



SWINDERBY LINKUP

Connecting Our Village Life

February 2026

SATURDAY 14 MARCH



SATURDAY 14 MARCH 2026

SWINDERBY VILLAGE HALL

1:30pm-4:00pm (last entries 3:30pm)

£2 ENTRANCE

We would love your jumble donations !

To drop off things to sell either bring them to the hall on the Friday or Saturday morning or contact us to arrange another time

Gill Lloyd 07483 878031 or

Pat Haig 07771 702136

Proceeds will go to village projects

SWINDERBY VILLAGE LUNCH

WED 11 FEBRUARY 2026

SWINDERBY VILLAGE HALL
12 NOON

SOUP, SANDWICHES
TEA, COFFEE, CAKE
£3 DONATION

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VILLAGE AMENITIES AND USEFUL CONTACTS

EDITOR: Pat Haig 42 High Street, Swinderby LN6 9LW **Mobile:** 07771 702136 **Email:** pathaig@me.com
Please note that all articles in Link Up are taken in good faith. We cannot and will not, take responsibility for any legal queries resulting thereof. The articles do not necessarily reflect our views. We reserve the right not to print some submissions. Copy date is the 20th of each month to allow printing time / delivery at the beginning of the next month.

MP: DR CAROLINE JOHNSON caroline.johnson.mp@parliament.uk 01529 306721

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: PETER OVERTON 01400 273323 cllrpeteroverton@n-kesteven.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: ALAN C WOODRUFF

PARISH COUNCIL: PARISH CLERK: SUE AIKMAN clerk@swinderbyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Geoff Lloyd (Chair)	01522 868684	Lynne Carter (Vice Chair)	01522 868228
Jonathan Gagg	07850 209067	Ron Hodgson	07721 969951
Nick Marris		Simon Longson	07833 911874
Alistair Haig	07771 702135		

ALL SAINTS CHURCH:

ADMINISTRATOR Lorraine	01522 883100	hykehamparish@gmail.com
PARISH PRIEST Rev Canon Andrew Vaughan	01522 687242 / 07702 468549	revandrewvaughan@gmail.com
CHURCHWARDEN John Rose	01522 694398	jandprose@gmail.com
CHURCH SEXTON Simon Longson	07833 911874	

VILLAGE HALL: Ron Hodgson 01522 868330 Cllr.Hodgson@swinderbyparishcouncil.gov.uk

COLLINGHAM VILLAGE CARE: Help with transportation to local appointments. Friendly volunteers can drive you for a small fee. Volunteer Drivers always welcomed. **07954 409 049** Mon, Wed, Fri between 9.00am-3pm.

PRESCRIPTIONS: If you are unable to collect your prescriptions, please discuss this with Collingham Pharmacy

CHOPS: Becky Newborough 07898 319020 admin@swinderbychops.co.uk

Central Heating Oil Purchasing Scheme, a simple organisation to save us all money on our central heating oil. The saving comes from bulk delivery into the village (normally at least one full tanker load).

POST OFFICE: There is a mobile post office which comes to the Village Hall once a week on a Tuesday morning from around 9:30am -11:30am.

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP: Tuesday mornings in term time at the village hall. 9:15-11:15am.

CRAFT GROUP: Meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month 7-9pm at Swinderby Village Hall

COFFEE MORNING: There is a coffee morning every Monday at 10.30 am in the Church. All welcome.

SWINDERBY PHONE BOX: Restored by Simon Longson, is regularly decorated by villagers to celebrate certain times of year. All welcome to get involved.

SWINDERBY BOOK GROUP: Meets once every 6 weeks. More details contact Janet 07887 506272

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY: Newark News 01636 703408

NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL: Switchboard 01529 414155 Environment Team 0800 174499

COMMUNITY POLICE: Please report **ALL non urgent crime on the 101 number**

Hykeham Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team: hykehamrural.npt@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: HykehamNPT

Facebook: Hykeham Town Rural NPT

PCSO Sarah Lingard

PC Mic Rimmer Community Beat Manager 07827 902489

LINCOLN POLICE STATION: 0300 111 0300 / 01522 532222 / 01522 882222 (999)



Swinderby All Saints Church of England Primary School

Truthfulness, Compassion, Forgiveness, Respect

Head Teacher: Zoë Longstaff B Ed (Hons) NPQH

High Street ❖ Swinderby ❖ Lincoln ❖ LN6 9LU

Telephone: 01522 868287 Email: enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

Website: www.swinderby.lincs.sch.uk Registered Charity: 1044748

The weeks have truly flown by since Christmas and the school is once again a hive of activity. New topics and learning is taking place in every corner of the school.



Some of the children are looking forward to their visit to the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Utilita Arena and the Year 4's are looking forward to their visit to NK School

to take part in an Inter Schools Sports tournament. Young Voices is where the children get to sing alongside thousands of other children and experience a live concert and is always eagerly anticipated.

Can You Help ? New School Governors required

I am also wondering if any of our village community can help us?

The school's Governing Body is looking for new Governors.

The Governing Body is made up of people of all ages and skills, and they are essential for the successful running of the school. If you feel that you could offer our lovely school some time and skills please do contact our Clerk to the Governors, Imogen Lemon on imogen.lemon@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk

She would be delighted to have an informal conversation with you to see if the role is something you would be interested in. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

Places for September 2026 still available

If we still have a few remaining places for anyone who is interested in applying for a pupil place with us for September 2026, please do contact enquiries@swinderby.lincs.sch.uk for more details.

We'd love to show you round!

My very best wishes,

Zoe Longstaff

Head Teacher

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Facebook: [ploughpubswinderby](https://www.facebook.com/ploughpubswinderby)



Opening Times: Sunday - Thursday 12 noon - 10pm
Friday - Saturday 12 noon - 11pm
(Times may vary depending on events)

Food Served 12 - 2pm Monday - Saturday
Sunday lunch 12 - 2:30pm (booking advised)

Pensioners Special Menu: from £6.50

Mon / Wed / Fri 12pm - 2pm

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Sunday 8 February 6:30 pm Bingo
Wednesday 18 February 8:00 pm Quiz Night
Saturday 21 February 8:30 pm Band Night:
Steve Clements



Fresh Fish every
Tuesday
2pm in the car park





**Lincolnshire
Wildlife Trust**

**February 19th Nature Conservation
in the Thames Estuary**

Rolf Williams is very well travelled having been in the Navy, and he later worked for the RSPB in the Thames estuary. His talk will cover conservation projects in and around this important estuary.

**March 19th Fifty Years of 'The
Flora of Lincolnshire' by
Miss E Joan Gibbons**

Presented by Debbie Lincoln, a trained herbalist and volunteer for the Sir Joseph Banks Society.

We welcome all to join us for these talks at 7.30pm at the Education Centre, Whisby Nature Park, Thorpe-on-the-Hill LN6 9BW

All welcome. £2.50 inc refreshments

**LINCOLN RSPB
GROUP**



Sunday 1 Feb - FREE GUIDED

BIRDWATCHING WALK - Meet outside the Visitor Centre in Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln at 10.30 am.

Thursday 12 Feb - Indoor Meeting -

Unravelling the Crisis: Saving UK Songbirds in a Changing World - 7.30 pm in the Robert Hardy Building, Lincoln Bishop University, Longdales Road, Lincoln LN1 3DY. Admission charge £4

Sunday 15 Feb - FIELD TRIP TO RSPB

TITCHWELL MARSH - Coach departs from Hykeham Station car park at 8 am and picks up at The Forum (Lidl) and Lincoln Railway Station. Adults £25, students £10

More information –
<https://www.lincolnrspb.org.uk/events>

CRAFT CLUB

Meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7 pm to 9 pm in Swinderby Village Hall on Bulpit Lane, offering a welcoming and supportive space for craft enthusiasts of all levels. Bring a mug, £1 and your latest craft project and come and join us for an evening of crafting and chatting with like-minded crafters.

Refreshments are provided.

COLLINGHAM RURAL ADVICE CENTRE

is an independent organization offering free, confidential advice on welfare benefits, debts, housing and consumer issues to residents in our rural area. Open every Tuesday morning 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Memorial Hall, 67 High Street, Collingham. Contact 01636 893241 or email collinghamadvice@gmail.com

Swinderby CHOPS Update

Delivery is within 7 working days of the order by date, subject to oil supplier availability at busy times. 500 litres is the minimum order amount

Our 2026 bi-monthly order by dates are as follows:

Order by:

25 March / 27 May / 22 July
09 September / 25 November

You can sign-up to use Swinderby CHOPS via www.swinderbychops.co.uk

Cheers, Becky Newborough

07898 319020
admin@swinderbychops.co.uk

Whisby Quarry

How Tarmac Supports Lincolnshire -
One Load at a Time

Whisby Quarry is a sand and gravel quarry located approximately 2km to the east of Eagle and is operated by Tarmac.



Who are Tarmac?

Tarmac is one of the UK's leading sustainable building materials companies, under the parent company CRH. With over 150 years of experience, we operate more than 350 sites across the UK - including quarries, cement plants, and concrete works. Whisby Quarry plays a key role in supplying the sand and gravel used to build local homes, roads, and public spaces across Lincolnshire.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

HOW WHISBY QUARRY SUPPORTS LOCAL INITIATIVES

Quarries are, by their nature, long-term neighbours. That is why supporting local projects is an important part of how we operate at Whisby Quarry, alongside our day-to-day work to manage environmental impacts and restore land that we have finished extracting.



The Tarmac team at the Swinderby Fete

Over the years, we have worked with a variety of community groups and organisations – from practical improvements that make public spaces safer, to projects that help people enjoy and learn about nature.

Supporting projects through the Landfill Communities Fund

One of the main ways we support the local community is through the Landfill Communities Fund. This scheme was established by Government in 1996 and enables operators to donate part of their annual tax liability to enrolled Environmental Bodies for a range of approved community and environmental projects.

While the name is confusing as no landfill is proposed at Whisby Quarry itself, the fund still provides a way for us to support projects that deliver tangible local benefit.

Through the fund, Tarmac donates around £1 million to projects each year.

Since 2016, we have donated more than £127,000 through the fund to projects near Whisby Quarry.

Other ways we help : time, materials and local support

Funding is not the only way we provide support. Where possible, we also dedicate volunteering time and make donations of materials to support specific local initiatives. We also try to play a part in the community by attending and supporting local events (like the Swinderby Fete and the Collingham Show) and running educational programmes in schools like Swinderby Primary School where we introduced children to the existence of sand and gravel quarries and the use of these materials in the wider world.

Examples of local projects we have supported

Examples of projects supported through Whisby Quarry include:

- Delivering the locally popular 'Ladybird Trail', created as part of the quarry's restoration and designed to reconnect public footpaths around restored lagoons.
- Replacing a railway footbridge at Whisby Nature Park, helping provide safer access for visitors.
- Providing a restored lake to the local parish council for community use.
- Donating the land for Whisby Nature Park and the Natural World Centre, helping to support the area as a long-term community and nature asset.

These projects reflect the breadth of what "community support" can mean, from small but important local improvements through to long-term environmental assets that residents and visitors can enjoy for years to come.

How to apply for funding, or suggest a project

If you would like to discuss a project idea or explore potential support, please contact us using the details below, so we can advise on the most appropriate route, including whether the Landfill Communities Fund could be suitable.

If you would like to know more about the fund and how it operates, information is available via Entrust (the regulator for the scheme) at <https://www.entrust.org.uk/>

Keep in touch

If you have a question about local support, a project idea, or a funding request you would like to discuss, please contact our community liaison manager, Che, via che@eqcommunications.co.uk



DEPOSIT YOUR USED POSTAGE STAMPS

There is a box in the telephone box on the High Street for used postage stamps which are passed on to a collector on behalf of Bransby Horses Charity. Last year they raised £11,777 from donated used stamps. It's nice to help, and this really does seem worthwhile.



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PUZZLE CORNER

Answers on page 15

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NEWS FROM ALL SAINTS CHURCH, SWINDERBY



A couple of days ago we had to pop into the card shop we use to buy our greeting cards. Over the years of using the shop we have got to know the owner, and so I joked that she must be busy getting ready for the next occasion where cards are important. Being the romantic I am I had immediately thought of Easter, to be reminded that St Valentine's Day would be the next card

occasion !

It has always amused me that the story of St Valentine is quite gruesome, and that it doesn't end too well for Valentine. This got me thinking that love does lead us to face challenges and that loves not all sweetness and light. Love is about seeing the value of the other and staying focused on their well-being.

Love is at the heart of faith, seeing the other as precious and being g prepared to face up to the consequences of where love leads us. The story of Jesus sees love leading him to the cross, are we committed in our love for others and the world, or do we simply want sweetness and light. During Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday, we will journey asking where love sends us.

As ever, Andrew

revandrewvaughan@gmail.com

CHURCH NEWS FEBRUARY 2026

Coffee Stop on Monday mornings 10.30-12.00. All welcome. Come along and meet with others.

Village Lunch The next lunch will be Wed February 11th. Going forward we have planned lunches for the second Wednesday every month. Please let Maureen Fillingham know if you will be attending on 01522 861711.

Churchyard there is a great deal of work being done to keep the churchyard looking so good. Please think about offering your help even if only for a one-off session. We have had the hedge between the church and the school lowered. This will make it much easier to maintain. We are now paying for the grass to be cut but there are still the flower borders and the meadow to maintain and enhance.

Church Development. The void in the vestry is now filled. The next phase is to relay the tiles in this area. Then the raised area in the north aisle next to the vestry will be lime creted. A faculty has been applied for to complete the works including a new kitchen area and a TOILET!!

Jumble Sale. 14th MARCH at the village hall please let me know if you have jumble we could sell. Also we would be very grateful if you could offer to help at any of these times: Friday 13th March 6.30 – 8.00 / Sat. 14th March 9.30 - 11.30, 1.00 - 5.00pm If anyone has a hanging rail they could lend us for the event, please let me know.

Fundraising events for next year: Quiz Night 11th September / Christmas Fayre 21st November

Gill Lloyd PCC Secretary 07483 878031 gclloyd53@gmail.com



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10.30AM -
12.00 NOON

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NOTES FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2026

The year's first meeting took place in the village hall on January 12th, beginning at the usual start time of 7:30 pm.

2026: New homes This year should see the first homes occupied on **Church Farm** marking an important date in our village growth.

Household Waste Caddies - Additionally, for the first time food waste will be collected by NKDC helping us to improve our recycling efforts. Further information regarding the recycling of food waste can be found on the leaflets posted on the village notice boards or on NKDC's website. Household waste caddies and packs will be delivered across North Kesteven for collections to begin week commencing the 30th of March.
Fosse Green Energy Solar Park

Planning Matters Update The next phase of the planning process is now underway, with the decision set to be made at the national level. We have been invited to comment on the application and using feedback from residents we have stated that we are concerned about the scale of this development, coupled with others, planned throughout Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

There is also the required infrastructure needed to store electricity and the pylons to ensure the electricity reaches the areas where demand is highest. If all the plans for solar parks are accepted, then 10% of Lincolnshire land will be required raising questions about food security and impact on landscape character. Additionally, you have raised other issues with the Parish Council, and we have summarised those as well in our comments.

Land Transfer to the Parish Council. (Update on Church Farm)

The Church Farm legal agreement states that, upon occupation of the first home, land will be transferred to the Parish Council but maintained by the developer. This includes the site boundaries, eastern woodland, and land at the rear. These areas will be used to support our rural character and create varied habitats.

When the sixty-sixth home is occupied, Peter Sowerby Homes will transfer the village green land. This is land at the front of the site, including the land presently occupied by the large barn, to the Parish Council. While both parties wish to remove the transformer (light green metal structure) from this land, the decision for this lies elsewhere.

Playing Field, Station Road.

The same agreement states that upon occupation of the 20th dwelling, the off-site Biodiversity Net Gain plan will be implemented. This will take place at the far end of the Playing Field on Station Road.

Precept. At the meeting it was decided to cover our expenditure next year the precept will be increased by 5%. This will result in less than a £5 annual increase for a D Band property.

Bench on the 'Old Village Green' It was decided to replace the bench on the old village green with a metal bench depicting a rural scene. The wooden bench will eventually be moved to be near the waste bin on Station Road (at the bend). This will happen when the weather improves to avoid churning up the verge.

Next Meeting 9th February, Village Hall 7:30pm.

Best wishes Geoff Lloyd,
Chair Swinderby Parish Council

BIN COLLECTION DATES 2026

Black Bin Wednesday 4 February / 18 February 2026 / 4 March 2026

Green Bin Wednesday 25 February 2026 / 25 March 2026

Brown Bin Tuesday 17 February 2026 / 3 March 2026

Purple Bin Wednesday 11 February 2026 / 11 March 2026

Full calendar can be found www.n-kesteven.org.uk/bins

LinkUp Editor: PAT HAIG Email: pathaig@me.com

Email me news, articles, poems, photos that you think villagers would be interested to know about

If you would like to advertise, there is an annual fee of £70 half page or £40 quarter page and I am happy to make up an ad for you if you give me the details.

A printed copy is delivered around the village during the first week of each month by a team of volunteers, and it will also be uploaded online and on the Swinderby News Facebook page and the Parish Council website.

PUZZLE CORNER ANSWERS

9	3	8	4	2	6	7	1	5
6	2	1	3	5	7	9	8	4
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POET'S CORNER

If you have a favourite poem, or have composed one yourself, why not share it by emailing pathaig@me.com

This is a heartfelt poem written by David Morris, now retired and a Swinderby resident. David says 'Retired and enjoying life, I have been a long time 'country boy' who loves every aspect of the British countryside. Over the years I have seen many areas, particularly our roadside verges, become littered with discarded rubbish - cans, bottles and food wrappings - as our style of life has changed to incorporate 'food and drink on the go'. I collect litter whenever I walk or cycle and would like to influence everyone to do similar.'

BITTER ABOUT LITTER

I used to walk in England's lanes
Enjoyed the sun, occasional rains
Chirping bird, babbling brook
Bloom of blossom, croak of rook
Seasonal colour on verge and hedge
Meadow, copse, the field edge
But now there is litter on every trail
Highway, bye-way, river and rail
'Out the window' it's off my plate
PLEASE STOP DISCARDING LITTER
For England's sake !

FEBRUARY (ANON)

1. February arrived in a puff of cold air,
With one glove missing and messy hair.
It tripped on January, spilled some rain,
And said, "I'm short on days, but long on
pain."
2. It brought us chocolate, hearts and
cards,
And couples holding hands in yards.
Meanwhile single socks and lonely tea
Watched rom-coms with dramatic glee.
3. It promised snow, then sent us sleet,
Froze our toes and soaked our feet.
Sunshine waved and quickly fled,
Like, "Oops! Wrong month!" and went to
bed.
4. It made us vow to eat more greens,
Then tempted us with Valentine's sweets
and creams.
Gym bags sighed, while biscuits cheered,
"Resolutions disappear each year!"
5. But February, odd and small,
Is rather charming after all.
It laughs at rules, it bends the plan,
And says, "Relax, you're only human."
6. So here's to hearts, both bruised and
bold,
To love, to laughter, to catching cold.
To awkward dates and cosy nights,
And surviving winter with chocolate
delights.

WHAT'S ON IN SWINDERBY VILLAGE HALL

For bookings or viewing please contact Ron Hodgson 01522 868330
ron.hodgson.swinderby@gmail.com



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WEEKLY / REGULAR BOOKINGS	
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	EGXS Explorer Scout Unit 7.30-9.30pm paul.jackson@lincolnshirescouts.org.uk
TUESDAY	Post Office 9.30-11.30
	Mothers & Toddlers Group 9.30-11.30am (term time)
	Dancing various classes between 4.00-9.15pm - www.thedaniellerawlinsonschoolofdance.co.uk
WEDNESDAY	Taekwondo 5.30-6.30pm www.tjtkd.co.uk
	Yoga 7.15-8.15pm - www.yogalincoln.co.uk
	Rose Garden Stitchers and Quilters 9:30am-4:30pm Mandy 07775600926 1 st Wednesday
	Village Lunch 12noon 2 nd Wednesday Book a place via Mo 07594 354613
THURSDAY	Belly Dancing 6.30-8.30pm Susan 07432 298088
	Craft Group: 2nd & 4th Thursday 7.00-9.00pm Becky Newborough 07898 319020
FRIDAY	Giddys Place (play café) Mornings www.giddysplace.co.uk/



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EAGLE VILLAGE HALL – FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY – FILM SHOWING

Two showings: 13:00h-15:00h children / families and 18:00h – 20:00h

Each session is a £5 suggested donation which includes the following:

- Activity sheets for during or to take home after the event
- A hot drink and a slice cake / A calypso cup and a cone of popcorn
- Tuckshop is available throughout the film with goodies to buy at a reasonable price
- Might be best to book via Marianne on mazem@hotmail.co.uk



Betts Corner

Thanks to everyone who turned up to help cut down the brambles on the site, significant progress was made including the planting of trees to commemorate the Charles III coronation and an oak tree to commemorate 50 years of NKDC. Other trees also planted and plaques to be put in place for to commemorate these events. It is planned to put up a sign to draw attention to the site, the meadow area to be rotovated and seeded with meadow mix and some attention given to the pond which needs shaping and lining.

Litter

Thank you to Daniel who collected 8 bags of rubbish from Newark Road, Moor Lane, Green Lane, Halfway House Lane and Eagle Road.

Bench on the 'Old Village Green It was decided to replace the bench on the old village green with a metal bench depicting a rural scene.



Swinderby Trust

The trust exists to support villagers and village organisations in need of financial assistance, and each application is considered on its own individual merits. To comply with our constitution, we must ensure that any donations we make comply with the following: Benefit the inhabitants of the Parish of Swinderby / Provision is not available from public funds, for example from taxes, allowances or benefits / Support either organisations or individuals address a need, hardship or distress.

If you would like to apply, please email Mike Batt, Treasurer, on m.batt241@btinternet.com and he will send you a form to complete.

Swinderby Summer Sunday

If you would like a (free) table at this year's event, on 31 May, please email Pat Haig.

Alistair Lees, professional falconer, and based at Thoresby, near Newark, who is prolific at many of the UK's county shows and corporate events, will be bringing a selection of his birds of prey to our village event comprising **Owls, Hawks, Falcons and Eagles** and giving an arena flying display. Plenty of opportunities for selfies and all completely free of charge,



funded by village events and our sponsors, Tarmac and the

Lost Village Festival. Check out <https://www.hawkeyefalconry.co.uk/> for more information.



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FUTURE SWINDERBY EVENTS



Swinderby Summer Sunday

Sunday 31 May 2026 1pm – 4.30 pm



A free, fun event for everyone

Live Performances



Activities – stallholders get in touch!

Tug of War - register your team!



Queries? Phone / text Pat Haig
07771 702136



QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2026

7.30 PM START

SWINDERBY VILLAGE HALL

Interval snacks / raffle / team prizes

£6 pp in teams of up to 6



SWINDERBY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

**SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2026
1-4 PM**

SWINDERBY VILLAGE HALL

**CONTACT PAT HAIG
TO BOOK A STALL £10**