



# *sydenham* **NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2022**





## WHAT'S IN THIS SPRING EDITION

CHURCH NEWS	3
PARISH COUNCIL INSIGHTS	7
PLANNING	11
OUT AND ABOUT	12
IN MEMORY	18
FAREWELLS	20

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Editor: Rachel Blake  
[rachel@curvemarketing.net](mailto:rachel@curvemarketing.net)

Design & Print:  
Chiltern Graphics  
[info@chilterngraphics.com](mailto:info@chilterngraphics.com)

Advertising Enquiries:  
Fiona Kermack  
[fiona.patrick1@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona.patrick1@btinternet.com)

Cover image: Freepik "Fantastic  
easter background with eggs and  
rabbits in watercolor style".

# hello AND WELCOME

“

Spring is Springing...

Yeah! What a treat to have the longer, brighter days and the daily yellow sunshine the daffodils bring to the approaches to the village. It certainly does feel like Spring is springing. Well, I say that, but we have been blasted by snow, hail showers and frost recently too!

However, with Easter around the corner there is much to celebrate with lots of lovely events happening in the village. From the service on Easter Sunday followed by an Easter Bonnet parade.

WANTED

## JUNIOR REPORTERS

Sydenham Newsletter is looking to have an on-going feature by a Junior Reporter. Ideally we would like a different young person each edition to write about something they are interested in. It could be...

Something that has happened to them  
Somewhere they have been  
Something they have done  
Anything that inspires them!





## JUST FOR FUN

How many Easter Eggs can you spot throughout this newsletter?



Then later in the month the Big Church Clean will be happening with the invitation to a picnic lunch afterwards, followed by Hedgehog Fun in the afternoon where all are invited to find out more about our prickly friends and how we can make them even more welcome.

As usual the Parish Council have been busy with all of their projects, with some great news of the to the door fibre and more. There will also be a village meeting on Friday 13th May which everyone is invited to. This is a great opportunity to meet and catch up with people from the village and learn more about what the Parish Council does. It is also going to include a fun light-hearted quiz. We also have some great pictures from the annual Pancake Day races, the planting of the Jubilee Trees and we couldn't forget to mention THE power cut. And wait is that the sound of the mighty Moles at the cricket nets? Well they are starting their first net practices on the 20th April – so it could be.

With that also signalling the change in seasons a couple of organisations have contacted us about a variety of organised walks they are hosting too. Celebrating being outdoors is also the highlight of one of our wonderful supporters and advertisers – Waterperry Gardens – who are inviting us to visit them to see the plants now coming into leaf.

Turning to the next edition, we are looking at getting another newsletter out in June and would love any contribution for news bits and pieces. Please share any information, thoughts, upcoming dates or anything else you think may be of interest by the end of **Friday 20th May**. Feel free to send them to me at [rachel@curvemarketing.net](mailto:rachel@curvemarketing.net)

*Rachel*



”



# church NEWS



**Keeping St Mary's Vibrant**  
**Easter is around the corner and**  
**we have 3 services at St Marys**

**APRIL**



**Wednesday 13th - 7pm – Holy Communion**

**Good Friday 15th - 10am – Meditation**

**Easter Sunday 17th - 10am – Easter Day family communion service and bonnet parade.** All are welcome to join and support our village church.

**Plus, during Holy Week there are Stations of the Cross set up in St Andrew's for personal reflection.**

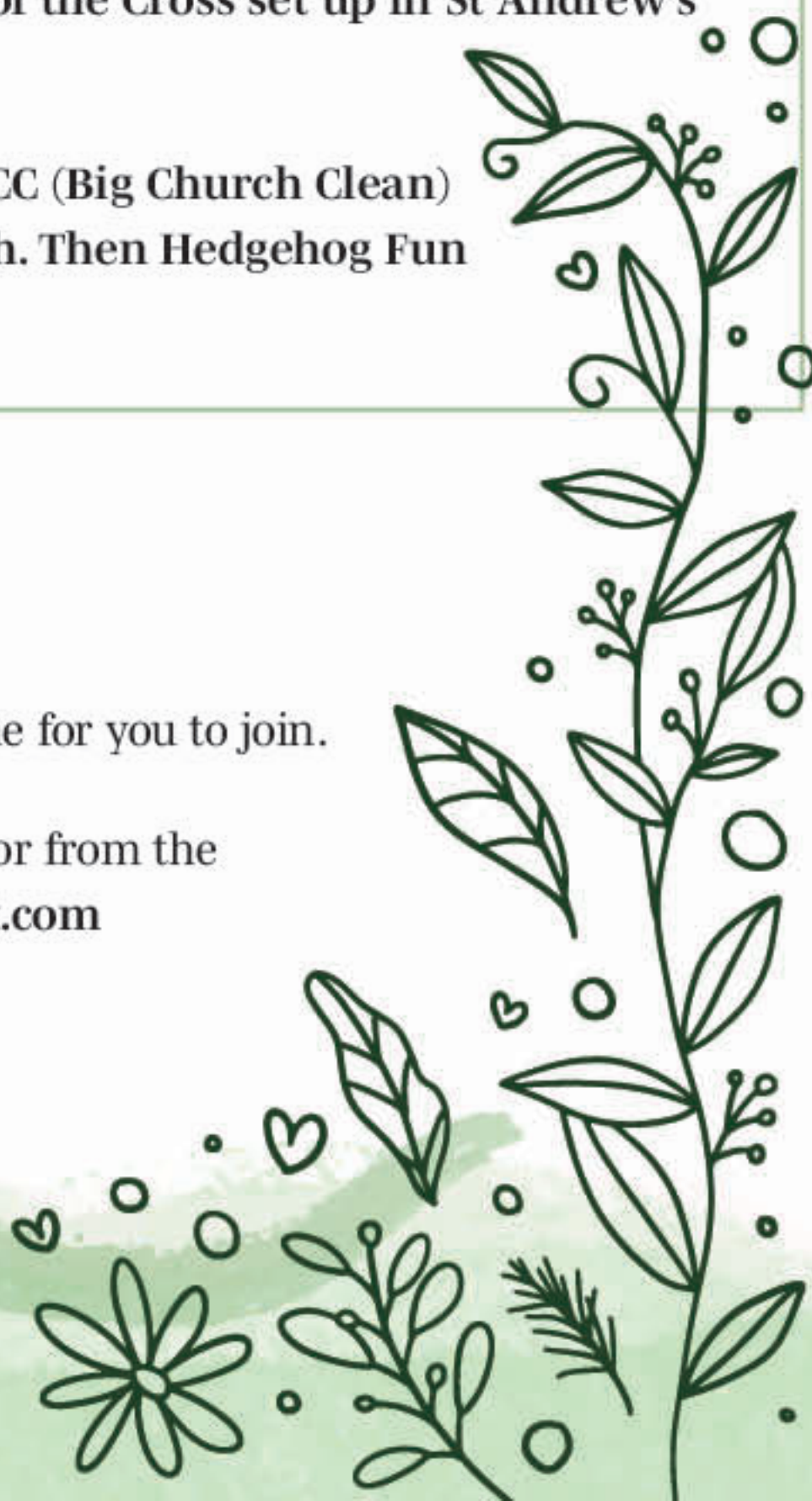
**It's all happening on the 23rd April! The BCC (Big Church Clean) 10am until Noon followed by a picnic lunch. Then Hedgehog Fun Day from 2 - 4pm!**

## **THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)**

25th April 2022, 7.00pm The Village Centre

If you are not on the Electoral Roll this is the time for you to join.

Application forms are available in all Churches, or from the Electoral Roll Officer on [csarcmag@btinternet.com](mailto:csarcmag@btinternet.com) or the Church Office [csarc@btinternet.com](mailto:csarc@btinternet.com)







# **St Mary's Sydenham Services over Easter including Easter Sunday**

**EASTER SUNDAY: 17<sup>th</sup> April: 10am**  
**With or without your Easter Bonnet!**

Please come along to our family Easter communion service and support our lovely village church, St Mary's.

We encourage you to wear an Easter bonnet - it can be anything – from the very simple to the extravagant!



**We look forward to seeing you.**

**Other Easter Services at St Mary's**

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> April. 7pm Holy Communion**

**GOOD FRIDAY: 15<sup>th</sup> April: 10am Meditation**

*Please see the Holy Week Services across the United Parishes on the other information sheet.  
You can also visit the website: [www.chinnorunitedchurches.co.uk/](http://www.chinnorunitedchurches.co.uk/)*



# **St Mary's Church, Sydenham**



## **The BCC (Big Church Clean) 23<sup>rd</sup> April from 10.00 - 12 noon Followed by a delicious picnic lunch**

**It's been a while since St Mary's has had a good deep clean so to celebrate (hopefully) the end of restrictions and summer around the corner plus a few weddings, we are calling on willing villagers to lend a helping hand.**

**Just come along from 10am and even if for half an hour, all help (ladies, men, families) will be welcome. Please bring dusters, feather dusters, your favourite handheld vacuum, buckets and anything to make the job easier.**

**Any questions, let Ann or Fi know via 351906 or 352990**

**We look forward to seeing you**



# church NEWS cont.

## POSIES FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY

Adele and Rosemary created, as they have done over quite a few years, pretty posies for Mothering Sunday. Led by Joan, our St Mary's service celebrated these very special people in our lives.

Candles were lit for those no longer with us to cherish their memories. It was a lovely service.



**Hedgehog Funday**  
**Saturday 23 April**  
**Starting at 2pm**  
**Finishing by 4pm**  
**St Mary's Church, Sydenham**  
**Meet in the churchyard**



Learn about the nation's favourite mammal.  
Why should we worry?  
What can we do?

Mini talk on hedgehogs, hedgehog box placement and  
how to make a hedgehog tunnel to track hedgehogs.  
And more!





# *parish* COUNCIL INSIGHTS



## **ULTRAFAST BROADBAND IS HERE!**

Great news! The Emmington end of the village can now upgrade to ultrafast broadband as phase I of the works by Openreach has been completed.

The work will take place in three separate stages, Emmington end, centre of the village and Stert end. Once each section is completed residents will be able to apply to broadband providers to upgrade their connection, the connection will be the responsibility of the provider.

Everyone at the Emmington end of the village should now be able to order and be connected to ultrafast broadband. Those who applied for a voucher, which helped us get the scheme funded by the government, should order as soon as possible.

Phase II works, (the centre of the village) is about to start and Phase III (The Stert end of the village) will follow on from Phase II.

## **NEW GATE TO FIELD TO ALLOTMENT**

A TOE grant has been secured for a new kissing gate to replace the gate into the field leading to the allotments. In addition, hardcore will be laid in the entrance area to try to reduce the mud and make it a bit safer.

## **PLAYING FIELD**

Football goals will need to be repaired or replaced ready for the spring and a new hedge will be planted later in the month or early April depending on the weather.

## **EMERGENCY PLAN**

Unfortunately even after we had managed to get SSE to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds putting the main electric feeder cables to the village underground and provide a feed from two different directions, we still suffered a power cut during Storm Eunice as both feeds went down due to the storm. At least we were off for a much shorter time than some of the nearby villages. The relocation of the generator needs to be investigated so it can be used if this happens again at a location where basic facilities can be provided - a cup of tea, recharge phones, a bit of warmth.



## **SPEEDING ON B4445**

A safety audit has been undertaken as required by Chinnor PC and the recommendation to move the chicane 5m towards Chinnor has been implemented. The next stage, public consultation, has already commenced and the aim is for the results to be presented to the Oxfordshire County Council Committee in June.

The village has also been included in phase 1 of the County wide roll-out of 20mph zones. We are awaiting an update from OCC as to the next steps and timings



**A handheld speed gun and 20mph bin stickers have been purchased.** 2 stickers are to be delivered to each house on the main road one for each of the main bins, green and black, to be placed over the 30mph sticker. If you would be interested in joining a speed watch team for ad hoc deployment of the speed gun please contact Heather Mullins the Parish Clerk.

The **VAS sign** on the B4445, on the Chinnor side of The Inn at Emmington, is to be relocated to the opposite side of the road due to ongoing issues with its operation. The works are planned to be undertaken on 6th April.

New **Welcome to Sydenham** signs have been ordered and will be put into place in due course. The gates at the Stert end of the village will be painted before the new signs are fixed.

## **FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**

The top end of Jays bridleway needs a hardcore top up once the weather improves and the bridleway dries up.

The Sewells Lane works carried out by OCC have made a huge difference, but we still need to lay some hardcore on the very narrow portions where it is muddy and bridleway widening was not possible. The village will need to undertake maintenance work during the year to maintain the extra width provided by the heavy vegetation clearance by OCC.

A Potts Possy working party spread more wood chippings on the path by the allotments on Mothering Sunday. The chippings were provided to us free by our local garden services provider, 'Two Oaks Landscapes Ltd' (George Butler) – Thank You!





# village MEETING



**ON FRIDAY 13TH MAY, YOU ARE ALL WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN A VILLAGE MEETING, WHICH WILL BE A LOVELY OPPORTUNITY TO MEET AND CATCH UP WITH PEOPLE FROM THE VILLAGE.**

**IT WILL ALSO BE A GREAT CHANCE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT THE PARISH COUNCIL DOES AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS TOO. THERE WILL ALSO BE A LIGHT-HEARTED QUIZ. STARTING FROM 7.30PM IN THE OLD SCHOOL ROOM.**

## **SYDENHAM MAIL**

This is a fantastic village communications channel and it's great that many groups in the village use it to share their news and make announcements. You may have noticed; we have also created a new 'digest' email that is sent regularly to help villagers keep up to date with activities outside of the village as well as within it.

If you have something you would like to feature in the Sydenham Mail, please can we request that you send these to [sydenham.mail@gmail.com](mailto:sydenham.mail@gmail.com) only and not to any other Parish Council or Councillor's email - this is just to ensure we receive your request and that your feature can be included in the next broadcast.

We would also request that any features are sent with the exact text you would like to be circulated, including any contact details if relevant. Any images should be sent as attachments and as jpg or png (please not as a PDF). We love images but please just ensure you have permission to use any images sent, or they are 'royalty free'.

The Sydenham Mail team check for messages twice a week for anything that needs to be communicated. However, please do just bear in mind that non-urgent messages could be held and merged with other content. If you have something urgent to share, we'd recommend utilising the village Facebook page in the first instance.

*Sydenham Mail Team*







info@chilterngraphics.com

+44 (0)7818 404 100

www.chilterngraphics.com



A LOCAL GRAPHIC DESIGN AND BRANDING COMPANY IN THE HEART OF THE CHILTERN.

- ARTWORKING
- DESIGN FOR PRINT
- INFOGRAPHICS
- DIGITAL DESIGN
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- BRANDING
- LOGO DESIGN
- BROCHURE DESIGN
- MAGAZINE DESIGN
- MARKETING/EVENT MATERIALS
- FLYERS
- POSTERS
- ADVERTS
- PRINT MANAGEMENT
- PUB/CAFE/RESTAURANT GRAPHICS



- Bespoke Curtains & Soft Furnishings
- Hand finished, made to measure, with design assistance
- Blinds for light control and sun filtering
- Window dressing and curtain hanging solutions
- Motorised options
- Wallpaper Re-Upholstery
- Cushions, lampshades, lighting, and decorative accessories both off the shelf and made to order
- Curtain and blind alteration and repair also accepted following consultation



Beautiful showroom in Thame

Collections of fabric, wallpaper and blinds to view

Visitors welcome no appointment required

Visit our website for current opening days & times

55 North Street OX9 3BH

www.tillynilly.com

01844 220035



# *planning* IN SYDENHAM

## **P21/S3405/0 PARK HOUSE, WORKSHOP, PARK VIEW, SYDENHAM**

Development work.

Amendment No. 1 - as amplified by Flood Risk Assessment Report received 8th February 2022.

Amendment No. 2 - as amplified by updated Flood Risk Assessment submitted 21st March 2022. **For information.**

## **P22/S0730/HH 1 THE COTTAGE, BROOKSTONES, SYDENHAM OX39 4LZ**

Erection of a single detached garage.

Parish Council response - **No strong views.**

## **P21/S1458/FUL WAYSIDE STERT ROAD CHINNOR OX39 4NL**

Demolition of existing three bedroom detached dwelling house and outbuildings;  
Construction of new private self-contained seven-bedroom dwelling house with landscaping (as amended to reduce the scale of the development and revise the layout).

SODC decision - **planning permission granted.**





# out AND ABOUT



## PANCAKE DAY

On a chilly Shrove Tuesday, many ventured out towards the end of the afternoon to take on their neighbours in the coveted Pancake Races. A long tradition in Sydenham which has been going on for decades, a delightful mix of children, teenagers and adults prepared their pancakes, brought their pans and lined up. Various races were run with much laughter and dropping of pancakes. All rounded off by delicious lemon and sugar pancakes made and served by Rosemary, Adele and others in the OSR. The tradition goes on!



## QUEEN'S JUBILEE STREET PARTY

Make sure you get your bunting out, drape your homes in Union Jacks and get ready for the street party which is being planned for Sunday 5th June.



## POWER CUT

Well for many in the village that was certainly an adventure. After, storm after storm hit the country the majority of the village fell into darkness. And what started out as 'another power cut' became so much more as a few hours stretched into days. Most hunkered down with candles, camping stoves and log fires to keep them warm. There were stories of mattresses on lounge floors in front of fires, take-away dinners or dinners out.

While the Emmington end of the village were fortunate to remain on-grid, several cleared space in their freezer and fridge to accommodate chilled and frozen items to save them from perishing. It was certainly an endurance for the many and rapidly become less of an adventure as time went on!



# out AND ABOUT *cont.*



## JUBILEE TREES

There was a great turn out for planting the saplings at the end of February with lots of children taking part. There were not quite enough trees to finish the hedge around the copse so more saplings were purchased and planted. A huge thank you to Janet Potts, Amanda Pearce-Higgins and Hilary Lamb for their time and energy in applying for the saplings, planning the area and overseeing the planting. Suggestions for name of the wood were received and the name 'Platinum Thicket' has been chosen, part of the Queens Canopy. Thank you to Paul Stancliffe for his suggestion.

*Regards Janet. Amanda and Hilary*

## THE QUEEN'S FAIRY FOLK DOOR TRAIL

Thank you to everyone who asked to have a Fairy Folk Door to decorate. I have heard there are some real masterpieces being created and it is going to be wonderful to see them all. Please do contact me if you need to have them varnished and get your thinking caps on, as to where you are going to put it.

If you can let me know by 22nd April 2022 at [rachel@curvemarketing.net](mailto:rachel@curvemarketing.net), then we can create a map of locations ready for the Jubilee weekend. And remember to put in place by the end of Friday 3rd June ready for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

*Thanks. Rachel*



## TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Oxfordshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print for free. It also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris ([john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk))

### JOINS US FOR A WALK!

The Thame & Wheatley group has planned some introductory walks for anyone interested in trying out the Ramblers. There will be a leisurely 4 mile walk on Sunday 8th May at 10am, starting in the Upper High Street car park, Thame.

This will be followed by complimentary coffee and cake in Christchurch Hall (opposite the car park) where there will be information about activities of the Ramblers and walking locally.

If you want to try a longer walk, they are also offering a 6 mile walk from Crowell on Saturday 21st May and a 10 mile walk from Watlington (Recreation Ground car park) on Saturday 14th May, both starting at 10am.

Just turn up on the day, or if you would like more details please phone:

**01844 213608** or visit the website

[www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley.html](http://www.ramblers-oxon.org.uk/thame-wheatley.html)





# out AND ABOUT cont.

## THE SYDENHAM MOLES

The cricket season is starting this month. So, whether you are new to the sport or 'semi-professional!' all are welcome to join. With their first net practice on 20th April at 5.45pm at the back of the Playing Field.

Email Dan the Chair at [sydenhamcccaptain@gmail.com](mailto:sydenhamcccaptain@gmail.com) if you are interested.

And here are the fixtures coming up over the next couple of months:

*Dan Bradley*



DATE	FIXTURE	WHERE
24th April	Intra-Club Ashes	Home
1st May	Ibstone	Away
6th May	Shiplake	Away
8th May	Ewelme	Away
15th May	Haddenham	Away
29th May	Prince of Wales	Away

## CHINNOR VILLAGE CENTRE

Spring has sprung and numbers are increasing for the Day Care/Friendship club, Stroke Support, Parkinson's Support, Stroke Club and Forget Me Knot Café.

No one in our community should be feeling lonely or isolated.

So please get in touch as we would love to be able to help and support you [centreadmin@chinnorvillagecentre.org](mailto:centreadmin@chinnorvillagecentre.org) or 01844 353733 and ask for Sally who will connect you with the relevant groups. Or drop into our friendly coffee shop serving refreshments, delicious lunches and snacks throughout the day.

Open 9-4 weekdays and 9.30am - 2.30pm on Saturdays.





## PLAY ONE LOTTERY AND SUPPORT CHINNOR VILLAGE CENTRE

For just £1 a week, pledged to the on line 'Chinnor Village Centre One Lottery', you will not only raise funds for the Centre but will also give yourself the chance of winning a weekly cash prize or even winning the £25,000 jackpot. If you have any questions telephone the One Lottery on **01865 678679** or email **support@onelottery.co.uk** or contact Nettie **07711 337243**.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Volunteers are the life blood of our centre without whom we couldn't operate. We are still in need of new volunteers for lots of different opportunities; in the Coffee Shop, Day Care, Forget Me Knot, Stroke Club, minibus drivers, minibus escorts, helping at events and functions, maintenance, gaining sponsorship, helping with fundraising etc.

There is also a Volunteers Recruitment Event on 9th May between 13.00-15.00 in the Coffee Shop, please text the number below if you planning to attend.

We are also looking for a TRUSTEE TO CO-ORDINATE THE VOLUNTEERS – supported by a committee of enthusiastic Trustees. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Nettie Dearmun email **annettedearmun@gmail.com** or mobile **07711 337243**.

## 200 CLUB

The lucky monthly winners for February & March were as follows:

### February

**Jeff Ludgate, John Wilson, Tina Sexton, Geoff Isherwood, Oliver Smith, Chris Hood, Linda & Mick & Lucy Roe**

### March

**David DeVal, Holly Wills, Roy Harrison, Kath King, Mark Oliver, Mick & Linda, John Grosvenor & Mark King**

Many thanks to the 234 members for your continued support for the Old School Room.

*Roy Harrison*



# out AND ABOUT cont.



## CHOIR SUPPER

Having an annual choir supper has been a wonderful custom for many years but, as with so many activities, it hasn't happened for the last two. So, as soon as we were able 15 of us went to The Crown on Tuesday 22nd February after choir practice for a delicious supper. It was a lovely chance to have a good chat too. Thank you, Pete, Tina and the team for looking after us so well. We all enjoyed it so much that we're planning another outing for later in the year.

If you enjoy singing why not come along one Tuesday evening, 6.15pm in the church - we're very relaxed and like to have fun as much as singing!

*Siobhan*



## CAREERS FAYRE AT ASTON ROWANT PRIMARY SCHOOL

The school recognises the important role that is played by primary schools in enabling children to have high aspirations about their future through independent and impartial careers advice. As a school we endeavour to provide children with a range of meaningful experiences, visits and visitors that teach them about the world of work and provide information about future careers.

We would like to hold a careers fayre in school, on a Friday afternoon in the summer term. We would like to have a number of stalls for the children to visit where they can chat to people about the work that they are currently doing or previously did. If you would be prepared to spare an afternoon to support the running of this important event, please contact the Headteacher.

Mrs Helen France on 01844 351671  
or [head.3180@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:head.3180@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)

*Thank you*





# *in memory of* **CYNTHIA JOYCE GOMME**

*It is with great sadness to announce that Cynthia Gomme passed away on 20th February 2022. She was a resident of Sydenham for 30 years.*

*All who knew Cynthia would know that she was a kind, truthful, trustworthy lady. She always helped people, without judgement, because that was who she was, kind natured and thoughtful and not expecting anything back in return.*

*Cynthia never bragged about her achievements, like being awarded a British Empire Medal by Her Majesty the Queen in 2018 for her services to music and charity, followed by an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace in 2019.*

*Also, in 2020 she was awarded a certificate by Rennie Grove Hospice Care, given in recognition of 10 years' service.*

*She had a lifelong career as an Occupational Therapist, spanning from 1959. She progressed in her career to become Head Occupational Therapist, being responsible for all occupational therapy services within the High Wycombe and District Hospital Management Committee.*

*Cynthia gave over 30 years of service to the New London Music Society Summer School. She gave 100% of her time, attention and hard work to this every summer and always talked about it with great enthusiasm and passion. One great passion was her love of animals, especially cats, which she adored. This was especially true of her cat Sherry, to whom she referred to as the cat who had adopted her!*

*We will all miss Cynthia and will remember her with great fondness and love.*

*Nicola Dacre & family*





# *in memory of* **DOUG NEWHAM LVO DFC**

*We are very sad to report that having celebrated his 100th Birthday last November, Doug died on 14th March 2022. He moved to Sydenham in 1988 and played a major part in village affairs.*

*Among his numerous contributions, he obtained/sold all the advertising for the Sydenham Fayre programme for many years; with Ray Harris he negotiated the 99-year lease of the OSR with the Diocese, formed it into a Registered Charity in order to apply for various grants including from the Millennium Commission, and chaired the OSR Committee during the building's major restoration. He and Julianne moved from Walnut Barn to Cumbria to be nearer one of their sons in 2006.*

*Doug was 17 when the war broke out in 1939 and was a civilian junior technician working on the early-warning radar network. It was vital for alerting Fighter Command that German squadrons were approaching, giving RAF pilots time to get their fighters airborne to intercept, before their airfields and other critical infrastructure could be destroyed.*

*For the 2020 Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance Doug explained:*

*"Our work involved the design and production of back-up synchronising systems for the early-warning radar network, in case the primary system was disrupted by bombing. Radar stations were, of course, vital for the control of Fighter Command during the Battle of Britain. My own work, as a junior technician, included working visits to Fighter Command HQ and to about half of the individual radar sites.*

*I was a very young man at the time, and while the experience of being dive-bombed at close quarters was certainly a unique experience, I had to carry on with my work.*

*Those were very challenging times indeed."*

*Doug joined the RAF the following year and had a distinguished career in Bomber Command. After the war he married Julianne and spent 36 years in a further distinguished career rising to General Manager Operations Control at BOAC/British Airways and was awarded his LVO (Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order) in 1969, 'for personal Royal Flight planning services to Her Majesty'.*





The OSR Committee L to R:  
Jim Haines, Joy Michael,  
Doug Newham (Chairman),  
June Cray, Pat Hardiman,  
Gwen Munday, Ray Harris,  
(Treasurer).

Doug was very humble about what he had accomplished, always recognising the immense good fortune which he had enjoyed. A memorial Service was held at Caldbeck, Cumbria on 11th April, to commemorate and "celebrate the wonderful life that I have been so privileged to enjoy".

*Paul Stancliffe*

## *farewell* TO ADIE

In March we said goodbye to our chatty, friendly postman and he was delighted with the efforts that everyone went to in the village to say farewell. To express his gratitude he wrote the following to us all:

*To Everyone Concerned,*

*I would like to thank you all for the love received on my last week as your Postie. I was overwhelmed and very emotional with your kindness and generosity. Sadly, I am having to change roles in Royal Mail. I have loved the delivery to the village and getting to know all. It really has been a pleasure.*

*A Real Big Thank You All.*

*Adie*





# *the* CROWN INN



*April with your changing of seasons occurring in a single day, how we love you.*

*We have now been here three very odd years indeed, with pub life ending up nothing like we had expected it to be, with only one Sydenham Fayre too.*

*So, it's hopefully a busy month here at the pub with Easter to start it all off. We open at 4pm on Good Friday and continue with usual trading hours, we have decided not to open on Easter Monday this year.*

*Aunt Sally should commence on Friday evenings at the end of the month which is something to really look forward to. And we have our Boxing Day Quiz on St Georges day 23rd April, which is already full.*

*A little change from the norm, we have got a golf day planned. It is currently booked for the 19th May, so if you fancy joining in then please do pop in for a pint and see Pete for more info.*

*Sydenham loves a quiz...and so do we! So, we are planning another one for mid-June, but as of yet have not arranged a date, so watch this space.*

*Then of course, the Platinum Jubilee weekend is fast looming too. We are conscious that many will be making plans, potentially catching up with friends and family or heading off somewhere, so we are looking for ideas of what you all would like from your little village pub...come and have a chat with us.*

*A great big thanks to everyone for all your valued support, we hope to see you soon.*

*Tina, Pete & Sparky* ~





# VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

## DOMESTIC DRAIN SERVICES

Proprietor: Dennis Cook  
Est. 1979

# BLOCKED DRAINS?

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS SINCE 1979

BLOCKED DRAINS CLEARED

REASONABLE RATES

CCTV DRAIN SURVEYS

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR EVENING, WEEKEND OR BANK HOLIDAY CALLOUTS

FULL PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

## CALL US DAY OR NIGHT

**24/7  
CALLOUT  
SERVICE**

**07850 635 844** 01296 624 221 (MESSAGES)



### The Crown Inn

Sydenham Road

Sydenham

Oxfordshire OX39 4NB

Tel: 01844 351634 /

07817 593022

Email: thecrown.

sydenham@gmail.com



### Opening Hours

*Monday - closed*

*Tuesday - Friday 4pm until late*

*Food from 6pm until 8.30pm*

*Saturday - Midday until late*

*Food from Midday until 3pm, then 6pm to 8.30pm*

*Sunday - Midday until 5pm*

*Food from Midday until 3pm*





Waterperry  
Gardens

## Spring at Waterperry

Waterperry Gardens – eight acres of spectacular ornamental gardens with a fascinating history and one of the country's finest herbaceous borders – blooming with Lupins and Alliums at this time of year. There is a Plant Centre, Garden Shop, Gift Barn, Gallery, Rural Life Museum and Teashop.

There are year-round events at Waterperry from theatre productions & opera in the Amphitheatre, art festivals to children's events in the holidays & festive Christmas markets. Visit [waterperrygardens.co.uk](http://waterperrygardens.co.uk) for more details.

Did you know it is now possible to hire out individual rooms or even the whole of Waterperry house for meetings and events in the lovely grade II listed Georgian building? For more info visit [waterperryhouse.com](http://waterperryhouse.com)

**Waterperry Gardens, Waterperry, Near Wheatley, Oxfordshire OX33 1LA**

## FANCY ADVERTISING WITH US?

Raise awareness of your business and get your message out to the many homes in Sydenham, Emmington and Chalford from as little as £20 for a half page advert.

Sydenham Newsletter is an integral part of our community and is read cover to cover and often kept as a reference for many years too! So, we also welcome editorial copy and images.

Please contact Fiona Kermack at [fiona.patrick1@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona.patrick1@btinternet.com) for more information.





# Waterperry GARDENS

Eight acres of beautifully landscaped ornamental gardens, Plant Centre, Art Gallery, Museum and Teashop offering home-baked lunches and some of the best cakes in the county!

Inspirational at any time of year but even more so in the spring when life returns with a vengeance, it really is the perfect time to visit the gardens. Pat Havers, Head Gardener says "this is her favourite time of the year. A month of promise, there is an energy to gardens and the Gardeners!"

For a spot of retail therapy, visit our walled garden plant centre for an outstanding range of quality shrubs and herbaceous plants to bring lasting colour and interest to your garden. Our Gift Barn has a wonderful range of gifts for the home and garden and the Gallery specialises in affordable pieces by British artists.

No visit to Waterperry is complete without sampling some of our locally-sourced and home baked food in the Teashop – from sumptuous salads and tarts to afternoon teas, cakes and patisserie.

Waterperry's a great place for the kids to let off steam – and our Museum of Rural Life will keep the busiest of minds occupied!

OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 10 TO 5.30PM.  
CALL US ON 01844 339254 OR VISIT  
[WWW.WATERPERRYGARDENS.CO.UK](http://WWW.WATERPERRYGARDENS.CO.UK) FOR  
MORE INFORMATION ON ALL OUR EVENTS.



Waterperry  
Gardens



# *the* INN AT EMMINGTON



Firstly, some sad news to report from The Inn when a few weeks ago, one Saturday morning, we learnt of the sudden passing of one of our regulars Mick 'Bondy' Schneider who died suddenly in his sleep at the age of only 49. Mick was a character - loud, sometimes annoying, often brash but extremely generous and kind once you got to know him. He was always on hand to help out with something and I have listed a few examples that spring to mind.

2 years ago in July when we looked to reopen after the first lockdown and were messing about with all those one way systems, Mick arrived unprompted the day before we opened with a wooden arrow template he had constructed and an industrial can of spray paint to create a one way system from the entrance to the pub across the lawn. During last year's Euro Football tournament he felt the TV we had was too small and loaned us his 'spare TV' which was twice the size of our normal TV for the month - he was proud of that TV and would demonstrate it's features to anybody who would listen and plenty that wouldn't!!

Just last month on the eve of the storm that hit Sydenham, Mick realised our outside shelter was in danger of taking off and raced off to get sandbags, scaffold boards and metal poles to fasten the roof and sides down which worked a treat saving us a lot of hassle and money. Always willing to help, always willing to give up his time, Mick will be greatly missed by all the staff and regulars at The Inn and our thoughts go out to his partner Linda and all his family - RIP Bondy.

The week after the last newsletter, Storm Eunice was forecast to hit the South of England on Friday afternoon and sure enough as the winds whipped up the trees and power lines came down. Despite a couple of flickers, the power thankfully stayed on at this end of the village although we did have an open plan garden looking out onto the Thame road as the entire garden fence came crashing down - guess who helped fix that back up on the Sunday morning? Fencing was another of Mick's talents and anybody who came in that Sunday got a tour of the new construction! Being the only pub with power between Sydenham and Aston Rowant we were in high demand - on Friday night people dined and drank whilst charging mobile phones and filling flasks with hot water. Surely, the power would be back on by Saturday but alas, no chance - if only Southern Electric had a 'Mick' employed it would have been fixed immediately, photographed and discussed at length! So by Saturday afternoon with our lights still burning brightly we were able to step in and host Jo and Keith's wedding reception at



The Inn - food, live music and dancing - so lucky that 'I got the power' and they were able to be 'Together in Electric Dreams'.

On March 31st, we celebrated 5 years at The Inn and at the time of going to press we were looking forward to partying away to the sounds of local Chinnor Group MFU who were postponed from December last year due to high Covid levels - thank goodness that's all disappeared!!!! Well, from the news anyway! But seriously, a huge thank you to everybody who has supported us over the past 5 years we have been at The Inn and living in Sydenham - as a family, as part of the community and as a business, we have felt welcomed and appreciated, so thank you.

Over the Spring months, our opening hours will remain as they are currently, namely:

**Monday** - 4pm to 11pm  
**Tuesday** - 4pm to 11pm  
**Wednesday** - 12 noon to 11pm  
**Thursday** - 12 noon to 11pm

**Friday** - 12 noon to 11pm  
**Saturday** - 12 noon to 11pm  
**Sunday** - 12 noon to 6pm

We serve food between 12 noon and 2.30pm when open for lunch and again from 5.30pm in the evenings apart from on Saturdays when we serve food all day. During lunchtimes, we run our lunchtime snack menu featuring sandwiches, paninis and jacket potatoes as well as our full main menu and offer traditional Sunday Roasts every Sunday. Our website contains a sample menu as well as details of our daily food offers. We are still offering takeaways when pre booked on any night of the week so if you'd rather stay in with Netflix and a bottle of Blue Nun or are stuck at home self isolating again, give us a call on 01844 351367 to place your food order.

If you like your beer then we feature in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide for 2022 and offer 3 changing local real ales as well as 4 real scrumpy ciders and the usual selection of lagers. We have Happy Hour on Mondays and Tuesdays 4pm to 5pm and Wednesdays and Thursdays 3pm to 5pm when all pints are served at £3.50.

With plenty of outside space, a large garden, children's menu and a dog friendly pub there is something for everybody. So if you've just moved to Sydenham or haven't been down for a while come and pay us a visit – remember The Inn is for life, not just for power cuts!!

Here's to the next 5 years and many more adventures.

*David, Sharon, Alice, Ed and Pickles xx*



# THE INN AT EMMINGTON

PUB & RESTAURANT  
LARGE BEER GARDEN  
BED & BREAKFAST  
01844 351367

Large spacious garden  
Bookable covered dining and seating area



## OPEN

Monday and Tuesday 4pm-11pm  
Wednesday-Saturday 12noon-11pm  
Sunday 12 noon-6pm

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2021  
3 changing real ales and scrumpy ciders  
Car parking - Dog friendly pub  
Ground floor bedrooms



Al fresco covered dining  
Daily food offers and specials  
Takeaways available

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