



Square 1 Newsletter

Issue 37 - 1st Quarter 2016

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016 and to Carole as new 'Editor in chief'.

A big thank you goes to Jessemy; who is not only departing as Editor but also departing the County. We will miss you.

Pictures and latest diary available on our Website – courtesy of Ron.

<http://www.sq1singlesclubswindon.co.uk> and also on Facebook at [Square One – Swindon](#)

New Year's Day Walk and Lunch

Jubilee Lake at Royal Wootton Bassett was the chosen venue for our pre-lunch walk. Amble would be a more appropriate word as it was, after all, the morning after **the** night before!

8 members then went onto Hongxin Chinese Restaurant at Peatmoor for lunch.

The trouble with these 'all you can eat' restaurants is that you just seem to do that.

Still no complaints all round.

Saturday 2 Jan Greyhound Racing, Blunsdon
'To the Dogs' they cried, as 6 members went to Blunsdon to enjoy an evening at the dogs.

Sylvia's luck at winning seemed to desert her at first, but she did win a few times – as did everyone else.

The lamb casserole was delicious and at £4.95 was a bargain.

Thanks to Ron for organising.

Sunday 3 Jan Lunch at Patriot Arms, Chiseldon

Thank you Celia for organising a most enjoyable lunch

Saturday 9 Jan Dinner at the Italian Restaurant

Ciao Italia! Or something like that...

12 of us gathered at our favourite Highworth Italian restaurant on a wet, windy and cold evening. But it was warm and welcoming inside and although we hadn't been for a few months, the food was just as good as we remembered.

Quite delicious.

There was good company, good food and some interesting conversations to enjoy.

Thanks to Sylvia for organising.

Sunday 10 Jan Lunch at Carpenters Arms, South Marston

And then the sun came out...

A small but select group of us went to the Carpenters Arms for Sunday lunch – which is one of our favourite places.

Good meal and good company – and we all got home before the rains returned...

Saturday 16 Jan Dinner at Hongxin Chinese Restaurant, Peatmoor

New Year's Day lunch was so good it had to be repeated - but in the evening.

Now it could be that the real reason for a return visit is that Peking duck is only served in the evening??

However, whatever the reason it was a good.

Brenda many thanks for booking etc.



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Sunday 17 Jan Lunch at Shield & Dagger
Back on home ground this time for lunch.
Does the pub look different in the daylight – maybe not?
Thanks to Nicki for doing the honours.

Friday 22 Jan Wyvern Theatre
Supreme Queen' tribute band playing
Thanks to Brenda for organising

Sunday 24 Jan Lunch at Carriers Arms
Thanks Celia

Thursday 28 Jan Rock n Roll Bingo at Shield & Dagger

We all wondered what "Rock & Roll Bingo" was - the evening was in aid of the NSPCC and organised by Linda- it was great fun - you had proper bingo cards but the numbers were replaced by songs/ singers the tunes were played the crowd sang and lines and full houses were won - one particular group were very successful both in the bingo and the raffle - a good time was had by all and £387 was raised for the NSPCC - roll on the next one!! Sylvia

I'm told that it was a really good evening and now I wished that I had gone.... Sometimes it takes a bit of effort to join in (and we have probably all thought that at one time or another) but next time, I will go. Carole

Friday 29 Jan Arts Centre, Swindon
"Par for the Course"

The play performed by the Phoenix Players, a local amateur dramatic group, was funny and very professionally acted.
For those who do not know The Arts Centre in old town, it is a small theatre with exceptionally good acoustics. Wherever you sit you can see and hear well.
Those club members who saw the play thoroughly enjoyed it.

Sunday 31 Jan Walk around Jubilee Lake followed by lunch at The Churchill, Wootton Bassett

Only a handful of members walked around the lake (small lake and two circuits were executed). We were joined by others for lunch at The Churchill. A busy pub which served good tasty roasts, but it was the puddings that were to die for. I tried to resist the chocolate coated popcorn smothered in toffee ice cream topped with clotted cream and decorated with two chocolate whirls - but I failed - but I did do the walk first. ha Carole
Thanks to Brenda for organising.

Sunday 7 Feb Lunch at Four Pillars Cotswold Water Park

We had a lakeside table with a view, so the rain could pour down all it liked, and the wind could gust - we were warm inside and surrounded by good company and good food.

Yes it was a bit of a squash, but we managed.
Sorry Geoff!

The Four Pillars offers a Sunday Carvery with unlimited soup and salad, followed by excellent choices at the Carvery and some lovely desserts - all for one fixed price.

My advice? Eat everything as it was delicious, but take it slowly and pace yourselves as it's amazing what you can fit in! And we all did just that.
Offers of a quick spa visit were robustly refused. Perhaps next time? So - a quiet Sunday afternoon was to follow with our feet up, snoozing gently. Probably a better idea!
This is a second visit, so definitely one for the list of places to go for Sunday lunches.

With the sun shining, the Cotswold Water Park would be even lovelier than for our wet and windy visit. But the food will be just as good...
Thanks to Jessamy



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Sunday 14 Feb walk through Bradbury Clump followed by lunch at Saracen in Highworth

It was a bit cold and muddy underfoot but a few of us braved the elements for our morning jaunt through the trees and snowdrops.

Sylvia had 21 names down for lunch (must be her magnetic personality that attracted such a high turnout or maybe we just had nothing better to do on Valentine's Day?) A warm pub, quick service, excellent prices and plentiful food - we couldn't ask for more.

Saturday 20 Feb pub meal and Cinema

9 members enjoyed a pub meal followed by an evening at the cinema. Mixed reviews about the actual film but the company was good!

Saturday 5 March Barn Dance

It was a last minute thing but 5 members had a really good evening Barn Dancing at the Corn Exchange in Farringdon. We also took away 4 raffle prizes!

Wednesday 9 March Club Night

Thank you to Nikki for hosting a quiz evening. Lots of questions about the year 2015 - which I found difficult - began to wonder if perhaps I had slept through the whole of 2015. Ha.

Saturday 12 March Barn Dance, Ridgeway School, Wroughton

Two dances in the same month - bit like buses either none at all or two together. Think that there were about 15 of us - difficult to tell with everyone up dancing to some or all of the dances. The extended "Stripping the willow" was challenging at times but great fun. Thank you Chris for organising the tickets.

Saturday 19 March

A very enjoyable evening listening to Swindon Wessex Male Voice choir and the Coldstream Guards held at the Steam Museum.

Thanks to Ron for sorting the tickets.

Sunday 20 March

We had a list as usual for this walk around Stanton Park but as ever it changed with eventually 8 walkers enjoying the fresh air - sadly we couldn't feed the ducks - before 7 of us adjourned to the Carriers Arms in South Marston where we were joined by 3 more members to enjoy the usual excellent lunch.

Thanks to the following reporters:

Sylvia Kendall
Jo Noblin
Brenda Bruch
Jessamy Crozier



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FUTURE EVENTS/SUGGESTIONS

As always, if there is anything you would like organised or any suggestions you may have, please speak to a committee member.

That way, we can make sure the diary is kept up to date and everyone is aware of other events being held at the same time.

The committee are voluntary and work hard for all members and as long as all fees are paid promptly, we are often able to subsidise costs which helps everyone.

Regular Events

Various events have been held during the quarter at the RAFA Club, including quizzes, discos, dances etc.
Contact Ron or Celia for details of the events.

There have been regular Sunday lunches at various venues throughout the quarter. Current favourite seems to be the Carriers Arms, South Marston where 6-7 members regularly meet for Sunday lunch - nice meal - good value - great company and it saves cooking!! Why not come along one Sunday? Contact Celia to book.

Often members have attended regular live music events held at Morris Street Club, Rodbourne. And also the Haydon Club, which is always popular and most Fridays and Saturdays there will most likely be someone going.

Several members attend Kennett Vale hashes held at different venues within a 20 miles radius of Swindon on alternate Sundays. You can either run (about 6-7 miles) or walk gently and natter (about 3-4 miles). The

hashes start and end at the same pub where you can have a drink and/or Sunday lunch if you want.

Web site <http://kvh3.co.uk/>

<http://www.sq1singlesclubswindon.co.uk>
[Facebook at Square One - Swindon](#)

Organised an event?

We would like to be able to include it in the Square 1 Newsletter.

Please email a few lines to:
carolewoodcock@btinternet.com

A Very Happy Birthday to all members who celebrated during this quarter