



Swanbourne Village News

Newsletter No. 153 December 2020 – February 2021

THE STORY OF SWANBOURNE STATION 1851-2020



c. 1890 watercolour painting



c. 1910 photograph

SWANBOURNE STATION AS MOST OF US REMEMBER IT



SWANBOURNE STATION MEETS ITS SAD END



Swanbourne railway line and station were built and opened by the Buckinghamshire Railway in 1850-51.

Originally intended to pass through the parish of Little Horwood, there was powerful opposition by the Dauncy family, (occupants of the original Horwood House), who succeeded in pushing it further south into the parish of Swanbourne thereby giving the line its distinct curve.

In Victorian times Swanbourne was the railhead for local coal merchants and farmers from local villages, with livestock, hay, corn and wool traffic flows and butter produced from the herd of pedigree cows kept at Horwood which was dispatched to London for Queen Victoria and her household. A daily milk train departed from Swanbourne each morning at 08.30 also with supplies brought to the station by cart from local farms. The Rothschild family would often send horses by rail to Swanbourne for a day's hunting at Whaddon Chase.

After abandoning plans to develop the Oxford to Cambridge route (known as the Varsity Line) as a freight link from the East Coast ports to South Wales, (including a marshalling yard near Swanbourne), the station was listed for closure by Beeching. Together with Winslow, the station closed down to passengers on 1 January 1968. The line itself, however, continued to be used for freight trains until 1983 when it was closed completely.

The station passed into the hands of Reginald James Waters (1915-1984), who we believe used to be the station master. The station's goods shed was used as a garden shed where he also kept a collection of railway relics. The platforms remained, and after the death of Reg in 1984, his two sons, Reginald G. and Michael M. Waters continued to live at the Station House where they trimmed the hedge surrounding the buildings into the charming form of a locomotive (photo above left).

From spring 2014, the overgrown sections have been cleared in preparation for the planned reopening of the line. Subsequently, East-West Rail acquired the property. In recent years Mick unfortunately passed away, but Reginald G. Waters continued to live there until he was re-housed in the summer of 2020. By the end of September, 2020, the station and platforms were being demolished (photo left) to clear the route ready for the new railway which is planned for operation by 2023-24, and the old track has now been lifted.

SCA Christmas Events

Sadly, due to Covid, we shall be unable to have our traditional Carols round the Village this year. So we are planning something different instead.

The idea is to have a series of tableaux round the village on **Monday December 21st. from 6-30pm for about an hour or so.** We would invite all the village young people to take part and we would provide costumes and props.

The 4 venues will be:

***The Village Hall: Mary and Gabriel,
St.Swithuns: shepherds and angels,
The Methodist Chapel: the 3 Wise Men
Marsdens' Farmyard : the manger.***

There would be lights, carols on a loop and readings, spoken or printed, at each station. If the weather is bad, performers would be inside each venue and stewards would make sure we did not make groups that were too big.

We would invite contributions to the Florence Nightingale Hospice. We will publicise a route later and it will be possible to book slots to view the tableaux. We shall ask for offers of young people to take part through The Swanbourne Grapevine, Swanbourne Community Facebook or direct to one of us. Swanbourne will do Christmas!

For more information, please tel. Frankie Fisher on 720454 or Anne Parker on 534647

Remembrance Day, November 2020

This year's ceremony had to adhere to the current covid-19 lockdown protocols. Betsy Duncan-Smith read the roll of honour. Government advice meant we were unable to formally close the road to traffic and we hoped that at least at 11am all traffic would respect the two minutes silence but unfortunately that did not prove to be the case. For more

details, please see the SCA website:

www.swanbournecommunityassociation.com

Parish Council Transparency

The Parish Council website follows government transparency guidelines and contains all the Parish Council news and documentation, please refer to www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk

Parish Councillors

Parish Clerk – Vanda Bennett, email clerkswanbournepc@gmail.com telephone enquiries to 728392 are welcome.

Parish Councillor (Chair) - Clive Rodgers, email swanbourne13@gmail.com. Strategic planning, liaising with SCA, maintenance overview, Newsletter (joint editor), liaison with Swanbourne Estate, websites and bank signatory. Enquiries to the following Parish Councillors will be forwarded via the Parish Clerk - Helen Cleaveley (Traffic issues, MVAS and Speedwatch, bank signatory); Linda Sirett (Dog related issues, playing field/verge advice); Steve French (Community Board meetings, local planning applications advice); Rosemary Andrew (Bus shelters, bus stops, liaison with passenger transport, joint Facebook community moderator); Deborah Barrow (Highway defect reporting to Buckinghamshire Council, litter issues, joint Facebook community moderator); Mike King (Standing orders, transparency compliance, help with Parish Council website, bank signatory).

Parish Council Vacancy – Steve French will be leaving the Parish Council, so there will be a casual vacancy to be filled by co-option with effect from January, 2021. Applications are welcome from anyone interested in becoming a councillor. Eligibility criteria are as follows: -

- Must be a British subject (or citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union).
- Must be 18 years of age or over on the 'relevant date' (i.e. the day on which you are co-opted). Plus one of the following:-
 - a) Registered as a local government elector for the parish of Swanbourne;
 - b) During the last twelve months you have occupied/resided as owner or tenant, land or other premises in the parish of Swanbourne or within 3 miles of it;
 - c) Your place of work during twelve months has been in the parish of Swanbourne.

Do you care about Swanbourne and want to make a difference? You may be relatively new to the village, but you don't have to be a long-standing resident. If you are interested, the best way to find out what it's like to be a

Parish Councillor is to talk to an existing councillor or the Parish Clerk. To express an interest please email Vanda before Christmas.

Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting is planned for 13th January, to be held remotely using the Google platform during the current crisis (details from Vanda).

Medical Prescription Deliveries from Winslow Dispensary

Due to the merger between Winslow, Whitchurch and Wing surgeries, the EMIS online system for requesting repeat prescriptions no longer works. It will be necessary to register with the new system and at the time of writing most patients will have been contacted concerning this process. If there are any queries you may email: - 3whealth.patientaccess@nhs.net

If you are still waiting for the new system to be set up you may telephone 713434 to request a repeat or email: - prescriptions.norden@nhs.net listing the medication requested. Norden still maintains a patient delivery service for the over 60s in Swanbourne (except for patients who collect from Lloyds Pharmacy) which is not available if registered at Whitchurch.

Grass Verge Cutting

In October/November, Whitchurch based Lynch Garden Services did a verge cut for the whole of Swanbourne with impressive results. When a section is missed (e.g. due to cars parked) they are happy to return again to finish it off later, unlike the rather half-hearted efforts of the B.C. contractors over last summer. Lynch Garden Services specialise in verge maintenance for parish councils and serve many local villages (e.g. North Marston, Granborough, Whitchurch and Padbury), and they come to us as highly recommended. The plan for coming year is that from April they will be employed for whole village verge cutting every month from April through to November.

Transport for Bucks (TfB), who are they?

A name you may have heard of, TfB was created approx. 10 years ago and acts for Buckinghamshire Council looking after road laying and maintenance (e.g. fixing pot holes) and verges in towns and on rural roads. Prior to TfB this was done by BCC employees from the County Engineers Dept., but it turns out that TfB is actually run by employees of Ringway-Jacobs of Chelmsford and further research shows the company (founded in 2005) to be 50% owned by Ringway One Engineering of America and 50% owned by

Eurovia of France. Basically, it's a section of Buckinghamshire Council work the running of which is now mostly outsourced to a foreign owned private company.

Village Planning News

20/02468/APP | Creation of menage | Nearton End Farm MK1 OSL – *Approved for non-commercial use.*

20/03427/APP Modifications to Glebe House | 13 Mursley Road – *Approved.*

20/01957/APP | Erection of stable | 3, Old Drovers View, MK17 OSL – *Approved.*

19/B4412/DIS | Submission of details pursuant to Condition 4 (materials) relating to Planning Permission 19/04412/APP | The Swan 15 Mursley Road – *Approved.*



As the Swanbourne Endeavour is cancelled this year, enjoy your own CORPORATE or GROUP ENDEAVOUR SQUAD RUN..... a night time for a 5km, moonlight run along the Endeavour course. All Covid precautions taken.

Starts from Home Farm Shoot Room MK17 0SW (what3words pizzeria.lollipop.testers)

CONTACT TOM OR PAUL TO ARRANGE YOUR OWN

EXCLUSIVE CORPORATE OR GROUP EVENT

Minimum of 15 runners, maximum 25

Have fun, enjoy the challenge and raise money for our charities.

ENDEAVOUR SQUAD RUN ENTRY FEE £35pp – includes

Free Water Station & chocolate bar on route

Free cup of real tea in a mug, pre and post race; Celebratory beer / cider

Use of real toilet; locked bag storage

Slap on the back for completing the course

Choice of Vintage Endeavour T-shirt

tom@endeavour-series.com

07974 029961 (Tom)

ACTIVITIES HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL

These are largely suspended due to Covid 19 but the general pattern (when things return back to normal) is as follows:-

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@hedgelayer.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

Friday am and pm - Currently available for hire.

COMMUNITY WEBSITE, EMAIL & TELEPHONE CONTACTS

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 Other Committee members are: Wilma Gilbert and Mo Gray.

Swanbourne Neighbourhood and Countryside Watch

Email swanwatch7@gmail.com or tel: - Mo on 720269 or Doody on 728161.

Newsletter Editors: - Clive and Linda Rodgers; 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

Swanbourne Community Association – Tel. Frankie Fisher (Chair) on 720454 Website: -www.swanbournecommunityassociation.com

Swanbourne Facebook Village Community Group: - Administrators: Cllr. Rosemary Andrew and Cllr. Deborah Barrow.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/443602106260000/>

Swanbourne Estate- The Estate Manager is Tom Finchett. Tel. 01296-720256 email: office@swanbourneestate.co.uk

Swanbourne History Group – Tel. Ken Harris (Chair) on 720454, email ken.kelston1@gmail.com Website:- www.swanbournehistory.co.uk

The Shop – Jan and Magda Bos Tel.720288 Website:-

<https://www.facebook.com/SwanbourneStores/>

Betsey Wynne Pub - www.thebetseywynne.co.uk Tel. 720825.

Swanbourne Parish Council – Parish Clerk (Vanda Bennett) Tel. 728392.

Website: www.swanbourneparishcouncil.co.uk

Play Out Swanbourne - Ellie Markland Tel. 720454, Website: -

www.facebook.com/playoutswanbourne

Playing Field Committee – Vanda Bennett Tel. 728392.

Winslow Community Bus - Tel. 01296 715786. Normally, 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. **However, please note that this service was suspended due to Covid 19 and at the time of writing is still inoperative.**

DIARY DATES

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic it will not be possible to hold the usual Christmas and New Year social events this year. Any other events which do seem possible will be notified via the village email system.

Swanbourne artist Martyn Burdon's portrait of Lenny Henry

The BP Portrait Award Exhibition has now opened to the public at the Aberdeen Art Gallery. The exhibition is open now and due to continue until January 24th which includes Martyn's work. Here is the link to the exhibition.

<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/AAGM/whats-aberdeens-art-galleries-and-museums/bp-portrait-award-2020>

Here is a link to Martyn's website: - www.martynburdon.com

Avey Lane – yet more fly tipping!

We have installed a barrier and bollard on Avey Lane. Sadly, this has become a necessity due to the amount of unauthorised traffic and again fly tipping down Avey Lane. If people drive to the lane to walk, please do not park in front of the access. You can still enjoy the permissive route - albeit that the lane is very wet and muddy.

Tom

SWANBOURNE'S WINTER REFUSE COLLECTION DATES

<i>Date</i>	<i>Food waste</i>	<i>Recycling Bin</i>	<i>Waste Bin</i>	<i>Garden waste</i>
<i>Tuesday Nov 24</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION
<i>Tuesday Dec 01</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Dec 08</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Dec 15</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Dec 22</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	No Collection
<i>Thursday Dec 31</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Thursday Jan 07</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	No Collection
<i>Wednesday Jan 13</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Jan 19</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Jan 26</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Feb 02</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION
<i>Tuesday Feb 09</i>	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION	No Collection
<i>Tuesday Feb 15</i>	COLLECTION	COLLECTION	No Collection	COLLECTION

NEWSPAPER & MAGAZINE 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 Winter Fun

The SCA have ordered copies of a Winter Fun booklet for every family with young people in the village. This booklet, produced by Active Leaders, contains activities, games, ideas and recipes (for all ages really), to take you through the dark days before and after Christmas. After they arrive, we will alert you on The Grapevine and Swanbourne Community Facebook and we shall deliver them over the following days. Have fun!

Frankie

Playing Field – At the time of writing the tennis court is out of bounds during the lockdown. We await government guidance regarding post lockdown arrangements. Social distancing and sanitiser are essential for any visits to the playground area. *Many thanks*



☆☆☆☆ Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year ☆☆☆☆

Hello Swanbourne, and farewell 2020. This has been the most odd and difficult year in so many different ways – for us all individually as well as for the big wide world. I really hope that you are doing ok.

There are always good things though, and a big one for me is simply living where we do. We have our footpaths, fields and creatures, we have our fresh air and big skies, we have all the delicious smells, we have local veg, juice and honey (and gin for you human folk too), we help each other, and we have our community. We also have our very own Pebble Fairy (I got a pebble with a dog just like me on it ☺), displayed pumpkins and Halloween decorations galore, and had a special and dignified Remembrance Ceremony. I know that there are more village plans in place for Christmas and into 2021.

Did you go to The Betsey over the summer? I did; it felt so safe and welcoming, and the dog treats were as delicious as ever. I have been a bit puzzled by having to walk past without going in (though I still try and pull Ma that way, just in case).

I've been lucky and had my Ma and the siblings around me. I love it, though it can be a bit confusing knowing which hug to choose, and even though I always try to be part of the scrum around the cold-cupboard-with-a-light-in-it-that-always-smells-scrumptious at human food times, I never seem to be welcome ;) We have only seen Ma's older folk once since March. We miss them. I know this makes Ma very sad. I am sure that you will know that feeling too.

Ma says we need to look forward though, and to keep on making the best of everything that we do have. It won't mean that the sad or difficult goes away, but it will mean that we can make more of every day. I keep on trying to reassure Ma that things will change and be better again, and I promise you that too; they will.

In the meantime, I can recommend playing, with a ball if you have one, and loving and wagging (as best you can; I know it is easier for a dog), helping people and looking after ourselves and each other – these things make for the best of days.

Happy Christmas Swanbourne, and here's to a 2021 full of love, good things and wagginess.



With love as always, from Barry xx



PS This is me all snuggled up and cosy for Christmas and winter 😊

