



Square 1 Newsletter

Issue 34 - 2nd Quarter 2015

Keeping you up to date with news of some of the many events enjoyed by members since the last newsletter for Q1 2015 was issued.

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

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

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.

Most Sundays there is a group of members who lunch at The Carriers Arms in South Marston (book with Celia) but we try a few other places as well.

Meal and Cinema – Saturday 4th April

5 club members had a very enjoyable meal at the White Hart and went on to see The Water Diviner. What an excellent film it was and enjoyed by everyone.

Walk round Jubilee Lake – Monday 6th April

The sun shone, the daffs sparkled and we even saw some bluebells as 5+1 members had a delightful walk around Jubilee Lake in Royal Wootton Bassett.

An ingenious person has opened a tea room by the kiddies playground so we enjoyed a

welcome cup of coffee courtesy of Ron - his way of saying SORRY for being late!!

It was a lovely walk and good to feel the sun on our faces.

Sunday Lunch at The Carriers – Sunday 12th April

There were 16 of us on a sunny but blustery afternoon and we all sat on a long table, enjoying the Carriers Carvery.

Always good, always tasty and always very welcoming.

After – some had puds, some had coffee, and some just watched the others!

Too much food of course, but no-one had to cook, which is always welcome.

As usual, varied and interesting conversations, tinged with memories and odd bursts of song. Odd they certainly were – but fortunately mostly in tune I'm glad to say.

What other diners made of our table – I am unsure – but it was another nice Sunday lunch in good company.

Meal and Film – Saturday 18th April

After a meal at the Dockle Farmhouse pub, 14 members went on to the cinema to see Woman in Gold.

Based on a true story, it is about an elderly Austrian Jewish lady, now living in California, who is determined to get back a famous picture from a gallery in Vienna which had belonged to her family before being stolen by

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the Nazis during World War 2. She hires an unknown lawyer and together they take on the Austrian Government and win the picture back.

It was an excellent film.

Walk round Barbury Castle and lunch at The Calley Arms - Sunday 19th April

10 members braved the blustery Sunday morning for a walk around Barbury Castle.

Most had not attended this very picturesque venue since their courting days - but at least the weather made for a brisk walk which left us with plenty of time to visit the Calley Arms in Hodson.

We were joined by Chris, John and Julie making 13 for the lunch, which was well received by all and it was a definite will do again.

Only comment was that the beef was a little tough.

Dead Simple at The Wyvern - Saturday 25th April

Saturday 25th April saw 14 club members completely enthralled by the Peter James play "Dead Simple" which was anything but "simple" - the whole of the Wyvern theatre was silent.

The play was brilliantly acted and very absorbing. Thanks Jo for organising.

Sunday Lunch at The White Hart - Sunday 26th April

There were 15 of us sat at a long table in the old skittle alley at The White Hart and good conversation was accompanied by good food.

There is a carvery and plenty of choices of vegetables and you get to add your own gravy and Yorkshire pud too (or not!).

I do like to see my meat being carved in front of me, and being able to choose which bits to have. Getting your vegetables at the same time all helps as well.

Excellent choices of puds too - so all in all a good Sunday lunch experience.

We got to meet Maureen's daughter and her adorable little grandson - what a beautiful boy he was and we could all see why she is so besotted with him.

A lovely lunch....

The Mikado at The Arts Centre - Friday 1st May

For an amateur group the Swindon Gilbert & Sullivan Society were excellent in the MIKADO at the Arts Centre. All 15 members who went to the performance enjoyed the evening - sadly some had better seats than others but after Sylvia complained to the management, the Wyvern Box Office acted promptly in giving a full refund to those affected - RESULT!!



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Skittles at Woodshaw – Saturday 2nd May

It was a great day for Skittles - 29 members gathered at the Woodshaw pub in Royal Wootton Bassett for an evening of good food and fun and what fun we had - the rising comedian of Square One has to be Ken B who caused much laughter - thanks Ken.

The winning scorer for the men was Terry W who scored 20, Pam P scored 19 for the ladies and our lovely Maureen won the consolation prize of the bag of Skittles with the lowest score which we will keep a secret!!

A great night was had by all.

Walk at Mouldon Hill and lunch at The Tawny Owl – Sunday 3rd May

It rained all night and most of the morning. Well – it was Bank Holiday weekend after all!

Mouldon Hill is not a place to walk in the rain, or even after rain, so the walk was cancelled.

Everyone was sent the message. And everyone should have got it - but there's always one isn't there?

The rescue from the lonely and rain sodden car park was efficiently organised and a warming cup of coffee on offer before lunch.

Note to organiser! Follow up emails with texts. No excuses then and no call for an emergency rescue to be launched at short notice. Was that the Wiltshire Air Ambulance I saw hovering on standby? Not needed this time! Phew!

The Tawny Owl is not a carvery but has roasts on the menu on Sunday, as well as other

choices. But, as in some other pubs, the roasts come with gravy and Yorkshire puddings already on the plate –with veggies to follow.

Just bear this in mind if we go there again. But I have to say that some of the other dishes on offer looked very appetising!

Italian Meal in Highworth – Saturday 9th May

Another fun filled Saturday night in Highworth, at the excellent Italian Restaurant.

We have been many times before and always enjoyed it.

This time there were 16 of us and the food and service were excellent.

I can highly recommend the Merlot house wine – but that's just a personal choice!

Didn't detract from my garlic prawns or chicken with asparagus at all...

Everyone seemed to enjoy their meals and it was good to see some old faces, some new ones and some familiar ones too...

Oh – and parking was soooooo much better this time!

Thanks to Sylv for organising and counting the cash!

Meal and Cinema – Saturday 16th May

There were a couple of choices for films to see – Far From the Madding Crowd, and Spooks. 2 went to one and 3 to the other.



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So the 5 of us met beforehand at The White Hart – which is always good and reliable for food.

Good conversation – with an inordinate amount of time spent contemplating the availability of Chunky Monkey ice creams at Greenbridge!

Would there be enough left by the time we got there?

This was an important point – and merited serious consideration!

Fortunately there was – so sighs of relief all round...

Films and seats were good – an enjoyable evening. Lack of Chunky Monkey could have made it all so different...

And then, I hear, one of the group fell asleep during the film! No names, no chunky monkey! My lips are sealed...

Walk and Cream Tea – Sunday 17th May

Ten members turned up for a gentle stroll around Stanton Park one Sunday in May. The weather was a bit disappointing, as we had already shed our vests for the summer and found it a bit chilly, but dry at least.

All but one then went on to Stanton House hotel for tea, some having sandwiches, some cake or a combination of both - all very delicious!!

Joseph and the Amazing Multicolour Dreamcoat – Friday 22nd May

A group of members thoroughly enjoyed the recent production of Joseph at the Wyvern.

Wonderful singing and dancing really made the story come to life. I think the cast enjoyed it as much as the audience, especially the choir of youngsters who provided all the backing. I enjoyed it so much I went back the next day with my nine year old, all singing, all dancing granddaughter.

Unfortunately I have to remind people once again that if they cannot make an event where they are expected, please let the organiser know beforehand.

10 pin Bowling – Saturday 30th May

On Saturday 30th May, 17 enthusiastic club members gathered at the main gate of RAF Brize Norton for the 2nd 10 pin bowling meet.

The booking-in process went smoothly and we all set off in convoy for the bowling alley. On arrival at the alley the first order of the evening was the setting out of the 'grub'. An assorted and delicious looking spread was laid out in readiness for the half-time rush for sustenance. Of course, Sylv's famous Crispy Cheese biscuits had to be sampled to make sure they were up to her usual standard! They were...

Shoes and games were paid for and the games began. From the beginning there was a friendly rivalry between Ed and Pete for the best score and highest number of strikes. The winner of this contest and the whole evening, for the men, was Ed, with Bernie coming top of the ladies.

The victors were ceremoniously presented with gold medals for their achievements by Sylv.

We wrapped up about 9.30pm and once again left in convoy (with the exception of Marion



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who turned left instead of right for her own tour of the base under the cover of darkness). An enjoyable evening had by all.

Thanks to Kathy for organising.

Sunday Lunch - The White Hart Sunday 7th June 2015

A small group met in the sunshine and enjoyed a carvery, which was up to the usual standard!

Excellent conversation and company - must do it again!

Sunday Lunch - The Carriers Sunday 14th June 2015

Here we were again at one of our usual Sunday haunts -with sparkling conversation.

And the food wasn't bad either!

Club Holiday to Majorca - 7th June to 14th June

Ten members and honorary member Margaret had a wonderful week in Majorca in June.

Wall to wall sunshine greeted us as we arrived in Alcudia. The hotel was beautifully clean, as was the pool area. The long sandy beach was about a 10 minutes stroll from the hotel. The resort area and harbour about 20 minutes, if you didn't stop in the numerous shops on the way!!

We enjoyed a visit to the market in the old town area, an open top bus tour of the surrounding area and a boat trip which turned out a little damp.

One evening we hopped on the 'wally trolley', a little land train which also toured round the local area. We made a couple of trips to the

quaint old town area, with its lovely old church, narrow street and nice little shops. The taxis were very cheap, so we made use of them when we didn't feel like walking.

I think everyone enjoyed themselves, so we won't mention the queue at the passport check at Palma Airport or the delayed flight home due to the Spanish Air traffic controllers strike!!

Where to next year?? Any suggestions??

Theft - Friday 19th June

Friday saw 9 club members at the Arts Centre for another brilliant presentation by the Western Players.

We all enjoyed the intrigue of the play and admired the actors who had so many lines to learn- the resultant play was excellent.

Pig Roast - Saturday 20th June

18 members went to a Pig Roast at Buscotwick - good food, company and music and I believe £2000 was raised for the NSPCC.

The weather stayed dry for this open air event after the earlier rain - it got a bit chilly later but we all wrapped up and enjoyed ourselves.

Sunday Lunch - Sunday 28th June

A good gathering at The Carpenters Arms - definitely turning out to be one of our favourites.

You can chose from specials, items on the regular menu and, of course, roasts!

So - something for everyone...



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Thanks to the following reporters:

Sylvia Kendall
Jo Noblin
Ron Rose
Kathy Jones
Jessamy Crozier

Regular Events

Various events have been held during the quarter at the RAFA Club, including quizzes, discos, dances etc. See Ron 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?

Call Celia to book.

During the quarter, members have attended regular live music events held at Morris Street Club, Rodbourne.

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/>

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

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[Facebook at Square One - Swindon](#)

Please, if you organise an event, e-mail a short blurb on the event (you can see the sort of details required from the events described above) for the Quarterly Newsletter to:

jessamycrozier@yahoo.co.uk.

It saves me chasing around pestering people for them. Thanks.

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.

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RIP Richard Blackford



A member of Square One for many years, we were all saddened to hear of Richard's death in the early hours of 4th June. He was only in his fifties.

Richard was a character and brought his own uniqueness to the events he attended. Sadly he had not enjoyed good health since an accident in 1979 but he didn't let it affect him too much.

He will be remembered fondly and missed by many who knew him.

Our thoughts are with his parents, family and friends.

RIP Kelvin Skuse



Sadly on Thursday 18th June, we heard that Kelvin Skuse had passed away.

Although he was relatively new to the club, he was well liked and will not be forgotten.

RIP Kelvin –our thoughts are with his family and friends.