

IN TOUCH

with your

TOWN

The Town Newsletter

October 2005

Issue 29

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: towncouncil@swaffham.fsnet.co.uk

Web Site: www.swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

FIVE MINUTES OF FAME

Who was it that claimed there is no such thing as bad publicity? Life has been somewhat interesting since our last edition. A new Town Crier was appointed and then relieved of his duties just 12 weeks later following an error of judgment that made his position untenable. It is only when questioned by a reporter in our Town Hall from the New York Times no less, that you start to put this business into perspective. Was it five minutes of fame? Or maybe a minute and a half...

There is nothing like the facts to spoil a good rumour though and credit where credit is due, following our recent brush with the national media our local press EDP/Lynn News do compare favourably. But enough now, it is down to important business with this next period taking us into the 'Budget' season shortly before Christmas. Your Council as always will do their level best to offer value for money for the Council Tax Payer in order to deliver the services they are responsible for and key decisions taken in the budget meeting will feature in the next edition of 'In Touch'.

Enjoy your read...RB Town Clerk

CONTENTS

- *Editorial - Town Clerk*
- *Under the Buttercross - Deputy Town Clerk*
- *From the Mayor's Parlour by Cllr Jerome Stockdale*
- *Age Concern by Barbara White & James Dean*
- *Swaffham Players - Brian Hubbard*
- *Friends of Swaffham Museum*
- *Scottish Country Dancing by James Dean*
- *Norfolk Rural Community Council*
- *Community Events by Rosie Noble*

FROM THE

MAYOR'S PARLOUR

Well its that time again. It doesn't seem like 5 minutes ago I was sending in my first letter to "In Touch With your Town" newsletter as the New Mayor. People told me this job would be easy (I think not)!

In my five months as Mayor I have been to a wide variety of functions and meetings and have met so many people who work voluntarily for their towns and villages and remain so enthusiastic in everything they do (like your own Town Councillors).

I am pleased to report that phase one of the Market Place enhancement is now complete and I look forward to the time the new trees are planted and start to grow. The Assembly Rooms have now lost the scaffolding and the building is now taking shape, this should be quite an impressive feature once complete. The Community Centre is almost finished and will provide the town with an innovative complex with many uses.

As you are no doubt aware there has been numerous articles in the local and national press regarding the Christmas Lights. May I take this opportunity to put a few lines together to explain my stance in this matter. On being asked for my views, as the Mayor of Swaffham, on a donation by Michael Carroll towards the Christmas Lights, it was reported (accurately) by the EDP that I would have to put it to the Council for their response and also to gauge the reaction of the townspeople. I must say I have had as many favourable responses to the proposals as those against it. It must also be noted that at no time have I ever made a statement in favour of Mr Carroll switching on the lights. It was, and still is, in reference to the offer of a donation only. As Councillors we must be seen to take every proposal or offer, on any subject, as fairly and as unbiased as possible. At our last meeting we had a chance, at last, to answer all questions on this matter. It was unanimously agreed that if the offer had been made to Swaffham Town Council we would have had to refuse it on the grounds that the lights do not actually come under our control as these have been organized by the Chamber of Trade for several years now.

It was very unfortunate that all the media interest in the town of Swaffham recently has been for all the wrong reasons.

I hope this now clears up a few reported discrepancies and I do assure everyone that we, as Councillors, take our responsibilities very seriously.

Mayor of Swaffham, Councillor Jerome Stockdale

Underneath the Buttercross **SWAFFHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

FARMERS MARKET

The farmers market is held on the first Wednesday of every month and holds a variety of stalls which include fresh meat, fruit, plants, wine, home produced pies, sausage rolls, jams and much more. Please come along and support you local market. If you need further information please contact Swaffham Town Council on 01760 722922.

RECREATION GROUND

The recreation ground committee are working hard on getting this project off the ground. Following 3 consultation events last year the committee were given an idea of what people would like to see on the recreation ground. A business plan is currently being worked on to enable the committee to put a bid to grant funders early in the New Year. The Community Centre will have an opening event on the 1st October and the committee will be participating by holding a display of proposed facilities for the recreation ground. Please come along and tell us what you think your views are welcomed.

THE PEDLAR SIGN

The Pedlar of Swaffham has finally been released from prison after being fully restored by the staff and inmates at Wayland Prison, they have made a wonderful job and he has now returned to his rightful position in the Pedlar Car Park for everyone to see.



Although the prison does not make a charge for this work, a donation of £250 will be made by the Town Council to the Governors chosen charity the 'Children's Home Hospice' at Quiddenham.

TOWN HALL

The Town Council recently put under review the pricing structure for the Town Council Chamber and following this took the decision to reduce the rates.

The rates are as follows: -

Commercial Rate	£30 per hour inclusive of VAT
Charitable Groups	£15 per hour inclusive of VAT

Following the move of the Icen from the Town Hall to the Community Centre there is now available an 8 person meeting room on the ground floor to hire. The rates are as follows: -

Charity, Local Gov & Non Profit organisation: -
£16.50 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT

Commercial rate: -
£33 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: -
£9.50 per session of 4 hours inclusive of VAT

Commercial rate: -
£19 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

Mayor - Jerome Stockdale - 01760 720985
Deputy Mayor - Paul Darby - 01760 724479

Councillors

Pam Buxton	01760 724721
Carol Baker	01760 723733
David Butters	01760 722949
Dave Cannon	01760 723759
Ben Emmerson	01760 720982
Anne Greaves	01760 725191
Sheila Lister	01760 720114
Frances Mann	01760 720403
Shirley Matthews	01760 723205
Ian Sherwood	01760 725076
Les Wise	01760 723825

Breckland Councillors are Paul Darby, Shirley Matthews and Ian Sherwood.
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 town hall reception or telephone 01760 721230

Breckland Council

Room 1 - Office open 9.30am - 4p.m. every Monday.
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

Citizens Advice

Room 3 - Office open 10am - 1pm every Wednesday.
No appointment is necessary but for more information contact 01362 697776

Age Concern

Room 3 - Office open 10am - 1pm every Thurs & Fri.

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. Please see Under the Buttercross for details of hiring rates.

The Town Council also administers the Allotments, the Saturday Market, the monthly Farmers Market and the Cemetery.

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

01760 722922

e-mail - enquiries@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

Opening Times

Monday 9am - 2pm
Tuesday 9am - 2pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 9am - 2pm
Friday 8am - 1pm

The Pension Service holds regular advice and information surgeries for over 60's on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Suffield Court, London Street, Swaffham from 1.00 pm - 3.30 pm. For an appointment please call 0845 6060265.

"Why Don't You Get In On The Act"

The Swaffham Players

Every year Swaffham Players put on shows entertaining the public at Hamond's High School Theatre and the 6th Form Centre. This year, our Easter performance was 'Annie get your gun'. It was a great success, and enjoyed by all.

Next production will be a comedy, 'Rock-a-bye-Sailor', written by Philip King and Falkland L Cary. The dates for this performance are - 6th, 7th & 8th of October.

Our annual Christmas panto this year will be 'Dick Whittington'. The dates for this are: 27th December, with a performance at 3pm and 7.30pm. and 28th, 29th & 30th December at 7.30pm.

Our Easter musical production will be 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th April. You can book tickets for these shows on the details below.

Membership ranges from all age groups, some perform on stage, backstage, and others in front of house. We always welcome new members. If you are interested please contact Brian Hubbard on the details below.

Would you like to become a friend of Swaffham Players? An annual donation of £5 would help to support us. Contact Margaret Reader on the address below.

Ticket Sales & Performers
Brian Hubbard 01760 721899

Backstage Help

John Dawkins 01760 721568

Friends of Swaffham Players - Margaret Reader
59 Greenhoe Place, Swaffham.

Swaffham Afternoon Womens Institute

Every 3rd Wednesday in the month we meet at 2.00pm in the Conservative Club (entrance at rear, large car park) Come along as our guest first time to an interesting afternoon where you will be welcomed, looked after and make new friends. You can learn more about us by talking to Stella on 721757 or Jean on 722566 - we look forward to hearing from you.

Swaffham Police Station open times are:

8.00am - 3.30pm
Monday to Saturday and Tuesday to Friday
Alternating weeks

Norfolk Police can be contacted on
0845 456 4567

Remember 999 is for real emergencies

Sacred Heart Convent School

17 Mangate Street, Swaffham.
Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 26th November 2005
2.00pm - 4.30pm
To be held in the Sports Hall.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Our new season has already started and we meet in the Parish Church Rooms (Campingland) each Friday from 8pm to 10pm. We are fortunate enough to have the services of a friendly and experienced teacher who is more than happy to assist absolute beginners as well as 'old hands'.

Do 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 along a partner. All that is required is comfortable, casual dress and a pair of soft slippers or shoes, ideally with thin soles. The evening costs £2.50 per head and includes refreshments.

Contact: James or Elizabeth Dean 01760 720756

You are invited to a **Free** **Gospel Folk Concert**

Wednesday 5th October at 7.30pm
At OASIS CENTRE
Cley Road, Swaffham
Featuring

The Science Band and Special Guest Peter Kitchen from
South Africa

Free refreshments in interval
Organised by Breckland Christian Fellowship
Tel: 01760 723175 or 01760 725008
for further information

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. We welcome women of all ages to our very friendly meetings, so come along, listen to our speakers, help your local community, make new friends, we are waiting to welcome you. Contact: Frances on 01760 724445 or Jean on 01760 722566.

Swaffham Probus Club

A social club for retired and semi-retired business and professional gentlemen. The club meets on the second Tuesday every month at 12.30pm at the George Hotel, Swaffham.

For further information telephone 01760 721242

AGE CONCERN SWAFFHAM & DISTRICT

I'm pleased to say that everything is going very well with Age Concern and that we have quite a few things 'in the pipeline'. Since the last Newsletter we have had two trips. Collectors World at Denver. Its not very far away, just past Downham Market, but is well worth a trip down memory lane. It was a beautiful day and over 50 people really enjoyed it. The other was to Cromer and the Pier Pavilion. Again a lovely day (we've been very lucky with the weather) and 53 'oldies' and 'not-so-oldies' thoroughly enjoyed it. The Pier Pavilion show was excellent, I laughed till tears ran down my cheeks at the comedian. In September we shall be having an 'in house' entertainment day, with a beetle drive, quizzes etc. all organized by Alby, our events organizer and of course a break for tea & biscuits, served by Renee, Carmen, Sheila and Jean. We have some very happy and willing helpers and if you would like to join us either as a helper or member, you will be made most welcome. Our entertainment day is on the last Tuesday in the month from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

During the year we have had 4 trips, 1 party, 4 in house and 3 entertainment days. If you've never been just ring me to find out what is happening, where we are going then come and join us.

Sheila has really got our befriending scheme up and running and now has 10 BeFrienders who visit 53 clients on a regular basis. This is a very worthwhile scheme and helps 53 people who, for one reason or another, are lonely and are in need of a friendly visit. If you have a couple of hours to spare a week, Sheila would be delighted to hear from you and can explain more fully.

Our Age Concern shop in Swaffham is also doing extremely well, so much so that Vi could do with some more help. Again if you have just two hours (or more of course) to help in the shop you would be very welcome. There's a lot happening at Age Concern, next year will be even better, so if you would care to join us, in any capacity, give me a ring. All the best, Barbara 01760 723866

Just as a reminder, future dates are:

- **October 25th** - outing to Gressenhall to see the "Roots of Norfolk" experience;
- **November 29th** - entertainment; and
- **December 20th** - outing to Thursford to see the fabulous Christmas Show.

Barbara White & James Dean - Age Concern

Bingo Bingo Bingo

Valentine Barker Court

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

Swaffham Evening Womens Institute

extends a warm welcome to any lady of any age group.
If you are new to Swaffham and would like to make new friends, do come along and meet us in The Church Rooms, Campingland at 7.30pm the 1st Wednesday of every month.
See our notice board beside Boots the Chemist for up-to-date information or telephone 01760 722052.

CHRISTMAS PRAISE

with Carols old and new
at Breckland Christian Fellowship, Oasis Centre,
Cley Road, Swaffham
Wednesday 21st December at 7.00pm
A full programme for everyone to participate in celebrating the true meaning of Christmas
Refreshments afterwards
"Jesus is the reason for the season"
A warm welcome awaits you

Bridge Club

Would you like to enjoy an evening's entertainment playing a game of cards amongst friends.
The cost is only £1.50 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 Nicholas-01760 722076

Anyone wishing to start a
Home Watch Scheme
in the Breckland area should in the first instance contact:

Colin Hodge
Breckland.norpol@qtnet.gov.uk
Home Watch Administrator
The Police Station
Norwich Road
Thetford
Norfolk
IP24 2HU
01842 222608

Norfolk Rural Community Council

Grants for Children & Young People's Groups

Norfolk Rural Community Council administers the Local Network Fund which is a Government grant available to community groups working with children and young people who are facing some form of disadvantage. Groups can apply for funding of between £250 and £7,000. For example this could be to support a new group or project to get started or for existing groups to expand or develop their activities. Over £200,000 of grants have already been awarded by the Grants Panel since April this year. There have been a wide variety of projects funded including youth clubs, parent and toddler groups, sports clubs, music groups, theatre groups, cycle tracks and outdoor play equipment.

Who can apply?

Community or voluntary groups focusing on children and young people up to 19. There is no requirement to be a registered charity but you will need to have a basic constitution for your group. Support is available for this.

What kinds of disadvantage does the Fund support?

Economic Disadvantage - projects that involve children from families disadvantaged due to low income.

Isolation and Access - disadvantaged due to rural isolation and access to facilities.

Aspirations and Experiences - It could be funding for projects providing opportunities for to experience activities that other children may take for granted.

Children's Voices - initiatives to give young people opportunities to express their views or develop self-help projects.

How can I find out more?

If you would like more information or want to discuss your project ideas contact the LNF team at the Norfolk Rural Community Council. Ring 01362 698216 or e-mail: Infchildren@norfolkkrcc.org.uk

You can also visit the NRCC website at Infchildren@norfolkkrcc.org.uk

You can also visit the NRCC website at www.norfolkkrcc.org.uk

For a Local Network Fund application pack ring the National Call Centre on 0845 1130161

COMMUNITY INFORMATION BUS

With representatives from:

The Fire Service, The Police Service, Citizen Advice Bureau, Immigration,
First Bus and The Pension Service.

The Bus will be at
Swaffham Market Place on the 4th Monday of the
Month 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Living with a Long-Term Health Condition

The Expert Patient Programme is a course for anyone who has a long term health or medical condition, and who would like to find ways of managing their illness more positively in order to improve their quality of life.

The programme is based on evidence that people with long-term health problems know best how their condition affects the way they feel, their lifestyle and their ability to accomplish activities important to them. The course also looks at ways to positively manage symptoms, to improve on daily activities and manage the changing emotions that can be brought about by chronic health problems.

The Course is free and consists of 6 weekly sessions - each lasting three hours. It will be led by two volunteer tutors who themselves have long-term health problems. They have previously attended an Expert Patient Programme course and had training to become a tutor. This means they understand the challenges participants face in having health problems and coming on the course. In Southern Norfolk we are actively recruiting more volunteer tutors, so that we can offer more locations for courses to avoid too much travel for the tutors and participants.

Weekly sessions provide new ways of managing your symptoms; relaxation techniques, diet, exercise and how to communicate effectively with health care staff. Time will be given for participants to share experiences and learn from each other, and to develop ways of overcoming their own specific difficulties.

On each course there are 16 participants. The atmosphere is very informal, which enables people to relax and get to know each other. The venues are fully accessible. Family carers of those on the course are welcome to contact the course tutors, although they will not be able to attend the sessions, unless they have a medical or health problem of their own.

To join a course, please ring Lynne Mather on 01603 813820 for an information pack.

WEETO

Imagine getting the help you need to find a rewarding job or to start your own business... then imagine it was free and available nearby. The Women's Employment Enterprise Training Unit (WEETO) OFFERS ALL THAT AND MORE.

WEETO helps more than 2000 women each year. Maybe we can help you? Courses are free and some child-care and travel expenses are paid. Call now to speak to DEBRA or CHLOE on 01603 216387

"FRIENDS OF SWAFFHAM MUSEUM"

The next monthly talk organised by the Friends of Swaffham Museum will be by Ann Gore, the internationally recognised authority on the English Country House. It will be on Wednesday October 5th, and its title: "Italy and the English Country House", with special reference to the great houses of Norfolk, such as Felbrigg, Holkham and Houghton, with their decoration and possessions. The talk will be in the Methodist Church Hall, at 7.30 p.m. Admission as usual is free, and open to all, but a contribution to the Charity's funds is always acceptable.

The following month the presentation will be on Wednesday November 2nd, when videos of the Museum and reminiscence will be shown."

John Clarke

Swaffham Civil Service Retirement Group meets third Tuesday each month in Methodist Hall, 10 am - 12 pm. Civil servants, their family and friends welcome for coffee, chat and meet new friends.

We sometimes have a guest speaker, occasionally a quiz. In December we enjoy a Christmas lunch at The George Hotel.

June Finch - Secretary 01760 720 728

TO THE HARD OF HEARING

You may be a little or you may be very deaf. However, did you know we have free lip reading classes in Swaffham?

We are only a small group at present but I am sure there are lots of people around who could benefit from these classes. We welcome new members so please don't be shy, come and join us. We have fun and lots of support and help with all sorts of things.

Classes are held on Thursday mornings 10.00 am - 12.00 noon at The Catholic Church Rooms, Castle Acre Road, Swaffham.

For further information ring 01553 630472

List of Clubs, Societies, Groups & Sporting Events

Would organizers and secretaries of clubs etc., please check the current list in the Town Hall for there accuracy. If there are any corrections, omissions or additions please inform Rosie Noble on 01760 722922, or

e-mail: rosie@swaffhamtowncouncil.co.uk

Swaffham Churches Together Town Carol Service

7.00pm Tuesday 20th December
in the Baptist Church, Station Street, Swaffham.

Baptist Church

18th December 10.30am Christmas Family Celebration
6.00pm Candlelight Service

25th December 10.00am Christmas Morning Worship
1st January 10.30am New Year Celebration

Our Lady of Pity Catholic Church

24th December 4.30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas in the
Methodist Church, High Street, Watton

11.30pm Carols in Our Lady of Pity, Swaffham

Midnight Midnight Mass of Christmas

25th December 9.30am Mass of Christmas Day

St Peter & St Paul Church of England

18th December 6.30pm Service of 9 Lessons and Carols

24th December 4.00pm Blessing of the Crib and
Christingle Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

25th December 8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Eucharist

Methodist Church

18th December 10.45am Morning Worship

18th 4.00pm Nativity Service - All Welcome

24th December 11.15pm Holy Communion Service

25th December 11.00am Family Service of Worship

Chamber, Town hall.

5th Relief in Need Meeting 6.30pm Council Chamber,
Town Hall.

5th Finance & General Purpose Meeting 7.30pm Council
Chamber, Town Hall.

5th Farmers Market- War Memorial Site.

5th Museum Talk, Methodist Hall, 7.30pm,

5th Gospel Folk Concert 7.30pm Breckland Christian
Fellowship, Oasis Centre.

6th-8th 'Rock-a-Bye-Sailor', Swaffham Players,
Hamond's Sixth Form College, 7.30pm- 721899

7th REFRESH (Youth Club for 10+ years with snooker,
pool, ice hockey, music, table tennis, computer games
etc.)- 50p - 7.30pm at Oasis Centre.

8th Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist
Church for Church Funds

8th Coffee Morning, Conservative Club- Pensioners
Association

8th UB40/SKA Tribute band, Hamond's High School,
7.30pm- 721480

8th Quiz Night, Swaffham and District Swimming Pool
Association, Home Hale Pavilion

12th Town Council Meeting- Council Chamber Town Hall

12th Fashion Show, Lydney House Hotel Macmillan

Cancer Relief - 723152

13th The Swaffham and District Horticultural Society,
Mr Paul Markwell, 724479

14th Annual Art Exhibition preview evening, Lydney
House Hotel (Rotary Club of Swaffham) - 721115

15th- 16th Annual Art Exhibition and sale of art, Lydney
House Hotel (Rotary Club of Swaffham) - 721115

15th SPA Coffee morning- Methodist Hall

15th German Social Evening, Swaffham Twinning
Association, Church Rooms, 7.30pm

15th Coffee Morning, Swaffham and District Swimming
Pool Association, Methodist Hall

16th Breakfast Service 10.00am Breckland Christian
Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Join us for
Breakfast followed by a short service.

16th Gospel & Healing Service 6.00pm Breckland
Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road.

Are you sick, suffering with addiction or mental
problems, are you stressed - all needs prayed for.

22nd Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist
Church for Church Funds.

25th Age Concern, Entertainment, Methodist Hall,
2pm, 720756

25th THE BIG DRAW, Swaffham Museum, £1 per
entry, 10am-2pm- 721230

26th THE BIG DRAW, Swaffham Museum, £1 per
entry, 10am-2pm- 721230

26th- 30th Bulgarian State Circus, Swaffham
Recreation Ground- 07788627700

29th Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist
Church for Church Funds.

29th The Swaffham and District Horticultural Society,
Bingo, 724479

Community Events

October, November & December 2005

Any organisation wishing to include events in the Swaffham Diary should leave information at the Town Hall. Please indicate the nature of the event together with date, time and venue, your name and telephone number. For details see boards at the Town Hall or Tourist Information Centre.

October

1st Official Opening of the New Community Centre,
Campingland.

2nd Open Day at the New Community Centre, an
afternoon of activities- Telephone 01760 722800 for
further details

2nd Worship Service 10.30am Breckland Christian
Fellowship, Oasis Centre. Visiting speaker Pastor
Hashmat from Pakistan. All welcome.

4th Recreation Ground Meeting 7.00pm Council

30th 10.30am 'Church 4 All' Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. A short service for all the family with dance, children participation, drama etc. followed by a light meal. All welcome to join us.

November

2nd Farmers Market- War Memorial Site.
2nd Museum Talk, Methodist Hall, 7.30pm, 723152
4th REFRESH (Youth Club for 10+ years with snooker, pool, ice hockey, music, table tennis, computer games etc.) 7.30pm The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. 50p.
9th Town Council Meeting- 6.45pm Council Chamber, Town Hall.
10th The Swaffham and District Horticultural Society, Mr & Mrs Bridge- Out of Africa, 724479
10th Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance Concert, Parish Church of St. Paul, 7.30pm
19th Christmas Bazaar & Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon for Methodist Church Funds.
19th Lions Beaujolais Nouveau Evening - Lydney House Hotel- 721550
20th Breakfast Service 10.00am Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Join us for Breakfast followed by a short service.
20th Gospel & Healing Service 6.00pm Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Are you sick, suffering with addiction or mental problems, are you stressed - all needs prayed for.
25th SPA Cheese and Wine Evening- 721784
25th Annual Grand Prize Draw Night, Swaffham Swimming Pool Association, Lydney House Hotel Function Suite
26th-27th Christmas Craft Fair- Oxburgh Hall- 01366 328258
26th The Swaffham and District Horticultural Society, Bingo, 724479
27th Christmas Social Evening, Swaffham Twinning Association, Church Rooms 7.30pm-
29th Age Concern, Entertainment, Methodist Hall, 2pm, 720756

December

2nd The Phoenix Singers Christmas Concert, Swaffham Catholic Church- 720298
2nd REFRESH (Youth Club for 10+ years with snooker, pool, ice hockey, music, table tennis, computer games etc.) 7.30pm at The Oasis Centre, Cley Road, Swaffham. 50p.
4th OAP's Christmas Lunch- Hamond's School (Lions) - 722076
4th Museum Mulled Wine Party, 12noon, 720140
7th Icen Partnership Meeting- Swaffham Community Centre- 722800
7th Farmers Market- War Memorial Site.

9th The Swaffham and District Horticultural Society, Social Evening- Methodist Rooms 724479
10th-11th Santa Claus at Waitrose (Lions) - 721550
10th Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist Church for Church Funds.
10th Coffee Morning, Conservative Club- Pensioners Association
14th Town Council Meeting- Council Chamber, Town Hall.
14th-15th Santa Claus touring Swaffham (Lions) - 721550
17th Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist Church for Church Funds, from 9.30am - 4.00pm the Church is open for the Christmas Festival of trees & lights, all are welcome to come & view.
17th Carols & Christmas Wrap 10.30pm - 12.30pm outside the Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Bring your gifts and we will wrap them for you free of charge as a Christmas Blessing.
18th Breakfast Service 10.00am Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Join us for Breakfast followed by a short service.
18th 2.00pm - 3.45pm Methodist Church Christmas Festival of trees & lights, all are welcome to come & view.
20th Age Concern outing to Thursford concert, 723866
21st Christmas Praise with Carols Old and New 7.00pm Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. A full programme for everyone to participate in celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. A warm welcome awaits you.
24th Coffee Morning 9.30am - 12 noon Methodist Church for Church funds.
24th Carols & Christmas Wrap 10.30am-12.30pm outside the Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Bring your gifts and we will wrap them for you free of charge as a Christmas Blessing.
25th Christmas Day Service 11.00am Breckland Christian Fellowship, The Oasis Centre, Cley Road. Short family service - children bring one of your presents to show us.
27th Swaffham Players- Dick Whittington Christmas Panto, Hamond's High School, 3pm & 7.30pm
28th-30th Dick Whittington Christmas Panto, Hamond's High School, 7.30pm- 721899

COPY DEADLINE for next issue

N.B. Your copy DEADLINE for the next issue due out in January 2006. All copy in by Friday 16th December 2005 at the latest. Thank you to all contributors of the newsletter, new contributions always welcome.