

REGENCY

ELEGANCE

A Pen from the Glen

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL • SIDMOUTH



This year has seen contrasting weather for our visitors; starting off the season with snowfall not just once but twice, a fairly unusual occurrence for us. However, we hope that we have a return of the wonderful summer weather we experienced; it was lovely, the sun shone, the sea warmed up nicely and yes it was a challenge to keep the garden from looking a bit parched but it was never too hot, always a nice breeze down at the water's edge. Full advantage was taken sitting outside our newly refurbished Drawing Room and Veranda sampling delicious Devon produce, right to the end of October. This winter we are scheduled to extend the top patio with its view to the sea, decorate in the pool area; bathrooms and bedrooms Garden room, 3, 4, 5 and 7 and improved parking. We hope to welcome back our 'Glen Family' in 2019 and look forward to meeting new acquaintances and share our love of the locality and 'The Glen'.





FOLK FESTIVAL

This was the 64th Sidmouth Folk Week a classic year but we were especially pleased with the highly successful events held at the Glen Drawing Room this year; the first ever **Poetry workshops** each morning with Ilse Pedler and the **Singalongs** each afternoon were both heavily supported and are confirmed for 2019. The week started off with three very diverse pre-festival concerts **Fairport Convention**; iconic British folk-rockers: the joyously entertaining **Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain** and beat poet extraordinaire **Roger McGough and Little Machine** continuing with top class acts in the Ham Marquee. There really is something for everyone! At other times of the year Sidmouth's varied music scene continues with concerts at Sidmouth Parish church, Sidholme Music Room, Live Bands at local pubs and lets not forget our award winning Sidmouth Town band weekly Summer concerts in Connaught gardens.



This wasn't the only group reunion being celebrated we welcomed **St Joseph's Former Pupils**, at the beginning of the year and numerous other friends and family get together.

The Glen has seen the **Coastal Path & Walking Groups** popularity grow this year. We have welcomed short one night visitors using 'Encounter Walking Holidays' who move your luggage on daily for you. We hosted two successful groups with 'Secret Hills Walking Holidays' who enjoyed the fabulous Autumn weather and who were well looked after by their leaders. It was also wonderful to welcome **Roger White's Architectural Tour Group** who visited historic houses and churches in East Devon and West Dorset. Roger White is the author of 'Cottages Ornes: The Pleasures of the Simple Life' which has a large section on Sidmouth and mentions us of course. Let us not forget our bridge groups as well, bridge can be set up either in the Drawing room or Restaurant.



ART IN DEVON

Sidmouth is flourishing with art galleries and events; 'East Devon Art' situated in Old Fore Street offers ongoing exhibitions and also weekend courses; **Kennaway House** - has visiting exhibitions and events (*see our what's on page on our website for up to date information*). There are galleries at 'Art Sidmouth' Gallery (Church Street), 'Azura' and **South West Art** - a well-stocked art shop with gallery in Old Fore Street and the **Ashleigh Bishop Gallery** at Libra Court. Further afield art lovers make it a great Dartmoor day out heading off to Moretonhampstead visiting galleries, ceramics and even felt making and hand-made shoes. (*Read our full account on our website*). Finally look out for **Devon Artist Network Open Studios** held in September over 3 weeks which showcases the talent and creative lives of the many artists who live and work in Devon. www.devonartistnetwork.co.uk

GROUPS & RE-UNIONS

A special school 40th year get together took place on a boiling hot May 18th an iconic date for sixteen **Lewestonians** a few who were revisiting the Glen and Sidmouth after a very long time some of whom had been weekend or half term guests of the family. There was a lot of memories to share and to catch up on during activities including Jurassic walks, a swim in the sea and pool, a Devon Cream tea and celebratory dinner. Four of the girls had been at school together locally too, at Sidmouth's St. Johns School making them friends for well over 40 years!

MANOR PAVILION THEATRE

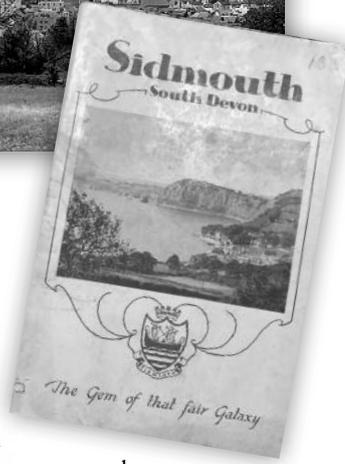
a highly successful year for Paul Taylor-Mills presenting a varied play list; one of the very few repertory companies in the country in our beautiful theatre. Within 5 minutes walk from The Glen you may place your order for dinner during the day and come in to the restaurant at the earliest time of 6.45pm and then get there for the 8pm start. You can even have your cheese and biscuits when you return. www.manorpavilion.com





‘THE GEM OF THAT FAIR GALAXY’

The title of the 1940 published guide to the town. I was fascinated by this official guide and souvenir of the time (still published annually by Sidmouth Town Council). Not only by the poetry and prose woven in the text, stories and anecdotes, but how the foreword touches upon the unknown and uncertainty of all the change that there might be in the time upon them. However thankfully some things have not changed, they are just the same things we still wish to share “...that the beauty of Sidmouth and its countryside, it is the fervent hope of all its lovers that it may continue unscathed, to give in happier times, to all who seek restoration of health, peace of mind and a satisfying land and seascape... That they may enjoy then to the uttermost and receive the fullest possible benefit to body and mind, from the glorious sunshine, the pure bracing air, the entrancing natural beauties and the salubrious climate for which Sidmouth is renowned.” Yes and Sidmouth still is able to weave just such magic. Any Guests interested in reading from our collection of books and memorabilia can find them in the study; some of which have been used by guests in their own projects.



DEVON COUNTY CRICKET UPDATE

Quintessentially British Sidmouth Cricket at the Fortfield could not be more traditional with stunning views of coast and countryside; the sound of leather on willow, cream teas or a pint from the thatched club house. Sidmouth's Picturesque Fortfield ground provided the venue for a number of the County's home matches in all 3 competitions, with many supporters and guests enjoying festive days at the ground. The fixtures at the Fortfield, just a stone's throw from the Royal Glen included the exciting tied Semi Final against Suffolk, on route to the final at Wormsley in the 50 over competition. Unfortunately, Devon came runners up to a strong Cheshire side. With a mid-table finish in the Championship, there were no trophies to speak of for Devon during the 2018 summer, but once again the county showed they are one of the stronger sides on the Minor Counties Circuit.

Josh Bess captained Devon in all three

formats, but at the end of the season announced his retirement from County Cricket, with a view to spending more time on his business, Jurassic Physio. This was not before a record-breaking game vs Dorset at Sidmouth where he scored 200* (sharing partnerships with brothers Luke and Zak) and took 6 wickets. On the club scene Sidmouth won the Devon Premier League, in Luke's season as captain with all 3 brothers making major contributions throughout the summer.

Sidmouth still hosts visiting touring teams in August. One of which has been visiting since the 60's. The Tewin Cricket Club players stay at various venues in the town but we are proud to be part of this long tradition welcoming some of the stalwart followers who we have been welcoming since the late sixties... 'drinks on Room 2 please'.

2019 DATES

Donkey Week	7 – 14th May
Manor Pavilion Theatre	20th June – 20th September
Folk Festival	2 – 9th August
Astronomy Weekend	10 August
Cricket Devon v Oxford	August 17, 18, 19
Regatta	24th & 25 August
	Red Arrows date TBC
Walking Festival	21st 27th September
Science festival	4th -13th October

REVIEWS

Thank you to all who have made a review in person or on any format your comments are often rewarding and your constructive criticism helpful in us delivering a friendly and efficient service, updating all the time without taking away from the Glen ambience.

“I was born in Sidmouth and so was very nice to be ‘home’! But this hotel was truly wonderful! BEST place to stay with classic country side setting with the view to the sea! Walking distance perfect to town and the front and Jacob's ladder. Breakfasts were included and just delightfully set up Staff was friendly and helpful. Truly just a delightful historical clean and charming place to stay.” H 06/18

“The Royal Glen is a unique old world treasure with wonderfully traditional values – a rare treat to feel so cared for and pampered.” CM

“Excellent staff. Quirky but fun for it. Lovely location and great garden/sitting room. Good breakfast” 05/18

“Calm and peaceful. Loved the quiet and decorous Drawing Room and terrace. A wonderful space to sit and read quietly!” H.

“This hotel is a gem! Full of character and with top class service. Everyone I met smiled and went out of their way to be helpful - not only the proprietors at Reception, but also the breakfast team who served me each morning. Michael, the gardener, was just as cheerful and happy to talk about his work. Which reminds me - the gardens are delightful and are a lovely spot to sit out in the sunshine and admire views of the sea.

“A very lovely hotel, with a discreet, professional approach to making our stay as comfortable as possible. Old fashioned courtesy and values - like stepping back in time but with all the modern facilities and essentials.”



RETIREMENT BEST WISHES

Our best wishes are extended whole heartedly to **Maria Theresa** who will be certainly missed by her colleagues and many visitors whom have been well looked after by her on the second floor... who will take over the 'Eagle Eye from her Tower'?

ROYAL RETREAT 2019

Indulge in blissful treatments for the body mind and soul. You may book in advance or chat with Susan to make your Royal Retreat a bespoke experience. The Therapy room will be re locating to a bright and airy garden view in the new year. Please see our website for full treatment options and prices.

SEASON 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.

Reception will be open 9 - 2pm during December and 9 - 4 pm in January and February, at other times the telephone will be redirected to Vivienne, Luke or Hilary, or should you reach the answer machine, please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible. Online booking is available on **our own website** giving a variety of tariff options.



Please make sure you have not inadvertently landed on one of the large online travel agents where you will only find one night standard premium price with no specific room allocation and no special deals available. We are always pleased to hear from you in person as we know the majority of our guests returning like to reserve particular rooms, and we like to try and match first time Guests' needs and requirements to individual rooms. Should you experience difficulties booking on our website please let us know it is very important to us to ensure that this feature is working efficiently

TARIFF 2019 SPECIALS

Please book direct with reception.

Value Breaks offer dinner bed & breakfast for 4 or more nights for specified dates. This tariff is not available on a Saturday but 5th and 6th nights can be added pro rata on other days of the week. Dates: **Winter Warmer** February to 29th March and October 20th to November; **Spring Break** March 31st to 3rd May (excl. Easter); **Autumn Special** 6th to 18th October.

TARIFF 2019

All prices per room per night unless stated

FEBRUARY 28TH - APRIL 18TH OCTOBER 20TH - NOVEMBER

	2+ nts (D,B&B)	2+ nts (B&B)	1 night (B&B)	Value Breaks* (per person)
Suite	£196	£152	£174	£324
Superior	£176	£132	£154	£292
Standard	£162	£118	£140	£276
Selected	£152	£100	£122	£244

**Value Breaks: Dinner, B&B (Saturdays not included) 5th & 6th nights pro rata. February - 29 March & October 20th - November.*

APRIL 19TH - MAY 31ST SEPTEMBER 21ST - OCTOBER 19TH

	Weekly (D,B&B)	2+ nts (D,B&B)	2+ nts (B&B)	1 night (B&B)	Value Breaks* (per person)
Suite	£1372 (£196)	£215	£171	£192	£351
Superior	£1232 (£176)	£195	£151	£172	£321
Standard	£1155 (£165)	£179	£135	£156	£296
Selected	£1085 (£155)	£167	£123	£144	£279

**Value Breaks: Dinner, B&B (Saturdays not included) 5th & 6th nights pro rata. 31 March - 3 May (excl. Easter) and 6 -18 October.*

SUMMER TARIFF: JUNE 1ST - SEPTEMBER 20TH

	Weekly (D,B&B)	2+ nts (D,B&B)	2+ nts (B&B)	1 night (B&B)
Suite	£1435 (£205)	£225	£181	£202
Superior	£1295 (£185)	£205	£161	£182
Standard	£1211 (£173)	£185	£141	£162
Selected	£1106 (£158)	£173	£129	£150

*All terms are per room per night (unless stated)
Singles less 50% (except Value Breaks) and inclusive of VAT at 20%*

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