

Swaffham opinion: July 14

Published on **Friday 14 July 2006 10:23**

We have all had a lot to shout about in the last few weeks with the World Cup and Wimbledon being held at the same time. Now they are finished, what is the next big event on the calendar? Swaffham Carnival!

The carnival starts on Monday, August 21, with the crowning of the Carnival Queen and goes through to the following Monday, which is Carnival Day.

During the week there will be a variety of events, some new and some old favourites. On Tuesday evening there will be a filmed race night and Wednesday you will need your wits about you if you are to enter the popular carnival quiz.

Thursday brings fun for the children, with a painting competition and activities on Campingland.

The Assembly Rooms will be the venue for a jazz concert on Thursday evening and The Strollers will be performing in the Market Place on Friday.

If you enjoy getting dressed up in your best bib and tucker, Saturday's masked ball may be the event for you.

Bank holiday Monday is Carnival Day, which traditionally starts with the parade through the town.

Planning for carnival week starts nine months in advance. However hard the organisers work, there will be people who will moan or complain about something.

Do enough local people support the carnival? As with many other things, you must use it or lose it. Hopefully there will be something to please most people.

It is of course a fundraiser and the Lions and their ladies will be rattling buckets at some of the events. This year's beneficiaries are the Swaffham and Litcham Home Hospice and St. John Ambulance. I wonder if they will be the last ones to receive money from a Swaffham Carnival.

I understand that the Swaffham and District Lions, who have organised the carnival for many years, will be discussing its future at their September or October meeting.

If you have any comments or suggestions I would like to hear from you.