

# Swinton Village Action Group

08 December 2014

Issue 25



### Inside this issue:

<i>Articles</i>	1
<i>News &amp; Letters From the Editor</i>	1-2
<i>Articles</i>	2-3
<i>Police Box</i>	4
<i>Parish Council</i>	5
<i>Club and Community Groups News</i>	6-7
<i>Christmas Quiz</i>	8

The Newsletter reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy.

## Swinton Village Action Group

### BONFIRE NIGHT

We were very lucky to have good weather on 1st November for our Annual Bonfire,



Fireworks and Barbecue.

Over 200 people were in attendance and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves, with the fireworks being deemed to have been better



than ever, with the addition of some new ones.

We made a small profit of just over £200 which will go towards the production of the newsletter and events for next year, any suggestions for those would be welcome.

We were very pleased to have some new helpers this year and would like to thank everyone who helped in any way very much indeed.



Special thanks to Henry Leeson for his wonderful guy again!

Also, many thanks to all of you for your support.

Jan Anderson Chair Swinton Village Action Group. Tel: 01653 696544



Colour copies of the newsletter are available on the Parish Website.

Swinton Parish Website is available on the following link. <http://swinton.btck.co.uk/>

### To Advertise

Contact Swinton News Letter by email. [Swinton.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Swinton.newsletter@gmail.com)

Or Tel: 01653 697921  
Business Adverts Cost £10 per row or £30 for a full page advert, payable in advance.  
Public For Sale Notices Cost £1

## Letters And News

### SANTA IN SWINTON

Father Christmas and his reindeer and sleigh will be visiting Broughton, Swinton and Amotherby on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December. He



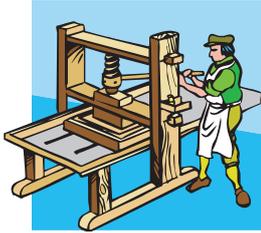
will be leaving Wentworth Street car park at 4pm and travelling out to the villages.

Malton & Norton Lions Club are responsible for this wonderful event every year which raises a great deal of money for local good causes.

If you see him please give generously.

You may be surprised to see that Father Christmas on the sleigh bears an amazing likeness to a Swinton resident, but I can't possibly comment!

Jan Anderson  
Chair of Swinton Village Action Group  
(and the wife of a Lion!)



Editorial



Letters

**Letters Policy:**

We reserve the right not to publish any letter. Senders must supply their name and address and be prepared to have them published. The Newsletter does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on these pages.

*Editorial*

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of Swinton Village Action Group will be held on Monday 26 January 2015 at 7.30 pm in Swinton Reading Rooms. This meeting is where we review what we have done over the past year and begin to make plans for next year, as well as

forming the new committee.

Please come along and give us your views and ideas for what we should be planning for next year, even if you don't want to join the committee, your views would be very welcome.

I hope by then we will have some idea of what is happening with the pub and will be able to resurrect the idea of a Harvest

Festival and Senior Citizens Christmas lunch.

As I have previously stated I will be standing down as Chair this year, having done it for 6 years, time for some new blood!

Many thanks to all of you for your past support.  
Jan Anderson Chair Swinton Village Action Group

*Letters And News*

**Amotherby Parish Hall**

The Old Time & Sequence dance on Fri 14th was attended by 33 people & made just under £50 profit.

The following night (15th) the hall was full to near capacity with 72 people, including 11 from the holiday let at Station Farm, for Andy Seed's Family

**Quiz Night.**

A good time was had by all and a few pence under £300 made for hall funds.

Many thanks to all who attended or helped. These two successful events, along with a grant from RDC, mean that the long awaited tarmacing of the upper part of the car park can now go ahead, hopefully

this side of Christmas.

We also now have a Facebook page to help advertise the Hall search for Amotherby Village Hall (the name isn't 100% correct but it's what most people call it). More things will be added when time allows.

**Researching Information on WW1 Regiment**

Until approximately 12 months ago I had no idea that my grandfather served in WW1 so, in this particular year, I am eager to try and find out as much as I can on his service record.

My grandfather, William Downes Taylor, of Swinton, is mentioned on the Roll of Service in St Helen's church Amotherby. Has anyone have any information on the regiment he might have served in during WW1.

**Family Details.**

My grandfather, William Downes Taylor, was born in Leeds, West Yorkshire, in 1883 and at some point moved to Swinton and married Harriet Coates (born in Swinton on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1882) in St Helen's church Amotherby on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1907.

On the 1911 census William entered his occupation as Bricklayer. William and Harriet had 4 children:

- Ernest Downes Taylor, D.O.B. 11/02/1909.
- Marjorie Edith Taylor, D.O.B. 11/03/1911.

Dorothy Margaret Taylor, D.O.B. 30/11/1911.

Muriel Taylor, D.O.B. 16/01/1917 (my mother)

William enlisted in one of the armed services during WW1 and managed to survive.

Later William moved his whole family to Normanton, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

Regards, Paul Farrell

Email the Newsletter with any Information. And it will be forwarded to Paul.

**OBITUARY**

Mrs Dulcie Behrens wife of the late Colonel William Behrens formerly of Swinton Grange. Died peacefully at her home, Homegarth, Swinton Lane on November 25th.

She celebrated her 101st birth-

day last August.

The Behrens family were very generous to Swinton. They donated the land for the children's playground and the bowling club.

The Reading Rooms were also given to the village by them.

The funeral will take place on December 11th at 11.30am in the Chapel at Malton cemetery.

## Letters And News

### Bus services 29, 31X, 181, 182/3, 194

The contract for supported services and or sections of route, operated by Stephenson's of Easingwold, will end on 2 November 2014.

We are currently out to tender for continuation of services with effect from this date.

Further details will be published when available.

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/25878/Transport---service-changes-and-news>

Editors note:

The 194 service is on a rolling contract until January 2015, when it is hoped that an agreement will be reached between

Stephenson's and North Yorkshire CC on the level of subsidy and any resulting timetable changes.

It would also be beneficial if the returning 11:30am Service Bus was able to take Child Buggy's and wheel chairs, at the moment it can not transport either.



Service 194

### Proposed Changes To street Lighting In Swinton

North Yorkshire CC have embarked Street lighting energy reduction programme

We're working on a four-year programme to reduce our street lighting energy consumption and associated carbon emissions.

In 2013-14 the cost of electricity for our street lighting was about £2.1 million. Savings of almost £400,000 a year are expected and by reducing our carbon emissions the street lighting element of the carbon tax paid to the government will be cut by 28 per cent.

There are over 62,000 street and footway lights in North

Yorkshire and we are responsible for around 50,000 of them. The remaining 12,000 lights belong to borough, district or parish councils (with the exception of Hambleton) and are not affected by this scheme.

<http://northyorks.gov.uk/article/25645/Street-lighting---energy-reduction-programme>



### Future Swinton Development

The Ryedale Plan is the Local Plan or 'Development Plan' for Ryedale. It sets out how much new housing, employment and retail development should go where to 2027.

Up to date information can be viewed here.

<http://www.ryedaleplan.org.uk/local-plan-sites/94-potential-development-sites-swinton>

<http://www.ryedaleplan.org.uk/local-plan-sites>

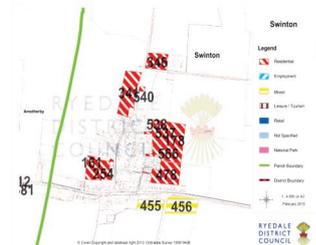
It is hoped that any future developments either Residential or Commercial will include the following.

Upgrading the existing Sewers in Low Lane, to prevent any further discharges onto the roads and into the open side drains when it rains.

Upgrades to the existing Road surfaces.

Any Development incentives are invested in the Local community for the benefit of everyone.

R Good



### Sewerage Discharges

After the regular discharges during October and November Yorkshire Water Board carried out camera inspections in the drains, followed by jetting to remove restrictions in the drains.

On this occasion they removed

250 kilos tonne of fat and road silt from the system.

Due to the fact that the system had salted up so quickly after the previous jetting, Yorkshire water Board will increase their frequency of checks on the system.

Investigation into the source of both the fat and road silt are

ongoing.

Any further incidents should be reported to Yorkshire Water Board.

Documented incidents go back to 2008, with no final solution in sight.

R Good



### Annual Poppy Appeal

The annual poppy appeal collection this year raised £202.44p for the British Legion. Considering that many

Swinton residents were not at home when the collection took place, this was an exceptional result.

Many thanks.

Henry Leeson

Rusborough

East Street

Swinton YO17 6SH





**How to Contact Us**

In an emergency always call 999.

To report crime or anti-social behaviour call our non emergency number on 101 or Email: [ryedalesnt@northyorks.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ryedalesnt@northyorks.pnn.police.uk)

Community Policing

Crime Stoppers on

**0800 555 111**

For information on the New Operational Policing Model, North Yorkshire Police.

Follow the link below

[www.northyorkshire.police.uk/opm](http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/opm)

*Police Box. Community Police News*

**REQUEST FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE**

This notice is in respect of a number of crimes which North Yorkshire Police are investigating.

**Items Stolen**

Two batteries valued between £150-£200 and approximately 30 gallons of diesel have been stolen from Wath Quarry near Hovingham.

**Bogus Callers**

Fraudulent Charity Collectors

Charity collectors fraudulently claiming to be working on behalf of The Children’s Trust have been observed in the Albany Avenue area of Harrogate. The collectors failed to show any identification when asked. All legitimate charity workers should have identification and are instructed to show it when asked.

**Cold calling roofers**

Report received over the weekend of "roofers" cold calling in the Starbeck area of Harrogate, targeting elderly consumers offering felting, fascias and guttering. This resulted in Trading Standards Officers directly intervening, saving the consumer over £1000. Please ensure you always obtain paperwork for any work undertaken on your property, and any work quoted in excess of £42 MUST carry a 14 day cooling off period (your right to cancel).

North Yorkshire Trading Standards would be interested to hear from any residents in North Yorkshire who have received unsolicited cold calls in the last two weeks from a company offering Energy

products (Solar Panels, Wall insulation etc). The company may be claiming that they are working in conjunction with or on behalf of Trading Standards. If you have any information please contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 0345 40 40 506 to report the matter. Trading Standards does not endorse or approve any company and such claims are considered a criminal offence.

**North Yorkshire Police**

Are supporting a national police campaign, designed to make it harder for terrorists to attack the UK.

The National Counter Terrorism Awareness Week, will run from November 24 - November 30. During the week, police and partner agencies will work together to deliver activity and events across the country, to increase vigilance amongst the general public, businesses and the transport community. Activity will focus on five key areas, where simple measures and an increased understanding could help to prevent an act of terrorism. Each day will feature a different theme: crowded places, transport hubs, preventing violent extremism, terrorist financing and the tools terrorists need to operate.

In North Yorkshire, each theme will be supported by different engagement activity, ranging from security briefings for sports venues, retailers, leisure parks and transport operators, to the delivery of public advice in community venues, universities and shopping centres.

Targeted police operations will also take place at key sites

across the force area in an effort to disrupt terrorist activity, or criminal efforts which may help to fund or support terrorist objectives.

If you suspect it, report it. Anyone with concerns about suspicious activity or behaviour is asked to contact the Confidential Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321.

**Stay Safe Booklet Scam**

As you may be aware, National NHW produced a Stay Safe booklet earlier this year, which can be downloaded from the NNHW website [here](#).

It has been brought to our attention that a company has been contacting people ‘selling space’ in their ‘Stay Safe Magazine’. A person calling himself ‘DC Jonathan Phillips’ from South Yorkshire Police has been contacting businesses and organisations claiming that he produces a publication that is delivered to all police stations across the UK. The website is <http://www.staysafemagazine.co.uk/>. When selling this ad space, DC Jonathan Phillips refers people back to our website and Stay Safe publication to try and validate the claims he makes regarding its reach and distribution.

We believe that this is a scam. We do not sell ad space in our Stay Safe booklet and we do not believe their publication exists. Please consider reporting this website to Action Fraud on 0300 123 20 40 under the reference number NFRC141100854878

Click on the link below for **Swinton Incidents** or paste the link below into your web browser. [www.police.uk/crime/?q=Swinton%2C+North+Yorkshire+YO17+6SH%2C+UK#crimetypes/2013-04](http://www.police.uk/crime/?q=Swinton%2C+North+Yorkshire+YO17+6SH%2C+UK#crimetypes/2013-04)

## *Parish Council Minutes Held on Wednesday 2nd July 2014*

MINUTES of Swinton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3 December 7.15pm in The Reading Rooms, Swinton.

### **Present.**

Cllr P Powell (Chair) Cllr P Cuthbertson (Vice Chair), Cllr V Farrow, Gail Cook (Clerk) Cllr M Fenwick, Cllr R Harrison, Maggie Farey (RAY)

### **Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr R Davies

### **Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 1st October 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as being a true and accurate record.

### **Matters Arising.**

#### **NYCC Highways**

The large pot hole outside Memorial Cottage has been repaired. The pipe leak on Swinton Lane has also been repaired.

#### **Yorkshire Water**

The drains in Swinton have just been jetted and 250 kilos of fat and road silt has been removed. Yorkshire Water are now investigating the source of this and will be working with NYCC Highways.

#### **Swinton Parish Council Workshops.**

All payments for the rental of the workshops are up to date.  
ACTION: Clerk to send invoices for electricity at the Sheds £20.42 per shed.

#### **Street Lighting Faults**

No faults.

NYCC are currently consulting with Parish Councils regarding street lighting energy reduction. Notification has been received that one light will remain on all night in Pearsons Yard and one in Meadowfields, the other lights in both locations will go off at midnight to 5am.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Jeniffer Aspeden at NYCC regarding Parish Council run lights and the options available.

#### **Grass Cutting**

The County Council intends to stop funding grass cutting where it is not required for safety reasons from March 2015 but will continue to fund it to maintain minimum visibility requirements.

Clerk has received maps from NYCC indicating areas to be cut.

#### **Swinton In Bloom.**

The baskets outside the bus shelter have been planted up with winter plants. The tubs at the triangle will be replanted in the new year.

#### **Local Development Framework**

The Chairman and the Clerk attended the meeting on Monday 6th October 2014, 7pm at Amotherby Village Hall. It was agreed that Swinton would conduct a full parish questionnaire. The results of the questionnaire will form part of the update for the revised Parish Plan 2015.

The results of the local development questions will be reported to Ryedale District Council Local Plans Department. The analysis will be available at the next meeting.

#### **Events Committee Update**

The Swinton Bonfire was held on Saturday 1st November, this was an extremely successful event.

#### **Correspondence.**

**Howardian Hills AONB**  
Management Plan 2014-2019.

#### **Frack Free Ryedale**

A letter was received from Josie Downs regarding Fracking, this will be an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting on 7th January 2015.

#### **NYCC Planning Applications.**

Decision Notice: Approval  
Application No: 14/01066/HOUSE  
Applicant: Miss Matthew Vasey  
Description: Alterations to existing vehicular access at Howe Dene, High Street, Swinton, Malton, YO17 6SL.

Application No: 14/01053/FUL  
Applicant: Mr Phil Cook  
Description: Change of use of paddock to form extension to domestic curtilage together with erection of two storey extension and linked single storey extension at Field View Barn, 27 West Street, Swinton, Malton, YO17 6SP

The Parish Council do not support this application.

#### **Any Other Business.**

The tree at the top of West Street has now been cut down by Highways.

Repairs to Low Lane junction, Swinton, Members are in support of the repairs to the road and request further information such as a breakdown of the cost and confirmation of commitment from other funders.

H M Revenue & Customs £40.00 Cheque No: 100698

Wallis printing £62.00 Cheque No: 100696

Glasdon Uk Salt Bin £169.26 Cheque No: 100697

Clerk received correspondence from Michele Pataillot, a resident of Swinton. Michele explained that she has recently moved to Swinton and that she was keen to contribute to Swinton village community.

Michele is a trained yoga teacher (British Wheel of Yoga) and a complementary therapist (mainly Swedish body massage and Indian Head Massage).

She also has experience with palliative care, having worked for McMillan cancer in St Richard's Hospital, Chichester. Michele was also a secondary school teacher of French and Spanish and has experience with Adult education. Finally she teaches English as a second foreign language.

Michele would like to offer her skills should there be a demand in our village for example language lessons, yoga classes for different levels and massages and in any way she can contribute to village life. Contact Details: Tel: 01653 695399, The Three Gables, Middle Street, Swinton

#### **Date of the Next Meeting.**

This would be held on Wednesday 7 January 2014, 7.15pm. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.30pm.

### The Blacksmiths Arms Update



Just wanted to introduce ourselves, we are John and Marcia the new owners of the Blacksmiths.

We are reopening the pub in January and we're really looking forward to getting the pub

back up and running and meeting our new regulars.

We have a passion for real ales, good wines and quality, home cooked pub meals which we will bring along with a wealth of experience.

For more information and to keep up to date with what's happening at The Blacksmiths please visit.

[www.blacksmithsarmswinton.co.uk](http://www.blacksmithsarmswinton.co.uk)

### Broughton, Swinton And Amotherby Sports Centre



BSA Sports Centre

#### Sports England Inspired Facilities.

A bid for funding to upgrade the existing lights with a LED system, Replace the existing Hall LPG heater and to install Solar panels has been submitted.

#### Access Road

Plans are ongoing to resurface the road from the end of North Yorkshire Highways responsibility to the existing concreted section.

#### Bingo Night.

Swinton Lawn Bowls Club made £232 for their club funds. Thanks to everyone who assisted on the night.

#### Events.

13 - 14th December Yorkshire County Short Mat Bowls Championships.

20th December 7:30pm BSA Christmas Bingo.

Donations for Prizes for the raffle and Bingo would be

gratefully received.

Any donations can be handed into Derek or Dave Cuthbertson, or at the sports centre.

For more information or to Book the Facilities inside or outdoor Pitches  
Tel: after 7pm. 01653 690807  
Or Contact:

Derek Cuthbertson  
Tel: 01653690807

Email [swinton.bsa@gmail.com](mailto:swinton.bsa@gmail.com)

Contributed by R Good

### Swanton and District Excelsior Band



Swinton Brass Band



Band members carolling at the Star Inn at Harome

As we rapidly approach the end of what has been a very busy and exciting year for the band, we are busy working towards one of our most hectic times. Yes it is carolling season again. We can only look back on the highs of appearing at the National Finals while looking forward to standing in the cold and damp in such places as Malton market place (13th), Hovingham market (6th and 20th), N.Y.Moors railway (21st) as well as our now well established fund raising 'pub crawls', and, by the time these words are read, our joint concert with the Harmonia Ladies Choir and visits to Swinton and Amotherby (8th or 10th weather permitting of course).

Wherever you may see us please drop a coin in the box, we will be very grateful. It is

becoming increasingly difficult for the band to raise sufficient fund to keep going, and, due to council cutbacks etc it is becoming more difficult to find paid engagements so we have to rely on the generosity of our members, our audiences and the public to survive. That said, we already have taken a few bookings for next year in addition to working towards trying to qualify for the 2015 National Finals. To help us do this we urgently need an experienced bass tuba player to fill the only currently empty seat in the band. Any other experienced players will also be made very welcome. So if you are an experienced E flat or B flat Bass Tuba player or other brass musician please contact us, we will be delighted to hear from you. Also, if you have never played

before or have played in the past and fancy having another go our training band is always looking for new recruits. We offer free tuition and instrument loan. All we ask from you is time and practice, so what are you waiting for? Add it to your list of New Years Resolutions !

So from all of us at the Swinton Band, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our friends and supporters and we hope to see you sometime over the festive season or even as a new member in 2015 !

To join the band or to book us for an event please contact Tracey or Steve on 01653 696417 , e-mail us at [tpopham1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tpopham1@yahoo.co.uk) or call in to the Bandroom on a rehearsal night.

## *BSA Short Mat Bowls Club*

Indoor Short Mat Bowls Club are based in the BSA centre.

We have two teams who play regular games in the Scarborough League.

Our "A" Team play in the Second Division and our "B" Team in the Third Division.

Current League positions are as follows.

"A" Team Played 7, Won 2  
Lost 5. 7th Position.

"B" Team Played 5, Won 0,  
Lost 5. 8th Position.

Both teams have suffered with inconsistency, mainly due to players illness and unavailability.

Social Bowling sessions are run on Mondays 2 - 3 pm. If you want to give it a try just turn up or contact us as below.

Over the weekend 13-14th December we host the Yorkshire county

Championships, where the top players from all the clubs will be bowling for both the County titles and also qualification into the All England Finals.

For More Information contact  
Richard Good 01653 697921  
Matt Fenwick 01653 694640



Short Mat Bowls

## *Swinton And District Horticultural Society*

### **December.**

It's getting even colder. Frost, rainfall and winds are increasingly common, sunshine hours are much reduced and it can be bitter with a risk of snow.

You may not want to be working outside at this time of year, but luckily there's not a lot to do.

Keep an eye on winter protection, and if you have a greenhouse, make sure the heater works.

It's time to think about pruning apples and pears too.

### **Top 10 jobs this month.**

1 Check your winter protection structures are still securely in place.

2 Check that greenhouse heaters are working.

3 Prevent ponds and stand pipes from freezing.

4 Prune open-grown apples and pears (but not those trained against walls).

5 Prune Acers, Birches and Vines before Christmas to avoid bleeding.

6 Harvest leeks, parsnips, winter cabbage, sprouts and remaining root crops.

7 Deciduous trees and shrubs can still be planted and transplanted.

8 Take hardwood cuttings.

9 Keep mice away from stored produce.

10 Reduce watering of houseplants.

**Rainfall.** October 72ml  
November 115ml

### Flowers Of The Month



Coronilla



Schizostylis

## *Swinton Reading Room And Community Hall*

Things are ticking along at the Reading Rooms.

We still have good bookings with the playgroup and table tennis teams.

A few children's parties as well means we keep within budget.

We have just had a new fire exit door fitted from the

snooker room and are awaiting the fitting of a new roof to the snooker room.

Hopefully this will be in place before any really bad weather.

For those that are interested, we have a full size snooker table and the snooker room can be hired for £2 an hour.

We have suggested in the past having a knock out competition, but interest was low.

If anyone else is interested, please let me know and we will try and get something moving. Thank you.

Dianne tel no 697548



*Swinton Reading Room  
And Community Hall*

## *Christmas Quiz*

1. In which country are gifts bought to children on Epiphany Eve by a female Santa Claus named BEFANA ?
2. In which language is Christmas referred to as NADOLIG ?
3. In which German cathedral is there a shrine to the Three Wise Men ?
4. What is GLOGG, traditionally served at Christmas in Sweden ?
5. Which country in 1937 became the first to issue special Christmas greeting stamps ?
6. BOAS FESTAS is the Christmas greeting in which language ?
7. In which country is COUGNOU a sweet bread served for Christmas breakfast ?
8. Where would you celebrate Las Posadas, a nine day Christmas celebration ?
9. Eaten prior to the Christmas Eve meal in Poland, what is OPLATKI ?
10. The Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square in London is an annual gift from the people of Oslo in Norway, when did this custom originate ?
11. Good King Wenceslas was not actually a king but a duke, over which country was he duke ?
12. According to Swedish folklore, which animals pull Santa's sleigh ?
13. Which country is the largest exporter of Christmas trees ?
14. In which modern country did Saint Nicholas spend most of his life ?
15. Which North American city started the tradition of a Christmas parade ?
16. In which country is JOULUPUKKI the equivalent of Father Christmas ?
17. Where is the first decorated Christmas tree thought to have originated ?
18. In which country are the Christmas presents delivered by the JOLASVEINAR [or Christmas Goblins] ?
19. In which region of the World do JONKONNU parades take place on December 26<sup>th</sup> ?
20. From what do Christian children in Syria receive their Christmas presents ?

## *Answers*

1. In which country are gifts bought to children on Epiphany Eve by a female Santa Claus named BEFANA ? - Italy.
2. In which language is Christmas referred to as NADOLIG ? - Welsh.
3. In which German cathedral is there a shrine to the Three Wise Men ? - Cologne.
4. What is GLOGG, traditionally served at Christmas in Sweden ? - A Mulled Wine.
5. Which country in 1937 became the first to issue special Christmas greeting stamps ? - Austria.
6. BOAS FESTAS is the Christmas greeting in which language ? - Portuguese.
7. In which country is COUGNOU a sweet bread served for Christmas breakfast ? - Belgium.
8. Where would you celebrate Las Posadas, a nine day Christmas celebration ? - Latin America [principally Mexico & Guatemala].
9. Eaten prior to the Christmas Eve meal in Poland, what is OPLATKI ? - Christmas Wafer [made from wheat flour and water, shaped into a thin biscuit such as that used in communion].
10. The Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square in London is an annual gift from the people of Oslo in Norway, when did this custom originate ? - 1947 [as a token of gratitude of British support during WW2].
11. Good King Wenceslas was not actually a king but a duke, over which country was he duke ? - Bohemia [now part of the Czech Republic].
12. According to Swedish folklore, which animals pull Santa's sleigh ? - Mountain Goats.
13. Which country is the largest exporter of Christmas trees ? - Canada.
14. In which modern country did Saint Nicholas spend most of his life ? - Turkey.
15. Which North American city started the tradition of a Christmas parade ? - Toronto in 1905.
16. In which country is JOULUPUKKI the equivalent of Father Christmas ? - Finland.
17. Where is the first decorated Christmas tree thought to have originated ? - Riga in Latvia in 1510.
18. In which country are the Christmas presents delivered by the JOLASVEINAR [or Christmas Goblins] ? - Iceland.
19. In which region of the World do JONKONNU parades take place on December 26<sup>th</sup> ? - The Caribbean.
20. From what do Christian children in Syria receive their Christmas presents ? - A Camel [believed to have been blessed by the Baby Jesus].