



QUEEN ELIZABETH II
1926-2022



sydenham
NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

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hello AND WELCOME

“

Move over Summer...

Move over Summer... What a Summer it was! And just as we were finalising the details the news came in of the very sad death of the Queen. What an amazing life, incredible inspiration and thank you for your continued service to our nation and the world. Rest in peace your Majesty.

Let's face it the Summer gave us everything from the stifling heat, to the more recent thunderstorms.

It also meant that despite best intentions, there was limited news to share. So it feels right that as we move into September to get another edition of the newsletter out.

From a family perspective, we were super lucky in our house to have tickets to the Women's Football Euro Finals. Bought on a whim, well over a year ago with no idea whether England would make it to the final – what an absolute honour to be able to experience that occasion at Wembley. And this was closely followed on a few days later, when we were at the Commonwealth Games experiencing several iconic Athletic Finals events including the 100m and the 10km. Both were an absolute inspiration!

Hope you all managed to have a wonderful time over the Summer and create lovely memories.

There were equal celebrations across the village. Including the lovely Children's and Pet Service in the middle of August through to multiple celebrations with the WI and more. Looking forwards the Parish Council have continued to support the tidying of both the Jays and Sewells Lane. Both projects have involved many people volunteering and giving up their time to get them ready for the Winter. This is particularly important as it is then when they have traditionally both been fairly impassable (unless you are possibly wearing waders!). Thank you to all those involved.

There is also some positive news on the fibre broadband project for the main part of the village after what sounds like a lot of persistence and perseverance.

Massive congratulations to Jonny, Matty and Lizzie for getting their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards and having the opportunity to receive them at Buckingham Palace. An amazing achievement and there is a lovely account of it from proud parents Phil and Sue. And if you were up early on the 8th August (I was running through the village at the time), then you may have had a glimpse of a hot air balloon slowly drifting across the blue skies. It ended up landing just behind Sewells Lane.

Looking towards events moving forwards, there is plans afoot to have a good old, traditional village quiz. One just like we used to have. This is planned for the 24th September in the OSR. More details will be released shortly, but do remember to save the date. Moving into October, there will be the joys of Harvest Festival on the 2nd October and an Evening of Song on the 15th October.

The next newsletter will be a year since having the new format, so it feels appropriate to make it a Halloween edition. So, if you have any news, thoughts, upcoming dates or anything else you think may be of interested we would love to hear from you.

Please send it to myself at rachel@curvemarketing.net by Friday 14th October. Thank you.

Rachel 

church NEWS

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 18th - 6pm BCP Evensong Mark

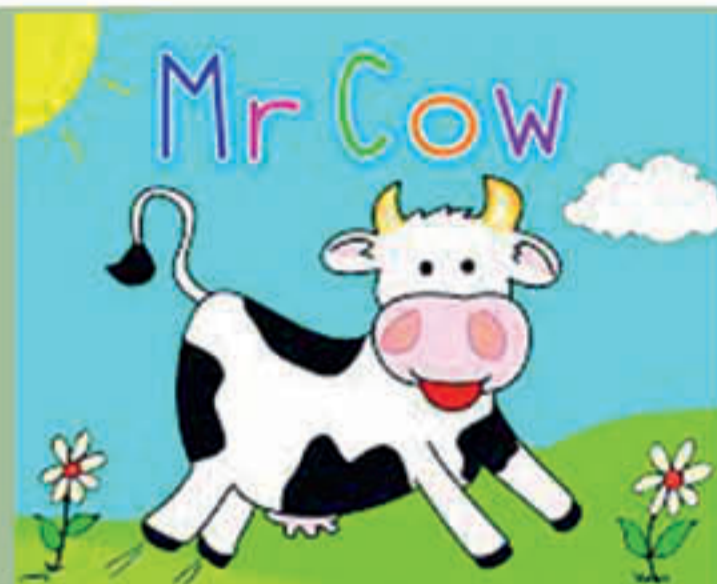
OCTOBER

Sunday 2nd - Harvest Festival

Thursday Mornings at St Andrew's

**Mid-Week Holy Communion is back!
And on Thursdays (not Wednesdays)**

Every Thursday morning at St Andrew's Church:



10am Holy Communion

A quiet, reflective service with no sermon or hymns. A time to focus fully on the gift of Holy Communion and enter the mystery of the Sacrament. This will be followed by tea, coffee, biscuits, and a natter from 10.45 to 11.30.

11.30am Starboddlers (Resumes 22nd September)

This is a fun and action packed session for babies, toddlers and their carers. We use actions to tell Bible stories, we sing songs (we are sure Mr Cow will be a firm favourite again), we say a prayer, we ring the church bell. It's a friendly welcoming space to meet other families.

OUR CHILDREN'S AND PET SERVICE

Despite the hot weather in mid-August, St Mary's provided a cool respite with plentiful water bowls and cold towels at the ready.

The short but busy service attracted a good number of attendees. The animals, numbering 14 dogs and 1 hamster as well as a selection of toy animals responded well to the invitation to bring along their humans - 32 adults and 12 young adults and children.



The Choir sang Bless the Lord, a jolly song about a plethora of badgers, warthogs, hedgehogs and godwits. Chris Hood boomed out Mud Mud Glorious Mud and fish, kangaroos and worms wiggled, hopped and squirmed in the rendition of 'If I were a Butterfly'. Old McDonald got an airing too.

Mila, Matilda, Stanley and Gilly recited poems, drawings were pinned on the board and Gilly told us about wildlife in the churchyard.

It was all great fun in inimitable Sydenham style watched over by the patron saint of animals, Francis of Assisi.

Fi Kermack



**Friends of St. Andrew's Church
Present
"THE PAINTINGS IN ST ANDREW'S
CHURCH, CHINNOR, AND THE
PAINTER"**

**An Illustrated Talk by
MARGARET PEACH**



Saturday 17th September 7:30pm

St Andrew's Church

Church Lane

Chinnor OX39 4QU

Donation £10 per person

Friends £5 per person (Cash Only)

(including Drinks and Nibbles)

**For further details and tickets: Phone Laretta on
(01844) 355290**

ST MARY'S SYDENHAM FAMILY HARVEST SERVICE

SUNDAY

2nd October

4pm

Come and celebrate Harvest with all the family. Refreshments in the OSR afterwards. Please bring, if you can, offerings for Harvest and a small plate of food/biscuits to share.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU.



chinnor VILLAGE CENTRE



CHINNOR CENTRE DAY CARE ACTIVITIES

The Friendship Club Managers Rowen and Emily have put together an exciting programme for the autumn and winter. This includes: Art Therapy; Hands on Heritage; the talking libraries; music therapy; seated yoga and relaxation; and falls prevention workshops. Grant funding from South Oxford District Council has enabled the Stroke Club to run a coordinated programme, 'living well after a stroke'. Outside experts will be brought in to lead sessions including, maintaining physical and psychological health and wellbeing; and financial planning. An added bonus is that CVC has a mini bus that can pick up from Thame and Chinnor and surrounding villages to enable those without easy access to transport or mobility difficulties to attend.

The Parkinson Support Club with outside facilitator runs every other Tuesday and continues to flourish.

Another new group to look out for is the Board Game Friendship Club incorporating Cribbage, Chess, Dominos, Ludo, Connect, card games, Monopoly, Scrabble. Other suggestions are welcome. We are also seeking volunteers to assist.

Please contact the centre for more info or to register your interest in attending any of these events either admin@chinnorvillagecentre.org or daycare@chinnorvillagecentre.org telephone 01844 353733 and ask for the Friendship Club Manager.

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS...

Swish have visited the centre on several occasions and on 18 July attended the **Forget Me Knot Café** to meet the volunteers and attendees and they distributed Swish Branded Water bottles. They are offering valued sponsorship to the centre which will fund a more efficient extractor fan for the kitchen and not only will this remove the stale kitchen smells, the new fan will be much quieter.

OPEN FORUM

The next open forum is on Wednesday 21 September at 7.30 pm Do please come along as this is your opportunity to meet the team of trustees and staff, to find out more about future plans and to offer your ideas and suggestions.

WHEN PLANNING MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS - WHY NOT THINK CHINNOR VILLAGE CENTRE?

The CVC is a 'not for profit' organisation with a range of facilities available for hire. Where else are there well-equipped and comfortable rooms with fast WI-FI connection and refreshments, all at competitive prices?

There are three rooms available during the day, in the evenings and weekends.

- Chiltern Room, at the rear of the building, suitable for business meetings as there is a projector and screen, this room can also be used for private groups such as training or social groups.
- Games Room appropriate for any occasion
- Therapy Room which is a small private room, with a sofa, chairs and a sink. This is particularly suitable for individuals such as beauticians, councillors or if for anyone who just needs a quiet space to work.

Many groups already make good use of these spaces for example, the newly formed Chinnor Rotary have started to meet once a month in the coffee shop on a Saturday morning; the u3a Special Interest Groups e.g., Archaeology & Geology meet on 4th Monday of the month and u3a members meet for a coffee morning every 2nd Friday. Knit and Stich and Age UK and other local businesses hire out rooms for training and seminars. For further information on room bookings and rates please contact the centre admin@chinnorvillagecentre.org or telephone **01844 353733**.

We believe that no one should feel alone in our community and the CVC clubs and facilities are for everyone so we hope to see you soon. This is your Village Centre and you can help to ensure it remains sustainable, accessible, solvent and responsive by dropping in for breakfast, coffee or lunch, joining a club, becoming a volunteer, attending the open forum and offering your ideas to help us to shape the future.

We are always open to new ideas and so if you have any ideas, please let us know by posting your thoughts in the suggestion box.

www.chinnorvillagecentre.org

info@chinnorvillagecentre.org

www.facebook.com/chinnorvillagecentre



THE JAYS FOOTPATH

The Jays footpath has had the vegetation cleared with more hardcore being placed at the top end by Paul Grafham and his team. Huge thanks to Garth Weston and also to Jon Quesnal in particular for cutting the path and the small but hardworking members of Potts Posy for clearing out the ditch so the water can get away. Hopefully this will mean that the footpath can be used throughout the winter as last year.



SEWELLS LANE

Paul Grafham and his team have also done upgrade works and will also be laying some hardcore on a short section of Sewells Lane which gets particularly muddy and we are planning to cut back the vegetation in the next few weeks in preparation for winter.



RUN OUT OF MEDICATION?

Ever get that problem? 'Visit NHS 111 Online'. With GPs and our 111 call service across the region recently being under pressure from increasing numbers of patients, and we are being encouraged to promote 111 online services and to make people aware they can collect medicine from their local pharmacy.

NHS

Run out of your regular medication?

Request a limited emergency supply online at 111.nhs.uk to collect from a pharmacy.

Your health matters
Help us help you

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Make sure your blanket is safe to use this winter.

JOIN US and bring a friend
for free refreshments and information
about keeping safe and well.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Monday	19th	Oxford City
Tuesday	20th	South Oxfordshire
Wednesday	21st	Cherwell
Thursday	22nd	West Oxfordshire
Friday	23rd	Vale of White Horse

Collections from your house if you
can't get to us:

3 – 7 OCTOBER 2022

FREE

BOOKING INFORMATION:

To book your safety check appointment call **01865 895999 Option 3**
or email: duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk

(Pre-booked appointments only on a strictly first come first served basis)



parish COUNCIL INSIGHTS cont.

OPENREACH ULTRAFAST FIBRE BROADBAND PROJECT

There have been a number of difficulties with Openreach and their contractors (particularly in relation to underground works for ducting) in delivering the fibre broadband to the Crown and Stert Ends of the village. There has been no real progress for some months even with our constant badgering.

Recently we elevated the problems to Openreach's CEO and seem to now have some action and commitments. The ducting/underground works will be completed between the 8th and 12th September, this will require some works in the highway and some of this will need to be controlled by traffic lights, but no road closure is required. The fibre installation will be completed by 16th September and the scheme tested by 20th September.

Everyone who wants to in the village should be able to sign up to ultra-fast broadband within a couple of weeks after that, when the final administration has been completed. We will keep you posted.

Let's hope they deliver this time!!!!

ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

Oxfordshire County Council Trading Standards are carrying out free testing of electric blankets during September and October this year and bookings are now open.

They are trying to reach as many people as possible who may use electric blankets or have them stored in the back of their cupboards.

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!

philip CAME TO ME today BY JOANNE BOYLE

*Phillip came to me today,
and said it was time to go.
I looked at him and smiled,
as I whispered that "I know".*

*I then turned and looked
behind me, and seen I was
asleep. All my Family were
around me, and I could hear
them weep.*

*I gently touched each
shoulder, with Phillip by my
side. Then I turned away and
walked, with My Angel guide.*

*Phillip held my hand, as
he lead the way, to a world
where King's and Queens,
are Monarch's every day.*

*I was given a crown to wear
or a Halo known by some.
The difference is up here,
they are worn by everyone.*

*I felt a sense of peace,
my reign had seen its end.
70 years I had served my
Country, as the peoples friend.*



*Thank you for the years, for
all your time and love. Now I
am one of two again, in our
Palace up above.*



Waterperry Gardens

September & October at Waterperry

Visit our gardens to see our famous herbaceous border in all its late summer glory as it bursts back into life with a beautiful display of Michaelmas Daisies (Asters). This is also the time of year to start thinking about bulb planting for that glorious show of colour we all look forward to in the spring. Waterperry starts the planting season in style with an extensive variety of plants, seeds and bulbs available.

Waterperry House Open Weekend – Sat 3 & Sun 4 September: A chance to meet the owners of Waterperry Estate, the *School of Philosophy and Economic Science*. There will be a varied selection of lectures, talks and tours throughout the weekend from 10am till 4pm. There will also be opportunities to have guided tours of the Frescoes, other areas of the house and the ice house throughout the day. **Entry to the house will be included in your garden entry for this special weekend.**

The gardens are open in aid of the National Garden Scheme on Sun 18 September.

Apple Weekend: Sat 8 & Sun 9 October As the season moves into autumn, apples are at the forefront of our Orchard Manager's mind. Come along to Waterperry's Apple Weekend on 8 & 9 October, a great family day out where you will be able to sample and buy many of our different types of juices. Advice and information will be freely available on the day with tours of the orchards, food and gift stalls and fun for the children in the gardens.

Halloween Hunt in the Gardens: 15 – 30 Oct Complete the Halloween hunt in the ornamental gardens and win a prize! £2.50 per child, children must be accompanied by an adult for whom the garden entrance fee applies.

For more information please visit www.waterperrygardens.co.uk

planning IN SYDENHAM

P22/S1766/HH

18 Holliers Close, Sydenham OX39 4NG.

Proposed first floor extension with associated external works.

SODC decision - planning permission **granted**.

P22/S2339/HH

Wheatsheaf Barn, Sydenham Road, Sydenham OX39 4LR.

Parish Council response - **no objection**.

AN EVENING OF SONG & FUN! **SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2022** **7.30PM ST MARY'S CHURCH, SYDENHAM**

FEATURING A WIDE SELECTION OF MUSIC, SONGS AND SKITS WITH SOME SPECIAL GUESTS

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sydenham WOMENS INSTITUTE



GARDEN PARTY AND WALK

What a truly lovely evening was spent at our Summer Garden party in July.

The camaraderie, lovely setting complete with a bean tree celebrating Gilly's birthday, balmy but not too hot weather not to mention the table of delicious food and strawberry prosecco reminded us all of why the Sydenham WI is so special.

Thank you to all the hard working committee for organising it and to Jane and Paul Rooksby for opening their garden to us all.

Then in August, the footpaths around Sydenham resounded with happy chats during our walk. Thankfully The Crown, scheduled as the last stop, provided thirst quenching refreshments and a warm welcome.

Come and join us!

Fi Kermack 



out AND ABOUT



GOING FOR GOLD

Lizzie and Jonny went to Buckingham Palace on Monday 16th May to celebrate achieving their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award. They could each take one person with them and so proud parents Sue and Phil went with them as guests.

It was a lovely occasion and had many celebrity speakers like Ben Fogle, Johannes Radebe, Nina Wadia and others as well as the Earl of Wessex addressing all Gold awardees.

The cup cakes and tea were very welcome and the weather held for the event in the Palace gardens. A great day out!

Unfortunately, Matty couldn't attend this ceremony as he had an exam at Cardiff University, it would have been lovely, and very unusual, to have had all three Archers



celebrating their awards at the same time, but Matty will get another invitation for a future event.

We counted at least 13 Lord Williams's students there so a good level of representation for the school and their volunteers running the D of E scheme.

Phil and Sue Archer



out **AND ABOUT** cont.

EARLY MORNING VISITORS

As we lay in bed at 7.30am on 8th August there were noises of a very close hot air balloon, and on drawing the curtains we were greeted with the sight of 14 visitors floating past the house before landing just to the right of Sewell's Lane.

They had taken off from Little Hartwell near Aylesbury (not Essex!) at 6.30 and been blown to Sydenham by a gentle easterly wind. What an interesting start to the day.

Paul and Adele Stancliffe

200 CLUB

Thank you to all the 236 subscribers for your continued support. Thank you also to Landlord Dave at The Inn at Emmington allowing us to do the monthly Draw and thanks to the team of Buster, Ray, Leon and Ian for doing the numbers.

July - Toby Britton, Jeff Ludgate, Kieran Roche, Sarah Dawson, Jane Rooksby, Kathleen Randall, Jon Church & Cyndy Thomas.

August - Mark Kermack, Roger Dean, Tina Sexton, Sarah Dawson, Jim Kendall, Kate Stewart, Mark Oliver & Dave Wilkins.

September - Amanda Grosvenor, Alison Wilkins, John Grosvenor, John Wilson, Rachel Blake, Ray Barrett, John Wilson & Rebecca Smith.

Please continue the support.

Roy Harrison

SAVE THE DATE



VILLAGE QUIZ: SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER FROM 7PM, OSR

Fed up with doom and gloom of the news? Come along to the village quiz on 24th September in the Old School Rooms for an evening of fun (and free heating!).

Bring your own booze and food, and be ready to quiz from 7pm onwards with your quiz host Red Barrington. Entry is £5 per person and a maximum of 6 in a team, with a cash prize for the winners. Any profits will be donated to the Trussell Trust, who certainly need our support more now than ever.

Booking is essential as we have limited spaces!

To book your team, please email sydenham.fayre.june@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing you there!

FAREWELL AND CONDOLENCES TO A SPECIAL GUY - GEORGE BOYTER

Artist, teacher, and a kind, wonderful friend.

Many of you will have known George. Perhaps eating with his late wife Mancy or drinking with his friends and family in one of our two pubs. He lived locally in both Postcombe and Aston Rowant.

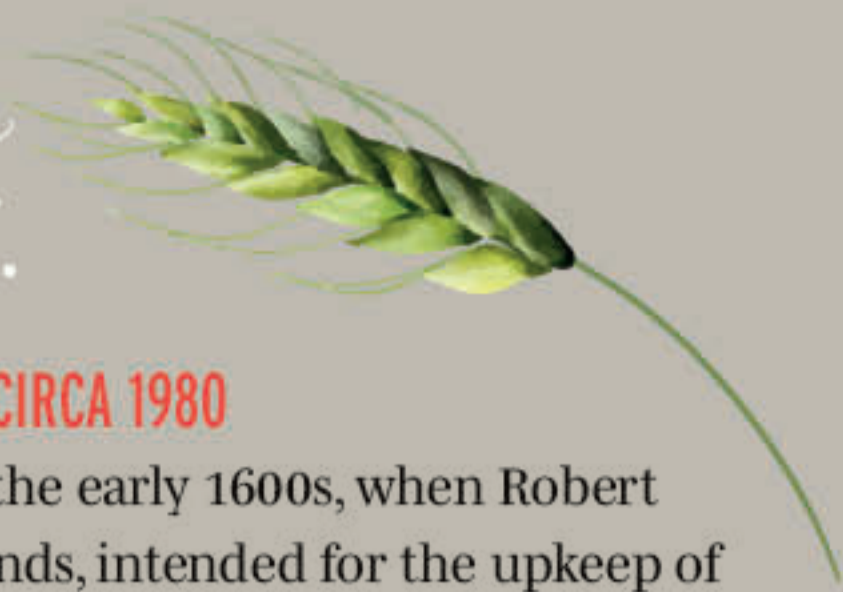
George led regular art classes in the OST for a number of years, teaching various artistic skills to a group of local ladies. At a special WI evening many members were invited to draw likeness portraits of fellow members!

In January, George suffered a severe stroke from which he has not recovered and he sadly passed earlier this month. Our thoughts go out to his three grown up children – May, Fran and Fin and other members of his family. He is now reunited with his lovely wife Mandy who died in 2019. God bless a true Gentleman and friend of many.



Gilly & Roy x

out **AND ABOUT** cont.



A LITTLE BIT OF SYDENHAM HISTORY WRITTEN BY JUNE CRAY, CIRCA 1980

William Grendon, in 1374, was “outlawed for debt” and in the early 1600s, when Robert Coney was serving the parish, the revenue from church lands, intended for the upkeep of St. Mary’s, was misappropriated for a period of ten years. William Stevenson did rather well; though he was vicar of Bledlow he was made curate of Sydenham in 1677, and received a stipend of £20 a year.

He neglected the parish and the parishioners petitioned in 1711 for a replacement, a villager named Alfred Carpenter. He had a licence to preach but was not liked by everyone, for Martha Taylor charged him with “immorality” and subsequently paid damages for defamation. However, the vicar of Thame charged him with being “a heavy drinker, a common railer and sower of discord” and Carpenter was duly unfrocked.

A hundred years ago the need for a permanent parson was recognised for “the younger population were in an almost perfectly wild state, and it became almost dangerous for a stranger to pass through the village, nor could he do so without meeting with some extraordinary rudeness”. So the vicarage was established and Sydenham became a place of safety once more and soon after, in 1849, the school was opened.

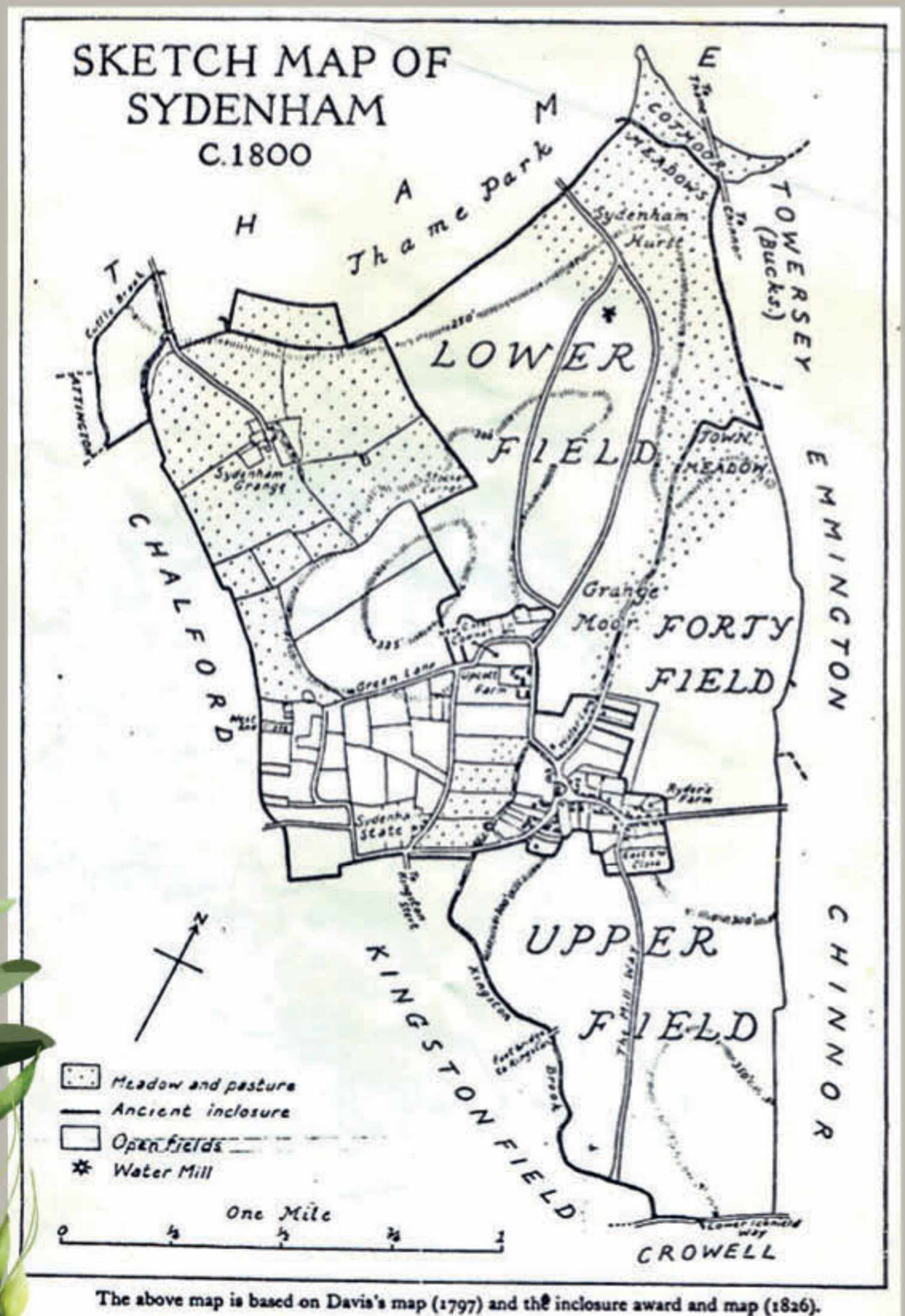
The village was growing. Though we were still very much a farming community, a number of rural craftsmen and traders were established and another census, in 1851, reveals there were six bricklayers, two shoe-makers, a blacksmith, a baker, a miller, three beer retailers and two publicans, at The Sun and The Four Horseshoes, a pub near the post office which lost its licence in 1912. Fortunately, The Sun is still there, an “ale-house” since at least 1642.

Just how the village grew is shown by the school which needed enlarging in 1886, “to take 100 children” and its door remained open for 99 years though teachers complained of “irregular attendance” through agricultural work and there were very few in class when the time for “acorn picking” came around.

Arthur King left the school when he was 12, as a ploughboy on Manor Farm with 15 other hands – ploughmen, cowmen, carters and daymen and shepherds. “*I used to walk to work, by oil lamp in the winter, and be back home again by seven for breakfast,*” says Arthur.

“It was hard work for two and sixpence a week (12.5p) and we had to walk everywhere. A pony and trap to take us to Thame or Chinnor was a luxury and I remember my mother spending hours and hours at lace-making to sell a bolt at the Thame auction for a couple of shillings. We were hard up but happy, we made our own fun and this was always a beautiful village, a lovely place to live.”

So it is today. Much has changed yet so much remains unaltered. Our daily lives stretch beyond its boundaries, in some cases thousands of miles beyond. But at the end of the day, with a mixture of gentle relief and great pleasure, it is lovely to come home to Sydenham.



The above map is based on Davis's map (1797) and the inclosure award and map (1826).



The CROWN INN

Well, what a fantastic summer this year has brought us, it has been so lovely seeing so many drinkers & diners enjoying the sunshine in the garden.

By the time you read this, the final Aunt Sally fixture will have been played. This year we welcomed a second team, The Carriers Arms. They've permanently relocated here meaning we have had a match at the pub every Friday throughout the summer. This is the first year in our tenure that every fixture has been a dry one! However, it is Friday 2nd as we write this, & it has just started raining.....

The Sydenham casual golf day (24th Aug) was very popular with a great attendance. The weather delivered once again and the BBQ Buffet and Beers were a great wind down in the evening back at The Crown. A very big thank you to Nick Potts for organising the day and to everyone in the village that have membership at Ellesborough Golf Club.

Sydenham Cricket Club will be having their annual blessing at St. Marys at 10am on the 11th September. This is an extra special year as they've had their best ever season. Be part of it and join them, at The Crown Inn at around 10:30am for brunch. Please contact Dan Bradley 07782 199974 or Email sydenhamcccaptain@gmail.com. Brunch is £15 Adults, £8 Children and includes unlimited hot drinks. Dan will need to know rough numbers so we can cater accordingly.

Back by popular demand will be our Halloween quiz on Saturday 29th October; Cheryl Belson will return as quiz host. The evening will include fancy dress prizes and a half time supper. Max team size is 6. Get your booking in as we have limited space.

We hope you all had a great summer, and now with us approaching the colder months, we ask that if you fancy eating here, could you please be mindful of the rising energy costs & pre-book with us where possible. With the current energy price and inflation hikes happening, our kitchen appliances will not be turned on to waste expensive precious fuel.

We thank everyone for your very valued custom here.

Tina, Pete & Sparky 



VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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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

Seven miles from the heart of historic Oxford lies Waterperry Gardens – 8 acres of beautiful ornamental gardens with a fascinating history. Established as a School of Horticulture for Ladies by Beatrix Havergal in 1932, it is now home to a quality plant centre housed in the Victorian walled garden, garden shop, art gallery, gift barn, museum and teashop.

The breath-taking gardens feature a 200-foot-long herbaceous border, formal knot and rose garden, colour and contemporary borders, a water-lily canal, riverside walk and herbaceous nursery stock beds that supply plants for the gardens.

The plant centre, housed within the ancient walled garden offers plant connoisseurs and budding amateurs alike the chance to buy unusual varieties of shrubs and herbaceous plants whilst our friendly and knowledgeable staff are always available to provide advice, information and inspiration. There's also a wide range of bedding, herbs and vegetable plants in season and the garden shop has a great range of garden sundries, tools, bulbs and seeds.

The five acres of historic orchards at Waterperry Gardens grow fifty different varieties of apple, many heritage, from which our delicious apple juices and ciders are produced and sold in both the garden shop and the teashop. Our apples are harvested by hand and juiced onsite using time-honoured methods.



Waterperry
Gardens

OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 10 TO 5.30PM.
(NOV-MARCH 10 TO 5PM)

CALL US ON 01844 339254 OR VISIT
WWW.WATERPERRYGARDENS.CO.UK FOR
MORE INFORMATION ON ALL OUR EVENTS.



The Gallery, featuring works from British Artists, the Gift Barn and Old Potting Shed offer beautiful, affordable and unusual gifts with the emphasis always on quality. There is also a small Rural Life Museum, a Saxon Church and a lovely teashop specialising in home baked lunches, patisserie and cakes – all cooked fresh on the premises each day using the best local, seasonal produce.

You will find a full programme of year-round events at Waterperry Gardens, from horticulturally themed weekends to theatre, opera and concert productions held in a stunning out-door Amphitheatre, and of course always something fun for the children to do in the holidays.

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
for more information.

the INN AT EMMINGTON

Since the last Jubilee newsletter, the Summer months seemed to have flown by and we are already now half way through September.

July and August saw sunshine, hot temperatures and a hosepipe ban. In fact, on the hottest day of the year, when the mercury topped 41 degrees, we hosted Long Crendon Table Tennis Club for their annual BBQ. Shade was the order of the day and by mid afternoon, most people had moved inside to get some respite from the blistering heat. The kitchen was certainly a little on the warm side and Alice found cooking on a BBQ perhaps not the ideal way to cool down! The event however was a huge success and we look forward to 2023's event. Several other local associations also held events with us over the Summer - Chinnor WI held 2 Aunt Sally get togethers with afternoon tea and the Chinnor Wine Circle held their annual social one Sunday afternoon also with an Aunt Sally contest and buffet. If you are a member of a local group or association and are looking to hold a social event or even just a place to meet, we would be happy to talk to you. We can offer buffets, afternoon tea and a separate area to sit and meet in.



The first weekend in September also saw us host our first ever 'Innfest' - we had live music in the garden from 2pm with 4 bands culminating in the magnificent hip swinging Working Dog and Bootlegger. As the live music stopped outside, the dancing moved inside with Thame's very own MC Lee spinning the discs and playing music videos in his own unique style. Fourteen real ales were available to sample (yes, I may have over ordered) as well as pork rolls and burgers from Plested butchers. Late afternoon, we also held a challenge Aunt Sally match against The Crown which took place in a cauldron atmosphere with hundreds of spectators pressing forwards. The Crown proved victorious with Jeff Ludgate hitting the winning doll.

We estimate about 200 people came at some point in the day including many of our regulars as well as a large Chinnor and Aston Rowant contingent. We will aim to repeat the event next year over the first weekend in September - we know some people are away then, but it would be nice to see other local people supporting events that not only us but other local businesses put on - use it or lose it as the saying goes!

As the Summer draws to a close, we have restarted our roast dinners on Sunday which we stop serving over the hot Summer months, Delicious roast rib of beef with all the trimmings plus our normal menu running alongside.

Although some time away, we have live music on Saturday November 12th in the shape of Dragonfly (formerly The Mutts Nutts) and will also be showing all the Football World Cup Games when the tournament kicks off at the end of November.

For those that aren't aware, we operate a happy hour 3pm to 5pm Monday to Thursday with all pints charged at £3.75 and we open for food Monday to Saturday evenings; and Friday, Saturday and Sunday lunchtimes with a different food offering each day running alongside our full menu - see our website for details.

Lastly, I wanted to thank our Aunt Sally team for fulfilling every fixture in what was a tightly packed season - traditions like that are so important for small independent pubs and the atmosphere and 'local ownership' is something the large national bars cannot replicate, so thank you particularly Paul Ridgley our captain and all those who volunteered to drive to away matches. We really need to add additional players for next season so if you fancy a try, come down and have a look at the game and put your name down for next year - our league plays Friday nights and its not serious, just a bit of fun!

As it's only September we won't mention Christmas just yet.....right.

I'm off to water the plants, oh wait it hasn't stopped raining since the hosepipe ban!

All the best

David, Sharon, Alice, Ed and Pickles xx



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