

DENMAN'S DIAMOND

Denman College will be celebrating its 60th anniversary by holding an event from Tuesday 23 to Sunday 28 September 2008.

There will be six days of activities, including fashion shows, cookery demonstrations, craft exhibitions and a spectacular floral extravaganza in the gardens.

Further information is available at

www.thewi.org.uk/college

Residents of Marcham are invited to join the celebrations on Sunday 28th September between 11am and 4pm. 'Village' tickets are available, free of charge, on request from the Events Coordinator, Denman College (tel. 01865 391991 ext 237). Please note that entry is by ticket only, and numbers are strictly limited.

I do hope that many of you will be able to join us at the college for what promises to be a memorable occasion.

STEPHEN HACKETT, Principal

Jazz in the Marquee

Sunday 21 September

Kick-off the Diamond week at Denman College in real style - an evening of jazz music with *¿Que?*

Ticket price £12.50 per person, includes a glass of Pimms at 6.30pm – before the evening starts swinging at seven! The concert will end at approx. 9pm.

Gardens and grounds open for picnics from 5.00pm (concert ticket-holders only). No barbecues.

Tickets available from Denman College on 01865 391991 (ext 237).

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

5 Sept	Grove Old Mill Hall, Old School Lane
26 Sept	Shrivenham , Memorial Hall
10 Oct	Wantage , Civic Hall
24 Oct	Wallingford , Town Hall
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

MORE PHOTOS WANTED FOR HISTORY BOOK!

Do you have any photos of the VE Day celebration in 1945, the 1937 and 1953 Coronations, or of any of the Ansons from Marcham Park? If so, please contact Judith Fontaine (391275).

September 2008

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

First of all, many thanks for the petition, signed by hundreds of local residents, calling for the Marcham Road GP dispensary to be saved. I cannot possibly write to every person that signed the petition. As you know, I am vigorously opposing the Government's plans as they stand. I do support the idea that pharmacies should have greater powers, and greater opportunities to offer dispensing services - after all, pharmacists train almost as long as doctors and are highly skilled. But I do not think that GP dispensaries should be made to close to make way for a pharmacy.

I have also taken the opportunity of more free time to go and see the County to discuss Marcham's transport problems. As you know the traffic light scheme was trialed and there was money to make it permanent. But the majority of residents who actually lived on the road objected to it, mainly because of safety concerns and the noise generated. Nor does the County believe a speed camera would make a difference. They attribute the accelerating and braking to bad driving and do not believe a speed camera would make a difference. They also say a 20 mph zone would be impossible to enforce and would not make a difference.

I am still open to the idea of a 20mph zone and a speed camera - perhaps one of the new ones that checks your average speed, and to which I have fallen victim! I also discussed banning lorries through the village. Apparently, the closure of Newbridge (off the A420) to lorry traffic has made a difference, and this restriction could be made permanent.

The County has had its transport budget cut by £6 million by the Government, so new road schemes will be difficult to fund. The by-pass remains at the end of the rainbow, the irony being that the only way we could get funding for it in the medium-term would be if the reservoir is built. I am sorry not to be able to bring better tidings, but I will keep the issue of the by-pass on the agenda, even if there is no immediate prospect of getting one.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage (Con)

BOTHY VINEYARD WINS NATIONAL TROPHY

Sian and Richard Liwicki of the Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath received the Berwick Trophy from Lord Montagu of Beaulieu at the House of Lords on Tuesday 22 July in front of an audience that included 8 Masters of Wine and the likes of other top names such as RidgeView, Nyetimber and Camel Valley vineyards.

Bothy Vineyard submitted just two wines into the competition in July and they both won silver awards and their new wine, The Paradox 2007, took the Berwick Trophy.

Richard Liwicki, winemaker and tender of vines said, "Many of our customers are local and they have recognised the quality of our wines and supported us over the years. However, winning a trophy has definitely put us on the national map.

"The Paradox came about because the very heavy summer rains of 2007 caused some of our vines to set tiny, seedless berries which, paradoxically, ripened beautifully to produce an intense juice, full of sugar and flavour." Bothy Vineyard produced only 4,000 bottles of wine in 2007 due to the extraordinarily wet summer and already over two thirds of its stocks have been sold.

The owners are hoping that this summer will be kinder and that production will return to normal levels of around 6,000 bottles a year. In 2002, 2000 new vines were planted and these are just beginning to bear fruit.

Sian Liwicki, who also works for the UK Vineyard Association, said, "Bothy is a "boutique" vineyard, developed through our passion for wine. We concentrate on quality and value, and sell most of wines through our shop in Frilford Heath and through local networks. There may be big increase interest in our wines now that we have attracted the national press, but we will continue to give our local friends and regular customers top priority".

Besides the Bothy shop which opens on Fridays and Saturdays or by appointment, Bothy Wines can be bought at Added Ingredients in Abingdon and the Appleton Shop. Their Oxford Dry can also be tasted at the White Hart in Fyfield, and the Charwell Boathouse where it is one of the restaurant's best sellers.

01865 390067

www.bothyvineyard.co.uk

see cover for photo