

COMMUNITY NEWS

Arthritis Research Campaign raises over £5,000

Moya Wippell (Committee Member)

In 2005, the Emsworth Branch of The Arthritis Research Campaign, raised over £5,000 for research in the UK into the causes and treatment of arthritis.

During the year, they held coffee mornings, a Ploughman's lunch, street collections and an Autumn Fair. Committee members also manned the Cards for Good Causes shop in Havant and the Charity Christmas Card shop in Fernleigh House, Chichester from October to December.

None of this money would have been raised, without the help of our many supporters in the area. Special thanks go to The Flag Officers and the Emsworth Sailing Club committee who provide us every year with such a pleasant venue for our popular Ploughman's lunch in June and to Mr and Mrs Williams of Hollybank House, who host our Coffee morning every July. There is also the invaluable willingness of the many local businesses, the Pastoral Centre and the Emsworth library to display our posters announcing forthcoming events.

Last but by no means least, our heartfelt thanks are due to the local people who attend the events and support the charity so generously.

Forthcoming events in 2006 will be published in the April edition of The Ems.

Funtington Music Group

David Tinsley (Chairman)

In 2004, the Funtington Music Group moved to Bishop Otter Campus, University of Chichester where, in collaboration with the University Music Department, we have had two very successful seasons and our membership has more than doubled. Last autumn, we were awarded charity status which has enabled us to double our prize fund for adjudicated performances at the annual Student Showcase Concert and to establish a bursary in honour of our founder, the late Robert Headley, for University of Chichester graduates going on to conservatoire studies.

Our prospectus has just been launched for 2006, which opens with the well-known pianist and conductor Christopher Gayford and the gifted violinist Martin Cropper in a detailed exploration of Beethoven's famous Kreutzer Sonata. In February, we are to be entertained by one of the most exciting young groups in the country, Dimension Trio, supported by South East Music Schemes with Arts Council funding. In May, we are delighted to welcome back the former Glyndebourne Director of Music, Jonathan Hinden to present Mozart's Don Giovanni in his own inimitable way, and for our very popular Summer Buffet Concert in June we have engaged the highly gifted Alibas Trio.

Applications are invited for an annual membership subscription of £50 which covers the cost of five lecture recitals and four evening concerts, all held on Wednesdays throughout the year in the excellent acoustics and comfort of the University Chapel. A supplement is payable for the Buffet at the Summer Evening Concert in June. Guests are welcome to attend any meeting, if space allows, for £10 per meeting.

If you are interested in joining this thriving and very friendly music society, please contact our Membership Secretary, Elizabeth Brooks, on 01243 378900 for a copy of the 2006 Prospectus and an Application Form.

Emsworth Primary in Albert Hall Concert

Mary Wigley - a Governor of Emsworth Primary School

On Wednesday 9th November, a group of 25 children and two members of staff from Emsworth Primary School Choir took part in the last night of the National Schools' Prom Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London. The choir, which was chosen as one of eleven choirs from all the primary schools in Hampshire sang World Songs composed by Mike Brewer especially for the occasion.

The prom celebrates the very best of music-making by young musicians, singers and dancers from every corner of the British Isles. The exuberance, skills and talent of these gifted young performers will reach a climax with a spine-tingling finale of fireworks, balloons and the traditional "Pomp and Circumstance March".

Inside Out (BBC South) has been recording the rehearsal process and the programme should be shown in January 2006.

It is a great honour for the school to have been selected, and excellent timing for our music specialist Janice Walter. Music is very important at Emsworth Primary School and has flourished under Janice's guidance - the school has a large and very enthusiastic choir and is one of the few primary schools to have an orchestra. Janice has been a teacher at the school for 13 years, and is retiring at Christmas, so it's a wonderful end to a distinguished career



Emsworth Primary School Choir

Stroke Club Trafalgar Celebrations

Gillian Knight

The Emsworth Stroke Club marked the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar by turning the Emsworth Centre into a ship, HMS Emsworth, for their regular weekly meeting. Over 30 members and their families enjoyed a lively event. After music hall songs lead by 'midshipman' Canon Brian Hammond, members and guests were issued with a naval ration of Grog. After refreshments were served, John Davey Jones recited a monologue playing the parts of both Nelson and Hardy.



Trafalgar celebrations on HMS Emsworth

Volunteers wanted

The Stroke Club is dedicated to providing a meeting place for people who have suffered a stroke and relies on volunteers, especially drivers to bring members to meetings. If you know someone who would be interested in the club or who can assist in this way, please get in touch with Chairman Gillian Knight.

More details can be found on our website www.emsworthstrokeclub.co.uk Email gillian.knight@emsworthstrokeclub.co.uk or phone 02392 473091.

Three Harbours Beef Walk a great success

Richard Jannaway

A harbour walk with a difference took place at Tournebury Farm on Hayling Island in October 2005. The public were invited to go on a guided walk across an area of coastal grazing marsh within Chichester Harbour AONB. This is a rare wildlife habitat maintained by the combined work of Chichester Harbour Conservancy, farmers clearing scrub and grazing cattle.



Free Range Cattle

Over 200 people were taken on guided tours on 23 October 2005. So many turned up that the visitors had to be taken around in groups of 25 in both the morning and afternoon. Lunch consisting of local free-range beefburgers or lamb burgers cooked on an open-air grill was provided for a small charge. Local Cox's apples finished off a basic but delicious meal. It was also possible to order boxes of Three Harbours Beef

products for delivery later in the year. Everything was produced locally without the use of vast 'food miles' and excessive fuel consumption associated with shipping our food half way round the world.

Three Harbours Beef co-ordinator, Colin Headley, told me that there are currently five farms involved in the Three Harbours Beef scheme around Langstone and Chichester Harbours. The third harbour is Pagham. Farms bordering Pagham Harbour will, hopefully, join later since the land is currently in set-aside. Several other farms are interested and may join the scheme later. The guided walks will probably be repeated in spring 2006.

We were able to appreciate the beauty of the area, observe how the rare breed cattle live a natural and free-range existence and see how wading birds, lapwing, skylark and rare plants co-exist with the cattle. This is how the countryside needs to be managed if we are to live in a sustainable way alongside a wide variety of wildlife.

The Art House at Westbourne raises funds for Breast Cancer Charity

Linda Kirkbride

As part of the Breast Cancer Awareness month, Linda Kirkbride of the Art House ran a highly successful 'Pink Party' evening, supported by the residents of Westbourne and the local area. Over one hundred supporters thronged into the Art House and enjoyed an exciting evening of raffles and auctions raising over £1,200 for the charity. Many of the visitors arrived sporting pink outfits, and all enjoyed the auction, which was conducted by Stanley Massey, OBE. Linda said, "I was overwhelmed by the support of all those who attended as well as the excellent way that so many artists and businesses gave generously to provide the wonderful gifts to be raffled or auctioned."

Five-Girls-in-a-Boat success

As reported in our July issue, "5Girls in a Boat" were one of the very few all girl crews ever to compete in the prestigious 3 Peaks Yacht Race in 2004 - a unique race. They finished 3rd overall, and won four trophies. We can now report that 5-Girls-in-a-Boat and the Board of Trustees; Susan Rutter, Emma Stride and Anne Stunt raised £18,995.23 for The Royal Marsden Hospital and Sail 4 Cancer.

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