

Swanland Village Association

NEWS

The Voice of the Village

No. 49
Spring
2006



www.swanland.info

always up to date

Swanland Festival 2006 (8th – 16th July)

As there is no Festival Committee this year, the SVA is collating all the events and will inform villagers of the format on the website and by posters in the village. Already the ten day period of the Festival is looking very busy and hopefully there will be something for everyone to enjoy. The Festival will take place from Saturday July 8th to Sunday July 16th.

The events include a Celebration of Flowers at Christ Church, an Antiques Night, a BBQ, an Open Air 'Songs of Praise', a Teddy Bear's Picnic, a Young Person's Concert, a Cricket Match, a Pub Quiz, a Classical Concert, a Croquet afternoon, an evening with Doug Stewart (Radio Humberside's gardening expert), a disco and Karaoke night, an Art Exhibition, a Summer Fair at the

Playing fields and a final service at St. Barnabas Church.

On the first Sunday, July 9th, there will be the 'Open Gardens' event, when we expect many hundreds of people to visit the village.



Mal Cracknell (Tel 632282) or Harry Sidwell (Tel 631011) would like to hear from people willing to open their gardens. All sorts and sizes of garden are welcome.

More events are still in the process of being finalised. If you would like to suggest any further events please contact **Jan Rogerson 634583** or **Yvonne Dumsday 634863**

Inside this Issue

Swanland Festival 2006
Village Website

Playing Field Association
Swanland Show 2006

Village Hall

Treasurer's Report

Neighbourhood Watch
Lestrem Twinning News

Thriving Swanland

Pond Reclamation

Letters to the Editor

Swanland Neighbourhood Watch

At the January meeting of the neighbourhood watch Co-ordinators with our village police officer, Bridget Rusted, it was encouraging to hear that over the past winter months, the crime rate had been at its usual low level.



A quad bike was stolen from a farm and three thefts from motor vehicles were committed by the same person, who has been arrested. There were six acts of vandalism and seven thefts, including two from shops and five hanging decorations.

There were three burglaries from garden sheds and three from houses - the latter were to steal two car keys and then the cars, the third was theft of a precious ornament. All the culprits were arrested. There was also one domestic assault and three cases of fraud.

So looking to future crime prevention, the best advice is:

1. Always empty your vehicle.
2. Anchor or weigh down tubs, hanging baskets and garden ornaments.
3. Do not leave car keys, wallets or credit cards easily found in the house.

Prevent identity theft by shredding relevant documents, keeping cheque books and cards separate and never writing down PIN numbers.

Village Website www.swanland.info

The Swanland website is kept up to date with local news and regular update e-mails are sent out - if you would like to be on the update list just e-mail:

website@swanland.info

For village organisations that do not have their own website we can host a page for you. Currently there are pages for the Village Hall, Lestrem Twinning, Swanland Show, Bowling Club, History Group, Cubs, U3A, Tennis Club, Thursday Bridge Club, Swanland Institute, Swanland Wildlife Group, Women's Institute and Playing Field Association.



The Swanland Signpost Village guide, Street Map and SVA newsletters (in colour) can be viewed or downloaded on-line from our website.

Lestrem Twinning

www.swanland.info/lestrem.htm



A party from Swanland, at present numbering 43, will visit Lestrem from 29th April to 1st May, staying in the homes of the people of Lestrem. After an early start, we will cross the Channel via “Le Shuttle” and arrive in Lestrem about 4.30pm.

Among the party will be some of our Girl Guides (with a few parents) and also some dancers from the Pamela Gray School of Dancing. Both of these groups will give demonstrations of their activities for the benefit of our French friends and ourselves.



A visit to the nearby historic town of Hazebrouck is planned for the final day. The remainder of the group will be members of the Twinning Committee and others interested in furthering the relationship between our two villages.



Other activities planned by the Twinning Committee include the organisation of an Antiques Valuation evening and the provision of cream teas as part of the Open Gardens during this year’s Swanland Festival.

Please watch out for the posters advertising these events.

The Twinning Committee would welcome the interest of any Swanlanders who would like to participate in the cooperation between Lestrem and Swanland.

These pictures were taken during a Lestrem visit to Swanland last year.



Swanland Playing Field Association

www.swanland.info/playingfield.htm



Since the Association was formed in 1984 it has always been the policy that dogs would not be allowed on the site.

The reasons are obvious.

For over 15 years a sign at the entrance to the car park has made this clear.



We have held talks with the police who have advised us as to what action we should take. They will support us in this matter. The new CCTV cameras recently installed will help us to identify the culprits more quickly and we issue the following warning: in future we will prosecute anyone bringing dogs onto this site. *SPFA Committee*

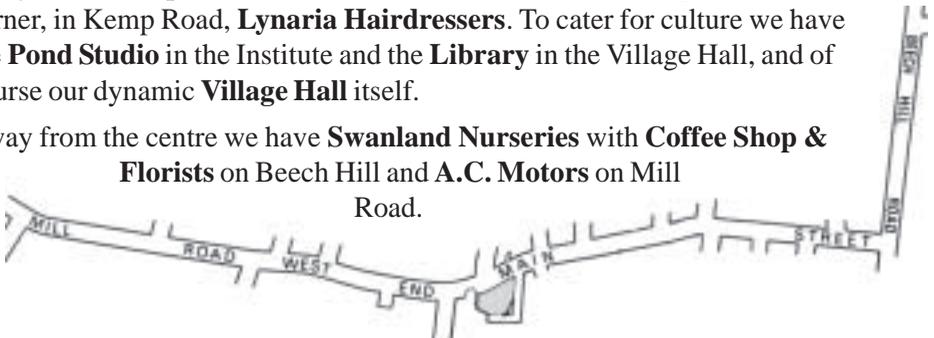
Thriving Swanland

For a village Swanland has an amazing range of goods and services. Along Main Street on the left is **Main Street Kitchens** and across the road **McColl Stores** for almost everything, **Caroline Jayne** (Hairdresser & Beautician) and **Casa D'Italia** (Italian shoes and handbags). Next comes the **Swan & Cygnet** for food and drink.

Across Dale Road is the **Pepper Tree Florist** and on the corner **Stanifords Estate Agents & Swanland Investment & Mortgage Services**. Then we find **Swanland Chiropody Clinic**, with **Dr. Clark** opposite. Next **Sterling Hodge Estate Agents**, **Morleys the Butcher** with builder **Hedley Burman & Son** behind. **Karen Patchett** (Beauty Therapy & Nail Studio), **Jessica** for Hats and Handbags, the new **Crofters' Delicatessen** and **Selles Chemist** complete this side.

Across the road **Calverts Builders & Joiners**, **Physiotherapy Clinic**, **Post Office** (not just for stamps but a bank as well), **Oliver's Coffee Shop** and round the corner, in Kemp Road, **Lynaria Hairdressers**. To cater for culture we have the **Pond Studio** in the Institute and the **Library** in the Village Hall, and of course our dynamic **Village Hall** itself.

Away from the centre we have **Swanland Nurseries** with **Coffee Shop & Florists** on Beech Hill and **A.C. Motors** on Mill Road.





Swanland Show - 2006

www.swanland.info/swanlandshow.htm



It's back on September 9th. The Residents' Section is once again included in the Schedule of Classes, which can only be entered by people who live in Swanland. If you have an allotment or just grow flowers and vegetables in the garden, why not enter some produce and you could end up being presented with the Millennium Shield, which is awarded to the overall points winner.

Do you grow potatoes? Three (of the same variety) are required for the potato class. How about those small cherry tomatoes? Do you think you could spare five to enter that class? Next is runner beans, length is not important, just three

of a similar size. Three seems to be the favourite number as that is how many are required for the onion class.

On to the flowers now: only one should be entered in the dahlia class and the gladiolus class. Finally a vase of mixed flowers with a minimum of three varieties. What could be easier than picking some flowers in the garden and arranging them in a vase?

The Show is on Saturday 9th September at St Barnabas Church Hall. The Schedule of Classes should be available in July but if you can access the Village website it will be on line much earlier.

Nothing Works Like..... Carpet, Upholstery & Hard Floor Cleaning Service

ChemDry
Wickseys

- Fast Drying System
- No Chemicals
- Safe & Non Toxic
- Removal of Most Stains
- Reliable Friendly Service

10% Discount



**Independently
Owned & Operated
0800 1380876
Willerby Shopping Park**

Swanland Wildlife Group

www.swanland.info/wildlife.htm



Pond Reclamation

Swanland's pond has a rich and varied history. 100 years ago it was a working pond where stock could drink. Working horses were washed down and watered up. It was a sight to see heavy horses up to their thighs in the pond.



Then steam tractors and threshers arrived needing copious amounts of water to fill their thirsty boilers. However, as the diesel engine took over and agriculture became more mechanized the era of heavy horses with farm labourers gradually faded and eventually traditional agriculture took over.

The pond gradually became a wildlife pond, helped by the creation (in 1938) of a bank and pathway adjacent to the school wall, which was planted with bushes and trees. As these matured the pond became richer and more vibrant with wildlife in, on and around it.

Its secret depths hosted crested newts, 3-spined sticklebacks, frogs, toads and even a predatory pike hiding in the waving pond weed!



Eager children each spring fished for vast amounts of tadpoles, whilst on the surface of the pond, especially on a balmy evening, hordes of whirligig beetles, water boatmen and pond skaters danced frenetically to the delight of acrobatic swallows, whose wings dipped into the water whilst catching beakfuls of insects to take back to nearby nests. The spring mud of the reeds provided ample building material for them, house martins and swifts.

Meanwhile the swans and moorhens nested peacefully secluded by the trees, bushes and reeds behind the pond whilst dragonflies clacked and whirred overhead. Trumpet snails, black slugs and the cuckoo spit insect clung to the

yellow flag iris. The pond gave much pleasure to traditional villagers in a gentler time. However in 1973 when the pond was cleaned out nearly all the rich pond wildlife and all the reeds were lost.



For some years the Parish Council has been concerned about the state of the pond, especially in the summer time, when it has suffered from unsightly green algae and a lack of oxygen. As a first step in restoring the pond, the Parish Council has planted eight beds of rushes, which have been protected from the ducks by wire netting and metal cages.

In support of the Parish Council, the Swanland Wildlife Group has enlisted the help of the Ponds Conservation Trust. To this end, the pond was surveyed on

November 4th, 2005 and a report with recommendations for action is awaited. When received, it will be considered by the Parish Council.

Any matters relevant to the pond can be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting which will be held in the Village Hall on 2 May starting at 7 pm. Villagers' views on the pond's future will be taken into account by the Parish Council before any decisions are made.

The improvement of water quality through a range of simple measures is a priority. Correct pond plant-life and the introduction of healthy native pond creatures coupled with additional amounts of pond-friendly flora around the pond (in keeping with the landscaping), will automatically encourage wildlife to reside in or on the pond or to visit the pond area.

This project is a real environmental challenge and we need your support. Please help us to make it happen for you and your children!



The Old Willow tree by the pond being removed in December 2005

Swanland Village Hall

www.swanland.info/VillageHall.htm

The first anniversary of the Village Hall was celebrated in January when we had an open afternoon to let everyone see the support and interest we have had from local organisations. Again, many people and businesses donated tombola prizes or like the W.I. served refreshments for everyone. Swanland Nurseries provided a lovely plant and flower display and David Byass came along with his Steam Organ to create the atmosphere that we enjoyed so much. It was a busy occasion with the various stall holders giving displays and the Pamela Gray School of Dance putting on a splendid show. We would like to thank everyone who donated Tombola prizes or gave up their time to help in any way.

All the hard work throughout the year by the Management Committee resulted in enough donations, grants and fund-raising to install the *New Lift*, so that everyone can access the upstairs rooms. Carol Ledgard, Chairperson of the Swanland Wildlife Group, kindly agreed to “cut the ribbon” and have the first ride in the lift (shown on the picture).

The *100 Club*, which raises funds for the Village Hall, has now 148 members and on Monday 19th December we held a “bumper” prize draw with prizes of £221, £94.40 and £55.50. The occasion was celebrated with mince pies, mulled wine and Christmas music played by



Derek Rigby - as well as Santa Claus making an appearance to give out the cheques!

Looking back over the first year since our Village Hall was opened, we can see how successful this project has been with so many of you coming along to join in the variety of activities.

These activities cover a wide age range - from babies right through to the older members of our community. There are *Music with Mummy* sessions, *Tumble Tots* groups, *Stagecoach Drama & Performing Arts School*. Other activities include *Fit For All*, *Step Aerobics*, *Salsa*, *Legs, Bums & Tums*, *Yoga/Tai Chi*, or *Pilates* for those of you who want to keep in trim! If you do not want the physical sessions then *Weight Watchers* are here to guide you with their support and encouragement. We also have *Swanland Stitchers*, *Bridge Clubs*, *U3A Computer Classes* and of course the brand new *Swanland Library* and computer area.

More detailed information about the weekly programme of activities can be obtained from the SVA website at - www.swanland.info - click on the Village Hall button.

It has been encouraging to see local residents booking the Village Hall for Quiz Nights, Wedding Anniversaries, Children's Parties, Dances etc. as well as our local organisations such as the SVA, Police Surgery, Parish Council, and Village Hall Management Committee using the facilities for their meetings.

We would still welcome further bookings for any activities that you

may care to organise. Our latest additions to the programmes are:

A **Sports Club** for adolescents held on Tuesdays 7-8p.m. where an East Riding Sports Coach takes the mini games sessions at a cost of £1 per head per session.

Strictly Ballroom Dancing course starting 10th May every Wednesday 7-8.30 until June 21st, cost £3 a session. Further details from Sarah Hutson **07834692286**.

If you are interested in either of these two new courses please contact Marion Riley on **632652**.

Quality food,
honestly priced
isn't just a slogan.

Waitrose is different from other supermarkets. Our customers know that real value is all about enjoying good service and paying a fair price for better quality food. And that's exactly what you get at Waitrose – along with hundreds of money-saving offers every month throughout the shop, especially on everyday items.

Waitrose

Beverley Road, Willerby

Telephone 01482 655266 waitrose.com/willerby

Opening hours: Mon – Thurs 8.30am–8pm, Fri 8.30am–9pm, Sat 8.30am–8pm, Sun 10am–4pm

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer is pleased at how fast membership renewals are flooding in since the last Members' Letter was circulated. If you have not joined yet, you can pay your £2 per person to any committee member at any time.

It has been reassuring to hear how many people are delighted with the way the committee decides to spend their money but we are always open to suggestions for new ideas.



Until last year I acted as Membership Secretary as well as Treasurer but since Brendan Riley took on the former role I just pay in the money now while he keeps the membership records.

This has resulted in one anomaly as two members have renewed for this year, and their cheques had been banked, before we discovered that they had previously paid for 2006 in December last year. If this has happened to you and you let me know, I can hold this as a prepayment for 2007, otherwise we shall consider it as a donation to SVA funds and I take this opportunity to thank you.

Yvonne Dumsday (Treasurer)

SVA Membership

Our thanks to all those worthy folk who have already paid their SVA membership fees this year.

If you have not done so please renew your membership (details on the back cover). At just £2 a year it's the best bargain in Swanland!

If you are not a member why not join us to support your Village - see the form on the back cover.



GRAYDON HASWELL

French Polishers

Over 30 years experience
Cottingham Road, Hull

Specialists in:

- Full Restoration
- Wood Finishing
- Upholstery
- Insurance Work



Tel 01482 472 939

Mobile 0774 892 8101



Letters to the Editor



Village Cleaning

It was recently my turn on the village cleaning rota and I was pleasantly surprised at the reaction I had from passers by. Some walked by without comment, some with a smile and a nod of the head, while others stopped to pass the time of day. I was busy picking up litter around the pond when a lady came over and asked whether Camilla (Prince Charles' wife) was visiting Swanland and was that why I was cleaning up?

Across the road, as I was cleaning the bus shelter a gentleman asked me if I thought the youngsters noticed any difference. He told me that when he was young if a child walked past a piece of litter and didn't pick it up and their schoolteacher was following, that child got into trouble. He went on to give me a very interesting insight into the old village. My cleaning duty lasted a lot longer that day but the time passed quickly and enjoyably. I wonder if any of the other volunteers have any memorable anecdotes?

From a Village Cleaner



Swanland U3A

www.swanland.info/u3a.htm

Rumour has it that Swanland U3A has closed its membership. This is not true. Membership continues to grow but there is always room for new members so if anyone wishes to join please contact me on **656047**

Jenny Thomas

From Previous Editor

I have now resigned as SVA Newsletter Editor, but will continue to set and format the contents and arrange the printing. All contributions or correspondence should be sent as shown in the box below.

Graham Latter

Letters to the Editor should be e-mailed to portal.briars@virgin.net or sent to Pam & Wallace Portal
The Briars, Beech Hill Road
HU14 3QY
in electronic format please.

We cannot guarantee to publish a letter and reserve the right to edit it.



**Your
Village Association
needs your support
Please join us**

Just fill in the form below and post it (or drop it through the letter box)

**Membership Secretary
23 Manor Road HU14 3NZ**

with £2 per head (cheques payable to Swanland Village Association). You will receive a membership card & welcome pack.

WEBLINK
www.sva.karoo.net/joinsva.htm



**lawn & order
LIMITED**
tree specialists

- tree felling & dismantling
- pruning & Thinning
- fully insured
- NPTC qualified
- Chipper Hire
- bark chippings
- Licensed to use pesticides

**tel: 01964
603088**
mobile:
07734
731321

SVa Membership Application

Name (first person) _____

Name (second person) _____

Address _____

E-mail address/Telephone number (optional) _____

Cheque/Cash enclosed (£2 per person). Please put a cross here if you object to any of the above details being kept on our Database

The SVa Newsletter is published 3 times a year and distributed free to every household in Swanland. Print costs are met by the SVa and a limited number of local advertisements.

Forward information, letters or articles to the Editors

Pam & Wallace Portal **631567** e-mail portal.briars@virgin.net

Advertisement Enquiries - Rod Park **635127** Set & formatted by **Technical Documentation 632276**

To receive regular news updates from the SVa website e-mail website@swanland.info