

REGENCY



ELEGANCE

# *A Pen from the Glen*

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL · SIDMOUTH



**W**elcome to our new issue of 'A Pen from the Glen'. We hope that our Glen friends and family, of whom you all are will enjoy keeping up to date with our current news. As we look forward to a New Year we can remind you of the variety of activities Sidmouth and East Devon has to offer, your favourite places and staying at the Royal Glen where you have told us, 'its like coming home'. Visitors feed back continues to be the best way to move forward and improve, at the same time, we try to keep what makes the Glen slightly quirky, historical and unique. Thank you all for your support encouraging us to keep this small part of English heritage open to all. To our first time visitors our newsletter may give you an insight into our "small treasure" as described by a guest on trip advisor. We look forward to welcoming you all.

## **2012 A YEAR FOR THE UNION JACK**

First of all we celebrated flying our flags for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and then the Olympics and Para Olympics. Of course it is with great pride that we celebrate all that is Royal having been the residence of the young Princess Victoria and her parents the Duke and Duchess of Kent for a short time over Christmas 1819. The front elevation looked very smart in all its newly refurbished render showing off our winter work of repairing all the front windows. The south door was opened up enabling guests to walk out onto the lawn directly from the public rooms.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee was celebrated over the weekend with special offers of aromatherapy in our therapy room, an afternoon tea on the lawn, watching the Royal





Pageant on the Thames in our regency drawing room on the large screen and a champagne dinner. Guest Mrs White of Leeds won our prize draw of a commemorative china Royal Worcester mug, purchased from "Govier's of Sidmouth" established 1904, who send china all over the world. The weekend finished with a classic car rally at the Fortfield hosted by Sidmouth Cricket Club and which our own 1935 Morris 8 Open Tourer participated.

## THE OLYMPICS

In Sidmouth we were lucky enough to have the Olympic torch pass close by twice. Firstly in Exeter on its way from Lands End, and nearing the end of its route around Great Britain, at Lyme Regis. A highlight for us was celebrating with Mary King, silver medallist and her horse Imperial Cavalier as they paraded through the streets. Imperial Cavalier took it all in his stride as the crowd of well wishers cheered them. Mary trains and stables her horses locally.



## VISIT AWARD WINNING DEVON

**Exeter's The Royal Albert Museum** was crowned museum of the Year and awarded the 100,000 Art Fund prize for its redevelopment project. **Otter Brewery** based near Honiton has been chosen by the Good Pub Guide as Brewery of the Year for 2013 and we stock 3 of its beers. **Exeter University** is the Sunday Times University of the Year 2012. Since moving in to the Premier League our local team **Exeter Chiefs** continue to remain in the top half of the division. The Royal Glen is ideally situated for accommodation when spectating at Sandy Park.

**TASTE OF THE WEST** prestigious awards form the largest regional awards programme in the UK. Their aim is to showcase and recognise excellence in the food and drink industry in the South West. We are pleased to have been accepted as members, which enables us to use their expertise when looking for quality local



products. The awards have been instrumental in raising awareness of a new food and drink culture in South West England, which is now gaining a high reputation for its quality around the world.

## ROYAL GLEN SUPPORTS CHARITIES AND LOCAL EVENTS

We try to support local events and charities and these have included Folk Festival, Regatta, Rugby Club, Cricket, Croquet, Hockey and Tennis Club. Our **Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning** raised £232, a 2 day break worth £380 was auctioned at Blundell's School during a Devon Wooden Spoon dinner (a Children's Charity run by the R.F.U). Children's Hospice South West £300 and £250 to Polio World Global Eradication in memory of Orson Crane.

## FOLK FESTIVAL

It has been a successful year for the folk festival which was well attended and which enjoyed fine weather through the week. We were pleased to sponsor a concert at the Manor Pavilion featuring *'Finest Kind and Jackie Oates'* which we attended and thoroughly enjoyed. There were three concerts daily at the Ham Marquee, at Bulverton fun-filled roots mayhem and high energy dance parties were the order of the day. Whilst around the centre of the town in more intimate venues a wide range of styles could be found from vintage Scottish, Appalachian old-time, grass routes Americana, ceilidh bands, story telling, and workshops ranging from concertina to banjo, from eurodance to flamenco from spoons to ukulele, and not to forget the energetic Morris troupes. Dates for next year have been confirmed as 2nd-9th August, early bird tickets go on sale 17th December: [www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)



## COAT OF ARMS NEW COLOURS

During the renovation of the front elevation the coat of arms had an early coat of paint. Jerry the artist, on researching further found that the correct colours were slightly different. It certainly looks handsome on the newly renovated frontage.



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**Therapy Room**

**Power Massage**  
(Firm Pressure) Deep Muscle 1 hour **£35.00**

**Aromatherapy Massage with oils**  
(A Slow Light Pressure) 1 hour **£35.00**

**Back and Beyond**  
(Firm Pressure to the Back Area) 45 mins **£20.00**

**Hot Stone Massage**  
(Light Pressure - Slow Pace) 1 hour **£35.00**

**Indian Head Massage**  
(Sitting in a chair fully dressed, Gentle) 45 mins **£25.00**

**Leg and Foot Massage**  
(With reflexology moves on feet) 1 hour **£25.00**

Susan Melanie M.G.B.T. M.G.H.T.  
AA

favourite outings this year have included Haytor and Two Bridges on Dartmoor, and cycling several parts of the Exe Cycle path. Reception has much information about the surrounding area and we have personal experience of many of the areas and activities so please ask us for further information.



**THE THERAPY ROOM** introduced this season, has become popular with resident guests and locals, and clients have spoken highly of Susan who has extended the treatments on offer. Guests may receive a £5 voucher for those booking a treatment in advance with your reservation.

### FORTFIELD ANNUAL VENUE FOR DEVON GAME

We have reported on this game in the past, as we have a special interest in cricket with Josh Bess part of the Devon side, however we are pleased to announce that due to the excellent wicket and grounds that the 3 day event in August should be a permanent fixture on the Devon calendar (18, 19 and 20th August 2013). Cricket is played every day in August on the Fortfield. The Pavilion has a bar and tea room, and deckchairs can be hired around the grounds. A Hotel Pass may be obtained from reception.

### SIDMOUTH IN BLOOM

The Royal Glen received the silver gilt award in class hotels with medium gardens. Thank you to Michael, our gardener for his topical planting in red white and blue. **Connaught Gardens**- Highly acclaimed by our Guests who told us that enough was not made of the Connaught Gardens. They found the sunny setting, quiet retreats within, the beauty of the planting displays and the views of coast to the west and east a delight. The riverside walk **'The Byes'** has acquired even more areas allocated to wild fauna, trees and grasses, making it far more than a stroll (or cycle) by the river. Our



### ART IN SIDMOUTH

Exhibitions have been plenty and well advertised this year. Galleries include East Devon Art Academy, Azure and Ashleigh Bishop. Kennaway House and the Manor Pavilion Arts Centre hold both amateur and professional viewings. We went further afield to the Marle Gallery in Axminster to view the exhibition of 'Wood Engravers' touring the UK. We were delighted to view and purchase "Sidmouth Orne" by Pam Pebworth (now in the study). The Marle Gallery are pleased to announce they will be hosting the 75th annual exhibition from April 16th to 25th May, they are the only Gallery in the South West to do so.

### SAVE SIDMOUTH - THE MARCH

On Saturday 3rd November we took part in the march from Port Royal to the East Devon Council Offices, to object to them building on the precious green spaces at Knowle. The picture of the 4000 crowd even made it into the Daily Telegraph.



## ORSON GEOFFREY CRANE 1925-2012

It is with sadness and immense pride I write telling all of our return visitors who as part of our Royal Glen Family will join me in a moment to reflect on our happy memories of times spent with this 'gentleman' who enjoyed conversation and will be greatly missed all around the Glen and not least in the bar before dinner. Orson and Jean were invited to the Royal Glen in 1957 by his step-mother Jane to learn the business. With enthusiasm he took the hotel into the next 50 years adding private bathrooms, the restaurant, six bedrooms and the indoor pool.



*As we near the end of 2012, we are recharging our batteries and embarking on some redecoration in the public areas, 3 new bathrooms and necessary repair work in the swimming pool area. Reception will be open 9 - 1 during December and 9 - 4pm in January and February, at other times the telephone will be redirected to Vivienne or I, or should you reach the answer machine, please leave your message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Of course on line booking will be available, however we know that the majority of our return Guests like to reserve particular rooms, and we like to make sure that first time Guests' needs and requirements are matched with individual rooms. Our 2013 tariff follows with information on special breaks and offers. Our website is regularly updated with events, late vacancies and special date offers. If you have not received your newsletter by email and wish to be on the email listing please let us know. You can also like us on Facebook.*

*We send Season's Greetings with Best Wishes from myself, Hilary Caldwell, Vivienne Bess, Jean Crane and all the staff. We look forward to hearing from you and to making your booking for you.*

### TARIFF 2013 : SPECIALS

**Early Bird Reservations:** Make your booking in January and receive a complementary cream tea per person.

**Upgrade Break** from Tuesday 26th February until 2nd March inc. October 20 - 26th.

**Winter Warmers & Christmas Shopping Special** from Sundays in March and 27th October & 3rd November.

**Half Term Holidays.** Children Age 15 and under sharing with 2 adults Bed and Breakfast includes children's evening meal of daily roast, fruit juice and ice cream. Half tariff for children 15 and under in own room.

**Activity Breaks** tailored for your interest, and available at times using local events, if you want help planning your visit or wish to take part in an organised or escorted event please telephone reception who can send details or look on our website for further details of these. These will include Jurassic, History days, Science, Golf, Cricket, Rugby and Escorted walks.

**Group Rates** are available in March, April, May and October and best prices are dependant on minimum numbers, weekend or weekdays. We can cater from 20 to 55 approximately and welcome bridge players, walkers. History enthusiasts, golfers (4 courses within 10 miles), cricketers or family gatherings to name but a few. We do not accept large coach companies. Group booking of 10 or more may wish to enjoy Sunday Lunch from £10.50 per person, advance booking necessary.

*Selected Rooms on particular dates 2 for 1. This special deal is restricted to specific dates, specific rooms and is limited.*

You can 'LIKE us' on **Facebook** and be entered into our prize draw of 2 nights B&B, for 2.

### TARIFF 2013

#### FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> - APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

*Prices per person per night*

	Superior	Standard	Selected
5 Day Break (DB&B)	£70.00	£65.00	£60.00
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£80.00	£75.00	£70.00
Daily (DB&B)	£85.00	£80.00	£73.00
Daily (B&B)	£60.00	£55.00	£48.00

**Winter Special March 2013 & Christmas Shopping Special Oct 27<sup>th</sup> & Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - Arrive Sunday, depart Friday: 5 nights at the price of 4. D,B&B Superior £318.00, Standard £290.00, Selected £270.00 per person. Join our email listing for up to date news.**

#### APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> & SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>

*Prices in brackets are per person per night*

	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly (DB&B)	£565	£535	£505
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£261 (£87)	£243 (£81)	£225 (£75)
Daily (DB&B)	£93	£87	£82
Daily (B&B)	£68	£62	£57

### SUMMER TARIFF

#### JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> - SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>

*Prices in brackets are per person per night*

	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly* (DB&B)	£595	£565	£510
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£279 (£93)	£255 (£85)	£240 (£80)
Daily (DB&B)	£98	£90	£85
Daily (B&B)	£73	£65	£60

\* Saving 13% or more

**All terms are per person inclusive of VAT at 20%**



★★★

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