the UK had copied the USA.



EU Referendum

Swaton's Hut will again become a Polling Station when it opens at **7am Thursday 23rd June** for the EU referendum vote. If you aren't already on the electoral register then you have until 7th June to register your details on-line (<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>).

MEDIUM LEVEL SODUKU (Solutions on page 11)

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PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL CHAIRMANS & FINANCE REPORT



May's Parish Council meeting started with 'The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council' followed by the election of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Finance Office and assigning duties to Councillors followed by questions from members of the public. The Chairman's report is detailed in June's newsletter.

Everyone is welcome to attend a Parish Council meetings, in fact, it's encouraged. The first 15 minutes of a PC meeting is open to the public to make comment and raise concerns, it is your

chance to voice your opinion after which if you wish you can stay and hear what is happening in Swaton...

2016 PC MEETINGS

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

PRESENT: Cllrs A Deptford, (Chairman), A Dunlop, A Wilson, C Richardson, E Penketh and the Clerk, Mrs S McIntyre.

Chairman's Report - Parish Council Year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016

Your Council has remained the same this year with me as Chairman (because no one else wants the 'job'), Andy Dunlop as Vice-Chairman, Chris Richardson as Responsible Financial Officer and our two newer members Elaine Penketh and Alan Wilson taking on a variety of roles.

Elaine and Alan have attended training and other meetings (which included the riveting 'Code of Conduct' session) and have had their hands full with the Play Area and learning the ropes.

However, with the impending loss of Andy Dunlop to the village, it seems likely that there will be a **vacant position on the Council later this year** - If you are interested in joining the Council, watch for announcements in the Newsletter and Noticeboard or have a word with anyone on the Council. Anyone interested should attend a couple of Parish Council meetings before applying.

It should be noted that unless more than 10 electors from the village request an election, an election is not required. The new member can be 'co-opted'. This means that if there is more than one nominee, the existing Councillors choose the new Councillor on merit. The election in May 2015 (which also encompassed the General Election and District Council elections) cost YOU, the Council Tax payers, £632.58 - Over a quarter of the total cost of running the Council. We sincerely hope to avoid such costs in choosing Andy's replacement.

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Parish Council (Cont.) - Chairman's Report (2)

Superfast Broadband finally arrived in the village in January with many residents taking advantage of this. Unfortunately, all has not gone smoothly for the residents at the North End of the village who find that as their phones are wired up directly to the exchange at Helpringham (and not to Swaton's Superfast box 200 metres away) they cannot take advantage of the Broadband Speed increases. This is very unfair and although BT say they cannot do anything about it, noises are being made to try to get this resolved.

The Play Area progresses..... slowly. An £8000 Grant has been applied for and won from Tesco's 'Bags of Help' fund. This should enable some progress to be made during 2016. There have been hold ups due to overhead electricity cables having to be moved (for Health & Safety reasons). It should be noted that due to Cllr Penketh's research and diligence the £8000 cost for this work has been avoided. Dangerous trees owned by Swaton Court's owner are causing similar Health & Safety issues and delays. Further Grant Applications cannot be made until all matters are resolved. Health & Safety issues also necessitated some of the old 'vandalised' equipment to be disposed of.

Anti-Social behaviour has also caused a few problems in the Play Area and around the Bus Shelters. As a last resort the Police were involved and action was taken. IF you see something 'amiss', please report it to a Councillor or if more serious, call the Police 'non-emergency' line on 101. If things are not reported they cannot be dealt with.

Our Litter Supremo, Henk Buijs, has once again surpassed himself, but has finally decided to 'retire' and hand over the mantle to someone else. Would anyone like to take on this prestigious position and organise 'Litter Walks' in and around the village?

The two most consistent items on the Council's Agendas have been **Speeding and Dog Fouling**. We've tried most things over the years that don't cost considerably more money than we have, but the problems persist. At present we are looking at a Community Speedwatch scheme.

Further to last year's **Lighting Survey**, we now hear that due, once again, to Lincolnshire County Council's enforced Budget cuts, Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership is conducting a survey to determine if it is safe to switch off up to 3000 street lights on rural roads. More details will be available later in the year.

Thanks to LCC's 'Big Society' Grant we have been able to locate **village benches** at either end of the village. Thanks also to all involved with the planting of these, particularly Cllr Alan Wilson who lost a lot of sweat and was further drenched by the rain whilst digging the holes.

The **Swaton LIVES team** continue to save lives ! New members are, however, required. Why not join ? Call Peter Penketh on 01529 421769 / 0785 222 3535 for more details.

Our excellent **Village Newsletter** continues thanks to the efforts of Cllr Elaine Penketh.

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CONT: Chairman's Report (3)

Last year I wrote: "The **West End Flooding** dialogues continue. We are 'Oh so slowly' moving towards action! Chris Richardson and Barry Jeffrey have been appointed as our representatives to follow this through with The Environment Agency, LCC and Black Sluice Drainage Board. There have been regular meetings and visits and they are expecting a 'Plan of Action' to be forthcoming 'soon'."

Nothing has really changed! The various bodies are still looking at options including 'Flood Plains' and 'Overflow Containment' measures to the West of the village. Bank maintenance 'downstream' of the village has been improved, though, and I believe this did improve the speed at which this year's West End Flood subsided. The Environment Agency (and LCC) also found a little money to repair bank damage caused by a local farmer's irrigation equipment. I am hoping that they will re-charge this to him. The quagmire on the Southern roadside of West End hasn't been improved. LCC Roadways are basically saying 'Our budget has been cut by 40% and we have to prioritise our spending'. This is not, apparently, one of their priorities.

The issue of **Grass Cutting** in the village has come to the fore. LCC's budget cuts mean that as from April 2017 they will no longer pay the Council to have the grass cut anywhere in the village (or any other villages and towns). SO the debate at the moment is whether we raise the Precept (the amount of Income the Council receives from NKDC) to cover the cost - or not. If this were done there would be a £10 to £15 increase in everyone's Council Tax. The option is to try to keep the village trimmed ourselves. I'd like your opinions on this, please.

We are obligated to produce a **'Village Emergency Plan'**. This covers such (unlikely) eventualities as 3ft of Snow closing down the village and Pandemics such as Ebola hitting us. This will soon be available thanks to the efforts of many including Peter Penketh, Richard Arnold and Mike Kempster. It will be distributed to each household.

We are also being asked to consider setting up a **'Digital Hub'**. This is the provision of an Internet equipped computer and training for the villagers who don't have access to such a facility. Many things such as Job Searches, Brown Bin ordering, Unemployment claims and many Governmental necessities can now ONLY be done online. IF ANYONE in the village feels that this is required, please contact me on 421111.

AND FINALLY... **Many thanks must also go to our long-suffering, highly over-qualified Clerk, Shelagh,** for doing her best to keep us on the straight and narrow during the year ! She steers us through the minefield of Governmental Bureaucracy - whilst hanging on to a (necessary) sense of humour.

In all, a busy and reasonably successful year for the Council. Please contact any Councillor if you have concerns or feel that something needs to change. We will do our best to help.



Chairman to Swaton Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL (cont 4)

Responsible Financial Officer's Report Financial Year - 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016

At present the Council holds funds 'On Trust' on behalf of 'The Swaton Village Fund' who's Bank Account was closed down (due to lack of use).

New Government guidelines do not allow us to include this within the Report of the Council's Accounts. The figures below do not include this.

The Council started the year with £3403.20 in the Bank.

During the year we received an income of £4899.03 PLUS £40.41 which was transferred (internally) from the Village Fund 'account'. £3047.15 of this came from NKDC for the Precept and Litter Picking and LCC for Grass cutting, £1000.00 from Swaton Vintage Day (for Playing Field only use), £370.00 LCC grant for village benches, £134.90 from the sale of old Play Equipment and £3.96 from NatWest for Bank Interest. 3 amounts of £40.41 were received from village bodies to help pay a very belated bill for electrical work and fitting the Defibrillator. The remainder was VAT reclaimed on expenses. This was used for the Council's normal running expenses.

Our expenditure for the year was £3924.53. This was spent on running the Council and maintaining the village, this included paying our Clerk, Stationary, Postage, Insurance, Training, Subscriptions, Hut Rental, Grass cutting, Litter Picking and VAT. One off extras were £370.00 for new benches, £161.63 billed 14 months late for Defibrillator fitting, £632.58 which we obliged to pay NKDC for the privilege of having an election in the village and VAT on some of the expenses (which is reclaimed).

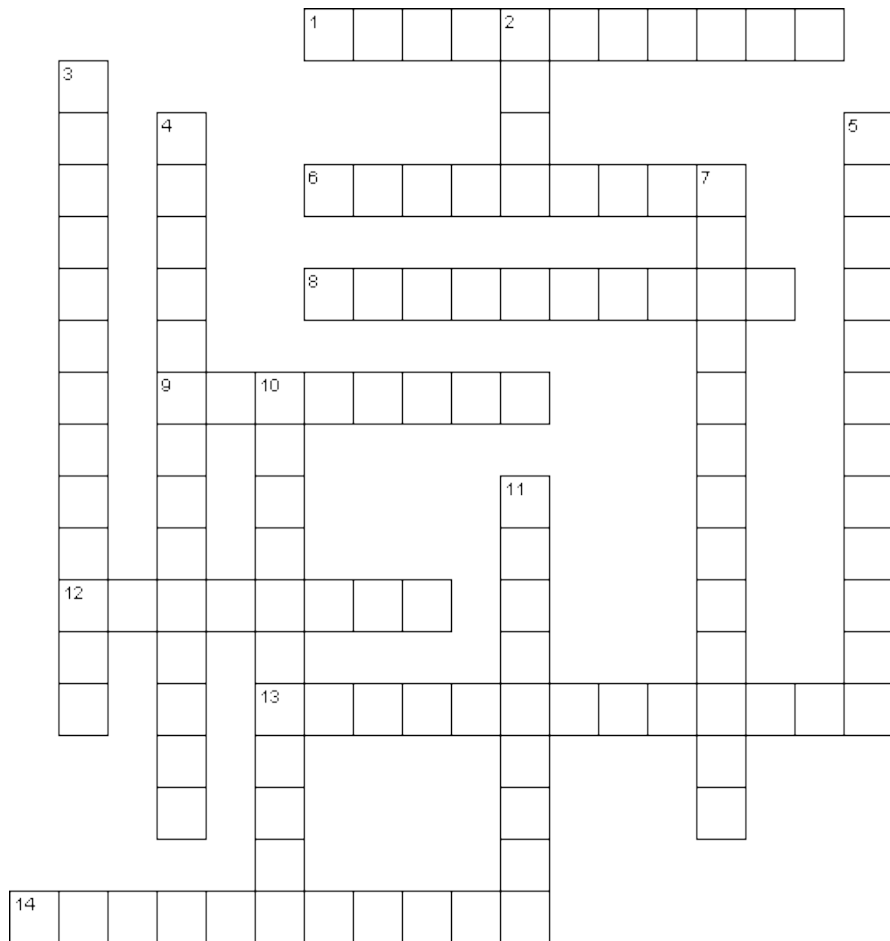
Please note the Council's full Income and Expenditure accounts (unaudited at date of writing - and INCLUDING the Swaton Village Fund money until another account is opened) can be viewed on the Council's website: <http://www.swaton.org.uk/>

We finished the year with £4418.11 in the Bank. This balance does include £850.00 which is 'Ring Fenced' for the Playing Field. This amount consists of the £1000 donated by The Swaton Vintage Day LESS £150 which paid for the Lease of the field from The Crown and Grass cutting during the year.

Deducting the Playing field money leaves £3568.11 as the Parish Council's Reserves and Contingency fund. This Contingency fund is a Statutory Requirement.

The £4418.11 is carried forward into the 2015/2016 year.

COFFEE BREAK CROSSWORD (Solution on page 13)



Across

1. Detective Jimmy Doyle in the 1971 movie, The French Connection (4,7)
6. Character played by Kevin Costner in the 1987 movie, The Untouchables (5,4)
8. Audrey Hepburn played Eliza Doolittle in this 1964 film (2,4,4)
9. Professor G.H. Dorr in the 2004 movie, The Lady killers (3,5)
12. Rod Taylor was Mitch Brenner in this 1963 movie (3,5)
13. He was Sean Maguire in the 1997 film, Good Will Hunting (5,8)
14. Burt Reynolds was Lewis Medlock in this 1972 movie (11)

Down

2. Al Pacino was Vincent Hanna in this 1995 movie (4)
3. He was Milton Warden in the 1953 film, From Here to Eternity (4,9)
4. He was George Taylor in the 1968 movie, Planet of the Apes (8,6)
5. He was Chance the Gardener in the 1979 film, Being There (5,7)
7. He was Detective Virgil Tibbs in the 1967 film, In the Heat of the Night (6,7)
10. Nicole Kidman was Saltine in this 2001 movie (6,5)
11. He was Sean Thornton in the 1952 film, The Quiet Man (4,5)

UPDATE ON THE SUPERFAST BROADBAND SAGA !!!



My neighbour (a BT customer, I'm with Sky) was told by a BT Openreach engineer that both our houses can be connected to Cabinet3 (which has space) by running cable to a man-hole opposite BUT better still the engineer said he could connect all the excluded properties to a new cabinet that could be placed further down the village which is an inexpensive, one-day job for 2 men.

I emailed Stephen Brooks (Lincs Programme Manager), about this potential resolution to the problem and he said that was entirely possible but not likely to be sanctioned by the Openreach boss or Ofcom. Now I am getting annoyed – how can BT Openreach fit out a village with Superfast Broadband and exclude some of the properties in a village not even a mile long – it's a joke! and Swaton isn't the only village this is happening to.

Anyway, I happened to be listening to Radio2 news & heard the MP Ed Vaizey (Government Minister with various responsibilities including digital industries) speaking about the Superfast rollout and thought "right mate you're going to hear from me" SO I have emailed Mr Vaizey at the House of Commons and am awaiting a reply . . . maybe I shouldn't hold my breath or is that just me being cynical ! !

However, since then I have also had an update from my supplier (SKY) who said Openreach have said that "it's not possible to move services to other cabinets because the telephony network over which the fibre broadband runs is bespoke. As such, all premises are served from dedicated distribution points which are connected by their own underground network to the telephony cabinets. No interconnection can be utilised to give fibre broadband services therefore we cannot technically move services to other cabinets. In addition, it is not our policy to reconfigure the network to nearby fibre cabinets so residents can have faster broadband" What a load of B.S.

I am not letting this rest and if it's affecting you then you must keep nagging your supplier to get this moving forward.
Elaine

EVENTS, GROUPS & SWATON SOCIAL CALENDER. . .

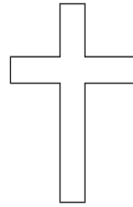
If anyone has any suggestions for a Village social event, then please do approach any of the Hut Committee - you'll always find a few committee members in the hut on a Saturday morning or pop a suggestion in to the letter box which can be found to the left of the Hut's front door. Our social events are 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.

A MESSAGE FROM CHRIS HARRINGTON - OUR REV

I've never met the Queen, but I once waved my union jack as a child as she arrived at the Aston Martin factory at Newport Pagnell in Northants. We lived at Towcester at the time and my parents had taken me to see her on one of her many visits to open a new wing of a car plant. That was over 50 years ago when she was still in her thirties. She has been an amazing monarch and continues with her work cheerfully and without complaint.



I wonder how we would feel cutting the ribbon to open yet another new wing of a hospital or unveiling yet another plaque with her name on it at a factory or a church. How does she keep doing this work day after day? In 2002 she perhaps answered the question herself when she said, *"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try and do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel"*. Many people bend the knee to our amazing Queen but she also bends the knee (though I'm not sure if she is still able to kneel physically) to someone higher still, a person whose unselfish life and example of self-sacrifice has been her inspiration these 90 years. That person is of course Jesus Christ. It is to Him that our Queen gives her allegiance.

In most of her famous Christmas broadcasts she gives Him a mention. He is her role model her anchor in the storm. In 1985 she said, *"The story of the Good Samaritan reminds us of our duty to follow Christ's clear instruction at the end of that story: Go and do likewise"*. Six months before her Coronation, Elizabeth asked the people of the UK and Commonwealth to: *"Pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life"*. It has certainly been a prayer that has been answered. We owe both King Jesus and Queen Elizabeth II an enormous debt of gratitude. Happy Birthday your Majesty you are an inspiration to us all. *Long may you reign over us.*

Two Concerts at Heckington Church: The Boston Orchestra are performing at St Andrew's on Saturday 4th June at 7.30pm tickets are £8 including a buffet supper (Chris 460272). The Boston Choral Society are performing the following Saturday 11th June at 7pm tickets £7 (Pauline 460857).

Lancaster Memorial Service at Screddington: On Sunday 19th June at 11am will be the 4th annual Lancaster memorial service at St Andrew's Screddington.

The Rocking Rev's at Great Hale Church: For the patronal festival of St John the Baptist, I and my fellow clergyman Rev Dave Maylor and our loyal band of friends will be performing some well know rock and pop songs from the 50's 60's & 70's and some blues numbers with the amazing Dougie on harmonica. Great Hale Church on Friday 24th June at 7 for 7.30pm. Tickets £7 including buffet supper (Jenny 460825).

Historic Talk on Edward II at Heckington: Author Kathryn Warner is coming to St Andrew's Church to do a talk on King Edward II and his rebellious wife Isabella of France on Friday 8th July at 7pm. Richard de Potesgrave whose tomb is in the church was the chaplain to Edward II hence the connection with them both. It should be a very interesting night. Kathryn will also be signing her two recent books, Edward II: The unconventional king + Isabella of France: The rebel queen. Tickets from Chris (460272).

JUNE CHURCH SERVICES

5th JUNE: 9.30am Great Hale (Holy Communion) Rev Chris &
11am Heckington (Holy Communion + Baptism) Rev Chris

12th JUNE: 9.30am Screddington (Holy Communion) Rev Peter
10am Great Hale (Messy Church) Christine
11am Helpringham (Holy Communion) Rev Peter
11am Heckington (Morning Praise) Jane Ward followed by a Parish Lunch in the church
11am Swaton (Morning Praise) Wendy

19th JUNE – Father's Day + Open Gardens at Heckington

9.30am Burton Pedwardine (Holy Communion) Rev Chris
10am Great Hale (Messy Church) Christine
11am Heckington (Holy Communion) Rev Peter
11am Screddington (Annual Lancaster Memorial Service) Rev Chris/Teena
6pm Great Hale (Evensong) Rev Chris

26th JUNE (No services at Swaton or Helpringham as its Vintage Day).

10am Great Hale (Messy Church) Christine
11am Heckington (Holy Communion) Rev Peter
6pm Great Hale (Songs of Praise) Rev Chris

3rd JULY: 9.30am Great Hale (Holy Communion) Rev Chris
10.30am Great Hale (Messy Church) Christine
11am Heckington (Healing Service) Rev Peter

God Bless you all

Rector - Rev Chris Harrington

Tel: (01529) 460904

Web: www.heckingtonandhelpringhamgroup.org.uk

