

# *Sydenham Newsletter*



*May/June 2015*

# SF

Sydenham  
FAYRE

Saturday

6<sup>th</sup> June

2 - 5pm

Free  
Parking  
& Entry  
Live  
Band

Punch  
& Judy  
Pirate Slide  
Face  
Painting

Dog Show  
Tug of War  
Pony Rides

PIMMS  
Cakes  
Tea & Coffee  
Hog Roast  
BBQ

Beat the  
Goalie  
Coconut Shie  
Assault  
Course

Books  
Bric a Brac  
Plants  
& lots more

**Come to the Sydenham Fayre, for a fun family afternoon and help support local causes.**

[www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk](http://www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk) | @SydenhamFayre

# SF

Sydenham  
FAYRE

GRAND  
PRIZE  
DRAW

### Collection Points

Cape Cottage  
The Crown Inn  
Fushia Cottage  
The Inn at Emmington

## The Sydenham Fayre Grand Prize Draw helps raise money for local good causes.

Inside you will find two books of 5 raffle tickets, these can be for you, or to sell to friends and family. Should you want more tickets they are available from the village pubs or any other collection point.

**The more we sell, the more we can raise for our community.**

Simply fill in the stubs, detach your tickets and drop off with the right money to the various collection points listed bottom left.

### Prizes Include :

Dinner for 2 with bubbles, @ Brasserie Blanc, Oxford  
Framed Jubilee Print of St Mary's Church  
Emmington Sunset Print by Oliver Harbour Studios  
1 Month PT Membership @ Raquets Thame  
Dinner for 2 @ The Inn at Emmington  
1hr Photoshoot @ Oliver Harbour Studios  
Case of Wine from The Crown Inn  
Basket of Fruit, £100 cash, Private Yoga Lesson

[www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk](http://www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk) | @SydenhamFayre

## Editorial

Spring seems well and truly arrived. The scent of blossoms on the breeze, birdsong in the hedgerows, tiny green buds unfurling into broad fingered leaves, and the irresistible lift of the heart at the sight of baby lambs and calves in the fields. Roy has asked me to write this guest editorial so that he may continue to focus his energies on Gilly, and as I sit down to do so it occurs to me yet again how fortunate Dave and I are to have landed here in Sydenham, and how this is the fourth time we've witnessed the season of growth and renewal as spring slides into summer.

The themes of growth and renewal are echoed in village life as Gilly makes great strides – literally – in her recovery. She is now walking with a three-wheeled walker and re-learning how to safely go up and down stairs. Her memory of people and places is returning, and she is beginning to assimilate the facts of her accident. Her room at the rehabilitation centre is cheerful and comfortable, decorated with



photographs and cards. She is a very determined lady, as we know, and her hard work is paying off with a little more improvement each day. We picture her first visit back to Sydenham and she could be home before the end of June! In the meantime, she appreciates visits from friends in the village and beyond, and is very grateful to all who pitch in to walk Mattie and Plum, and otherwise fill in to perform the myriad behind-the-scenes tasks and kindnesses she is known for in the village.

Also in tune with the theme of revitalization, our new rector, Maggie Thorne, was inducted at St. Andrews in Chinnor at a special ceremony in mid-April, accompanied by voices from the Sydenham Choir. A week later, Maggie presided with refreshing grace and charm over her first evensong church service at St. Mary's in Sydenham.



Local rock n' roll hero, long time village resident and former publican Ken Hardiman celebrated his 70th birthday (unbelievably, since he still looks and behaves as if he's 55!) surrounded by family and friends at The Crown, with festivities and music lasting long into the night. Over the course of the evening not one, not two, but three different bands played a selection of old and new favourites, inspiring guests to kick off their shoes and dance. As a special treat, a mock 'The Voice' competition featured Siobhan McKee's soulful and sultry

rendition of Dusty Springfield's "Son of a Preacher Man"; Fi Kermack in cowboy hat and boots singing Dolly Parton's "Jolene"; the dapper Ashley Wills crooning "Mary Lou"; and Pat Hardiman and John Wilson harmonizing on the Everly Brothers duet, "Dream". All the performers received enthusiastic approval from the judges and wild applause from the audience.



Speaking of John Wilson - or 'Little John' as he is affectionately known - for those of you who don't know him he is a valued member of the Sydenham choir and community, and you can read about his experiences volunteering at Waddesdon further on in the pages of this newsletter.

The ladies of the Women's Institute have been busy planning a varied selection of activities for the coming months, including guest speakers on topics ranging from cookery to wellness to philosophy. In April, members and spouses enjoyed a witty presentation by Paul Rooksby about his travels as a young man. You will find his adventures described in more detail later in this issue, along with other WI news and upcoming events, including the next Social Coffee Mornings in the OSR. These friendly gatherings continue to be well attended and provide a relaxed opportunity to enjoy a hot cuppa, a slice of cake, and a chat with neighbours from Sydenham and nearby villages.

On a sad note, Ivy Neave, who was born in Sydenham and was a founding member of the WI, has passed away. Her funeral took place at St Mary's Church on 28th April.

Looking ahead, the Sydenham Fayre committee has busily been organizing another great Fayre. This year the date falls on Saturday 6th June, and the Fun Dog Show will be back, along with Morris Men Dancing, the Traditional Tug of War, Music by SYD, Pony Rides, Children's Corner, and all your favourite stalls, games and refreshments, plus some exciting new additions. Fayre helpers and contributions are needed, so please read on in this newsletter to find out more. And check out the Fayre's fab new website: <http://www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk/>. Let us hope that the fine weather we've been enjoying is a preview of more of the same on Fayre Day!

The next issue of the Newsletter will be published at the beginning of July, so if you fancy adding something to it, please send items for the editorial team by 26th June to [RoyHarry@aol.com](mailto:RoyHarry@aol.com)

*Anna*

## *Dates for your Diary in May & June*

### **St. Mary's Church Services**

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

#### **May**

Sunday 3rd	10.00am	*Holy Communion - <i>Revd. Maggie Thorne</i>
Sunday 10th		No Service
Sunday 17th	6.00pm	*Evensong - <i>Revd. Maggie Thorne and Mark Humphrey</i>
Sunday 24th	10.00am	*Sung Matins - <i>Revd. Brian Griffiths</i>
Sunday 31st		No Service in Sydenham

#### **June**

Sunday 7th	10.00am	* Holy Communion
Sunday 14th		No Service
Sunday 21st	6.00pm	* Evensong
Sunday 28th	10.00am	Songs of Praise - <i>the Church Wardens</i>

## **Church News**

### **The Induction of the new Rector**

The induction of a new rector is when the Church of England pulls out all the stops. The "Service of Institution, Induction and Installation" as it is properly known of the Revd. Maggie Thorne, was no exception. It is the formal occasion when the new rector is "presented", where the tasks of her ministry are spelled out and where she is duly licensed by the bishop, in this case by Bishop Colin of Dorchester and Oxford. Maggie was then "installed" which was the formal placing by the archdeacon in her seat of the church, after which she was "welcomed". The induction followed where the church wardens of the four churches lead the rector to the door of the church to present her with the four keys of the churches, as a token of their shared responsibility. The bishop then presented Maggie to the people, after which the Hallelujah chorus was sung by Chinnor and Sydenham choirs while representatives of the church and community were presented.

The organ music for the whole service was superbly played by Graham Smallbone, with accompaniment on the flute by Maggie's husband of Flute & Continuo Op1 No 11 before the service, which was utterly beautiful. After the

proceedings Graham played the Chorale - Improvisation - Nun danket alle Gott Op 65 by Karg-Elert which was magnificent.

**The Revd. Peter Wainwright** was living in Aylesbury after his 'supposed' retirement, but when the Revd. John Kinchin-Smith resigned as Rector, Peter very kindly came into the Ministry Team in Chinnor to help out - briefly! Nearly two years later on 30th April, we said 'Goodbye' to Peter at the Annual Parish General Meeting. He recently moved to High Wycombe where he will resume some Ministerial duties, but also have a well-earned rest. We are very sad to see him go. The stability and continuity, plus his superb sermons, will be greatly missed.

### *A message from Peter Wainwright*

Thank you so much for the generous John Lewis token - I can't wait to get to the store! I have something special in mind, which will remind me fondly of you all. Bless you also for the card, which so many of you signed. Patricia is delighted with the beautiful flowers.

It has been a joy and a privilege to serve in the United Parish. May the Risen Lord bless you all and keep you in His love.

*Thanks again. Peter*

## **The Choir Concert**

The Sydenham Choir and guest artists held a fantastic concert in the church on 7th March to an audience of more than 100. The programme was very varied with music and songs ranging from Mozart to Goodall to Andrew Lloyd Webber to Sting and lots of others in between.



Alongside the choir performances, the audience was entertained by a piano duet between Chris and Judy Thompson as well as a Welsh piece by Ian Edwards. Chris Hood's young grandson amazed us with his violin playing and it was particularly special as he was accompanied on the piano by his grandfather. Tom has obviously inherited the Hood musical gene! Many of the choir members stepped up to perform solos in such pieces as Fields of Gold, The Power of Love and the medley from Les Misérables.

There were so many positive comments about the evening's concert - there is no doubt that it was an overwhelming success and the performers should be very proud of what they achieved. St Mary's provided a wonderful venue for the evening and has benefited from the funds raised.

We look forward to the next concert!

## **Parish Council**

Our monthly meeting on April 2nd coincided with the Annual Parish Meeting, which included a report from County Councillor David Wilmshurst, the annual update from our Chairman and a report from Munday's Charity. We were delighted that a number of villagers joined us for the meeting, as it allowed for discussions about the Sydenham Grove development. Clearly there is much interest in what is going to happen here, so with limited information available the Parish Council is putting pressure on the relevant authorities to determine what their intentions are. Currently, the tenants are being offered homes at Bakers Piece in Kingston Blount, but there is no clarity on where this leaves the up-keep of the site or the implications for those who own their own buildings. We will continue to strive to get answers and keep you informed.

Moving on to the usual monthly meeting itself, there was an update on the development of the Playing Field with hopes that the new equipment will be in for the Summer Holidays, if not earlier. As part of the grant application to SODC, it was important to make the project as sustainable as possible, so we are delighted that the logs to be used have been sourced from within 20 miles of Sydenham. We are also planning a spruce up of the Playing Field, including weeding and adding to the bark surfaces under all the equipment, in preparation for the Field being ready to play on during the Summer months.

There has been limited movement on speeding on the B4445, but there is a meeting planned to discuss the project with Keith Stenning and David Wilmhurst and one of our councillors will attend this meeting.

Obviously, there are changes coming up with the Parish Council team, as both Paul and Roy are not re-standing this year. So, the next meeting will offer an interesting change and we would love it if you wished to join us on the 14th May at 8pm in the OSR (changed from the usual first Thursday of the month, due to the General Election).

*Rachel.*

## **Parish Council election, May 2015**

The number of nominations received was less than the number of positions available. There will therefore be no election this year.

## **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.

*No strong views*

## **SODC**

### **P15/S0129/HH - 1 The Cottage, Brookstones**

Two storey rear extension and porch

*Permission GRANTED*

### **P15/S0107/HH and P15/S0108/LB - 2 The Thatched Cottages, 2 Sydenham Road**

a) single storey conservatory to the rear of the property, b) the placing of a new external light fitting to the front external wall at the front of the property

*Permission GRANTED*

#### ***A message from***

PCSO Jacqueline Madden | C9733  
| South Oxfordshire LPA, Thame  
Neighbourhood, Chinnor & Villages



email: [jacqueline.madden@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jacqueline.madden@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Address: Unit 2, Thame Operational Base, Wenman Road, Thame, Oxon, OX9 3XA

#### **Working together to tackle rural crime ..... reducing burglary by up to 85%**

Because of continued interest in SmartWater, you may be interested to visit SmartWater's brand new online Police Hub, which has been developed for use by serving police officers. Council members and other official bodies can also access this hub when registered.

The Police Hub offers a wide range of SmartWater-related information and opportunities to buy discounted SmartWater police packs and equipment. More information can be found at [www.smartwater.com/police-hub](http://www.smartwater.com/police-hub).

The new rural-crime prevention pack is available for just £65+VAT and is ideal for use to protect farms and other rural businesses, and the police home security scheme costs £7.99 per pack.

Please contact Jacquie Madden if you wish to protect your property.

## **Chinnor Parish Council**

Chinnor Parish Council has submitted proposals to proceed with a Chinnor Neighbourhood Plan. The first stage of this process is consultation on the proposed neighbourhood plan area. Chinnor Parish Council would like to invite comment on the suitability of the proposed area for a period of four weeks. The consultation lasts until 22 May 2015. To view proposals of the area submitted for the neighbourhood plan, along with their statement/notice outlining why they consider this area appropriate please visit [www.southoxon.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans/](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans/) and click on the Chinnor link. The proposed area follows the new parish boundary of Chinnor, which is in force since April 2015.

This four week publication period runs from 24 April 2015 to 22 May 2015.



If any person or party would like to make comments on the proposed area, this publication period is the opportunity to do so. This is not formal consultation on the neighbourhood plan, merely the identification of the potential neighbourhood plan area.

You can comment on these proposals by using the online consultation system at [consult.southandvale.gov.uk/south](http://consult.southandvale.gov.uk/south). Please be advised that you will need to register to make your comments, if you have not already done so. You can also send your comments through to [planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk). Letters can be sent to South Oxfordshire District Council, Planning, Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, OX14 3JE. Please be aware that all comments received will be publicly available and will be included on our website.

If you have any queries or problems accessing this information please contact the Planning Policy team on 01235 540546.

## WI News

The Women's Institute 2015-16 schedule of events offers activities of interest to everyone, from health and wellness to cookery to philosophy to arts and crafts. Prospective new members are always welcome to attend meetings without any obligation to join. We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 7.45pm, sometimes in the OSR, sometimes at members' homes. For more information, contact Anna Froker at 07803 624085, or email [anna@kairosyoga.org](mailto:anna@kairosyoga.org).



At our April meeting, members, spouses and friends gathered at St. Mary's - a lovely setting, windowsills and altar bedecked with spring flowers - to enjoy a talk and slide show given by Paul Rooksby, retired civil engineer and long time member of our community. At age twenty-three, in 1957, Paul departed the shores of the UK on a voyage around the world, provisioned with one small suitcase, a single £5 note, and a healthy sense of adventure.

The first leg of his journey began in Glasgow and took him to Canada on a ship transporting 18 passengers and 35,000 cases of whisky. When the ship arrived in Vancouver he thumbed a ride into the Rocky Mountains and straight back in time to the Wild West: dusty, unpaved roads, timber sidewalks, cowboys, Indians, fur-garbed trappers, and saloons with swinging doors. Paul sought work in the oil fields but instead found himself on a logging crew - a hazardous occupation averaging one fatality per week. Fortunately, Paul stayed out of danger long enough to replenish his funds, and after a few weeks he continued east via the transcontinental highway - today a major thoroughfare, then merely a bumpy dirt track. He hitchhiked a variety of rides, once sharing a horse-box with a horse, and riding for two days in a hearse, at night sleeping on a mattress in the back. On the vast prairies near Medicine Hat, Alberta, he found work as

a combine operator, sleeping at night in a metal grain silo, burrowed into the grain in a futile attempt to stay warm.

Paul worked his way down the eastern seaboard of the USA, enjoying autumn colour in Massachusetts, a ticker tape parade in NYC, and a tour of the White House in Washington D.C. He made it to Miami by delivering a car for the fee of \$20 including the cost of petrol. From there, through a series of serendipitous events, he got a lift, in the role of navigator, in a private two-seater plane to Jamaica. He and the pilot travelled via Cuba, where Castro's men were fighting in the mountains, and when they landed to refuel they were held at gunpoint until their credentials could be verified.

Eventually they arrived safely in Jamaica, where Paul found work as a surveyor. He stayed for some time in Montego Bay, quite enjoying the laid-back lifestyle and local rum of the tropics. So much so that he decided he'd better move on or inertia might set in and he'd never get any further.

He found passage as a ship's steward on a boat bound for New Zealand and spent long days cleaning, serving, and doing general repair and maintenance during the voyage. The boat passed through the Panama Canal and called in at Pitcairn Island (the communal home of the descendants of the Bounty mutineers) before arriving in Auckland. There, Paul worked on the docks for a short while until he was hired by a French firm of engineers, and then by a meat works.

Next he travelled to Australia, from Sydney to the Barrier Reef, finding work as a bean picker to sustain him. By now almost two years had passed since he'd left Glasgow, and it was time to return to England. He secured working passage on a ship home, this time earning his keep as a 'greaser' in the engine room.

During his travels, Paul was quite bowled over by the kindness and generosity extended to him wherever he went. He kept a detailed journal and collected newspaper clippings and photos, later compiled into a large scrapbook on display at the WI meeting. As you can imagine, only a small fraction of his adventures have been recounted here.

Intrigued by Paul's tales of resourcefulness and far-off places, everyone lingered for wine, canapés, and conversation, thus very little WI business was done, and what did occur was conducted ad hoc by the president from the vicar's pulpit.

On April 20, as part of the celebrations of 2015 as the Centenary Year of the Women's Institute in Britain, a centenary baton travelled around the country, arriving in Sydenham in a decorated pink Mini for a brief photo stop before continuing on its way to a countywide celebration at Dorchester Abbey.

Looking ahead to the next WI meeting on Thursday 21 May, get ready to be inspired as our speaker, award-winning author Anne Borrowdale, addresses the Age-Old Topic: How to Thrive as We Age. The meeting will take place at the Old School Room and begins at 7.45pm.

# SF

Sydenham  
FAYRE

Saturday

6<sup>th</sup> June

2 - 5pm

# Sydenham Fayre Wants You!

Please tell family and friends to mark the day on their calendar for fun and frolic, and visit the new website for all fayre details.

[www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk](http://www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk)

You can volunteer on the website, or if you prefer personal contact, please call Anna on 07803 624085 (or email [annakp@mac.com](mailto:annakp@mac.com)). We still need helpers, please see below to sign up. Especially anyone new to the village, please do join in!

Thank you for helping make the Fayre a success!

**Bric-a-Brac:** To make this popular stall a success we need your bric-a-brac, old crockery, glassware, children's toys, furniture, anything you don't need that is still in reasonable condition. Bring your items to the stall on Fayre Day, or in advance to Copse Farm or to the front room of the OSR (contact Pat or Anna for key after 8 May). We also need helpers to arrange the stall and sell on Fayre Day. If you can spare an hour, please call Anna on 07803624085 or email [annakp@mac.com](mailto:annakp@mac.com).

**Cream Teas & Cake at OSR:** Many helpers are needed to serve teas and bake scones (3inch / 7.5cm diameter, fruit and plain), tray bakes, cakes and biscuits. Please phone Eleanor on 354885 or 07841 526571 or email her, [eleanor.j.church@gmail.com](mailto:eleanor.j.church@gmail.com), to add your name to the baking and/or serving rota.

**Bottle Hoopla:** We would greatly appreciate it if each household in the village could donate two bottles: one of wine, prosecco, champagne or spirit, and one soft drink. Please deliver to Kate Grafham at Vine Cottage. Just bring them 'round the back and leave on the patio. If you would prefer Kate to collect your contributions please call her on 352014 or email her at [kategrafham@gmail.com](mailto:kategrafham@gmail.com).

**Plant Stall:** Cyndy and Jill will be focusing on vegetables and hanging baskets this year. They would appreciate it if you could bring your seedlings, spare compost, decorative containers, hanging baskets and liners to Cyndy at Byre House.

**Book Stall:** Please deliver books, CDs, DVDs to Wykehams Barn. If you cannot deliver and prefer your contributions to be collected, please phone Hilary on 352716 or email her at [aerodisplaysh@aol.com](mailto:aerodisplaysh@aol.com).

**Jewellery, Scarves, Handbags, other Accessories:** Please deliver to Madeleine at Musgrave Cottage.

**Plate Smashing:** Please deliver plates and crockery to Vears Farmhouse or call for collection on 354885 or 07841526571.

**Grand Raffle:** Two books of raffle tickets have been distributed with this issue of the Sydenham Newsletter. When you have sold what you can please drop the money, stubs and any unsold tickets to Cape Cottage or call John on 351906 if you would prefer him to collect from you. If you require more tickets he will also deliver them to you. The raffle aids the good causes we support and if you can sell tickets outside the village it really is a help.

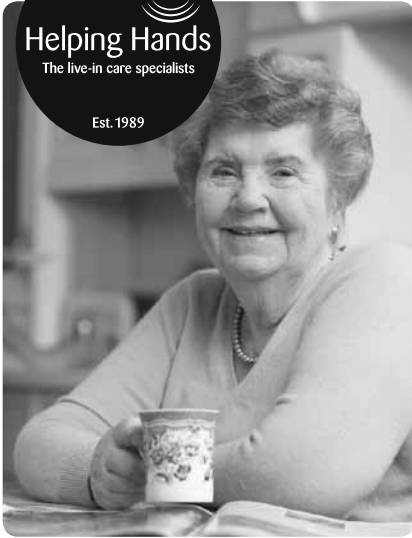
**Extra hands to set up the day before and morning of the Fayre. On Friday, 5 June, meet at OSR from 10 am. On Fayre Day, 6 June, meet at OSR from 9 am. The more the merrier, and the speedier!**

[www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk](http://www.sydenham-fayre.co.uk)

[@sydenhamfayre](https://www.instagram.com/sydenhamfayre)

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# Bits & Pieces

## Sydenham Social Coffee Morning

Second Thursday of the Month - 10am until Noon

We look forward to seeing you and your friends, neighbours and relatives at the upcoming Coffee Mornings on Thursday, 14 May and Thursday, 11 June. EVERYONE is welcome: men, women and children (there will be toys to keep the young ones amused) so come along and enjoy tea or coffee and a slice of homemade baked goods at a giveaway price. Chat with your neighbours, make new acquaintances, or simply enjoy the cheerful surroundings.

## Pumpkin competition 2015

Sunday October 25th at 11am at Cape Cottage

The deliberations are ended and the date and the plant selection were concluded over the spring bank holiday as tradition demands.

This year there will be three categories for the growers to grapple with. The Pumpkin will be **Big Max** but with a twist. The seeds of the giant that was grown by hall of famer, Julia Gossage, have been packed and stored. These are to be sold for this year's contest. Big Max does not disappoint, its **Big**, and this year with a proven line of excellence we expect records to be broken.

The Judges have gone east in the choice of Squash, nominating **Blue Kuri** and **Turk's Turban**. The former oriental wonder is the staple plant of the Japanese vegetable growing fraternity. This has been grown and marketed for many years but just recently made available in the UK. It has excellent flavour with a taut texture that demands attention on any plate.

This year's Sunflower was the centre of much debate as the RHS have designated 2015 as the year of the Sunflower. There are many new strains and colours that can be purchased and it is fashionable as never before. The choice was **Giraffe** which Mr Sutton says in his catalogue is the best and newest of the tall varieties. This may well be a first in South Oxfordshire as the Giraffe has not been grown before. It can reach heights of 2 SKR which could be as much as 4 metres. The categories will remain largely unchanged Biggest, Best Dressed, Smallest, and The Best Pair.

There will be prizes for children's entries as well as drinks and nibbles. The plants will be available on June 1st from Ann Ashfield at Cape Cottage or 351906 or as we are now taking orders online [ann\\_ashfield@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ann_ashfield@hotmail.co.uk). Price is £2 per plant and all proceeds go to St Mary's Church.

*Ann Ashfield*

## Volunteer Spotlight

*The article below is reprinted from the Waddesdon Staff Newsletter of 8th April*

**John Wilson is a regular volunteer at Waddesdon. Here he tells us about a Day In The Life of a Welcome Host**

*“I bet this would be a great place to work as a volunteer”*

A casual remark to friends during a Sunday visit to Waddesdon 3 years ago and I am still saying the same thing. I started in the Gift and Wine shop but with the introduction of the car park and bus transfer system, I joined the Welcome Host team and have been there ever since. It is a wonderful place to top up the tan and chat to delightful people who enjoy visiting Waddesdon.



My shift starts with a briefing from the Visitor Services Assistant assigned to the North Fountain during which we discuss any special activities and exhibitions that are happening on that day. I check that we have a range of leaflets available for the visitors and also make sure that the electric mobility vehicle is charged up. There is usually time for a quick coffee before the bus arrives, bringing our first group of visitors, and the fun starts!

I try to greet each everyone as they leave the bus while giving general information about the eating areas and the toilets (!) You soon get to recognise people who have been before and are happy to just have a smile, which gives me more time to spend with new, first time visitors. The job is made easier because everyone arriving on the bus wants to be at Waddesdon. Occasionally you get an elderly person who has had a struggle to get on or off the bus and these people need extra cheerfulness and help. It is particularly rewarding when we see these people returning at the end of their visit and they smile and tell us what an enjoyable day they have had. Result!

The children usually think the bus ride is a highlight of their visit - many of them have never been on a bus before!

Some visitors arrive and know exactly what they want see - Manor Restaurant, House tour, Parterre, but others want guidance and suggestions. Depending on the age of the group, I either suggest turning right towards the rose garden and aviary or left towards the adventure playground. I cannot think of a better way to spend a day and look forward to enjoying many more during the coming year.

*John Wilson*

*Waddesdon is currently recruiting to several volunteer roles, see more on the website at <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/waddesdon-manor/>*

## Chinnor Library

Should you happen to be reading this before the 20th April, this week sees the introduction of our new library computer system. Initially, we will not be able to issue anything without a library card. There will also be no access to the library catalogue, either online or in the library between Saturday 18th and Monday 27th April. Please see the notices in the library for further details, or go to the 'Libraries' section of the County Council website. We ask for your patience again, as we build up our expertise in using the new system!

Watch out for our forthcoming displays in the library. Throughout the next month we'll be sourcing sci-fi and fantasy novels. In June there will be a military theme to coincide with the Bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo. And if you're really quick you might just catch the end of our "Crafty Chic" display this month - lots of books on new crafts to try your hand at!

Our Rhyme time sessions continue to be popular with toddlers and their parents alike! It's noisy and it's fun! It normally takes place at the library between 2.30pm and 3pm on the first Monday of every month. But don't forget that due to the bank holiday, this month it will be held on Monday 11th May. On 1st June we will return to our regular slot.

If you're not a member of the library why don't you come down and check it out? It costs nothing to join and you are always assured of a warm welcome. If you don't know where we are just continue on past the doctor's surgery towards St Andrews Primary School and you will find us just in between.

### 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](mailto:restaurant@theswan.co.uk)  
01844 281182

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

## OSR 100 Club

The May and June draw took place on Monday 27th April with Pauline and Gordon McLeod on the occasion of Gordon's birthday.

May			June		
98	£25	Philippa Waldron	82	£25	Johnny Maitland
54	£15	Tilly Ashfield	38	£15	Kath Randall
78	£10	Spencer Jones	43	£10	Claire Ashfield
152	£5	John Wilson (Waddesdon)	78	£5	Spencer Jones
63	£5	Jane Rooksby	63	£5	Jane Rooksby

Amazingly two lucky winners came out of the bag for both months.

*Roy*

## Aston Rowant Fete

**will be back again this year on Aston Rowant Green on Sunday 28th June from 12-2.30pm.**

There will be all the fun you'd expect from a traditional village fete including: jazz band; Pimm's tent and BBQ, tombolas, cream teas, bouncy castle, children's games, face-painting and much more! As last year, we will be running our popular auction of promises through the generosity of villagers and local businesses with lots of great prizes.

Villagers may not be aware that the Fete is now organised by volunteers from the PTA at Aston Rowant Primary School and is one of the school's main

★ **SAVE THE DATE**

..... ★ .....

**ASTON ROWANT**  
**VILLAGE FETE**

.....

**SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015**

**12:00 PM TO 2:30 PM**

.....

**ALL PROCEEDS TO ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL** ★



fundraising events of the year. This year, we are hoping to top 2014's total of £3,000 towards building a new all-weather sports pitch on the school field, which will make a huge difference to the sporting opportunities open to the children.

We hope that you will support us – see you there!

*Vicki Roe*

## **Chinnor Tennis Club**

Did you play tennis once upon a time?

Would you like to play again?

Chinnor Tennis Club is a small, very friendly group of people and we are always looking for new members.

We meet at the tennis courts next to the playground in Station Road and have several adult club sessions: Tuesday morning, 9.30 – 12 is Ladies Morning, Thursday morning, 9.30 – 12 is a mixed roll-up, Sunday morning, 10.30 – 12.30 is also a mixed roll-up and from Wednesday 13th May we will be holding a mixed evening session from 6pm. So if you would like to give it a go, please come along for a taster. At the moment we are looking into holding some coaching sessions in the summer for juniors and we will publicise this here and locally once we have been able to arrange this.

If you would like more information please call Jane Waller on 01844 351166 or Maureen Hudson on 01844 354230.

## **FOR SALE**

**Kymco Mini S** disability scooter  
(white) in very good condition as  
hardly used.

Easy to transport as it comes apart.  
Good battery distance.

OIRO £550.

For more details or to view  
please call Jenny Morgan on  
07798 946167

## **Kingham House Jackdaws**



It's amazing what you can find in  
your chimney! If you hear strange  
noises then this could be the  
reason.

Jackdaws like nesting in chimneys!

# News from the Village Pubs

## The Crown

It's been a busy few weeks at The Crown with the highlight being Ken's party with music and dancing all evening. It was huge fun and we look forward to hosting some more music events over the coming months. Look out for details on the boards and on Facebook.

Sydenham Fayre is always a busy day for the pub and villagers alike, usually culminating in an "evening do". However, this year is a bit different. As there's no Fayre evening event, we plan to have a BBQ in the garden once the Fayre has been cleared away. Sausages and burgers will be provided, but please feel free to bring a salad to share or pizzas for the children. All are welcome. Please let us know by email or phone if you plan on coming along so that we can cater accordingly.

A Day at Ascot Races is planned for 19th June. The coach will leave the pub at 10am, following breakfast. Please speak to Roger or Matt for details. It promises to be a great day out.

Our ever popular Quiz Master is turning Pop Master for a Music Quiz on Saturday 18th July. We know how much Sydenham loves its music, so competition is bound to be fierce. Please book early as tables get booked up very quickly. We can't wait.

We're planning to have more live music at The Crown in the coming months so look out for details on Facebook and on the pub boards. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Thank you for your continued custom and support. Best wishes *Yvonne & Roger*

## The Inn at Emmington

You may have noticed some artwork around the pub which has the theme of 'abandoned farms'. These prints were created by Paula's sister, Maureen Nathan who is an accomplished artist based in London. The original of one of these prints was recently shown in the National Open Art Exhibition at Somerset House. If you're interested, they are available for sale.

The Inn will be closed from the 1st - 4th June inclusively and will reopen on Friday afternoon when we return from holiday. We will be open for lunch on Saturday but will close at 2pm in order that we can all get down to the Fayre. We reopen at 5.30pm in preparation for SYD who will be playing from 9pm.

Mark the 19th June in your diaries for Royal Ascot Race Day. Following the surprising success of the Grand National, after a slightly quieter Cheltenham, we look forward to a great final day at the races! Bank Holiday Sundays are set to be good fun at the Inn - keep an eye on the noticeboard for details!

## Diary Dates for May/ June and July

### May

- Thursday, 14 May      Coffee Morning, Everyone is welcome: 10.00 – 12noon OSR  
Thursday 14th May    Parish Council in the OSR at 8pm  
Thursday 21st May    WI meeting - How to Thrive as We Age. OSR - 7:45pm.

### June

- Saturday, 6 June      Sydenham Farye  
Thursday, 11 June    Coffee Morning, Everyone is welcome: 10.00 – 12noon OSR  
Friday 19th June     A Day at Ascot Races - The Crown & The Inn  
Sunday 28th June    Aston Rowant Fete - The Green; 12noon to 2.30pm

### July

- Saturday 18th July    Music Quiz - The Crown

## Stop Press

We picture Openreach laying the new fibre-optic main cable to the Village Green from the Inn at Emmington, to provide high speed broadband to the centre of the village. The cable from the Chinnor exchange to the Inn is already installed.



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PUB & RESTAURANT  
EN-SUITE ROOMS  
01844 351367



Lunch, Wednesday - Sunday  
Dinner, Monday - Saturday  
New Lunch Menu now available

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2015  
Large Beer Garden  
Car Parking



**Saturday 6th June**  
**Live Music from SYD!!**  
Playing classic rock and blues  
**9pm**

We are currently hiring staff at The Inn.  
For further information please call  
Jerry or Paula on 01844 351367

The Inn at Emmington, Sydenham Road, Sydenham, Oxon OX39 4LD  
[www.theinnatemmington.co.uk](http://www.theinnatemmington.co.uk)    [theinnatemmington@btconnect.com](mailto:theinnatemmington@btconnect.com)

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