

IN TOUCH with your TOWN

The Town Newsletter

October 2008

Issue 41

SWAFFHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall, 4 London St, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 7DQ

Editorial & Commentary by the Town Clerk

Richard Bishop

Tel: 01760 722922 Fax: 01760 720469

E-mail: enquiries@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

Web Site: www.swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

BUDGETS R' US

We are fast approaching the budget season, your Town Council has some difficult decisions to make come their meeting on 3rd December. It is not always what you say, but sometimes it is what you don't say that becomes equally important. The 11th commandment arguably might have been "thou shalt not open thy mouth without first engaging thy brain." If not, then perhaps it really should be. The credit crunch is upon us and this will impact on how your Council looks ahead to 2009/2010. The stark reality is that until the Council is able to sell the surplus allotment land money will be tight. With cash-flow, reserves and match funding all high on the agenda. If you want to find out where the money is spent, then brave a cold December evening at the Town Hall for the most important meeting of the year...

Don't you just love the Englishman abroad...? Lazy, loud, rude and always right even when they are truly not... We have all seen and heard them and been embarrassed by them, but thankfully none of them were in Hemmoor on 12 - 14 September to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our twinning association (unless of course it was me, I hope not...) Full report inside, but our time together was far too short for long speeches. This is something we will take with us in organising Swaffham 2010 when we are the hosts...

As we say goodbye to Stephen Fry, the cast and crew of Kingdom for another year. The town can settle down for the autumn winter period out of the spotlight of the cameras. We are deep into consultation about Local Development Frameworks and Local Government Reviews. How will Swaffham shape up in the future and how will the Town Council progress under the possibility of a unitary authority for Norfolk. Will all be revealed in the new-year?

Enjoy your read... Richard Bishop Town Clerk

COPY DEADLINE for next issue

N.B. Your copy DEADLINE for the next issue due out in January 2009 is Friday 5th December 2008 at the latest. Thank you to all contributors of the newsletter, new contributions always welcome.

CONTENTS

- Editorial - Town Clerk
- From the Mayor's Parlour by Cllr Shirley Matthews
- Under the Buttercross - Deputy Town Clerk
- Twinning - Civic Visit to Hemmoor - Town Clerk
- Tourist Information & Museum - James Dean
- Community Events by Rosie Noble

FROM THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR

I and 22 other residents have just returned to Swaffham from Hemmoor in Germany where we celebrated the 40th anniversary of twinning with them; last year was the 40th anniversary of twinning with Couhe in France. It is difficult to put into words how very hospitable our hosts were, it is a truly pleasurable experience

Over the years, I have often met young adults who have happy memories of crossing the English Channel to these places when pupils at Hamonds.

The message given to us was to urge any interested Swaffham group/s of people who would like to do an exchange with them to get in touch possibly with our Town Hall in the first instance. They are really eager to meet more people and this applies to either of the countries. So how about the W.I. or the Photographic Society or any of the Sports Clubs? We can thoroughly recommend it.

Because they are desperate, I would like to highlight an advertisement for a Clerk to the Governors of Hamond's School in this newsletter. It could be an interesting position for someone who likes administration and is interested in young people

It did not turn out to be much of a summer; even so Norfolk proved to be one of the driest regions in England so we have much to be thankful for. One huge disappointment for us at the Town Hall was the failure of the contractors to finish the Recreation Ground on time for us to have the Grand Opening. We are hoping this will happen now by half term.

My next letter will arrive to you around Christmas and we'll be thinking of the New Year....Time flies

Mayor of Swaffham, Cllr Shirley Matthews

Under the Buttercross
SWAFFHAM TOWN COUNCIL

This page will show who your Town Councillors are and what organisations are located at the Town Hall.

THE TOWN COUNCIL

Mayor - Shirley Matthews - 01760 723205

Deputy Mayor - David Harman - 01760 336536

Councillors

Carol Baker	01760 723733
David Butters	01760 722949
Paul Darby	01760 724479
Charles Gunner	01760 336119
Terry Jennison	01760 720608
Sheila Lister	01760 720114
Frank Sharpe	01760 721412
Ian Sherwood	01760 725550
Jill Skinner	01760 723978
Pippa Wade	01760 725229
David Wickerson	01760 725741

Breckland Councillors are Shirley Matthews,
Ian Sherwood & Frank Sharpe.
County Councillor is Shirley Matthews.

WHAT IS LOCATED AT THE TOWN HALL?

Swaffham Museum Office

Services such as genealogy, research and archives are available. Open via the Town Hall main entrance or telephone 01760 721230

Breckland Council

Room 1 - Office open 9.00am - 4p.m. every Monday & 9.30am - 1.00pm every Tuesday.

For all your Council Tax, benefit enquires as well as bus passes.

Registrar - Births, deaths & marriages

Room 3 - Office open 9.30am - 12noon every Tuesday for appointments only. For more information contact 01842 754115

Age Concern

Room 1 - Information Office open 10am - 1pm every Friday. Information on Wills, Pensions, Agencies and much more on important issues.

Call in, no appointment is necessary.

Town Hall Opening Times

Monday 8.45am - 2pm

Tuesday 8.45am - 2pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 8.45am - 2pm

Friday 8.45am - 1pm

Town Council Chamber

This is where the Town Council holds it's meetings including committees. This room is also available for hire to the general public.

The rates for the Council Chamber are as follows: -

Commercial Rate	£31 per hour inclusive of VAT
Charitable Groups	£15.50 per hour inclusive of VAT

There is an 8 person meeting room on the ground floor to hire. The rates are as follows: -

Charity, Local Gov & Non Profit organisation: -
£17.25 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT
Commercial rate: -
£34.50 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT

There is also a small office available on a Monday and the rates are as follows: -

Charity, Local Gov & Non Profit organisation: -
£10 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT
Commercial rate: -
£20 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT

All offices can be hired on an hourly basis if wished. For further information on either room please contact Swaffham Town Council on 01760 722922

The Town Council also administers the **Allotments** (there are vacant allotments available), the **Saturday Market** (there are vacant spaces on the Saturday Market) and the **Cemetery**.

If you would like more information on any of the Town Council services contact: - 01760 722922

e-mail - enquiries@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Town Council has its Full Council Meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month except August. They are held in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall and start at 6.45pm. At the beginning of each meeting there is a 15 minutes public session to allow members of the public to ask any questions.

Town Council meetings will be held on: -

Wednesday 8th October

Wednesday 12th November

Wednesday 10th December

Please come along to a meeting to air your views!

**The Town Council offices will close for
Christmas at
12 noon on Tuesday 23rd December
and re-open at
8.45a.m. on Monday 5th January 2009**

RECREATION GROUND

It is frustrating and yet exciting times for the Recreation Ground Committee. With work being completed at the Rec on the new Toddler/Junior Play Area. But a combination of red tape and health & safety assurances meant the area was not opened during the children's summer holidays. The £50,000 project is now finished, the opening date will be announced shortly. The equipment was installed by Nottingham based company Proludic. The project was funded with a grant of £45,000 from the Big Lottery under the guidance of Breckland Council and £5,000 of match funding from the Town Council.

Progress on other fronts is also being made, with Section 106 planning obligation money coming on stream very soon to move forward the MUGA. What is a MUGA you might ask? It is a Multi Use Games Area where a variety of sports can be played.

The Community building project is also through its second stage with its application for WREN funding to the tune of £250,000. It is a slow process, but the project is sustainable and would give us an opportunity to have a base on the Rec for indoor and outdoor activities. A number of community groups have expressed an interest in this project which is designed to compliment and not compete with facilities elsewhere in the town at the Community Centre and the Assembly Rooms in particular.

MARKET

Swaffham Market has had a bit of a makeover during the summer months... What do you mean you didn't notice!!! Shame on you. We have re-organised the central area to accommodate some of the larger vehicles, thus reducing the number parking in the Pedlars Car Park. It seems to have worked and the traders have settled into their new positions.

The Italian Market makes a return visit in December on the first Sunday (7th). They will add a different feel to the Christmas Festivities being arranged by the Business and Retail Forum. It is hoped that with this and the Saturday Market on the previous day the events will be a great success.

The Market Committee are working hard behind the scenes to regenerate the Market and bring it up to its full quota of traders. A better variety of traders and a full Market will attract more people to the town. This is the aim and there is still an opening for an auctioneer should someone show any interest. It

would be good to get the auction back but other than to keep advertising the vacancy this is not something that can be forced - if you know of anyone interested. Let us know at the Town Hall.

SWAFFHAM BUSINESS & RETAIL FORUM

The Swaffham Christmas Festival this year is being run and paid for by the Swaffham Business and Retail Forum and will be running on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December. This year it has been sponsored by Waitrose.

On the Saturday the Buttercross will have a Barbershop quartet singing from 12.30pm till 1pm followed by the Fakenham Town Band playing from 1pm till 2pm. On the Sunday we are in discussions with Jimmy Jermaine winner of 'Stars in your eyes' to be available as 'Cliff Richard' this we hope will be during the afternoon in the Buttercross.

On both days in the Assembly rooms will be a Craft Fair and with every stall now taken and a waiting list this should prove very popular. There will also be a Santas Grotto open between 10am and 2pm on both days and while the kids get in line they will be entertained by a clown doing balloon magic. The Swaffham Lions will also be providing teas, coffees and other delights in the smaller hall.

Also on the Sunday there will be a returning Italian Market via the Town Council and what has become an annual appearance of a Fun Fair.

So the whole weekend should prove to be a hit. However, The Swaffham Business and Retail Forum would like to hear from any local entertainers who might be able to add to our list of events and they can contact Steve on 01760 724076 and we would definitely like to hear from Santas and Elves who might be able to assist in the grotto.

**TWINNING - copy of a speech by the Mayor
given in Hemmoor (Germany) 13th September 2008**

"It is now 40 years on since our association was formed so I feel I should probably address you all as "Friends"or even.. "Dear Friends." We have come a long way together and it is a real pleasure to be with you here this evening on such a wonderful occasion. 1968 was a very different world from the one in which we live today. What faith in human nature and what courage the founders showed. I have been told that "All that is worth cherishing in this world begins in the heart; not the head." And I am sure it was what was in their hearts that overcame any problems they encountered. There must have been many obstacles to overcome and their heads asking if it was all worth it. But their hearts over-ruled their heads."

"So this evening, we honour the names of those brave founder members, Burgemeister Helmut Grube of Warstade as it was then and Mayor Perkins of Swaffham who were encouraged to come together by Le Maire de Couhe, Mademoiselle Fillon. I know Mayor Perkins was well supported by Merle Boddy whose energy and enthusiasm played a huge part in actually forming the twinning and who was a loyal supporter until her death in 1987. I joined the club only about 21 years ago, in the days of Burgemeister Paul Neese and Albert Pilgrim chairman of the Twinning Club who held these positions for many years alongside Jack Sampson and Terry Wilding on our side. We remember them with much affection ... and Albert having died only recently of course."

"40 years is a large span and many, many people have been involved in this rich experience; so many people that it is not a good idea to name them all but I must mention that along with you, we too have a member who has belonged from the very beginning. As a schoolboy he became a member and he is now our President, his name is Glenn Vincent Reading the history, you too have a lifelong member in Klaus Helmut Grube who was alongside his Father, an original signatory to the twinning. Congratulations and many thanks to them both for their complete loyalty to the cause."

"The hospitality we have received here in Hemmoor has always been overwhelming and our lives have been enriched by the friendships formed. That sentence, ladies and gentlemen, perhaps is the most important one in this speech and I will say it again because it sums up the whole 40 years. Your hospitality has always been overwhelming and our lives have been enriched by the friendships formed. Thank you so much. So now let us show our gratitude for all we have experienced together and drink a toast to the future success of twinning so our children and grandchildren may similarly enjoy the same but at the same time, remember and give thanks for all our past loyal members who have departed this life, our present members and every single person in between who has contributed to its continuing success."

Cllr Shirley Matthews, Mayor of Swaffham

**TWINNING - a legacy for the future
by the Town Clerk Richard Bishop**

Twinning - never disappoints, once you are over the fear of the unknown, having to meet face to face with Johnny Foreigner... Not being able to speak another language is a barrier too! But if French and German is a problem, English can be a problem being born and bred in Norfolk. So why is it we English find it so difficult to understand each other even when we speak the same language? Hemmoor in Germany for a second time should be no problem then? No not at all, still apprehensive and anxious to make the right impression. But then you meet your host for the first time, you are welcomed into their home, their country and overcome language problems, using translation books, speaking slowly or sometimes louder (as if it makes a difference), expressing yourself, using hands or whatever it takes to communicate. Where there is a will there is a way. You feel so humble; you are looked after beyond words, even if you knew which were the right ones to use. You are treated with kindness and shown hospitality that has to be experienced to be believed, it is always truly wonderful.

Why twinning, isn't it a waste of money and time? Well if it is not for me to say, then it certainly isn't for those who have not experienced twinning to sneer or criticize. Perhaps when they have been to Couhe or Hemmoor to see for themselves and see what it is all about and what it means to the people of those two towns when they come to Swaffham. Then they can make up their minds, as only then will they understand or be able to offer that critical eye. It is not a free holiday, it is a civic visit. Of course the public are entitled to their own opinion and we need your view on what may be an emotive subject.

As your Town Clerk before the trip to Hemmoor this year I questioned whether it was right for the Town Clerk to be instructed to attend the civic visit. This was in the light of so many demands and pressures on my time, as there never seems to be enough hours in the day to do everything. This does not mean that I do not support twinning or what it stands for. It does not mean that I will not attend civic twinning visits to our twin towns in the future. I simply believe that it should be a discretionary thing, that the Town Clerk should have the discretion to say yes or no, and as it is a civic visit that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor should be the only representatives expected to attend. The Town Council endorsed this view unanimously at their September meeting.

Now to the future - well Swaffham we have two years to get our act together as it is our turn next. Our twin towns will visit Swaffham in 2010. When they were here last time, we had all our public buildings closed either being refurbished, improved or in the case of the Community Centre being demolished and rebuilt. Things have changed since then and the cynics will probably say for the worst. BUT let us go beyond the humility that twinning teaches us or talking down the town into self destruction. We have the advantage of talking the same language, all we have to do is listen to each other and agree that what ever our opinion is that we ALL want the same thing and we want it for the same reason... we want what is best for Swaffham - fair comment?

Good, now comes the hard part, we have an opportunity in two years time to modernise the twinning experience to leave a tangible legacy for the town when our friends from Couhe and Hemmoor have returned home. Are you curious yet? Think about it, let me know your thoughts - yes of course we are 40 years down the road of twinning. But as in sport, you are only as good as your last game. In order to keep to a certain standard or raise it, you have to work hard. We have to enthuse our young people in twinning otherwise it will die, it is a big challenge, should the Council make the youth the theme for the visit in 2010? Will young people want this?

It is true to say there has always been some negative vibes around the town in respect of twinning, so please be as negative as you like, but in doing so have a reasoned argument to back up your case. On the other hand you could be the person who has that positive idea that can really make the difference. Let us hear from you and especially from any Club or Organisation who is interested in visiting Hemmoor or Couhe for an exchange or to invite and receive visitors from France or Germany. We would like to know asap or before the end of October, as moves are afoot to get something going for next year.

The fact is twinning needs to be sustainable in every sense. It needs to be relevant and demonstrate best value, competing favourably against or at least equal to other priorities in the town. Is twinning up for the challenge? As your Town Clerk I have to be impartial but it is my job to advise the Council on many issues. Twinning is no different and I believe in twinning. That is not being impartial you might argue - and you might have a point. In my defence I will tell you that I have been to both our twin towns and helped to

organise a civic visit in Swaffham. Yes I have ideas of how things could work better, but I can't do this on my own, neither can the Town Council or the Twinning Association. Neither should they because if this doesn't come from YOU the public then why are we doing it?

So what is in it for the town? Can twinning deliver something tangible for the town? A LEGACY - that is the challenge. It is over to you now Swaffham...

YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

The Swaffham Youth Council organised their first event which was a Bingo evening for all age groups which was sponsored by Swaffham Lionesses who gave £100. It took place in the Assembly Rooms on Friday 19th September. They chose a bingo evening as they wanted to show that young people can be responsible and organised and saw this a way of getting older and younger people together. They received donations of prizes from businesses around the town as well as members of the public.

On the evening Emily Wright who is the Chairperson gave a short speech and received a cheque on behalf of the Youth Council for £500 from the Kingdom series, for future activities of the Youth Council.

If you would like more information about the Youth Council please contact Michelle Meyrick at 01760 722922 or michelle@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

Age Concern Swaffham & District

The big news this month for those interested in such matters is that Age Concern in England and Help the Aged are planning to merge into a new organisation to cover the whole of the United Kingdom. The working title for the new set up is "New Charity UK"; not inspiring but fortunately not the final name. It will be quite a challenge to come up with something suitable to replace both names, given that the two brands are so well known. Our local charity, Age Concern Swaffham & District has decided to support the merger, if only for the reason that we have never been sure what the difference is between the two organisations!

Fortunately, apart from the name change, the merger is not likely to have any material effect in Swaffham as we are an independent registered charity. It should mean the new umbrella organisation will have greater "clout" nationally in terms

of campaigning on behalf of older people and at the same time assisting us locally as necessary.

Returning back to earth now, our own events up to Christmas are as follows:

- September 30th: Coach trip to Christchurch Park and Ipswich
- October 28th: In-house Quiz and Bingo
- November 25th: In-house entertainment. Singer Gabrielle
- December 16th: Theatre Royal, Norwich for the Panto.

The in-house events are at 2 pm in the Assembly Rooms; for more information please contact Peter Harris on 01760 723152.

We also organise Tea Dances and footcare sessions, both of which are held in Suffield Court. Please contact Barbara Clarke, 01760 720140 about these.

If anyone would like to become a member of Age Concern here in Swaffham (£1 per year!), the contact is our Membership Secretary, Valerie Oseni, 01760 722839.

Swaffham Safer Neighbourhood Team

The Safer Neighbourhood Team is currently made up of Police Constables & Police Community Support Officers, who aim to provide Hi visibility patrols and reassurance within the town.

They work alongside many partners for example: Town Council, Education Authorities, Peddars Way, Icen and many more.

An information surgery is held every Tuesday between 3.00p.m. & 5.00p.m. in the Community Centre, this surgery enables you to express your views or just come in for a chat and a cup of tea.

For issues which you wish to make a priority to the Police, the next SNAP meeting will be held in the Assembly Rooms on 25th November at 7.30p.m.

Safer Neighbourhood Team Tele: 0845 456 4567
SNTSwaffham@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Swaffham Relief in Need Charity

Relief in Need is a Registered Charity who meets 4 times a year, offering grants for a specific purpose for the relief of persons resident in the area of benefit (ie Swaffham) who are in need, hardship or distress: or providing or paying for goods, services or facilities for them.

Application Forms are available from the Town Hall, please call in during office open hours or by telephoning 01760 722922.

The Swaffham Scottish Country Dancing Group is expanding!

Our group which is for ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS and "old hands" meets every **Tuesday** in the Regency Room at the Assembly Rooms, Swaffham from **7.45 pm to 9.45pm**. We are very fortunate to have the services of a friendly and experienced teacher. All the dances are "walked through" first so that that anyone of less experience can feel confident to have a go.

Please come along and give it a try; we are sure you will find it great fun. Everything is very informal and you don't need to bring a partner. We would like to encourage lasses and lads of all ages to join in! All that is required is comfortable, casual dress and a pair of soft slippers or shoes, ideally with thin soles. The evening costs £3 per head and includes refreshments. **Contact: James or Elizabeth Dean 01760 720756.**

Have a 'night in' with a DVD from the library?

At Swaffham Library there's a range of DVDs for hire to suit all needs. From recently released blockbusters to Saturday evening family films. The library is open :-

Tues 10am to 8pm Wed 10am to 1pm
Thurs 10am to 6pm Fri 10am to 8pm
Sat 9am to 1pm
Tel 01760 721513 www.library.norfolk.gov.uk
Norfolk County Council Library
and Information Service

Swaffham Museum and Tourist information Centre

The Museum, which now includes the Tourist Information Centre, remains open through to Christmas, each week Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 am to 4 pm. Please come along and see what we have to offer. Our new Education Officer, Sian Hogarth is now in post and can be contacted on the Museum number, 01760 721230.

In view of the demand, we are actively seeking to open on Mondays but for this we do need a number of additional volunteers to act as stewards. If you have either a Monday morning or afternoon free this would be ideal as we operate two shifts, 10 am to 1 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm. Volunteers are also needed to help reorganise the Museum displays during the closed season, January to March next year. Please contact myself, James Dean 01760 720756 for more information.

The Friends of the Museum are organising some Autumn events, so if you are not already a member of the Friends and would like to join, please have word with our Membership Secretary, Katrina Stockdale, 01760 720314.

*Things in the "pipeline" are: A wonderful day out on **Monday, 20th October to Lavenham & Ickworth House and Gardens.** Contact Ann-Marie Cassidy 01760 721962 for more details.*

*Bingo in the Assembly Rooms on **Thursday, November 13th.** A possible further outing in November*

Mulled Wine party in December.

More details are available from Peter Harris, 01760 723152 or Ann-Marie.

The Friends have a number of items available for hire. We have a small marquee, a gazebo and a barbecue. It is also possible, by arrangement with the Museum office, to carry out photocopying at 5p per sheet and we can do laminates. Contact for these items is Peter Harris.

Swaffham Bellringers - Practice every Friday at Swaffham Parish Church from 7:30pm (except the Friday after the 4th Wednesday, when at Castle Acre). New faces welcome, or returning ringers. Please contact Jonathan - 07810 441665.

Email: northernbranch@googlemail.com

Web: www.westernbranch.org.uk

Bridge Club

Would you like to enjoy an evening's entertainment playing a game of cards amongst friends?

The cost is only £2.00 including refreshments.

If so; why not come along to the
Swaffham Bridge Club

any Tuesday or Thursday evening,
6.30pm for 6.45 start,
at The Church Rooms, Campingland.

All levels of play are welcome

Partner not necessary

For further information ring

Peter - 01760 725406 or Kevin - 01760 441166

Valentine Barker Court Social Club

Coffee Morning 1st Thursday of each month
10.00am - 12.00noon

Bingo Bingo Bingo -

Every Thursday 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
Small Prizes - Pleasant atmosphere
Tea and Biscuits 50p --- All Welcome

South West Norfolk Parliamentary Constituency Christopher Fraser MP

"If you need help or advice, or if you are a member of a group or organisation that would like to invite me to an event, I would be pleased to hear from you"

Contact details:

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Telephone: 020 7219 3000

Email: fraserc@parliament.uk

or

Shirley House

23 London Street, Swaffham PE37 7DD

Telephone: 01760 336633

www.christopherfraser.com

Swaffham Police Station open times are:

8.00am - 3.30pm

Monday to Saturday and Tuesday to Friday

Alternating weeks

Norfolk Constabulary 01953 424242

Non Emergencies 0845 456 4567

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

Remember 999 is for real emergencies

Police & Post Office Ltd Partnership

Access to Police facilities at

98 London Street Post Office are

Monday to Saturday 6.00am - 6.00pm &

Sunday 6.00am - 1.00pm

There is a direct line to the Police outside the shop via the police telephone/help point available 24 hours a day.

Women's Section of the Royal British Legion

Ex-service women, wives, daughters, granddaughters, sisters and dependents of past or present service women or men - come and join us.

We meet every 2nd Tuesday in the month at Valentine Barker Court, Courtfields, Swaffham at 2.30 pm.

Contact: Frances on 01760 724445

Street Scene Helpline

Telephone: 01362 656878

Email: streetscene@breckland.gov.uk

Fax: 01362 699096

Write to: Breckland Council, Street Scene, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, Norfolk. NR19 1EE

Information is also available on our website

www.breckland.gov.uk

VACANCY

Clerk to the Governing Body

Are you a well organised, motivated person with initiative, able to work unsupervised to provide a complete secretarial and filing service to the Governing Body and give advice on constitutional matters, duties and powers?

Working within the broad current legislative framework you would work closely with the Chair of Governors and the Governing Body liaising with the Headteacher's secretary, staff, parents and other agencies as required. You will attend initial and refresher training sessions to keep yourself up-to-date.

This is a flexible part time opportunity working at school and from home as required. Pay by Honorarium; remuneration and hours to be negotiated and agreed. Work will involve attendance at meetings, mostly early evenings.

Interested in working with us? Contact the Headteacher's PA for further details and an application form

Hamond's High School

Brandon Road • Swaffham • Norfolk • PE37 7DZ

Telephone: 01760 721480 • Fax: 01760 721269

Email: office@hamonds.norfolk.sch.uk

Swaffham & Watton Club

for the Visually Impaired

On the 4th Wednesday of each month

1.30p.m. - 3.30p.m. £2 each

at Swaffham Community Centre, Campingland

Contact: April, Robert or Diane at Norfolk & Norwich

Association for the Blind 01603 629558

SWAFFHAM LIONS

Halloween Quiz at the Conservative Club

Sat 25th October 7.30 start

Food included

Tickets £5 per person ideally teams of 4/6

via 01760 724076

French Night Holme Hale Village Hall

Sat 22nd Nov 7.30 start

Food and Entertainment included

Plus dancing to Class Act

Tickets £10 per person

via 01760 724076

All proceeds to Lions charities

KLARS

IS NOW IN SWAFFHAM,
TOWN HALL, REAR ENTRANCE
- OPPOSITE OASIS CENTRE.
WE ARE OPEN FROM 17.00 TILL
19.00 EVERY TUESDAY. OUR
SERVICE IS ABSOLUTELY
FREE.

WE HAVE 8 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN HELPING AND SUPPORTING THE MIGRANT COMMUNITY. FOR EXAMPLE, FILLING IN FORMS, EXPLAINING BILLS, REGISTERING KIDS FOR SCHOOL, SORTING OUT BANK ACCOUNTS AND HOLIDAYS ENTITLEMENTS. FULLY TRAINED ADVISERS WILL SPEAK TO YOU IN RUSSIAN, PORTUGUESE, LITHUANIAN AND POLISH LANGUAGES.

KLARS В SWAFFHAM TAWN HALL
ВХОД С ЗАДНЕЙ СТОРОНЫ НАПРОТИВ OASIS
ЦЕНТРА

КАЖДЫЙ ВТОРНИК С 17.00 ДО 19.00
АБСОЛЮТНО **БЕСПЛАТНО**

KLARS ИМЕЕТ ВОСЬМИЛЕТНИЙ ОПЫТ ПОДДЕРЖКИ И ПРЕДОСТАВЛЕНИЯ ПОМОЩИ ЭМИГРАНТАМ (НАПРИМЕР: ЗАПОЛНЕНИЕ БЛАНКОВ, СЧЕТА ЗА КОМУНАЛЬНЫЕ УСЛУГИ, МЕСТА В ШКОЛЕ, ПРАВО НА ОТПУСК И Т.Д.)

СЛУЖАЩИЕ KLARSА ПРЕДОСТАВЛЯЮТ УСЛУГИ НА РУССКОМ, ПОРТУГАЛЬСКОМ, ЛИТОВСКОМ И ПОЛЬСКОМ ЯЗЫКАХ.

KLARS DABAR SWAFFHAME, TOWN HALL, ĮEJIMAS IŠ KITOS PUSĖS - PRIEŠ OASIS CENTRĄ. KIEKVIENĄ ANTRADIENĮ NUO 17.00 IKI 19.00 VALANDOS. MŪSŲ KONSULTACIJOS YRA VISIŠKAI **NEMOKAMOS**. JAU 8 METUS MES PADEDAME IR PALAIKOME EMIGRANTUS IŠ KITŲ ŠALIŲ. PAGRINDINĖS PASLAUGOS, KURIAS SUTEIKIA KLARS YRA: FORMŲ PILDYMAS, SAŠKAITŲ TVARKIMAS, VAIKŲ REGISTRAVIMAS Į MOKYKLĄ, BANKO SAŠKAITOS, DARBDAVIO TEISĖE.

MŪSŲ PATARĖJAI KALBA ĮVAIRIOMIS KALBOMIS: RŪSŲ, LIETUVIŲ, LENKŲ, PORTUGALŲ.

KLARS AGORA NO SWAFFHAM, TOWN HALL, ENTRANDA PELAS TRASEIRAS, EM FRENTE AO OASIS CENTRE.

DAS 17.00 ATE AS 19.00 TODAS AS TERCAS FEIRAS. OS NOSSOS SERVICOS SAO COMPLETAMENTE GRATUITOS

8 ANOS DE EXPERIENCIA A AJUDAR E APOIAR A COMUNIDADE IMIGRANTE.

POR EXEMPLO, PREENCHEMOS IMPRESSOS, EXPLICAMOS FACTURAS, INSCREVEMOS CRIANCAS NAS ESCOLAS, ABRIMOS CONTAS NOS BANCOS E EXPLICAMOS O DIREITO A FERIAS. PROFISSIONAIS COMPLETEAMENTE TEINADOS QUE FALAM EM RUSSO, PORTUGUES, LITUANO E POLACO.

BE A RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER

One of the biggest complaints received by Breckland Council each year is that of 'dog fouling' - owners allowing their dogs to foul the public highway and public areas and failing to clean up the mess.

We've designated our land a 'poop scoop' area under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996. This applies to any land which is open to the air and which the public have access to. If a dog fouls on this land and the person in charge of the dog doesn't clear it up, they are guilty of an offence.

We can give a Fixed Penalty Notice (£50.00) to anyone who commits this offence and if they don't pay the Fixed Penalty Notice within 14 days of receipt they could be prosecuted and receive a maximum fine of £1000.

Most villages and towns have at least one dog waste bin, which are provided and maintained by town and parish councils. These are put in place for dog mess to be put into when owners are taking their dog for a walk. If there isn't one available then as long as the dog mess is securely wrapped it can be placed into a litter bin, or even your own household waste bin at home. If you have cleaned up a quantity of dog waste from your garden please securely wrap this and place it into your household waste bin.

If you know anyone who is committing an offence under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, please contact the Breckland Dog Warden on 01362 656870 or e-mail dogwarden@breckland.gov.uk. All information we receive will be treated as confidential.

Environmental Services Helpline

Telephone: 01362 656878

Fax: 01362 699096

E-mail: contactus@breckland.gov.uk

Write to: Breckland Council, Environmental Services, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, Norfolk. NR19 1EE

Information is also available on our website

www.breckland.gov.uk

Christmas Services - 2008

Parish Church

- 21st Dec. - 6.30p.m. 9 Lessons and Carols
- 24th Dec. - 4.00p.m. Blessing of Crib & Christingle
- 24th Dec. - Midnight Communion
- 25th Dec. - Holy Communion
- 25th Dec. - Communion & Carols at Sporle

Methodist Church

- 24th Dec. - 11.15p.m. Christmas Eve Service Holy Communion
- 25th Dec. - 10.00a.m. Christmas Day Family Service

Baptist Church

- 21st Dec. 10.30a.m. Christmas Family Service
- 21st Dec. - 6.00p.m. Carols by Candlelight
- 25th Dec. - Christmas Day Morning Service

Catholic Church

- 24th Dec. - 11.30p.m. Carols - 12.00 Midnight Mass
- 25th Dec. - 9.30a.m. Mass

Churches Together

- 16th Dec. - Town Carol Service at 7.00p.m. in the Methodist Church

FRIENDS OF SWAFFHAM REC

Sunday 5th October 2008

CAR BOOT SALE

Market Square from 7.30am

REFRESHMENTS Assembly Rooms, Tease, Coffee, Home Made Cakes, Scones, Sausage Rolls and Light Lunches.

Tuesday 7th October 2008

A TEA DANCE

2.30pm to 4.30pm

Assembly Rooms

Dance, Tea, Coffee, Cakes £2.50

For more information phone Sheila Lister on 01760 720114

Swaffham Evening W.I. meets every 1st Wednesday of the month in the Church Rooms, Campingland, Swaffham at 7.30pm. All visitors welcome - £1.00 - for further information Telephone: 01760 723492

Swaffham Library - Come along and help us identify photographs of the town and find out how you can add your photos and memories to the Remember Norfolk website.

Under 5's storytime

First Thursday in the month (during term time)
10.30-11am
4th September
2nd October
6th November
4th December

Spooky Storytime

Tuesday 28th October from 6-7pm
For over 7's only. Please reserve your place by calling 01760 721513

The Probus Club of Swaffham seeks and welcomes new members. If you have retired and have recently moved to Swaffham the club offers a great opportunity to meet local contemporaries in a friendly and informal way. The club meets for lunch at the George Hotel on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information phone Leslie de Swart on 01760 723519

Anyone wishing to start a
Home Watch Scheme

in the Breckland area should in the first instance contact: Colin Hodge
hodgce@norfolk.pnn.police.uk
Home Watch Administrator
The Police Station, Norwich Road, Thetford
Norfolk. IP24 2HU
01842 222608

Community Events
October, November & December 2008

If any organisation wish to include an event, information may be left at the Town Hall or email rosie@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk Please indicate the nature of the event together with date, time and venue, your name and telephone number.

October

Wednesday 1st - Finance Meeting, 7.00 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Thursday 2nd - Swaffham Lioness Club Meeting, George Hotel at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday 4th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Sunday 5th - Friends of Rec. craft fair and refreshments in the Assembly Rooms; car boot and produce sale and barbecue in the Market Square

Sunday 5th - Car Boot Sale - Friends of Swaffham Rec. Market Square from 7.30am. Refreshments in the Assembly Rooms.

Tuesday 7th - Probus Club Ladies Night For more information phone Leslie de Swart on 01760 723519

Tuesday 7th - A Tea Dance - Friends of Swaffham Rec 2.30pm - 4.30pm Assembly Rooms. Dance, Tea, Coffee, Cakes £.20 More info from Sheila Lister 01760 720 114

Wednesday 8th - Full Town Council Meeting, 6.45 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall

Thursday 9th - Horticultural Society, Assembly Rooms at 7.30 p.m. Clematis by Thorncroft Clematis Nursery

Saturday 11th - Swaffham Twinning Association, French Evening at the Community Centre 7.30p.m. 'Please come in your French dressing £7 Members - £8 Non Members. Telephone 01760 724413

Saturday 11th - Swaffham & District Pensioners Association Coffee Morning. Assembly Rooms 8.00a.m. - 1.00p.m.

Sunday 12th - Swaffham Spiritual Awareness Group, Community Centre. Peter Fox 6.30 p.m. Admission £2.50

Thursday 16th - Save the Children, Table Top Sale at the Methodist Church Rooms. 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 18th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 18th - Swaffham Arts, Assembly Rooms. Keith Skipper and the Press Gang at 7.30 p.m. Early Booking advisable Members £7 - Non Members £9

Wednesday 20th - Youth Council meeting for 11-18 year olds, Town Hall, 6.30pm.

Saturday 25th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 25th - Horticultural Society Bingo, Assembly Rooms 8 p.m.

Saturday 25th - Halloween Quiz, Conservative Club 7.30pm.

Sunday 26th - Swaffham Arts, Assembly Rooms. Norwich Early Dance Group at 3 p.m. Wonderful Period Dancing. Members £7 - Non Members £9.

Tuesday 28th - In-house quiz & bingo, Assembly Rooms.

Friday 31st 6.30 - 8.30 pm 'Light Party' at The Oasis Centre, Cley Road, Swaffham. Why let your children trudge around in the dark, come in the warm, with crafts, games, free food, prizes - everyone welcome. Tel: 01760 723175

November

Thursday 6th - Swaffham Lioness Club Meeting. George Hotel at 7.30 p.m.

Friday 7th - Swaffham Swimming Pool Association, Buffet Evening & Grand Draw - Dancing to 'Class Act' in the Assembly Rooms at 7.30pm. £7.50 per person. Contact Peter 723152 daytime or 722903 evenings

Saturday 8th - Swaffham & District Pensioners Association Coffee Morning. Assembly Rooms 8.00a.m. - 1.00p.m.

Sunday 9th - Swaffham Spiritual Awareness Group, Community Centre. Arthur Wright 6.30 p.m. Admission £2.50

Tuesday 11th - Probus Club Lunch For more information phone Leslie de Swart on 01760 723519

Wednesday 12th - Full Town Council Meeting, 6.45 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall

Thursday 13th - Horticultural Society, Assembly Rooms at 7.30 p.m. A Basket Full of Memories by Mr Grimes.

Thursday 13th - Friends of Swaffham Museum Bingo, Assembly Rooms.

Wednesday 19th - Open Spaces Committee Meeting, 6.30 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Wednesday 19th - Recreation Ground Committee Meeting 7.30 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Saturday 22nd - Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar with Coffee for Church Funds 9.30a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 22nd - Craft & Gift Fair, Assembly Rooms 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Refreshments. Free Entry. Proceeds to the Indoor Ice Rink at Christmas.

Saturday 22nd - Swaffham Twinning Association, Christmas Social at the Community Centre 7.30p.m. -

11 p.m. £7.00 Members - £8 Non Members.

Telephone 01760 724413.

Saturday 22nd - Swaffham Lions French Night, Holme Hale Village hall 7.30pm.

Sunday 23rd - Swaffham Spiritual Awareness Group, Community Centre. Kevin Harrison 6.30 p.m. Admission £2.50

Tuesday 25th - Age Concern In-house entertainment, singer Gabrielle, Assembly Rooms.

Tuesday 25th - SNAP meeting Assembly Rooms, Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Saturday 29th - St Peter & St Paul Church "Christmas Fayre" 9.30 a.m.

Saturday 29th - Save the Children, Coffee Morning with Stalls at Assembly Rooms 9 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 29th - Horticultural Society Bingo, Assembly Rooms 8 p.m.

Sunday 30th - Swaffham Arts A.G.M. Assembly Rooms at 3.00p.m. with Jazz by the **Bob Doré Trio**. All welcome

December

Monday 1st - Youth Council meeting for 11-18 year olds, Town Hall, 6.30pm.

Wednesday 3rd - Finance Committee Meeting 7.00 p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Thursday 4th - Swaffham Lioness Club Meeting. George Hotel at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday 6th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 6th - Craft Fair, Assembly Rooms for the Business Forum

Sunday 7th - Swaffham Spiritual Awareness Group, Community Centre. Peter Fox 6.30 p.m. Admission £2.50

Sunday 7th - Craft Fair, Assembly Rooms for the Business Forum with Father Christmas and Fun Fair.

Tuesday 9th - Probus Club Lunch For more information phone Leslie de Swart on 01760 723519

Wednesday 10th - Full Town Council Meeting 6.45p.m. Council Chamber, Town Hall.

Friday 12th - Horticultural Society Social at Assembly Rooms

Saturday 13th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 13th - Swaffham & District Pensioners Association Coffee Morning. Assembly Rooms 8.00a.m. - 1.00p.m.

Tuesday 16th - Churches together Town Carol Service 7.00p.m. in the Methodist Church

Saturday 20th - Methodist Church Coffee Morning for Church Funds 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon

Saturday 20th 10.30 am - 12 join Breckland Christian Fellowship singing carols in the Buttercross, Swaffham Town

Sunday 21st - Swaffham Spiritual Awareness Group, Community Centre. Steven Schooling 6.30 p.m. Admission £2.50

Sunday 21st 6.00 pm Christmas Carol & Praise Service at Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road, Swaffham. Carols old and new, drama, sketches - something for all the family. Refreshment served afterwards. All welcome

Wednesday 24th 10.30 am - 12 join Breckland Christian Fellowship singing carols in the Buttercross, Swaffham Town

List of Clubs, Societies, Groups & Sporting Events

If there are any corrections, omissions or additions please inform Rosie Noble on 01760 722922, or

e-mail: rosie@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

The Town Council are extremely lucky to have so many volunteers who deliver their newsletters to every door in Swaffham. We would still welcome volunteers for (Orford Road & Manor Way), Westfields Road and (Salhouse Drive, Rollesby Avenue and Upton Drive) If you have a few minutes to spare 4 times a year and would be prepared to deliver to homes in the above areas please telephone 01760 722922