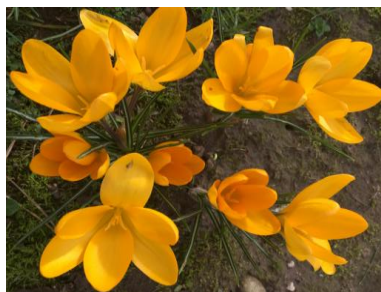


Swanland Village Association **NEWSLETTER**

Distributed FREE to every
household in the Village



www.swanlandvillageassociation.info Spring 2026 No.105



From the Chair of the Swanland Village Association

Signs of Spring in the garden and round the pond are abundant. The snowdrops are in flower on the verges around the village and the daffodils and crocuses are too. On a walk down to the pond, I saw the moorhens are busy making nests in the reeds and the hayracks by the pond and tubs are in flower. The pond is the fullest it has been for years due to the seemingly never-ending periods of heavy rain.

For the first time, the SVA held its AGM in January. Following a short business side of the meeting we had a very interesting, illustrated talk by Humber Rescue. Yusef gave an excellent presentation of the valuable work of this local charity. It was surprising to learn that that this is one of the busiest lifeboat stations in the country, covering the Humber and its tributaries. It was lovely to see so many of you there. The evening

concluded with wine and nibbles. The proceeds of the raffle on the Murder Mystery evening in November were donated to Humber Rescue to support their vital work.

The accounts were approved at the AGM and have been posted on the website.

Jan Rogerson stood down from the committee and her position as Vice Chair. **We gave her a very BIG THANK YOU for all her time and contributions to Swanland in so many capacities.**

Jan has been a supporter of Swanland Village Association for over 30 years. She was Chair for 16 years and saw many changes. She was a founder member of the Swanland Preservation Society which later became Swanland Village Association. She was involved in producing Swanland Signpost, Open Gardens, Britain in Bloom, Swanland Festival and so much more. I can't begin to do justice to all she has done. On behalf of Swanland Village Association she was presented with a plant for her garden in recognition to her contributions to village life over the years. Mary Lou Raywood was elected to become Vice Chair and Frances Smith was elected to the committee. Kate agreed to stay on as Membership Secretary until a replacement can be found. If you can take on this role, please let Kate or myself know. [This leaves one vacancy on the committee if anyone is interested, please contact me or one of the committee members.](#)



The Gardening Group are organising Open Gardens for Sunday 5th July – see the gardening group article (page 21) for more information.

The Village Association continues to develop, working with other village organisations via the Community Forum. Most recently this was at 'Santa on the Pond'. In addition to the Parish Council, the Community Forum was instrumental in organising the 'Post Card to Santa' competition. The Trustees and volunteers from various Community Forum groups helped at the Village Hall to serve 250 hot dogs, mulled wine and cold drinks.

Children from Fleur Elizabeth's Academy Dance singing class entertained everyone with Christmas



songs. Santa and his helpers were able to meet the children in the warmth of the main hall.

Over the winter months, volunteers have continued to work hard, on your behalf, in a wide variety of roles.

The Pond Partnership held its Autumn reed cut back, the litter pickers continued to collect litter from our streets, whilst others were busy helping behind the scenes.

Volunteers are the heart of our community and there are many groups that would appreciate your help. Every little helps!

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS IN SWANLAND!

Swanland Village Association website at -

www.swanlandvillageassociation.info continues to be developed. You can access this by the QR code on the back page of the magazine. Our Facebook page is continually updated with news and events in the village.

**For further information, please contact *Christine*: - telephone 637085
email: cw@swanlandvillageassociation.info**



www.ferribyvillagehall.org.uk

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Swanland Village Association Membership

2025 saw a welcome increase in SVA membership. After a few years of decline following the COVID period, we've seen a genuine turnaround. Numbers rose from 287 members in 2024 to 293 in 2025.

That may sound modest but in the context of recent trends it's a really positive shift. This was helped by applications from new residents using the forms included in the newsletter, as well as a great response at the school Christmas Fair, where we signed up 15 new members. Overall, it's been very encouraging and has helped balance the usual coming and going.

I've also been reflecting on how we talk to people about joining. Quite often, when invited to become a member, the response is, "I haven't got time." At the Christmas Fair we noticed something interesting: when we spoke about supporting the Association rather than becoming a member, people were much more relaxed and happy to sign up. It made me wonder whether the word member can imply a time commitment, when in reality many people are simply glad to offer a little financial support.

At the AGM, we floated the idea of using 'supporter' instead and it was very well received. We'll discuss this further at the next Committee meeting, as adopting it formally would require some small changes to the constitution.

The annual cost remains unchanged, at just £2 per person, per year.

On a personal note, I have let the Committee know that I will need to step down as Membership Secretary, once a suitable replacement is found, as my family commitments are increasing. I'd be very happy to chat with anyone who might be interested in taking on the role or who would simply like to know what it involves. On the plus side, it really is one of the nicest ways to get to know the village and the people in it: I've certainly found that.

Finally, a sincere thank you to all our members for your support. It is genuinely appreciated and makes a real difference to what the Association is able to do.

Kate Nicoll
Membership Secretary

Litter picking



At present, there are 36 volunteers participating in the litter-picking rota, representing a decrease of two from last year. This means every volunteer on the litter picking rota gets a go once every 8 or 9 months. It's important to keep the number of volunteers on the rota healthy to ensure its manageable for all. **The excellent work they do helps to keep the village centre round the pond litter free.**

The whole village litter picking sessions continue to be well supported. It is lovely to see families with young children taking part. When possible, these are scheduled to link in with village events. The aim of these is to pick litter on every road in the village, paying particular attention to the main entry roads. These events continue to attract new volunteers some of whom go onto the village litter-picking rota. The next whole village litter picking sessions are on **Saturday 21st March and Saturday 27th June (the week before Open Gardens) from 10am to 12noon. All welcome and all equipment provided. Free hot or cold drink at Christ Church afterwards.**

The loan scheme, whereby households have long-term loan of tabards, litter pickers and hoops has increased in numbers since last year and they play a vital part in picking up litter before it becomes an eyesore. Ten households from different areas of the village are currently taking part. The current litter 'hot spots' continue to be the passing places on Dale Road, Occupation Lane and towards the roundabout on Tranby Lane. This again helps to keep the village and surrounding area mainly litter free and helps the prompt reporting of fly tipping.

A BIG THANK YOU to all litter picking volunteers. If would like to join the litter picking volunteers please get in touch.

Christine Walker - Telephone 01482 637095 or email - cw@swanlandvilladeassociation.info



Swanland Screen

Swanland Screen audiences enjoyed 'Downton Abbey the Grande Finale' for our January film. Our audience numbers are continuing to grow and are beginning to cover their costs. Hopefully this year they will break even. If you have not tried a film at your local village hall then please give it a go.

Saturday 21st March - Row (2025) 15. A young woman, Megan, washes ashore from her blood-stained rowing boat after a treacherous transatlantic rowing attempt ends in disaster. Suffering from severe memory loss and with the rest of her crew missing, it falls to a local DCI to uncover what really happened on board the doomed vessel. As the only witness, Megan attempts to recollect the traumatic events leading up to the shipwreck and prove her innocence...

Saturday 18th April - The Ballad of Wallis Island (2025) 12. The Ballad of Wallis Island follows Charles (Tim Key), an eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island and dreams of getting his favourite musicians, Mortimer-McGwyer (Carey Mulligan and Tom Basden) back together. His fantasy quickly turns into reality when the bandmates and former lovers accept his invitation to play a private show at his home on Wallis Island. Old tensions resurface...

Saturday 16th May - The Choral (2025) 12A. Written by Alan Bennett. Set in 1916, during World War I, in the fictional town of Ramsden, Yorkshire, the film follows the members of the local choral society which recruits a group of teenage boys and girls for a performance of Edward Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, a work chosen because it was not written by a German. It stars Ralph Fiennes, Roger Allam, Mark Addy, Alun Armstrong, Robert Emms, and Simon Russell Beale.

Saturday 13th June - Robot and Frank (2012) 12. Set in the near future, aging ex-convict and thief Frank Weld lives alone and suffers from increasingly severe mental deterioration and dementia. Frank's son Hunter, an attorney with a family of his own, grows tired of making weekly visits to his father's home without his kids but is reluctant to put his father into full-time care so he purchases a robot companion, which is programmed to

provide Frank with therapeutic care, including a fixed daily routine and cognition-enhancing activities like gardening.

Full details of films will be advertised on Swanland Village Association website and Facebook pages, together with local posters.

Start times are 7.30pm and tickets are £5 per person

(Cash or card on the door please)

There will be an interval and refreshments available for a donation.

If any of you are interested in helping with Swanland Screen we would love to hear from you.

If you want to receive notification of our events in the Village Hall then please let Christine have your email address by emailing a request to:

cw@swanlandvillageassociation.info

or subscribe to the calendar via the events page of our website at -

www.swanlandvillageassociation.info

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- Thursday 4th June 2026
- Thursday 2nd July 2026
- Thursday 6th August 2026



Please visit my Facebook Page - The Tastiest Catch

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Swanland Community Forum

On behalf of the Swanland Community Forum, we would like to thank to all the volunteers for the recent success of ‘Santa on the Pond’.

With Swanland Parish Council, we are organising ‘Know your Swanland’ event promoting volunteering on **Saturday 10th October, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm in Swanland Village Hall.**

All are welcome!

Did you know 10 Benefits of Volunteering? (The Positive Impact of Giving Your Time)

- 1. Offers with a Sense of Purpose** - Volunteering lets us find a new meaning and contribute bigger things in life.
- 2. Fosters a Sense of Community** - Volunteering links us together and inspires participation in community activities.
- 3. Helps to Meet New Friends** - Volunteering hosts new people and strengthens existing relationships, with shared interests.
- 4. Enhances Social Skills** - Working with others improves communication and relationship-building skills.
- 5. Improves Self-Esteem** - Helping the community boosts confidence and brings a sense of accomplishment.
- 6. Teaches Valuable Skills** - We gain endless practical and personal skills, like public speaking, fundraising, and publicity.
- 7. Enhances Job Prospects** - Volunteering expands professional network and can lead to career opportunities.
- 8. Enjoyment to Life** - Promotes fun hobbies, discover motivation, and add creativity to daily routine.
- 9. Boosts Happiness** - By being more caring, reducing stress, increasing fulfilment, and combating isolation.
- 10. Inspires to Step Outside Comfort Zone** - Volunteering challenges us to try new things, overcome barriers, and grow personally.

By Stacey Buttell and Amber Krosel.

For more information please contact: **Cllr Kyaing via email - miemieuk@yahoo.co.uk**

Swanland WI



Another year has raced by and suddenly the daylight is lengthening and we are optimistic for what 2026 has to offer. 2025 was an eventful year for Miemie Kyaing and myself as Co- Presidents of Swanland WI.

In the run up to Christmas we tried to pack in as many festive activities as possible. A trip to York Christmas Market, a visit to the pantomime with a pre-show meal in the Bistro of the New Theatre, which we can highly recommend. A craft evening where we all managed to make a very usable Christmas gift bag. A Christmas meal at the beautifully decorated Kingston Theatre Hotel and of course a Christmas Party for our last meeting of the year.

In January, we discussed resolution ideas that have been put forward by WI's throughout the country, which may go forward to be campaign issues and bring about changes in the future. At our February meeting Dennis Chapman told us about a wartime plane crash which completely destroyed 2 terraced houses in Hull, but through a set of fortunate circumstances the occupants survived.

In March, we will appoint a new President and whilst I will remain a committee member, Mie Mie hopes to set up an entirely new afternoon WI, which we hope will accommodate some of the 20 ladies on the waiting list and any current members who would prefer to attend an afternoon group. We wish Mie Mie every success with her new venture.

Margaret Fisher - email : swanlandwi@eastyorkshirewi.org.uk



A Brand-New WI in Swanland!

The first meeting of the brand-new WI group took place at St Barnabas on Monday 16th February.

It was a lively afternoon session, brimming with laughter and friendly chatter as East Yorkshire WI Federation ladies set a wonderful tone by leading the event with great energy and enthusiasm.

The turnout was fantastic! We had a brilliant crowd, everyone joining in quizzes and craft activities which were enjoyable as well as educational.

Thank you to all who were able to make it.

With a growing waiting list, there's plenty of excitement for this new group. We're eager to make sure there's something fun for everyone and just let us know what would make your WI experience even better.

Your ideas and wishes will help shape this group into a truly vibrant and enjoyable community. We will see you again at the next meeting.

For more information, contact **Mie Mie** at miemieuk@yahoo.co.uk



JOB VACANCY

CARETAKER – SWANLAND VILLAGE HALL



We need a part-time, job-share caretaker due to a retirement. The role covers 3 days per week and alternate weekends with a minimum monthly payment equivalent of 32 hours work.

The hall is open 7 days a week with a break for Christmas. The caretaker generally visits the hall several times a day to set up and clear away for our hirers.

A competitive hourly rate is offered and includes 23 days holiday (some fixed when hall closed).

The primary duties are:

Preparing for each hirer by laying out the furniture and equipment required, meeting and greeting hirers and tidying up at the end. There will also be some minor maintenance, equipment compliance checks and cleaning tasks which can be planned around the set ups.

The Village Hall needs somebody who is self-directing, reliable, flexible, tactful and who cares about our community and the people who use the Hall.

Contact – Andy Page 07889 658397

email - chair@swanlandvillagehall.co.uk

Your Swanland address and street name

All houses have a **number** (even if they also have a house name too!), a **street name** and a **postcode**. which covers an average of about 15 properties. All Swanland postcodes begin with **HU14** as do North Ferriby and Melton.



Have you ever wondered how your street got its name?

The origin of all the street names in the village is currently being researched. As well as being available in the Heritage centre it is hoped to produce an illustrated booklet which may cause some surprises!

Graham Latter

Swanland Live



Swanland live events started the New Year with a bang!

The capacity audience enjoyed Abba Attack, an outstanding evening of all those Abba favourites.

This was followed by another outstanding performance by Lille Kerman in her Adele tribute.

By popular request we have an additional quiz night by **Rob and Rod** in **April** and **Flossie returns to Swanland in June**. I had to book her eighteen months in advance. She has a strong local following and I have had orders since January! In response to feedback, tickets for all events are now on sale much earlier.

Saturday 28th March at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm)

I Can't Believe it's not Buddy *With many years of experience appearing at prestigious venues throughout the UK from Southend to Dundee, Spencer J always has them dancing in the aisles and yelling for more. Through hard work, impeccable musicianship and dedication to authenticity, Spencer J succeeds in re-creating Buddy Holly's special brand of "feel-good fifties fun"*

Tickets are £10 Licensed bar

Saturday 11th April at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm)

Quiz Night with Rob and Rod. Teams of up to six people. **Grazing buffet included. Bottle of wine for each member of the winning team.**

Tickets £7 per head Licensed bar

Saturday 25th April at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm)

Arkut Bros *Ben and Sam are accomplished performers. They are one of the best local country singer/song writing duo & guitarists, Ben & Sam Arkut, have been performing together since 2012 and have a strong local following.*

Tickets are £6 Licensed bar

Saturday 9th May at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm)

Stikkyfingers. *Rolling Stones Cover band. They are back, and it is going to be a great return!! Enjoy all those well-known Rolling Stones classics.*

Tickets are £8 Licensed bar

Saturday 20th June at 8pm (doors open at 7.30pm) Flossie Malavialle

Flossie Malavialle is a French born singer-guitarist. She spent many years living in the Northeast of England. She performed at Swanland Village Hall annually until her return to her native France. From well-established folk songs to jazz standards, from blues numbers to Edith Piaf and Jacques Brel's classics, her wide répertoire appeals to all. "Flossie is one of those artists about whom you think, 'She is so good that she surely can't possibly get any better.' Yet, once again, we were proved wrong. She really engages warmly with a folk audience."

Tickets are £8 Licensed bar.

**Tickets and further information from Christine –
Telephone 637085 or Email cw@swanlandvillageassociation.info**

**Full details of all Live Events can be found at
www.swanlandvillageassociation.info**

Swanland Bowling Club

Swanland Bowling Club is a very friendly group of around 50+ members.

We are located through the blue gate next to the Swanland Pond. People of any age can join for a number of activities, for instance you can put down to play as a full member in the very competitive League Teams or you can join as a Social Bowler and just come along for some friendly Social Bowling for fun. We do run Bowls Drives for Social Bowlers where you do not have to be an expert.

Bowls and equipment can be borrowed for sessions from our extensive selection of spare bowls of all sizes and weights and a limited selection of flat soled shoes. Do not worry if you have never played before as we have experienced bowlers who are willing to run coaching sessions.

The Clubhouse has recently been refurbished so members, if they wish, can sit in the warmth with a nice cup of tea or coffee and watch the bowling through the windows or out on the veranda. Finally, we also have Social Members who just come along to watch and make friends.

Ian Staff - Secretary of Swanland Bowling Club



Would you like someone to pray for you? Or perhaps you would just like to join us for coffee, to chat and find out more?

Since 2022, Swanland Healing Rooms at St. Barnabas Church have been offering free, confidential prayer for anyone in need of comfort and healing.

Our team of trained volunteers, are Christians from local churches, and we love to pray with people from all walks of life.

Whether you're facing physical challenges, emotional struggles, or spiritual questions, we would love to welcome you to our peaceful and supportive environment. If you don't want prayer but would just like an opportunity to meet new people in the community, we will be providing refreshments in our comfortable church lounge and you would be very welcome to come along.

We meet at *St Barnabas Church, Swanland*, on the **2nd Monday of every month from 2pm – 4pm**. No appointment needed, no faith required—just come as you are. Find out more at: **healingrooms.org.uk**
or email Lucy on: **lucy.swain@healingrooms.org.uk**

Swanland Show

The committee have plans for another show to be held on Sunday 13th September at Swanland Village Hall.



Our current situation requires a couple of new members to help organise the show alongside the existing 5 members, and to be available to help set up and stage the show on the Sunday, and the evening before, if possible.

It is not a huge commitment and anyone who is interested or enters the show, might like to become involved. We meet about 3 times a year and the rest of the organising/communication is done through WhatsApp. If anyone would like to become involved in any way, please get in touch.

margaret.corless@sky.com



St. Barnabas Church

Easter Celebrations with the Churches of Swanland

Palm Sunday (Sun 29th March) (NB Clocks go forward this weekend)

- **St Barnabas – 10am** – Join us as we read the Easter story and share communion.

Maundy Thursday (Thurs 2nd April)

- **St Barnabas – 7pm** - Remember the events of The Last Supper before sharing communion.

Good Friday (Fri 3rd April)

- **Christ Church – 2pm** - ‘Raising the cross’; a service of reflection for Good Friday with Revd Jamie Kissack, URC Yorkshire Synod Moderator.
- **St Barnabas – 2pm** - An hour of quiet reflection with poetry, music, pictures and silence.

Saturday (4th April)

- **Christ Church – 10.30am – 12noon** - Easter activities for the whole family, including Hot Cross Buns.

Easter Day (Sun 5th April)

- **St Barnabas – 10am** - Come and celebrate Jesus' Resurrection
- **Christ Church – 10.30 am** - Easter celebration. (Led by Methodist local preacher, Colin Proll.)
- **The Bridge (at Swanland Village Hall) - 6:30 pm** – “*He Is Risen*” Celebrate Easter Sunday with a joyful evening of uplifting worship and vibrant songs as we rejoice in the risen Saviour.

For more details see:

St Barnabas Church - <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/19185/>

The Bridge Church - <https://www.thebridgehull.co.uk/>

Christ Church Swanland -

<https://www.hullurcchurches.org.uk/christchurchswanland.html> and

<https://www.swanland.info/VillORG/ChristChurch.htm>

Swanland Neighbourhood Watch



Recently anti-social behaviour has been reported in Swanland.

This can involve targeting specific individuals or groups; people causing trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community; or actions affecting the wider environment, e.g. public spaces or buildings. Examples include:

Abandoned vehicles: including scrap and accident-damaged vehicles

Vehicle nuisance: e.g. street cruising, misuse of go-peds, motorised skateboards and electric-propelled cycles

Rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour in public, or publically accessible, places.

Rowdy/nuisance neighbours: including boundary and parking disputes, noisy parties, playing loud music.

Littering: including fly posting, discarding rubbish or drugs paraphernalia in public places.

Animal problems: including uncontrolled animals, stray dogs, barking, fouling and intimidation by an animal.

Nuisance phone calls causing anxiety and annoyance, e.g. silent calls and intrusive 'cold calling' from businesses.

Please help to stop anti-social behaviour!

For information and advice, including how/where to report it, see
www.humberside.police.uk and **www.eastriding.gov.uk**

For information on Swanland NHW contact:
Deborah Parry on 632576 or dparry@inbox.com

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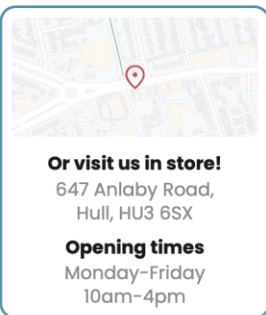
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The Heritage Centre

Following the Winter break, the Heritage Centre re-opened for visitors on Saturday 7th March and will open every Saturday morning until 19th December.

New this year are activities for children, who are welcome to visit when accompanied by an adult. A children's corner has quiz sheets and colouring sheets of places in Swanland.

Also new, is the 1921 Census covering all properties in Swanland and North Ferriby. Residents in older houses (or in houses built on sites of older houses) can discover who lived there, family members, servants, occupations etc. In addition, there is Census information for Swanland from 1841 onwards and the 1939 Register of all Swanland and North Ferriby residents.

A reminder – anyone can submit up to 3 photographs, featuring areas in Swanland, for consideration to be included in the centre's 2027 calendars. For further information regarding format, picture size etc, and to submit entries (closing date 30th June 2026) contact:

Deborah Parry: dparry@inbox.com

For maps, photographs, village history including trails and memories visit the website at: <http://swanlandheritage.info/index.html> and come and see us.

The Centre (in The Institute by the pond) opens on **Saturdays 10am – 12noon or by appointment.**

Contact **Janet Barnes on 633286; janetbarnes24@gmail.com**



Swanland Village Clothing Bank

The clothing bank is situated at the top of the Swanland Village Hall car park.

It will take clothing, handbags, belts and shoes.

All donations of these items help to support the running of the Village Hall.

Swanland U3A –Learning, Laughing, Living



Swanland u3a's 30th year of activities began in January 2026 and we will be celebrating this milestone with special events in May and September.

Membership is open to anyone not in full time work and there is no age limit, upper or lower. In fact, we very much welcome both retirees and those who are in part time work who can bring us new ideas and enthusiasm.

The ethos of the u3a is to share interests, activities and knowledge in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere: learn, laugh and live! Joining the u3a is an ideal way to make new friends while exercising both mentally and physically.

We have talks on a wide variety of subjects at St Barnabas Church Hall, on the first and third Thursdays of most months and our 430+ members run around 50 interest groups ranging from local history to wine-tasting, philosophy to scrabble, languages, literature, art, creative writing and more. There are also groups playing badminton, walking (with a pub lunch as a reward), playing golf and croquet. We have an excellent choir and a “singing for fun” group too.

Annual membership for 2025/26 is only £12 and extra costs, if any, will vary depending on where groups meet and equipment needed. Please do look at our website for further information: **www.swanlandu3a.org.uk** Come and give us a try – we're really looking forward to having your company and to the next 30 years.

Alison Peck, Chair, Swanland u3a

REMINDER!

**Clocks go forward 1 hour on
Saturday 29th March 2026**

Spring is nearly here!



Tapping into the tree of knowledge



A number of Swanland's buildings are known to be several centuries old. In West End, for example, Boulder Cottage and the adjoining property date from 1721 and the former minister's house for the Independent Chapel is known to date back to 1696.

However, one particular building may be even older than that, namely the one which now comprises 14-16 West End.

Until recently, these cottages were occupied by three small retail units and are believed to have originally comprised a single farmhouse. The external brickwork is eighteenth century but there is surviving internal evidence for a much earlier timber-framed structure (probably seventeenth or even late sixteenth century). Pad stones, that supported the original vertical timbers at the corners, can still be seen.

It was decided to attempt to establish the age of the surviving timbers by the scientific method usually employed in such cases. This is the technique



of dendrochronology or tree-ring dating. Trees grow by adding one extra growth layer to their circumference each and every year, just below the bark. The nature and thickness of these individual layers, or rings, varies with the weather conditions. Thus, over time, the annual

growth-rings display a climatically influenced pattern.

The tenant of the western half of the building (our local pharmacist) recently vacated the premises and the owner was willing to allow access. A visit was planned from specialists at the Nottingham Tree-Ring Dating Laboratory (a nationally recognised centre of expertise) to remove small sample cores from the timbers for laboratory examination with reference to established databases. The Sir James Reckitt Charity generously agreed to underwrite the costs.

Sadly, when we submitted photographs of the various timbers accessible in 14-16 West End, the experts decided that these indicated that the timbers were from a range of different dates. Those that could be fairly reliably assumed to date from the earliest structure were too few in number for any reliable estimate of the date to be made. So, it is impossible to be certain whether the building dates from the late Sixteenth Century, or slightly later. Even so, this was well worth exploring.



The Gardening Group

The Gardening Group have not been active since the end of October as is normal during the winter months but we are now planning Open Gardens 2026!

The date for this year's Open Garden event will be Sunday 5th July.

We will be contacting people who have kindly opened their gardens previously, to confirm willingness and availability.

New participants for this lovely event would be very welcome. The whole village comes alive with people coming from many areas. The enthusiasm and comments given by visitors is fantastic. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any of the Gardening Group for more details. It would be amazing to have some new gardens this year.



Janice Baldwin: 07742187931 or jb@swanlandvillageassociation.info

Christ Church Food Bank Donation Point



Regular coffee mornings are continuing at Christ Church and the numbers attending continue to grow. We give a warm welcome to everyone so please drop in for a chat and a drink.

We are now trying to encourage cash donations direct to the Food Bank. If you would like to contribute gifts of food, toiletries etc. and you are unable to do it any other way then your gifts can be left at:

Christ Church (by the pond) during Coffee Mornings from 10-30am until 12noon on Saturdays.

If you wish to make a donation of money to cover the costs of buying, sorting and distribution of food, as well as developing sustainable projects, donation forms are available at Christ Church or on the Foodbank website. This also includes an up to date shopping list of all items required.

<http://hull.foodbank.org.uk/resources>

The demand for food is much higher than donations so please continue to help those who are struggling in difficult times in Hull and the surrounding area. For more information please contact: **Mike Burman 01482 631131**

Swanland Village Hall



The hall is a great place to use for a wide variety of interests. Many thanks to all the hirers, staff and trustees for their time and effort in running the hall.

A further reminder that we have updated our website and we have a new address **www.swanlandvillagehall.co.uk**. Please have a look.

The **100+club** is our main means to improve the hall so please look to join and you also have a chance to win monthly prizes and special Christmas prizes. Please look at our website or email:

svh.100club@outlook.com for joining details.

One of our most significant health and safety issues that we as Trustees are responsible for is the **car park** and primarily at school start and finish times. We have a small number of parents/carers repeatedly using the village hall car park. There are very clear signs asking them **not to do so** and as such ignoring the very clear risk of their moving car in a busy walkway.

As Trustees, the behaviour of a small number is making us consider closing off the car park as a walking thoroughfare which is not ideal for the majority. We cannot accept the current situation as the norm.

In November, we had a roof leak and thanks to the work of Paul Harrison of Hedley Burman, a temporary repair was made with new roof covering being installed last week. This was a significant and unexpected cost. Your support through attending events, membership of !00+ club or collection boxes are vital to the ongoing costs of the hall.

One of our caretakers will be retiring soon so we are actively seeking a replacement as soon as possible. The role is part time and if you know someone who is interested, please see page 11 for more details or contact Andy Page for further information.

Andy Page - Chair of Trustees

Tel. 07889 658397 or

chair@swanlandvillagehall.co.uk



Swanland Pond Partnership (SPP)



At the time of writing, we are planning our spring maintenance session where the priority is tidying up the landscaping at the back of the pond. If we have enough volunteers, we will also clean the white fencing which is very green in places!

High rainfall over the winter period has resulted in unusually high water levels. It is rare for the water to reach the overflow drain which has happened on multiple occasions. Although we still have a leak somewhere in the pond, observations this winter may suggest that the rate of water loss has slowed down. It is possible that the natural processes of decomposition and compaction are producing layers of detritus and silt that are helping to “fill” gaps and cracks in the clay pond bed and/or the surrounding infrastructure. Water quality is good at present due to the high volume of water. Unfortunately, this often triggers early algal blooms as nutrients are washed into the pond and the ingress of water stirs up dormant algal spores.

Fortunately, the reeds, grasses, and yellow flag iris are very tolerant to root submersion, in deep water, for prolonged periods. Water mint, Purple Loosestrife, and Marsh Marigolds are a bit more sensitive to water depth so it will be interesting to see if there is any die back this year.

Our resident moorhens are likely to delay nesting until the water levels go down. If they try to nest when water levels are high and fluctuating, they risk losing them. In the past, during wet winters, they have sometimes nested on the square sonic device platform, but this has never been successful. It is important to remember that the pond is a wild environment, and the wildlife and plants are subject to the natural forces and weather patterns that each season brings. Nature has its own ‘checks and balances’ and the wildlife will respond and adapt accordingly.

If you would like to help with our Spring or Autumn maintenance days, then please contact Alyson on 634168 or ae@swanlandvillageassociation.info

No previous experience is required - THANK YOU.

Your next newsletter of the SVA Newsletter!

We love to receive any articles, adverts and notice of forthcoming events. Please send them to Rebecca Feetam, Newsletter Editor, at – svanewsletter@hotmail.com

PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for articles and adverts for the **Summer 2026 edition** of the newsletter will be **Sunday 10th May 2026**. We cannot guarantee to publish articles (between 150-200 words) and reserve the right to edit them. We welcome photographs to print, where appropriate.

Print costs are met by the SVA and the local advertisements.

The Swanland Village Association newsletter is published and distributed free to ALL houses in Swanland.

Details of Swanland Village Association's activities and events can be found at:

www.swanlandvillageassociation.info or scanning the QR code.



Swanland Village Association Personal/Business Membership Form

To become a member, it's just £2 per person, per year or £5 per business

Name (first applicant): _____

Name (second applicant): _____

Address(incl. postcode): _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

You can pay your membership by cash/cheque or BACS transfer to –

Swanland Village Association (Santander Business Account)

Sort Code – 09-01-28

Account number - 97128743

Please return this form (with cash/cheque if you are not making a Standing Order/BACS payment) to: **Kate Nicoll, 1 Humberdale Close, Swanland, HU14 3NS or David & Christine Walker, 3 Holgate Place, Swanland, HU14 3QX**

If you are happy to be contacted, please tick the box below:

☐

I/We agree to be contacted by the SVA to renew our membership.