

REGENCY



ELEGANCE

A Pen from the Glen

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL • SIDMOUTH



The 'Pen From The Glen' time has come around once again; as we look back on the variety of activities that have taken place in and around the area, and share with those of our visitors who know only too well what a great place it is and to give those of you who are thinking of visiting Sidmouth; exploring East Devon for the first time, an insight in to what is on offer.

Spring was a bit hesitant to start after a rather wet winter like the rest of the country. We experienced one heavy storm as high tide and high winds battled it out, quite spectacular viewed from a safe place. This is when we are lucky to be just off the seafront tucked up in our dell 'the Glen'. The summer brought with it a beautifully long, warm and dry spell, and September saw an enjoyable 'Indian Summer' into October.



Sidmouth Esplanade during a heavy storm





FOLK FESTIVAL

What a great week it was; opening with a pre festival concert by Ralph McTell to a packed audience. The Royal Glen sponsored a lunch time concert at the Ham Marquee this year and we were treated to some powerful voices and traditional song and dance from Africa. The richness of experience on offer over the week is truly phenomenal. Festival week next year will be 31 July - 8 August. www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk

THE MOST INTERESTING PEOPLE...

We are blessed with working in an environment meeting the most interesting of people. From being shown pictures of themselves outside the Glen in their pram in the 1920s to taking on a project to straighten and restore our candelabra and silver toast racks which had somehow been damaged; Mr T Cox had concluded that the highlights of festive occasions at the Royal Glen are a contest between combatants wielding candelabra and a toast-rack tossing competition !



CRICKETING SUCCESS

Following the success of recent seasons Sidmouth Cricket Club again hosted a number of high class matches at The Fortfield ground this season, with teams such as Somerset County Cricket Club 2nd XI and the Minor Counties Cricket Club providing some compelling viewing. Devon County Cricket Club had another successful year under the Captaincy of Sidmouth Cricket Club's Joshua Bess (Vivienne's son), winning the Minor Counties Knock-Out Cup for a record-equalling 5th time after beating Oxford by 7 runs in the final. The semi-final of the competition vs Cheshire CCC was held at the Fortfield, where Devon compiled a mammoth (367) batting first, which turned out to be too many for the visitors, despite a spirited run-chase. Cheshire had also been the visitors at the Fortfield the previous weekend in the national 3-day competition. In a game that ebbed and flowed being decided in the last over of



Sidmouth's Josh Bess (Vivienne's son) holding Cup for victorious Devon Cricket Team

the final day, Devon managed to come away with a well earned draw, largely thanks to Josh Bess who scored a Century in the first innings and 95 in the second innings. Josh's performances for Devon this season resulted in him being selected for the Minor Counties team to play against Sri Lanka A and Somerset 2nd XI, so congratulations must go to him. As well as Devon, Sidmouth CC also had another triumphant season. The 1st XI won both the Francis Clarke Devon Premier League and the Devon Knock-Out Cup with brothers Josh and Luke Bess both featuring throughout the season.

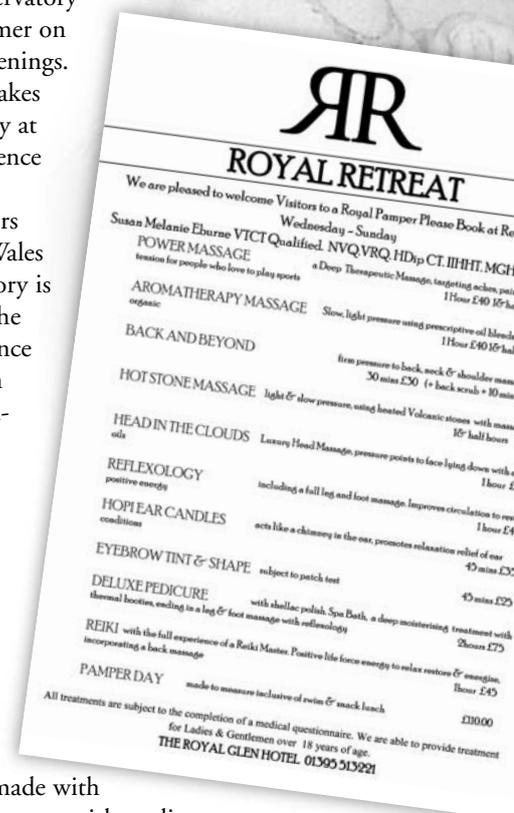
At the Fortfield 2015: 10th May - Devon v Cornwall
5-7th July - Devon v Herefordshire

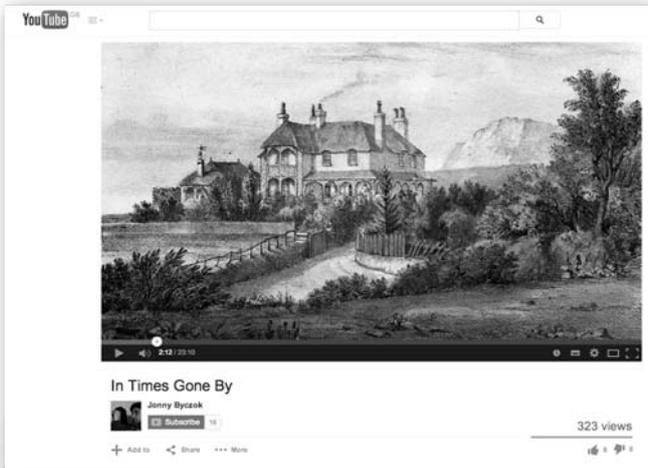
SKY AT NIGHT

The Norman Lockyer Observatory opens throughout the summer on specified afternoons and evenings. An annual astronomy fair takes place and this year BBC Sky at Night presenters Pete Lawrence and Wil Gater spoke and presentations from Professors from University of South Wales participated. The Observatory is also one of the venues for the now annual Sidmouth Science festival which takes place in October 10-16th. www.sidmouthsciencefestival.org

MAGIC HANDS

In House Therapist Susan's magic hands continue to pamper and re vitalise Guests in The Therapy Room 'The Royal Retreat'. Susan is available Wednesday through to Sunday. Bookings may be made with Reception in advance or you may wish to discuss treatments with Susan who is available 8.30am - 10.30.





‘IN TIMES GONE BY’

A highlight for me personally this year was participating in a film of Sidmouth. Made and produced by a student for his final exam I did not know what to expect, but was absolutely delighted with the end result. Jonny produced a poetic, compassionate social history documentary of historical Sidmouth to the present day looking through the 4 seasons with captivating music, poetry by Elisabeth Barrett Browning who lived at Fortfield Terrace for about 3 years, with some old prints and stunning film and photography, and local people contributing on a variety of subjects. ‘In Times Gone By’ by Jonny Byczok can be found on Youtube or on the link on our website or Facebook page.

GET ON YOUR BIKE!

Devon is renowned for its superb network of cycle routes. Hire a bike or bring your own to explore trails for all abilities. We have a bike rack, tap and hose; indoor over night locked indoor area, washing machine and dryer all for cyclists use.

Family Friendly Routes:

Exe Estuary Trail, Exmouth – Exeter – Dawlish
 Grand Western Canal, Tiverton
 Granite Way, Dartmoor
 Haldon Forest Park Discovery Trail, near Exeter
 Killerton Park Cycle Trail, near Exeter
 Plym Valley

Long distance and extreme mountain bike trails

Tour de Manche, Okehampton – Axminster section
 Devon Coast to coast, Plymouth – Ilfracombe
 Haldon Forest Park Ridge Ride Trail
 Cycling in the Blackdown Hills

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Sidmouth once again has won accolades at the Britain in Bloom competition. Best in the South West, Sidmouth secured several awards; the Friends of the Bays won the cup for outstanding contribution to environmental initiative. The parks and open spaces for Connaught Gardens and Blackmore Gardens received a gold award. The ‘*Its your neighbourhood scheme*’ run by the Royal Horticulture Society honoured the hard work of community projects all around Sidmouth. Our favourite Gardens of Devon include Bicton: Spanning nearly 300 years of gardening history, the park is home to many rare and beautiful species including 18 designated trees as champions of their kind in the British Isles. And on our door step, Sidmouth has its own Arboretum with walking guides to help appreciate the fine trees of the Sid Valley.

SIDMOUTH’S LONG PRINT

Hanging in reception we have a print of the 1840 published panorama of Sidmouth. The museum is celebrating the 200th anniversary of its creation. In 1815 Hubert Cornish was commissioned to make a panorama, a fashion in late 18th century early 19th century superseded by photographic panoramas in mid-late 19th century. Starting as sketches and then watercolours, followed by 3 copper plate engravings in reverse by Havell (of Covent Garden). The final dedication and acknowledgements added in copper plate script with the publication date 1815 for the final printing of the first editions. John Wallis printed and sold the prints in London and at the Marine Library Sidmouth. HRH Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria, was presented with a copy of one of the first state prints during his initial visit to Sidmouth in 1819 whilst selecting Woolbrook Cottage (now the Royal Glen) to rent for the winter. In the early 1830s an unknown artist made changes to the engraving plates to reflect new buildings, these prints date from after 1830 but were more readily available after 1840 when they were printed by local man, John Harvey. Interestingly the new version included the presence of Chit Rock that had been swept away by the storm of 1824. The museum and its popular guided walks is open March 29th to November.

If you have a view of the Glen or any favourite photos of the Glen or Sidmouth; we would be pleased to receive them. We are holding a competition, closing date March 1st. First Prize a mini Long Print of Sidmouth: 2nd Prize a postcard version of the Long Print.



The famous Sidmouth Long Print hanging on the wall in Reception celebrating 200 years since its creation



ELEGANT REGENCY CHARM

HOW OUR VISITORS SEE US:

'Because yours is a family run hotel you provide a service that is like no other in providing that "personal touch" that makes the difference between the enjoyable and memorable'

'All very welcoming nice to be greeted each morning with smiley people'

'Pleasant relaxing get away for whole family – one of our favourites. Always nice bits of history tucked away in various alcoves to discover.'

'We found the whole hotel very relaxing. The staff were very pleasing and accommodating. There was a lovely atmosphere of lack of rules and regulations and notices. Top marks. A big thank you.'

'...this one has a bit of old world charm to it, you can't help but love what is deep within the walls, a love for a house that has not gone forgotten, character and obvious determination to keep somewhere just as it should be.'

SEASONS GREETINGS

We take this opportunity to wish all our Glen family which extends to all our Guests 'Seasons Greetings and A Very Healthy Happy New Year'. Our loyal and dedicated team look forward to welcoming you all and assure first time guests of our attention to make their visit the first of many; with best wishes Hilary, Vivienne and families and staff.

Reception will be open 9-2pm during December and 9-4pm in January and February, at other times the telephone will be redirected to Vivienne, Luke or I, or should you reach the answer machine, please leave your message and we will return your call as soon as possible. Of course on line booking will be available, however we know 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. On line reservations via our own website will give a variety of tariff options: if making a reservation via an agent such as Booking.com standard bed and breakfast will apply with no specified room allocation.

TARIFF 2015 SPECIALS

Early Bird Reservations:

Make your booking direct with us in January and receive a complementary cream tea per person.

Half Term Holidays. Children Age 15 and under sharing with 2 adults Bed and Breakfast includes children's meal of daily roast, fruit juice and ice cream. (Other terms apply)

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, Escorted walks, and Cycling routes.

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.

EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY 2015

Donkey Week	May 5th - 12th
Devon County Show	May 21,22,23rd
Manor Pavilion Theatre Rep	June 25th - end September
Rugby World Cup at Sandy Park	Sept 29th Tonga v Namibia Oct 7th Namibia v Georgia Oct 11th Italy v Romania

TARIFF 2015

FEBRUARY 26TH - APRIL 2ND 25TH OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

Prices per person per night

	Superior	Standard	Selected
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£82.00	£76.00	£71.00
Daily (DB&B)	£88.00	£82.00	£74.00
Daily (B&B)	£62.00	£56.00	£48.00

Winter Special: Feb 26th - Apr 2nd: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB.
Oct 25th - Nov 9th: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB (Saturdays not included)

APRIL 3RD - MAY 31ST AND SEPTEMBER 27TH - OCTOBER 24TH

Prices in brackets are per person per night

	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly (DB&B)	£574	£546	£518
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£270	£249	£228
Daily (DB&B)	£97	£90	£84
Daily (B&B)	£71	£64	£58

Spring Special: 5th April - 4th May: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB.
Autumn Special: Oct 18th - 23th: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB (Saturdays not included)

SUMMER TARIFF

JUNE 1ST - SEPTEMBER 26TH

Prices in brackets are per person per night

	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly (DB&B)	£609	£574	£532
3 Day Break (DB&B)	£288	£261	£243
Daily (DB&B)	£102	£93	£87
Daily (B&B)	£76	£67	£61

All terms are per person inclusive of VAT at 20%



★★★

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Proprietors: Mrs H Caldwell and Mrs V Bess

