



**ST MICHAELS CHURCH,  
HIGH STREET  
SWATON, NG34**

**SERVICES IN SWATON ARE**

*FAMILY SERVICE – 11AM ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
HOLY COMMUNION – 9.30 ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH*

 **February**

**VILLAGE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – FEB 2015**

*Swaton Village Newsletter has a new look – from now on the village newsletter will combine information regarding activities in your village including 'social events' being held in the 'HUT' as well as information relating to the Parish Council & PCC meetings & activities related to St Michael's Church - so 3 in one.*

**KIDS CINEMA CLUB - 3.30PM SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

**Calling all Swaton Kids – this is JUST FOR YOU !**

In the afternoon of the first Saturday of each month the Hut becomes Swaton Kid's Cinema. The February film is '**Boxtrolls**' - a delightfully weird tale told in stop-motion animation, from the same folks who created 'ParaNorman' and 'Coraline,' Boxtrolls has the same off-kilter feel and appearance and is solid and fun – well worth seeing. Boxtrolls received an Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature.



Entrance costs £2.50 per person and includes the film, a hot dog, drink & a pack of sweets

**So kids . . . forget your homework for a few hours - come along to the hut.**

**You are also welcome to bring a friend or two (or three !!!)**

**ADULT'S CINEMA CLUB – 7.30PM SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

The kids have had their time, now its time for the grown ups !! The cinema club re-opens this coming week with the showing of **Grand Budapest Hotel** with a fab cast including Ralph Fiennes, Jeff Goldblum, Jude Law, Bill Murray and William Dafoe . . . . it's a highly recommended film with reviews that say *The Grand Budapest Hotel* is a marvellous contraption, a wheels-within-wheels thriller that's a pure oxygenated movie, another says it's a film of laughs and energy, typically stylish but deceptively thoughtful.

Pay on the night is £2 per person (£20 per year per person) or pay your annual membership in one go and save money - its only £10 per person for the year.

The bar opens at 7pm, the film starts at 7.30pm with an interval to purchase hot dogs, ice creams, chocolates or sweets as well as an opportunity to top up your glass at the bar.

**Future films include 12 Years A Slave, Rush and Belle.**

**Recommendations for future films are welcomed – speak to Nicola on the night of cinema club. It's a great night out, AND you don't need to use the car !**

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## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

### VILLAGE LUNCH - MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - 12PM TO 1.30PM

**2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month.**

You'll always find a choice of hearty soups on the menu (often made from locally grown produce from the village allotment).



For those with a bigger appetite there is a second course (or if you prefer just have a main course) of Jacket Potatoes with beans &/or cheese and a fresh side salad.

It won't break the bank to come along . . . a bowl of soup &

bread is £1.50 or have two bowls for £2.50. A jacket spud with fillings and salad is also £2.50.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME – NO NEED TO BOOK - So for one day a month let someone else cook for you whilst you chill out and enjoy a delicious, nutritious lunch amongst friends.**

### SATURDAY MORNING CAFE - EVERY SATURDAY - 9.30AM TO 12PM

**A great way to start the weekend.** Every Saturday morning the hut becomes 'Swaton Café' – a place to catch up with friends & fellow villagers. You can order a delicious bacon butty (to eat in or take away) washed down with a freshly brewed cup of tea, coffee (decaf and filter) or hot chocolate.

If you fancy something a little sweeter there is also a selection of cakes and bakes to eat in or take away.



**This is also a chance to collect your Saturday newspaper** (which must be ordered in advance from Liz – 01529 421 217).

### SWATON BAR – EVERY FRIDAY EVENING IN THE HUT – 8.30PM TIL WE CLOSE

The village bar has a good 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.

**There is a dart board too for those who can throw an arrow straight !! See you Friday**



### BOOK CLUB

The Book club meets monthly to discuss the book of the month and enjoy a meal together that is themed around the subject of that month's book - if you enjoy reading, like debating or putting your opinion forward and want to be more socially active contact **Saff on 01529 421 487 or Sally on 421 748. March's book is My Animals & Other Family by Claire Balding**

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Neighbourhood Watch was successfully re-established in Swaton in May last year but Neighbourhood Watch is *not* just about alleviating the risk of crime . . . it is also about encouraging community spirit such as watching out for your neighbours - the recent cold weather is a good

example of when we should be looking out for others so if you have an elderly or vulnerable neighbour please do check on them now and again & make sure they're OK.

You will soon see a few new NHW street signs around the village, they are a great deterrent but they won't stop the opportunist criminal. We do live in a low crime area but 'low crime doesn't mean no crime' so please ensure your windows and doors are secure when your house is unoccupied and lock your garages and sheds - there has been a number of thefts from gardens and out buildings both in Swaton as well as neighbouring villages.



## RECENT ALERTS, NEWS & ADVISE INCLUDES

- \* Thefts from cars parked on driveways overnight – don't leave items of value exposed !
- \* Thefts from oil tanks continue to plague rural villages - 3000 Litres was stolen on Monday from Bridge End and we have had Oil thefts in Swaton so do ensure your oil tank has a secure lock. If your tank is in an exposed position NHW suggests plant some thorny vegetation around it as a deterrent ! !
- \* Males from Nottingham knocking on doors saying they are in a rehabilitation programme after being released from Prison are trying to sell goods – these goods are inferior so be wary.
- \* Dog Chipping continues across Lincolnshire; look at the link [www.chipmydog.org.uk](http://www.chipmydog.org.uk), eventually new legislation will have all dogs chipped thus enabling lost & stolen dogs to be reunited with the registered chip holder.
- \* Harecoursing – If you see anyone or anything suspicious - call the Police, they have been seen in & around Swaton.
- \* Lottery Scam – (email & internet crime) - criminals asking for a fee to be paid to release winnings – note that NO genuine lottery will ever ask for any sort of fee.



## STICKERS FOR YOUR HOUSE AND HORSE BOXES

In regards to alleviating crime there are measures you can take to help protect your property. A majority of houses in Swaton are now displaying one of the various NHW signs in their windows or front doors (available to all and free) – if you don't have any Door signs

please contact your local coordinator – Stickers can help ward off opportunist thieves as well as doorstep salesman who may be knocking on your door for more reason than just a sale. STOP stickers for HORSE BOXES & trailers (A5 size) are currently available, there are a few free ones available (look on Lincs Alert website) – once the free ones have gone the STOP stickers become £5 a pair inc P&P.

**REMEMBER - ring 999 in an emergency, or 101 if the matter is less urgent.  
SWATON NHW COORDINATORS – Peter (417404) or Pat in West End (421840)**



### **L.I.V.E.S.**

Swaton is lucky to have an active L.I.V.E.S (Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Service) group manned by volunteers who use some of their free time to support the ambulance service typically dealing with medical emergencies if an ambulance is delayed and oxygen or a Defib is needed such as breathing difficulties, cardiac arrest etc.

Full training is given. **It's a very worthwhile activity.**

If you would like to hear more about becoming a First Responder with Swaton **L.I.V.E.S** please contact **Andrew Deptford on 01529 421 111.**

*For medical emergencies always ring 999 – your emergency will filter down to the local team but you must go through the proper channels.*

*Swaton is fortunate in having a defibrillator on the outside wall of the Village Hut in the event of Cardiac Arrest – if you aren't familiar with how to use the defib or how to access it please contact Andrew Deptford on 01529 421 111*

*If you would like to play an active part in the Village events or have any ideas to enhance the Village social scene then please contact any of the Village Hut Committee (usually found at any of the previously mentioned events)*

**AND LASTLY . . .**

*If you would like some Village News mentioned in the Village newsletter please contact Elaine Penketh on 01529 417404*



**Happy Valentines everyone  
and don't forget the 17<sup>th</sup> is Pancake day**

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### **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 421217**



## **FUTURE DATES & TICKETED EVENTS**

### **QUIZ NIGHT – 7pm SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2015**



Swaton Village quiz night is a twice yearly highlight of our social calendar. For the price of a ticket you'll enjoy a fabulous two course meal, the bar is open all evening and you'll participate in the quiz which includes picture quizzes to ponder during the evening as well as the main quiz with its final game changer question ! !

If there are only a few of you don't worry – you can join fellow village quizzers and make up a team or bring your own team along with you – it's great fun, a fabulous social gathering & a great way to meet your neighbours – tickets are only for £7 each.

**TICKETS GO QUICKLY - TO PRE-BOOK TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT JEAN ON 01529 421 317 or Liz on 01529 421 217.**

**PAYMENT IS NEEDED TO SECURE TICKETS.**

**UNPAID TICKETS CANNOT BE HELD INDEFINITELY AS THE QUIZ IS A POPULAR ACTIVITY AND NUMBERS ARE LIMITED.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT  
'YOUR VILLAGE HUT' - USE IT OR LOSE IT !!**

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## **REPORT FROM SWATON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The quarterly Parish Council meeting was held in the Hut Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January. The initial part of Parish Council meetings are open to members of the public to comment, raise concerns & ask questions then the meeting is 'closed' for the Council to commence its official business

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING:** **INTERNET SPEEDS.**

A record number of people turned up at the start of the meeting to hear Mr Stephen Brookes (Broadband Programme Manager) responsible for rolling out a better internet service across the region. Mr Brookes talked about fibre optic broadband within the parish. He said that the existing service comes via copper wire from a box in Helpringham – the distance reduces its effectiveness.



Two new fibre fed boxes will be installed in Swaton and these will feed a shorter copper wire service to the end users. Within a distance of 2km of a box, speeds should be above 20 megabytes and within 80 meters of a box speeds of up to 80 megabytes could be achieved. Once these boxes are installed (which should be by the end of June) all end users should contact their providers to see if their provider will be taking up the fibre fed service and to get details of the service and costs on offer to customers. For updates on the progress of the boxes in the various areas check out [www.onlincolnshire.org](http://www.onlincolnshire.org) - new information is added on a Friday. Their commitment is to provide a decent double figure speed throughout the county rather than 'hot spots' of super speed and other areas suffering with continued poor speeds.

**WEST END:** Further public speaking took place about hardcore promised for the **VERGES** along West End – the Chairman will remind the LCC and members of the public said they would do so as well.

**LITTER** – The lay-by on the Swaton side of the A52 is often very littered – it was noted the bin is missing hence litter – Henk has reported this.

**FOOTPATH CLEARING (& siding back the grass)** – a team of volunteers will carry out work to clear Swaton paths wider - Henk Bujis is to co-ordinate.

### **COUNCIL MEETING.**

**Lighting.** A village survey about the street lighting is to be circulated in February. It is important that the Parish Council knows the views of the parishioners if they are to make representations to the various agencies. All are asked to complete the survey and to return it as soon as possible to the Hut in envelopes provided.



**Flooding and Drainage.** The collapsed drain at the north end of the village is to be replaced – the County Council has said this will be within 2 to 3 months. Some clearance work downstream in the Beck has improved the flow – more clearance is still needed. Some survey work has started in the upstream area & a potential scheme may also help with the flooding problems. The actual work will

depend upon available funding, but Parish Council representatives are hopeful this will happen and will make a difference.

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**Speeding.** The police and other agencies have been approached regarding better speed enforcement in the village. After recent police checks, some enforcement and ticketing has been promised. Peter Penketh (who heads the village Neighbourhood Watch) is liaising with all involved on behalf of Swaton Parish to alleviate the speeding issue.

**Newsletter.** The Parish Council newsletter in its previous form has ceased. It was agreed that a merging of the Hut news, the PC news and the PCC (Church) news may make for a better all-round village news document which will be compiled by Elaine Penketh.

**Grass cutting.** For some years, the Parish Council has organised a contractor to carry out the LCC grass verge cutting – with a grant from the LCC. This coming year, a new contractor has to be found, or the grass cutting process will be handed back to the County to manage.

**Precept.** Swaton residents will be asked to pay an extra 50 pence per month for the Swaton PC part of their council tax. The parish has increased its precept request by £300 to £2500. A reduced grant from the District Council means that village residents will be asked for around £38 per year for Swaton.

**Quality Council.** Swaton Parish Council is one of a handful of 'Quality Councils' within the County, and one of the smallest in the Country ! The scheme is being replaced over the next 12 months and there will be 3 levels. As an existing Quality Council, Swaton will transfer directly to the new Foundation level without charge. The scheme will then be monitored to see what, if any, benefit there will be in the future.

### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm, and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council First of the new Council term).
- **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**
- **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September**
- **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

**NOTE:** Public speaking time before all meetings is 7.30pm – ALL parishioners are welcome to come along and speak to the council. The Parish Council meeting starts at 7.45pm - members of the public are welcome / encouraged to remain for the entire meeting and listen to matters that affect the village, but may not take part.

### **Your Council:**

**Clerk:** Mrs Shelagh McIntyre; [shmcintyre@tesco.net](mailto:shmcintyre@tesco.net) 01400 262090. 91, College Road, Cranwell, Sleaford NG34 8DN

**Chairman:** Cllr Andrew Deptford; 01529 421 111

**Vice Chairman:** Cllr Andy Dunlop. (H&S, Fire, Police/speeding, footpaths/bridleways.)

### **Responsible Finance Officer:**

Cllr Chris Richardson.

Cllr Mrs Liz Harborow: (Road and path lighting; Play area)

Cllr Mrs Jayne Wilkinson; (Grants and Youth.)

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