

Sydenham Newsletter



July/August 2015

Editorial

My first task now I am back at my desk is to welcome Gilly home. It's been a long five months!

Secondly to thank both Rachel Blake and Anna Froker for so capably standing in for me, as guest editors of the Newsletters since the start of the year. I would support and welcome further guests if anyone wishes to try their hand and the team will always assist.

Whilst mentioning Anna, I'm sure you will join me in wishing her a speedy recovery from a debilitating fractured collar bone suffered whilst in the US recently - with only one free hand certain tasks are unachievable!

So we are now well into the summer with the cricket club having had their annual outing to Lords, as pictured on our cover, and in a week's time the youngsters start their school holidays, some moving up to big school, some onwards and upwards to Uni and the senior ones possibly looking to join the earning category.

Rather unusually for Sydenham village and for Postcombe there are a number of houses and land up for sale, due apparently to the requirements of Mrs Belgrove's Will - selling off her estate to benefit the Barnardo charity. I imagine it gives one the chance to have a nose around and speculate on the opportunity if you feel that way inclined and have finance available. There appears to be a lot of interest!

The Fayre is being covered by Jason in a bumper coloured souvenir and he has asked me to say as little as possible - I look forward to reading about its success, but will comment that we had great weather again and are really fortunate to have enthusiastic supporters.

New Rector Maggie Thorne arrived after the publication of the last newsletter so her initial 'Hello' and welcome letter to villagers appears in this issue. The Parish have resumed their own newsletter and I am happy to print Maggie's July opener giving a flavour of her thoughts, running through Aesop's Fables which makes interesting reading. She is very keen to see St Mary's congregation grow and I know we will be seeing more of her. We are pleased that Revd. Joan DeVal and Mark Humphrey have been designated as our usual ministers but Maggie will regularly visit each of the four churches whilst giving most of her attention to Chinnor and St Andrew's.

Whilst on Church news please do get involved again in Ride & Stride on Saturday 12th September, there are lots of local churches to visit within a short distance and you can cycle, walk or even ride your horse! Stop for a pub lunch somewhere, its always great fun and half of the sponsorship money raised returns to your local church, St Mary's - it all helps with the upkeep!

Following the May Elections, the new Parish Council has been formed. Our congratulations to all the team but in particular to Alison Isherwood as the new Chair and to new member Mike May. Former members Janet Potts and Rachel Blake remain on the PC together with Clerk, Heather Mullins.

Baby congratulations to Astrid and Garth Weston on the birth of their third child, Anna-Sophia, sister to Rose and Gilbert. We look forward to seeing her.

Congratulations also to Alice Croxford, Viv's daughter who has graduated from her veterinary training with flying colours - well done Alice, it's been a long hard road.



And further congratulations to Becky Wilkins who married her long time boy friend Jack Hatcher on Friday 10th July at the wonderful setting of Danesfield House, Marlow. Becky and Jack will continue to live in Henley and we wish them a long and happy marriage. Alison and Dave are hosting a reception at Ryder's Farm on Sunday 26th July on the return of the happy couple from Honeymoon.

The next newsletter will be the Autumn edition in September and we will be pleased to receive your news, views, reports, letters and gossip to members of the team or to royharry@aol.com by 31st August.

Thank you all for your messages of support and enjoy your summer.

Best wishes Gilly and Roy

RIDE + STRIDES



**Saturday 12th
September 2015**

Help preserve the history on your doorstep by taking part in a sponsored cycle, walk or horse ride around Oxfordshire's churches. All funds raised go to Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust and 50% can be passed on to a church of your choice.



Sponsor forms and more information are available from:
Roy Harrison – Tel: 353887 or email: RoyHarry@aol.com
(or visit www.ohct.org.uk/ride-stride)

County Organiser: Mrs Hilary Cakebread Hall Tel: 0783 169 0524
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (Registered Charity No. 235644)



Ride & Stride

This year sponsored Stride day is Saturday 12th September, a day when the local churches throughout the county raise money by encouraging friends to visit other local churches when you can opt to ride a bike, walk or horse around. Alternatively you can opt to be a 'greeter' welcoming fellow riders to St Mary's Sydenham, signing their paperwork and offering them a biscuit and a cold drink before sending them on their way. All funds raised go to Oxfordshire Historic Churches trust and 50% can be passed on to a church of your choice.



Dates for your Diary in July, August & September **St. Mary's Church Services**

*Services from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer are marked **

July

Sunday 19th	6.00pm	*Evensong - Revd. Joan DeVal
Sunday 26th	10.00am	Songs of Praise - Matins - Mark Humphrey.

August

Sunday 2nd	10.00am	*Holy Communion - Revd. Joan DeVal
Sunday 9th	No Service	
Sunday 16th	6.00pm	*Evensong - Revd. Maggie Thorne
Sunday 23rd	10.00am	Songs of Praise - Church Wardens
Sunday 30th	10.00am	United Service Holy Communion - Aston Rowant
	1.30pm onwards	- Revd. Maggie & Richard 'at home' at Chinnor Rectory
		Baptism - Joan - Fiona Richards (Annette Richards).

September

Sunday 6th	10.00am	*Holy Communion - Revd. Maggie Thorne
Sunday 13th	No Service	
Saturday 19th	Wedding - Joan - Danielle Murphy/Andrew King	
Sunday 20th	6.00pm	*Evensong - Revd. Joan DeVal & Mark Humphrey
Sunday 27th	4.00pm	*Harvest Festival - Revd. Joan DeVal - followed by refreshments in the OSR.

Church News

A letter from new Rector Maggie Thorne

Dear Friends in Sydenham,

Some of you may be aware that after almost a two-year vacancy, there is a new Rector serving the United Parish of Chinnor, Aston Rowant, Sydenham and Crowell, and this letter is my way of introducing myself to you, so that you know just who is your neighbour in Chinnor Rectory.



I have come from St. Mary's in Headington, where I served the communities of Barton and Sandhills for three years as Vicar. Prior to that, I was Curate at St. Peter's, Earley, having been ordained at Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, in 2008. These days many people find themselves called to ordained ministry in maturity, and before my studies began at Cuddesdon Theological College on the Oxford Ministry Course, I was an instrumental music teacher. Although my work in music education extends back to 1980s and encompassed many different schools, ages and stages, it ended with my being Head of Wind and Brass at the School of S. Helen and S. Katharine in Abingdon where I taught the clarinet and directed various bands and ensembles.

My journey to ordination is long and complicated (as are most!) and has taken me from the then Presbyterian Church (now the United Reformed Church) to the Baptist Church, the Elim Pentecostal Church, the Roman Catholic Church and now the Anglican Church. This breadth of denominational experience has given me a real understanding and appreciation of difference and the richness of relationship which is possible between the churches.

My 'call' came suddenly, although looking back across the years there were 'signposts' which pointed in this direction, so neither my family nor my friends were especially surprised. As I was a Roman Catholic at the time, ordination was, and still is, out of the question for a married woman, and so the decision to leave and put myself in a place where I could properly listen to what God wanted of, and for me was a long and painful process. As I considered, I studied, and found new doors opening so that latterly I began to gradually withdraw from music tuition and embark on a career of psychotherapy and counselling. God really does move in mysterious ways and I've been a student ever since!

I've been married to Richard for nearly 33 years. He is also a musician and teaches the flute in Abingdon. We have two children, Jess (30) who is a nurse, and Aidan (25), another musician. As a family we are all extremely busy doing what we do and being who we are, but still find time to get together regularly. For our day off together, Richard and I head for South Wales where we can have a complete break and enjoy the outdoors, concerts, opera, theatre and the company of friends over a good meal and glass of wine.

I am thrilled to be living in Chinnor in such a beautiful part of Oxfordshire and amongst such friendly people. Do say 'Hello' and introduce yourself to me when you see me, and should you ever need me, you know where I am!

With every blessing, Maggie - The Revd. Maggie Thorne (Rector).

Dear friends, (July)

Many of us will have been brought up on Aesop's Fables and know the story of the tortoise and the hare. For those who don't, or who need a reminder, there is a race between the two animals. It's a clear mismatch. Because of his speed, the hare can have the luxury of making occasional pit stops along the way, believing that he can pick up his speed again when necessary, and still win. The tortoise, on the other hand, believes that his dogged persistence is his most valuable trait, and so keeps a steady pace throughout. The hare's arrogance is his downfall, he languishes for too long, and the tortoise is eventually victorious.

Thanks to this fable, we have the saying, 'slow and steady wins the race', but just because it's a saying doesn't mean that it's true. Now that we're in the tennis season we can see by watching a match that there are times of intense and punishing activity which are punctuated by rest. This is a more helpful and realistic image. Just being slow and steady won't get us very far without the occasional sprint.

In the parish at the moment, much is changing - for me as well as for all of you! - and some will be thinking that things are changing too fast, while others will be thinking the opposite. Whatever pace is set, it will be the wrong one for some because change is unsettling or exciting, depending on our individual characters, but things will settle. NOTHING will be done that won't be accompanied by prayer and discernment for what is best for the parish, and each individual church, and where that stretches our patience, or encourages us to leave our 'comfort zone', then perhaps that is the direction the Lord wishes us to move in. After all, the psalms are full of the line, 'Sing a new song to the Lord' and we cannot be satisfied with singing the old song, no matter how much we love its melody.

Every blessing, Maggie

The Friends of the United Parish – An Evening of Summer Entertainment



What a delightful evening in Music & Words at Aston Rowant Church led by Dr Christopher Hood, Graham Smallbone and John Williams. The evening combined the St Andrew's and Sydenham choirs, together with talented and enthusiastic contributions from local friends showing the audience their talents and skills. An excellent duet from young Tom Hood (10yrs) on the viola with Grandfather Chris playing the piano, the youngsters of the Treble choir, a wonderful Oboe and flute duet with Sarah & Cindy Sluka before a lovely Harp solo by Sarah's brother Bobby. Individual poetry/drama sketches from Sarah Phillips, Tessa Wyatt, Joanne Pearce and Margaret Poole, a fine singing solo from Linda Conafray, stunning duet from Fi Kermack & Fi Kendall, another excellent piano duet with Eve Pilley and Michael Smedley before Michael swapped the piano for the viola to play opposite Graham on the Cello and some outstanding flute playing by Richard Thorne, husband of new Rector Maggie. What an evening with excellent canapés & wine – don't miss the next FUP event. The evening raised £591 towards general church funds.

Roy

Sydenham Social Coffee Morning

This monthly event began in February, occurs on the second Thursday morning between 10am & 12.00, has been a great success and brings together people of all ages to chat over tea or coffee and discuss or gossip about topical items – anything of interest! Last week we had a young couple from Sweden who were visiting Sydenham as part of the 'Midsomer Murders trail' that has become so popular.

It is particularly good to see the young mum's with the tiny tots enjoying each others company with games in the small hall.

Parish Council

Rachel writes

Much has happened since the last newsletter, so hold onto your seats as I take you through everything we have been up to!

Team changes

A key aspect has been that obviously Paul and Roy are no longer part of the Parish Council and so we have now welcomed Michael May into the team, who building on his close involvement with a number of critical village projects over the last few years, is already proving to be a great addition. Alison Isherwood has taken the Chair and I am in the Deputy Chair for the next four years. However, our Parish requires us to have five councillors, so we have also invited people to be co-opted in. and are just finalising the details, but will hopefully have some news to share with you on this front in the next edition of the newsletter or earlier through Sydenham Mail.

Sydenham Grove

Just to re-iterate the note that has gone out through the Sydenham Mail system, just in case you have not seen it. Many of you are probably aware that the last tenants have moved out of Sydenham Grove, so the Parish Council have been liaising with SOHA regarding the plans for the immediate and longer term. Key to the immediate activity is ensuring the site is safe and secure. This currently involves disconnecting the services and getting the appropriate permission to demolish the houses not attached to any homeowners (i.e. No. 3,4,5 and 6) at the back of the site. There are currently no finite timescales for when this will happen, but we are aware that SOHA have been on the site assessing security fencing options etc. We have contacted SOHA and they have confirmed this will involve installing wire fencing along the edge of the front garden of No.2 and across the road to No.6. This will be the typical wire fencing used to secure sites with concrete feet that the panels slot into. They are also planning to put a concrete bollard in behind the fence across the road to make the site more secure and potentially putting a gate at the entrance. We have requested that SOHA speak directly with the home owners at No. 1, 7 and 8 to brief them on the work and discuss with them how they can minimise the disruption to them.

An on-going maintenance plan has also been agreed with an approved SOHA contractor who will be responsible for keeping the grass and gardens at bay in the empty properties over the next few months and also moving forwards once demolition has been completed.

In terms of the future, the plans for development are in the very initial stages at the moment, but the hope is to have something going in for Planning in about six months time.

The Parish Council is maintaining contact with SOHA and will provide updates as things develop, but feel free to contact us if you have any questions on sydenhampc@gmail.com

Electricity supply

Firstly, the supply route to the new pumping station has been agreed with the landowner, which is great news. However, there are still outstanding problems on the wayleaves for the village supply undergrounding scheme. Solutions are being discussed, and regular review meetings are being sought with SSE to push the scheme forward.

Broadband

We are in constant discussions with the new manager at Better Broadband for Oxfordshire to understand when the main part of the village will be connected and the very latest as we speak is that they want the cabinet 'lit up' as quickly as possible! We are also chasing BT for information on when the direct exchange lines at Plough Corner/Emmington will be upgraded. Unfortunately, although these lines are being considered, no timescale has been given for the work.

Playing Field

The next stage of the grant application for the new equipment has been completed and submitted and we are due to see a mock-up of the equipment soon and are still planning to install before the Summer holidays. We have also noticed there is over-crowding of the trees along the boundary behind the swings, so we are proposing to remove the middle one in order to allow the remaining two to flourish.

Speeding

We have yet more success with the SID equipment recently, so thank you to those who have volunteered.

We are also planning to have another Speed Sign Competition over the summer with a colouring version for the younger ages and a design competition for older children. This will include any young people in the area, with local schools and nurseries being invited to take part.

General maintenance

There was a meeting of local parish councils and the Area Steward for Highways, which one of the councillors attended. The realities are there is

less funding available from OCC and more costs are being given to the parish councils, so economies of scale are being sought where possible. We are therefore liaising with Chinnor PC and looking to obtain a grant from OCC to undertake the two grass cuts that are currently undertaken by Highways, however it is important that as a community we all identify key areas that need addressing particularly from a safety or security perspective and so have all been asked to use the Fix My Street website (www.fixmystreet.com) for quality control and for ensuring that contractors carry out the required work.

Wedding Celebration

Just for your information, we have been contacted by a bride-to-be who is celebrating her wedding at Vears Farm on 25th July. As part of her celebrations she has asked if it is possible to have their wedding speeches at 2.45 p.m. for approx. 45 minutes on the piece of village green to the left of Vears Farm entrance, which we were delighted to say yes to.

Rachel

SODC

Planning

P15/S0250/HH and P15/S0251/LB – Vicarage End, Sydenham Road

Widen the existing single storey rear extension at the rear of the property and minor trimming to the recently replaced thatched roof covering.

Planning permission GRANTED.

A Message from your District Councillors

Firstly, thank you for putting your trust in us and giving us your votes in the District Council Election. Now Ian has to 'learn the ropes' of being a Councillor and learning the rules that define the role, whilst Lynn will be building on the experience gained during her first term. One of us will be attending the Parish Council Meetings in the four Parishes of Aston Rowant and Kingston Blount, Chinnor, Sydenham and Towersey that we now represent where at all possible and we will be providing you with up-dates about the things we are involved in on a regular basis. Please do visit the South Oxfordshire District Council web site as well, as this contains a wealth of information about the District and many useful links and within the next week, it should be up-dated to provide you with the best ways of contacting us.

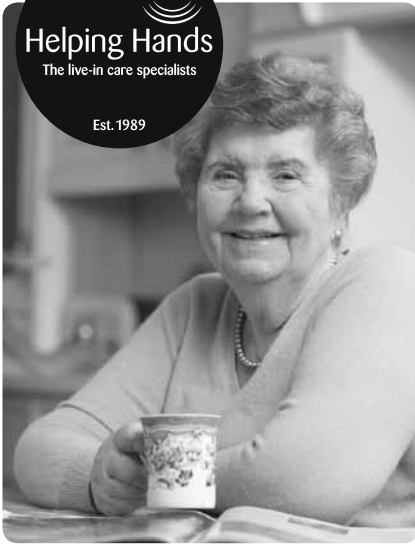
Again, thank you for your support.

Lynn Lloyd and Ian White (ian.r.white@btinternet.com)

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WI News



Greetings from the Sydenham Women's Institute, your local chapter of active, friendly women whose interests range from cookery and craft to fostering the community and doing our bit for positive change on local and global levels. Our diverse membership includes residents of Sydenham, Postcombe, Kingston Stert, Kingston Blount, Chinnor and Thame, and we are always happy to welcome new members.

A full report and photos of our June Open Garden Evening hosted by Jane & Paul Rooksby at Upper Chalford Farm follows. There is also a report from our May meeting on keeping young in mind and body.

As we go to press our July meeting on 16th July will meet at Chapel End garden (weather permitting) where our celebrated chef Rosemary, with creative flair and panache rivalling Raymond Blanc, will educate and entertain us with a seasonal cookery demonstration 'al fresco'.

In August, as per tradition, there will be no WI meeting, but on 2nd August several members plan to attend a WI-themed play in Thame, and later in the month we hope to organize an evening walk led by a bat-tracking expert.

Looking ahead to our September meeting on the 17th, it's time to weed out and recycle by sorting through your clothes, shoes and accessories in preparation for our annual evening of 'swishing' and conversation, this year hosted by Tess at Field House in Postcombe. Last year our post-summer-pop-up-fashion-boutique proved both useful and enjoyable, with bargains aplenty and a splendid selection from members' cupboards, and this year promises to be just as successful.

In October we will meet in the OSR to celebrate the anniversary of the 35th continuous year of the Sydenham WI and to hear an enlightening talk by local author, anthropologist and linguist Liz Harris about how differences in vocabulary and language patterns reveal the quirks and characteristics of different cultures.

The rest of our schedule for 2015-16 offers a variety of speakers, activities and outings and prospective new members are invited to attend without any obligation to join. So do come along and see what we get up to! We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 7:45 pm, sometimes in the OSR, sometimes at members' homes. For more information, contact Anna Froker at 07803 624085, or email anna@kairosyoga.org.

Anna



The ever young Sydenham WI

Our May meeting promised some tips on how to ‘thrive as we age’ presented by Anne Borrowdale so with open minds we took our seats. Words of wisdom flowed so take a look at some of the points discussed below to fight off the dreaded gerontophobia (fear of growing old).

‘If it won’t matter in 5 years, let it go’

‘Do new things, have new stories to tell’

‘If old age is catching you up, walk a little faster’

‘Dependence is not a dirty word’

‘Expand your relationships, look outwards’

‘We do not stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing’

‘Take a few risks’

‘Stretch your minds’

The Sydenham WI left the meeting with a spring in their steps and a glint in their eyes!

Fi

Sydenham WI June Garden Party and Games

On the road between Sydenham and Postcombe is Upper Chalford Farm, where on 18th June Sydenham WI held their meeting, kindly hosted by Paul and Jane Rooksby. We were joined by members of the Icknield group of WIs of Thame, Chinnor, Tiddington, Holton and Waterperry. We also had a welcome return of Gilly Harrison well on the way to recovery from her accident in January.

Fortunately the weather was warm for the event and the members were greeted with a glass of Pimms and were invited to wander around the host’s wonderful garden, which consists of several “rooms” two ponds and a stream, all artistically populated by a diverse array of specimen plants, trees, and shrubs, all at their best in June. The garden was also wittily punctuated by ornaments and chairs including two “nude” ones!

The games which were enthusiastically participated in, included croquet, clock golf, jenga and dominos. The raffle consisted of two bountiful hampers assembled by Sydenham WI and the winners came from the visiting members. A convivial evening enjoyed by all.

Viv Croxford and Sue Greaves gave votes of thanks to Jane and Paul for hosting the event and allowing us to enjoy their garden.

June

Bits & Pieces

Chinnor Library

Yes it's that time of the year again! Ice creams, holidays, bored children, getting behind with the garden, and of course the Summer Reading Challenge!! From July 11th children across Oxfordshire can discover weird, wonderful and wacky records from around the world by getting involved with Record Breakers Summer Reading Challenge 2015. Children will be encouraged to read at least six books over the summer holidays and on their reading journey there will be opportunities to explore astonishing real-life achievements and world records, collecting rewards such as wristbands, medals and certificates. The challenge can be achieved in just 3 visits to the library. All they have to do is join up at their local library and it's FREE! (Pssst!.. there is also a reading challenge for adults!)

We are also hoping to stage an event run by Science Oxford this summer. It is aimed at 6-11 year olds and is scheduled for August 24th. This has not been finalised yet so please check with the library before turning up to this one.

It's all happening at the library this summer....our Rhymetimes will continue through the holidays, with sessions as usual at 2.30pm on Mondays 6th July & 3rd August. You are quite welcome to bring along older siblings to these sessions through summer if necessary. We are also planning to hold some one-off Storysessions through the holidays. These are happening at 10.30am on Wednesdays 22nd July & 19th August. There's no need to book for Rhymetime or Storysessions, just come along on the day, we'd love to see you! *Julie*

THE SWAN AT TETSWORTH Restaurant

We would be delighted to welcome you to our new and exciting French restaurant. A 20% discount will be applied to your final bill, with this Sydenham Newsletter.

Swan Restaurant
restaurant@theswan.co.uk
01844 281182

Sunday to Thursday 10 - 6
Fridays & Saturdays 10 - 11

Pumpkins nearly sold out

We have had a good demand for Pumpkins and Squash and of course the sun flowers. We have approximately 8 plants left but no sun flowers. There has been much talk of soil conditions and lack of rain but the official pumpkin growers journal, The Journal of Pumpkin Growing, is clear on this point, "its better when it's dry with some rain. Soil should be free of volcanic ash if at all possible". I hope this goes some way in helping this year's entrants. See you all on October the 25th at Cape Cottage around 11.00. Call 351906 or pop in for the last of the plants. All funds raised go to St. Marys. Keeeep Growing!!!



Ann Ashfield

Aston Rowant School

The School is currently considering adding a small nursery class to the school and they would love to hear the view of local residents. The link below will take you through to a short consultation survey. The link outlines a little more about what is proposed, has four key questions and then a little bit about you (should you want to include this information). We'd love to hear the views of local residents and really appreciate your time. Thank you.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WHDN5QS>

Well Done Rosie

On Sunday the 10th of May, Daddy and I took part in a karate competition in Hatfield, which was arranged by the TISKA karate association. There were over 800 competitors from all across the south of England. The categories were kumite (sparring) and kata (series of moves) and there were competitions for both individuals and teams.

First I took part in the individual kata event but I got knocked out straight away.

Then I was in the team kata event with two boys from our club, Tom and George. Before the competition, Tom and George were terrible and I thought we weren't going to get anywhere, but to my amazement we came first!! The three of us were presented with giant gold medals!

Also Daddy came second in his individual kata event and won a big trophy. I can't wait for next year!



Rosie Kendall

Gilly

I'm delighted to say Gilly returned home at the end of June following her five months in hospital, two months under the excellent medical eye at Oxford JR and the final three months at Nuffield OCE rehab unit. How lucky we are to live here and in such a unique position with the NHS.

Gilly is now under my care, however, being Gilly, trying to do everything independently - walking, eating, bathroom, dressing, prepping breakfast, gardening etc - the reality is that it's now done in 'Gilly time' which equates to nearly half normal speed! - 'patience' is something one has to get used to! The memory is not too bad, but no recollection of the January accident or even why she was riding out with the Old Berks Hunt! Much of the older memory is good but she welcomes the occasional nudge in the right direction.

We are all, including the cat & dogs, thrilled to have her home and she is in good spirits trying to live her former life by being out in the fresh air, gardening, and sitting with the girls in the choir at church, attending WI events and, believe it or not, even shopping! No driving for another year or so and we sold the horsebox, maybe the van will have to go too. She recently sat on a horse attended by half a dozen ladies at her local Riding for the Disabled (RDA) School where she was former tutor. A relaxed half hour slowly walking around the ménage with a favoured placid horse named Frank, and she looked very comfortable!

Thank you to everyone for the messages of love, prayers, good wishes and general support from so many friends, from wherever you may live. I am so lucky to be married to such a determined, wonderful and loving lady. The Lawther/Chandler and Harrison family members have been really supportive, particularly Connie, Grace & Albert and George and former husband Alan has been a welcome visitor. Local village friends have carried me through the months by supplying meals, arranging a twice a day dog walking & feeding rota for Plum & Mattie and even doing my ironing!

Life has obviously changed for us both and certain former activities will now take a back seat. We are together, comfortable, and will now do things in our own time. I like having her visible or within earshot and probably sharing more activities together than we did before 28th January 2015.

Roy

Gilly writes: *Well! I'm home to enjoy the village. Not exactly back as before, but thanks to the great carer I'm under, I'm slowly getting there. Thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, cards, gifts and for visiting me and for whatever you have done and for looking after Roy and the dogs.*



I want to say thank you in my own writing to Roy, my children George, Connie, Grace and Albert and to ex-husband Alan. You have all been great over the past few months. I also want to thank the staff at both the JR and at the Nuffield OCE - really fantastic! I will go on getting stronger. With love always Gilly

OSR 100 Club

Last year we gave over £800 away in prize money and this year because of the increased membership we have been able to add a further small monthly prize.

The winning numbers for July and August are:

July			August		
90	Jon Maitland	£25	152	John Wilson	£25
23	Pauline & Gordon	£15	74	Sarah Phillips	£15
122	Andrew P (c/o Ashfield)	£10	32	Rory Kermack	£10
49	Wendy & Derek	£5	116	Amber Shankland	£5
143	Annabell Hughes (c/o Ashfield)	£5	125	Tony Rudston	£5

Thank you all for your support for the OSR

Old School Room AGM

A small gathering took place on Tuesday 14th July to hold the delayed meeting. The Committee remains as last year with the Rector and representatives of St Mary's - Adele, the Parish Council - Alison, and Sydenham WI - Siobhan, plus seven Members. Roy Harrison - Chairman, Jim Kendall - Treasurer, Vacancy for Secretary, Mark Kermack, Pat Hardiman - Bookings, Yvonne Dean and Kate Grafham.

There is necessary expenditure of over £1,100 to mend the dishwasher for which donations would be gratefully received. The overall condition of both halls is good but wear & tear will be dealt with together with attention to both doors facing the churchyard. The Chairman thanked the Committee for being so supportive and Gilly for her years of attention as caretaker. *Roy*

The Crown

Thank you to everyone for your huge support on Sydenham Fayre day. We had a fantastic day and the evening barbecue was a huge success. It looks like a winning format and we hope to do the same next year. We were thrilled to win back the Tug of War trophy - massive thank you to all the team.

We have some exciting events coming up in July.

18th July - Quiz Night with Pop Master Gordon and guitar legend Dave Froker

There are just a few spaces remaining for the quiz, so please call soon if you

Charity Afternoon

Local Live Bands, Pig Roast,
Raffle & Auction

On Sunday 2nd August

From 12.00 Noon

**At Inn at Emmington,
Sydenham Road, Sydenham**

**Tickets Available from:
Inn at Emmington, Pledsted
Butchers & Spar Chinnor**

£10.00 a ticket

All proceeds to Breast Cancer

SCANNAPPEAL 

Providing advanced medical equipment for local patients

Charity Number. 296291

wish to book. There will be a ploughman's supper at half time and the cost is £8 per person. We're looking forward to the quiz and the inevitable sing alongs!

To book please phone 351634 or email: info@crownsydenham.com

Yvonne & Roger

The Inn at Emmington

A big thank you to Paul Mullins who, with the help of Dave Wilkins, kept the pub open during the first week of June while we took a canal boat trip on the Oxford Canal. We had a fantastic time and it just couldn't have been possible without you guys pulling those pints!

We started the summer by clearing a bit of shelf space in the bar as we had to hand over the Tug of War Cup Trophy to the Crown. Although we lost that bit of hardware, we now have a blue ribbon hanging thanks to Winnie securing second place in the dog show despite just rolling out of bed and not even brushing her hair! Thanks again to SYD for finishing off Sydenham Fayre day with an evening of fine music.

The garden has been buzzing during these gorgeous summer evenings and it will be hosting the Towersey Morris Dancers on the 15th July at 7.45pm everyone is welcome! On the 2nd of August will be a daytime event starting at noon with live bands, a pig roast, raffle and auction in support of ScannAppeal, a Breast Cancer Charity. Entry is £10 per person and tickets which can be purchased from the Inn.

Paula & Jerry

A Big Thank You

The Aston Rowant Fete Committee would like to say a big thank you to all those who contributed or participated in our annual village fete on 28th June.

Despite a rainy and somewhat blustery morning, the clouds parted just in time for the fete. Kids, parents, villagers, family members and friends all had a wonderful time on Aston Rowant Green. Highlights of the day included dance demonstrations from pupils at Aston Rowant School and Stagecoach, an amazing auction of promises and raffle with prizes donated by local villagers and businesses, the Tiggywinkles' animal ambulance, a bouncy assault course, numerous children's games including a Nerf Gun championship, pony rides, cake stall, cream teas, tombolas and much more!

In all, the event has raised around £3,500 for Aston Rowant school and church. We couldn't be more thankful to those who made it a success, including all our generous local businesses, villagers and volunteers, the committee and the army of cake bakers, prize donators and raffle ticket sellers that all made this year's event such a success. This will be a big boost to our fundraising efforts for a new all-weather pitch on the school sports field. Have a lovely summer, all!

Vicki Roe

Walk to remember



Marie
Curie

Care and support
through terminal illness



**Take a 10k evening walk in memory
of a loved one and raise money to help
people living with a terminal illness.**

Blenheim Palace, Saturday 8 August

Sign up at mariecurie.org.uk/walkoxfordshire



Charity reg no. 207994 (England & Wales), SC038731 (Scotland) A160e

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Dates for the Diary

July

- 15th Wednesday Towersey Morris Men - The Inn at Emmington 7.45pm
16th Thursday WI meeting at Rosemary's - cooking demo 8pm
18th Saturday The Crown - Quiz Night with Pop Master Gordon and guitar legend Dave Froker
22nd Wednesday Storysessions - Chinnor Library, 10.30am.

August

- 2nd Sunday Scanner Charity Day at The Inn. Live Bands/Pig Roast. 12 noon onwards.
3rd Monday Rhymetimes Chinnor Library 2.30pm
13th Thursday Village Coffee Morning. OSR 10am - 12noon
19th Wednesday Storysessions - Chinnor Library, 10.30am.

September

- 9th Wednesday Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II becomes the longest reigning monarch.
Tea, cakes and bubbles at St Andrew's Church, Chinnor 3.30pm
10th Thursday Village Coffee Morning 10am - 12noon
12th Saturday Ride & Stride 10am - 6pm.

SF
Sydenham
FAYRE

The 2015 Sydenham Fayre was a huge success,
making a profit (subject to final receipts due) **in excess of**
£6,000.

This is the second most profitable Fayre in recent history.

Thank you

Visit the website for some of the pictures of 2015

The committee will be meeting soon to decide beneficiaries, and begin planning for the 2016 Fayre. If you would like to join us and help make the 2016 Sydenham Fayre an even greater success then call....

Jason Benfield-Harbour on 07428 604252 or email sydenham.fayre.june@gmail.com

Traditionally the Fayre sum up has been printed in the Sydenham Newsletter, however the 2015 Fayre committee will be producing a high quality full colour souvenir programme with pictures, fund raising results and the full list of beneficiaries, this will be delivered later in July, so keep your eyes on the letter box!

Fayre Feed Back

If you have comments, suggestions or want to get involved, we really want to hear from you. You can contact the committee via Twitter, Facebook, the website, by phone, in person or email.

Twitter: @SydenhamFayre | Facebook: Sydenham Fayre | 07428 604252

www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk | sydenham.fayre.june@gmail.com

THE INN AT EMMINGTON

PUB & RESTAURANT
EN-SUITE ROOMS
01844 351367



Wednesday 15th July
Towersey Morris
Live at the Inn at 7.45pm!

Sunday 2nd August Charity Afternoon

Live Bands and Pig Roast
Raffle and Auction
£10 entry - includes Food,
all proceeds to Breast Cancer

Tickets from the Inn



Open for Dinner, Monday to Saturday
Open for Lunch, Saturday and Sunday

The Inn at Emmington, Sydenham Road, Sydenham, Oxon OX39 4LD
www.theinnatemmington.co.uk theinnatemmington@btconnect.com

The newsletter is supported by the Parish Council