



# Swanbourne Village News

Newsletter No. 150 March 2020 – May 2020

## Swanbourne's new pond

*Feature – Our Precious  
Environment P. 8-9*



To find Swanbourne's new pond, walk down Station Road then turn left onto the public footpath near to the Sabotage wood at Dodley Hill Farm. This new pond is created entirely for environmental purposes.

There is an ancient spring-fed pond in the field by Dodley Hill Farmhouse which overflows into a drain which runs into the Claydon Brook further down. To create the new pond, a hole was dug out from the impervious Oxford Clay and the overflow drain from the ancient pond was cut to create a water source.

It will be of environmental benefit to create more ponds here and further along the valley. The plan is to protect and encourage the great crested newt population all around Swanbourne Parish. It will also encourage our surprisingly large variety of dragon and damsel fly species which can be found all around Swanbourne.

See P. 9 for some species photographs. Thanks go to Tom Finchett who is managing this scheme in consultation with Chris Damant.

## DIARY DATES

Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> March - SCA Lunch, 12.30pm in the Village Hall (See P.11)  
Wed 4<sup>th</sup> March - Betsey Pub Quiz in aid of MDD 7-9pm (See Betsey pub website)  
Fri 6<sup>th</sup> March 7.45 p.m. World Day of Prayer - Methodist Chapel (See P.15)  
Sat 7<sup>th</sup> March 12.30 p.m. Lent Lunch - Village Hall (See P.15)  
Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> March - History Group talk 2.30pm in the Village Hall (See P.6)  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March - Book Club, at the Betsey by 7.45pm for 8pm start (See P.7)  
Sat 28<sup>th</sup> March - SCA Quiz + fish/chip supper; 6.15pm for 6.30pm start at VH (See P.16)  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> April - SCA Afternoon Tea, 2.30pm in the Village Hall  
Fri 10<sup>th</sup> April - Bank Holiday (Good Friday)  
Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April - Bank Holiday (Easter Monday)  
Wed 15<sup>th</sup> April - SCA AGM to be held in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm (See P.12)  
Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May - 2.30 p.m. Tea in the Afternoon (note date change from 11<sup>th</sup> May)  
Thur 7<sup>th</sup> May - Local Council Elections; poll station at the Village Hall (See P.4)  
Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary VE Day/May Day)  
Mon 11<sup>th</sup> May - SCA Afternoon Tea, 2.30pm in the Village Hall  
Wed 13<sup>th</sup> May - Parish Council AGM in the Village Hall at 7pm (See p.3)  
Tues 19<sup>th</sup> May - Book Club, at the Betsey by 7.45pm for 8pm start (See P.14)  
Wed 20<sup>th</sup> May - Parish Assembly starting at 7pm in the Village Hall (See p.3)  
Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday (Spring)  
Mon 1<sup>st</sup> June - SCA Afternoon Tea, 2.30pm in the Village Hall  
Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June - Swanbourne Church Fete at Swanbourne House (see below)

## FUTURE DATES

Sat 11th July - Sports Day - 1pm at Swanbourne Playing Fields  
Tues 28<sup>th</sup> July - Book Club, at the Betsey by 7.45pm for 8pm start  
Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Oct - Swanbourne Endeavour tenth anniversary special (details to follow)

# SWANBOURNE CHURCH FETE

is on 6th June in the glorious grounds of Swanbourne House. This year it will be bigger and better than ever, with new stalls alongside the old favourites and more games for the children. Please help us by putting aside bric a brac, toys, (including teddies and soft toys), unwanted toiletries and cosmetics, and anything you think might be suitable for our Grand Raffle.

Collection details at a later date.

*Rosemary Andrew*

# SWANBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Ms Vanda Bennett is **Parish Clerk**. Any enquires about Parish Council business should be made by email in the first instance to: [clerkswanbournepc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkswanbournepc@gmail.com), or telephone Vanda on 728392.

## **Parish Councillors**

**Clive Rodgers** – Chairman, strategic planning, liaising with SCA, maintenance overview, newsletter, liaison with Swanbourne Estate. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Helen Cleaveley** – Traffic issues, MVAS and Speed watch. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Linda Sirett** – Dog related issues, playing field/verges liaison. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Steve French** – Local Authority Funding (LAF) meetings, local planning applications. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Rosemary Andrew** – Bus shelters, bus stops, liaison with passenger transport. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Deborah Barrow** – Highway defect reporting to BCC and litter issues. *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

**Mike King** – Standing orders, transparency compliance, help with website *Emails will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk.*

## **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.00pm, on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020, in Swanbourne Village Hall.

The Parish Council AGM will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May starting at 7pm.

## **Parish Assembly**

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, starting at 7pm. All are welcome.

## **Parish Council Transparency**

The Parish Council Website [www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk) follows government transparency guidelines, containing all the Parish Council news and documentation (e.g. agenda and minute records as well as all financial information).

## **Village Planning News**

**19/04412/APP | Construction of detached house** and all ancillary works | The Swan 15 Mursley Road Swanbourne Buckinghamshire MK17 0SH - *Pending*.

**19/03984/ACL | Application for a Lawful Development Certificate** for a Proposed wedding licence - no alteration to the building | The Betsey Wynne PH Mursley Road Swanbourne Buckinghamshire MK17 0SH - *Pending*.

**20/00570/APP | Erection of a 2-metre boundary wall** | Old Orchard House 13A Tattams Lane Swanbourne Buckinghamshire MK17 0SU - *Pending*.

**20/00021/ALB | Rebuild old masonry boundary wall** between Church Cottage and St Swithun's Church | Land Between Church Cottage and St Swithun's Church Swanbourne Buckinghamshire MK17 0FF - *Pending*.

## **Local Elections – 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**Buckinghamshire Council** - Aylesbury Vale District Council and Bucks County Council will cease to exist on 31<sup>st</sup> March. They will be replaced by a single unitary council simply called 'Buckinghamshire Council' from 1<sup>st</sup> April. However, new County Councillors will need to be elected at the local elections on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Old councillors will continue to look after public interests in the gap between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> May.

**Parish Council** - Elections will also take place on 7<sup>th</sup> May but only if there are more candidates than the existing 7 Parish Councillors (all of whom plan to stand again) in which case it would be termed a contested election and ballot papers would need to be printed for use on 7<sup>th</sup> May. Otherwise it's an uncontested election (with no vote). Members of the public interested in standing should reside or work in the village and be UK citizens. Electronic copies of blank nomination forms may be accessed by downloading from the Electoral Commission's website. Once completed, candidates should deliver them by hand to the Gateway offices in Aylesbury.

**Notice of Election** - The Notice of Election will be published on 31 March 2020. The period for nominations will then commence, and the deadline for nominations for the elections will be 4pm on 8 April 2020. Following the deadline, a complete statement of persons nominated will be published.

**Timings** - Hours of poll will be 7am – 10pm.

**Poll booth location** – Swanbourne Village Hall.

**Costs charged to the Parish Council** - An uncontested Parish Council election will cost around £116. If the election is contested it would cost the Parish Council around £1,000.

**Police & Crime Commissioner elections** - will also be taking place on 7 May 2020, hours of poll exactly the same.

**Administration** - As the Registers of Electors are not going to be merged before the Elections, the elections will be administered by the relevant current District offices, so as we fall within the existing district of Aylesbury Vale, administered by the Aylesbury Vale district office.

**Ballot papers** - With different elections on the same day, the ballot papers for each election will be a different colour. Confirmation in relation to what the colour for each election will be is still awaited. At close of poll at 10pm, the Presiding Officers will return their ballot boxes, and all associated documentation to the Count venues. Verification for all of the three elections will then take place that evening.

**Ballot paper counts** - The Returning Officer has determined that the Count for the Buckinghamshire Unitary Council Elections will take place on Friday 8 May 2020 commencing at 10am.

The Count for contested Town and Parish Council Elections will take place on Saturday 9 May 2020 commencing at 10am.

The Count for the Police and Crime Commissioner elections are is understood to be taking place on Monday 11 May 2020.

## **Parish Council News**

**Bus shelters** - the second bus shelter is now in situ. Unfortunately, there have been some incidents of dead birds, so Rosemary has kindly taken some measures to try to avoid future mortalities (see P. 8).

**Traffic feasibility study** - Helen has liaised with Ringway Jacobs who have just completed a report, but this is yet to be considered by the PC.

**Wildflower verges** - Permission has been given by BCC for a trial within the Highways verge. A site between the second bus shelter and the Old House may shortly be trialled.

**Verge and Parking issues** - Issues in different parts of the village have been investigated, improved and largely resolved.

**Standing Orders** - New Standing Orders following government guidelines were presented by Mike and Clive. These were approved at the January PC meeting and a copy is now published on the PC website.

**Playing Field** - Future plans to be agreed with the Playing Field

Committee following their next meeting.

**Expressway** – There are some unofficial indications that this has been put on hold by the government. However, still no confirmation - but a conclusion now seems imminent. An Expressway decision seems highly likely to be announced within the Budget planned for 11<sup>th</sup> March.

You are invited to sign the petition in order to help maintain public pressure. <https://www.noexpressway.org/petition-signup>

## *History Meeting Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March starting at 2.30 p.m., the Village Hall*

Anne Marshall, who has been working in the Bucks Archive in Aylesbury cataloguing items connected with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Cottesloe, Sir Thomas Fremantle, will give a presentation on his life and achievements.

Sir Thomas lived at the Old House for most of his life, and was a well-respected member of the community, serving not only the village, but also the county and the nation.

*Picture (right) - The 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord Cottesloe with his wife and family.*

*Picture (left) photo of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lord.*

*Ken Harris*



## SWANBOURNE BOOK CLUB

Dear Bookclubbers, the next meeting will be Wednesday 25th March at 7.45 pm for 8.00 pm start. Hope I can entice you round to the Betsey Wynne in March to talk about a much bigger read - *Our Mutual Friend* by Charles Dickens. £2.25 for a brand-new copy and zero pounds on Kindle.

### **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - *Our Mutual Friend*,**

#### **Charles Dickens**

A satiric masterpiece about the allure and peril of money, *Our Mutual Friend* revolves around the inheritance of a dust-heap where the rich throw their trash. When the body of John Harmon, the dust-heap's expected heir, is found in the Thames, fortunes change hands surprisingly, raising to new heights "Noddy" Boffin, a low-born but kindly clerk who becomes "the Golden Dustman." Charles Dickens's last complete novel, *Our Mutual Friend* encompasses the great themes of his earlier works: the pretensions of the nouveaux riches, the ingenuousness of the aspiring poor, and the unflinching power of wealth to corrupt all who crave it. With its flavourful cast of characters and numerous subplots, *Our Mutual Friend* is one of Dickens's most complex—and satisfying—novels.

### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020 *Year of Wonders* by Geraldine**

#### **Brooks**

When an infected bolt of cloth carries plague from London to an isolated village, a housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as an unlikely heroine and healer. Through Anna's eyes we follow the story of the fateful year of 1666, as she and her fellow villagers confront the spread of disease and superstition. As death reaches into every household and villagers turn from prayers to murderous witch-hunting, Anna must find the strength to confront the disintegration of her community and the lure of illicit love. As she struggles to survive and grow, a year of catastrophe becomes instead *annus mirabilis*, a "year of wonders." Inspired by the true story of Eyam, a village in the rugged hill country of England, *Year of Wonders* is a richly detailed evocation of a singular moment in history.

*Deborah Barrow*

## Swanbourne Community Association Lottery

The Annual SCA Lottery is a good way of supporting the village activities, and last year, raised £490 for the SCA, as well as giving out £700 in prizes. Those who wish to support the SCA without entering the lottery can always make donations if they prefer. You should get a leaflet telling you more about the Community Association and the Lottery with this newsletter.

## Our Precious Environment



### **The Great British Spring Clean, 20 March - 13 April 2020.**

In collaboration with the Keep Britain Tidy organisation (refer to their website) residents are invited to voluntarily donate their own rubbish bag and (wearing gloves) fill it with verge/footpath litter, especially targeting non-degradable items such as plastics e.g. when taking the dog for a morning walk – corresponding with the Great British Spring Clean campaign over three weeks from 20<sup>th</sup> March. <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org>





Can you identify these species seen in Swanbourne last Spring/Summer?



This photograph (below) shows the only two electric charging points known to the editors in Swanbourne.



An electric future will be essential, though at present there are no plans for any other car charging points in Swanbourne. While those residents who have their own garages (or off-road parking next to their homes) should be able to charge with no problem, a solution will need to be devised for those residents who have to rely on street parking. *Clive Rodgers*

### **SCA Christmas events - feedback**

#### **Carol singing – feedback from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019**

Carols started at Brises Farm and ended at Charlton Close two hours later. The weather was kind and a healthy £300.89 was raised and donated to Aylesbury Homeless Action Group.

#### **Christmas Lunch – feedback from 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

21 meals were served, the occasion was enjoyed by all who attended.

## **SCA March Lunch - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Village Hall**

Come and share a tasty lunch with friends and neighbours at 12.30 for 1 p.m., in the Village Hall. The menu will be pie and vegetables, with a selection of desserts, and a vegetarian option can be had on request. Cordial drink will be available with the meal and tea and coffee will served later, but bring your own drinks if you want them. Everybody is very welcome. The cost is £5 per head, payable on the door, but meals must be booked in advance by phoning 720454. If you need transport, please also let us know.

The regular Tea in the Afternoon will be held in the Village Hall from 2.30 p.m. on 6<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May. The latter date has been changed because it is no longer a Bank Holiday.

### **Doggie Diaries**



Barry  
loves  
practising  
his yoga  
'keep fit'  
exercises..

*Continued on  
the next  
page.....*



## Doggie Diaries

Hello Swanbourne!

So, 2020 is well underway, and haven't we had a battering so far?! Sometimes it has even been difficult to stand still or to run in a straight line, and I can't really follow delicious smells when it is so wet and windy either - the smell gets blown all over the place, just like I do ;) I don't mind frost as much, but the freezing ground makes me dance a jig; my poor sensitive pads.... My 'dancing' makes Ma laugh.

The good news is that the season is definitely beginning to change – woohoooo! I find it so exciting (and so does Ma – she LOVES the flowers and new green). It means on dry days we will be able to roam further and for longer, I can't wait. Ooooh, and more picnics and, my special 'meals on wheels' (food eaten in the car) too; I really, really can't wait.

On one walk recently, Ma got a puncture – I was worried about her so stayed close until help came, then I held my own lead and stayed oh-so-still while she used me to steady herself as she transferred from one chair to another. She wasn't sure what she would do without me, and to be honest I'm not sure what I would do without her either.

I've been out and about beyond Swanbourne a lot too. I've travelled in trains and taxis, stayed with friends, been to appointments, and practised yoga - you think I'm joking...but I'm being serious - downward dog is my favourite, obviously, and I love the bit where I can snooze at the end too. I've been out for meals, to concerts, the cinema and the theatre. I am pretty unphased by anything to be honest; I like to stay cool and take life in my stride. Oh except for puddles, I'm not at all sure about puddles. I prefer to jump over them and stay as close to Ma as I can –well, no one is brave about everything!

I wish you all a gentle, happy, warm and waggy springtime.

With love,

from Barry xx



**Swanbourne Village Hall** – To make a booking please contact Simone on 07582967171 and leave a message – then she will get back to you within 24 hours. The Village Hall Committee Chairman/Treasurer is now Hugo Gilbert. [hugogilbert@fir-tree.co.uk](mailto:hugogilbert@fir-tree.co.uk)  
Other Committee members are: Wilma Gilbert and Mo Gray.

**SCA Annual General Meeting April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall**

The Annual General Meeting, at which the Community Association reports on its activities and finances and appoints its officers for the next year, will be held in the Village Hall on April 15<sup>th</sup>. We are always looking for more people to take an active part in the work of the Association, so if you think you would be interested and have the time, please come along to find out more.

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION CONTACTS**

**SWANBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COUNTRYSIDE WATCH**

Email [swanwatch7@gmail.com](mailto:swanwatch7@gmail.com) or tel: - Mo on 720269 or Doody on 728161.

**REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Monday am and pm – Currently available for hire.

Tuesday Yoga classes – Paul Blissett daytime and evening yoga classes – Tel. 680454 for further details or email to:

[paulblissett@hedgelaye.co.uk](mailto:paulblissett@hedgelaye.co.uk)

Wednesday am Pilates – Tel. Phil Nuttridge Tel. 01280 817200

Pm evening preference is offered for PC and SCA meetings.

Thursday am Body Sculpt - Tara Hughes 0787 2449019. Evening pm Giocosso Concert Band; Tel. David Sharp 01908 503461 or email

[d.sharp@open.ac.uk](mailto:d.sharp@open.ac.uk)

Friday am and pm - Currently available for hire.

## MORE WEBSITE, EMAIL & TELEPHONE CONTACTS

**Newsletter Editors:** - Clive and Linda Rodgers; email [CLMRodgers@btinternet.com](mailto:CLMRodgers@btinternet.com) Print costs are funded by Swanbourne Parish Council; printed by Harlequin Press. Each edition of the Newsletter covers three months.

**Village information via email circulation** - Newer village residents may like to know that information is regularly circulated by email by Peter Hampton. If you are new to the village you may be interested in adding your name to the list. Notices should be forwarded to Peter at the following email address:- [swanbournemail@gmail.com](mailto:swanbournemail@gmail.com)

**Swanbourne Community Association** –Website: - [www.swanbournecommunityassociation.com](http://www.swanbournecommunityassociation.com)

**Swanbourne Facebook Village Community Group:-**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/443602106260000/>

**Swanbourne Estate-** The Estate Manager is Tom Finchett. Tel. 01296-720256 email: [office@swanbourneestate.co.uk](mailto:office@swanbourneestate.co.uk)

**Swanbourne History Group**–[www.swanbournehistory.co.uk](http://www.swanbournehistory.co.uk)

**The Shop** –<https://www.facebook.com/SwanbourneStores/> Tel. 720288.

**Betsey Wynne Pub** - [www.thebetseywynne.co.uk](http://www.thebetseywynne.co.uk) Tel. 720825.

**Swanbourne Parish Council** – [www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Play Out Swanbourne** - [www.facebook.com/playoutswanbourne](http://www.facebook.com/playoutswanbourne)

### **Winslow Community Bus**

Tel. 01296 715786 (Sue) You can get the Community Bus in Winslow any Friday or Saturday morning at 9.15am to get to Aylesbury for just after 10 o'clock – dropping off by Sainsbury's or the bus station, then return 12.15pm depart from bus station (+ High St pick up on a Friday). **All for FREE** with a bus pass.

## **NEWSPAPER DELIVERIES**

Get newspapers and/or magazines delivered very early in the morning to your home anywhere in Swanbourne! Wedelivernews.com Ltd. is based at 52, High St., Winslow. If you wish to go on their delivery list, phone or text Sue on 07834902196 or email info@wedelivernews.com

## **SWANBOURNE'S SPRING REFUSE COLLECTION DATES**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Food waste</b>	<b>Recycling Bin</b>	<b>Waste Bin</b>	<b>Garden waste</b>
<i>Tuesday Feb 25</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Mar 03</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday Mar 10</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Mar 17</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday Mar 24</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Mar 31</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday Apr 07</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Wednesday Apr 15</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday Apr 21</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Apr 28</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday May 05</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection
<i>Tuesday May 12</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>
<i>Tuesday May 19</i>	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection	<b>COLLECTION</b>	No Collection

### **Lent Lunch – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March - Village Hall**

Swanbourne Church and Chapel are again holding a Lent Lunch this year between 12.30 and 1.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. We shall be serving delicious home-made soup, with rolls, cheese, fruit, tea and coffee. Donations will be for 'Send a Cow' as we think of those who are needing support to ensure that they have a reliable supply of food for themselves

### **World Day of Prayer – 7.45 p.m. 6<sup>th</sup> March, the Methodist Chapel, Nearton End**

On 6<sup>th</sup> March, people around the world will be sharing in a service, prepared by women in Zimbabwe, with the title 'Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk'. In Swanbourne, the chapel and church members are joining together to play their own part in this celebration. Everyone is welcome to come and join us for what is always an inspiring occasion.

Swanbourne Community Association



# QUIZ NIGHT



**with Supper of Chips and a choice of  
Cod, Pie, Sausages or Veggie Burger**  
(Food **must** be booked and paid for by 6 p.m.  
on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Ring 720454)

*Bring your own drinks  
Raffle in support of Village Funds*

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
6.15 for 6.30 p.m. Village Hall**

**£7.50 per person**  
(or £2 without food at the door)

The four new houses under construction in Nerton End will be known as Old Drovers View, and completion is planned for the end of March



Species answers from Page 9: - Migrant Hawker dragonfly, Blue-tailed Damselfly, Ruddy Darter dragonfly, Comma butterfly, Great Crested Newt.