



# THE SWALLOWCLIFFE



LOCAL NEWS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SWALLOWCLIFFE

## LOOKING FORWARD TO SUMMER

At last it is Spring, and it actually seems to have stopped raining for a bit! What a Winter it has been - warmer than it might have been, but so very very wet.... But, Summer is on the way, and to judge by the Village Calendar, it is going to be a busy one.

Amongst a number of topical issues at the moment, the Dark Skies presentation back in November seems to have drawn attention successfully to the wider implications of light pollution. Not unexpectedly, it turns out that simple actions, such as making sure outside lighting is set at a low angle can do a lot to help reduce it. Meanwhile, speeding continues to be a major irritant in the village. As always, it is a minority who have a flagrant disregard for speed limits, and the real risk to life on our narrow roads in Swallowcliffe. The Annual Village Meeting on Thursday 18 April 2024, details elsewhere in this issue, will provide a chance to air views, and offer some solutions!

Sadly, this will be my last Edition as your Editor. Since the next Edition is due after my 80th Birthday, I feel that it is time to retire! I am much in debt to my correspondents over the years, without whom producing The Swallowcliffe would not be such an easy and enjoyable matter. My sincere thanks to them all!

*The Editor*

Next Edition Autumn 2024. Possible contributions to the Editor via [swallowcliffe.news@gmail.com](mailto:swallowcliffe.news@gmail.com) by 1 October 2024 please



## SPRING & SUMMER 2024

**Saturday 16 March** - Village Litter Pick - meet at The Royal Oak - 10.00am

**Saturday 23 March** - St Peter's Church - Church Spring Clean and Churchyard Tidy Up - 9.30am

**Saturday 23 March** - Quiz & Curry Evening - Swallowcliffe Village Hall - 7.00pm - Tickets £10 - To reserve a place email or ring Caroline Willis 01747871343 or Penny Smales 01747870708

**Friday 29 March** - St Peter's Church - Good Friday Service - 9.30am

**Sunday 31 March** - St Peter's Church - Easter Communion - 11.15am - officiated by The Right Reverend Richard Chartres KCVO, Bishop of London 1995-2017

**Thursday 18 April** - Annual Village Meeting - Swallowcliffe Village Hall - 7.30pm

**Saturday 20 April** - Plant Swap - Swallowcliffe Village Hall - 2.00pm

**Monday 22 April** - Annual Parishioners' Meeting - St Peter's Church - 7.00pm

**Sunday 5 May** - Rogation Sunday Village Walk - Meet at St Peter's Church - 11.15pm

**Saturday 8 June** - Village Open Gardens

**Saturday 15 June** - Village Barbecue - The Old Churchyard - 6.30pm

**Sunday 30 June** - St Peter's Day Service - St Peter's Church - 11.15am

**Sunday 7 July** - Hymns and Pimms - St Peter's Church - 11.15am

**PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE  
MARCH 2024**

We have continued work on emergency equipment and preparedness. The new generator is now operational with the emergency village hall wiring installed. We will be testing the full system shortly. We have also signed up for a very worthwhile initiative by Wiltshire Council: the Emergency Hub Scheme. This will connect our village hall community “hub” to the emergency services and allow 2 way support.

On the planning front, we have been looking at the new Tisbury Neighbourhood Plan (TisPlan2). From a village perspective this is a positive step and we have commented accordingly. There is still time for individual comment until 22 March via [www.tisplan.org.uk](http://www.tisplan.org.uk) if you wish.

Patrick Willis has now retired as a Parish councillor. Our thanks for his contribution including oversight of the restoration of the phone box as well as many local footpath improvements. We seek a replacement both for him and for our Locum Parish Clerk - do please contact me if you would like further details.

As ever, our thanks to all the many volunteers who make our village the place it is. See you at the Village Meeting on 18 April!

*Steve Banas*

*For more details on all aspects of the activities of your Parish see [www.swallowcliffeparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.swallowcliffeparishcouncil.org.uk)*

**Swallowcliffe Parish Council Meetings  
2024**

Annual Meeting Thursday 23 May 7.00pm  
Thursday 11 July 7.00pm  
Thursday 17 October 7.00pm

**Annual Village Meeting Thursday 18  
April 7.30pm**

All at Swallowcliffe Village Hall  
**ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME**

**THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING**

**IT'S FOR ALL OF US!**

The Swallowcliffe Annual Parish Meeting for residents will be held on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024** starting at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

This is your opportunity to catch up with what's going on and to have your say on where we are going in future.

Find out our what our various organisations in the village are doing - the Parish Council, St Peter's Parochial Church Council, the Village Hall, the Royal Oak, the Alms Houses and so on.

Learn about the new emergency facilities in the Village Hall and the Emergency Hub initiative.

Have your say about whether the community should invest in an additional Speed Indicator Device or other road schemes.

Give your view on what should be on our websites and social media channels, and in the Swallowcliffe.



**WINTER IMPRESSIONS....**  
And the Red Admiral really did come out in February.....

**You weren't wrong - it was indeed  
WET, WET, WET!**

*Gerry Blundell, our resident rainfall expert reports:*

2023 was Swallowcliffe's wettest year this century with over 1.3 metres of rain. This trend has continued in 2024, February saw 143 mm (5.6 inches), double the average. The impact of so much water is plain: repeated flooding of Bottom Lane and the Three Bridges at Tisbury Station. Last week a sink hole appeared at the top end of Tisbury High Street. Past records show that +1 metre years almost always come in groups of two or three..... so we may well see more of the same in 2024.

Swallowcliffe Parish Council seeks to employ a Parish Clerk. This is a part time paid role approximately 11 hours per month, with training provided. Contact the Parish Council Chair, Steve Banas for details