

EMSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
NEWS LETTER JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2005

FROM THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

On behalf of the Committee, I hope you have all enjoyed your Christmas and we wish you all the best for the coming year.

2004 was a year of achievement - the old school building now has a new kitchen and an access corridor which improves the flow of visitors through the building without disturbing user groups; the new three-roomed annexe was completed and officially opened in July. The completion of these two major projects enables us to offer a variety of rooms to user groups for all sorts of activities.

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Looking forward to 2005, your Committee's plans include: a boules court, a portable skittle alley, redecoration of the old school building and Lumley area and, if funds allow, repairs to the playground.

We have experienced some changes to the Committee during the year. John Batty, the past Chairman, resigned at the A.G.M. in his time in office a new 25 year lease was agreed, the upgrading of the old building and the construction of the new annex was achieved. His input of these projects was invaluable. We are very pleased that he is still on the Committee as Vice President so that we can benefit from his knowledge and experience. We shall also greatly miss Mrs. Sue Ross, who has given support to the Centre over many years as Chairman and Secretary, always willing to help on Craft Market mornings and representing on the Committee user groups to which she belongs, which included Table Tennis Club and Ramblers. Thank you, Sue, from us all for your support for so long.

We take this opportunity to thank Commander Derek Molyneux, who has also resigned after about nine years serving on the Committee as Treasurer, on the maintenance team and, more recently, as our Health and Safety Officer. We are very grateful for his contribution and support over so many years.

We are pleased to welcome some new members to our team of volunteers, namely Alison Patrick who is now concerned with social events, and Roy Markham, representing the US A.

Two of our members experienced ill health during the year - our Secretary, Judy Carrington and our Booking Secretary, Christine Colquhoun. Both are regaining health and Judy is continuing her duties. Maureen Ballard-Neale is now Booking Secretary, leaving Christine to continue supporting the various user groups that she belongs to.

I wish to say a big thank you to Liz Mardel, who has organised the monthly Craft Markets for about fourteen years. The Market will continue under new management on the first Saturday in March.

A thank you too, to our team of deliverers, some of whom have done this task for literally years, pushing the 'yellow pages' through your letter boxes faithfully every two months.

Unfortunately we are still running without a Chairman. Are there any volunteers out there who would be prepared to take on this important role? The Centre provides a wonderful facility for all age groups in Emsworth and the surrounding area. The Committee is a dedicated team of volunteers and our target for the coming years is to increase the room usage by regular users, and to expand our social activities.

Thank you to all the Committee and so many HELPERS who give up their time to continue the running of the Centre which, after all, is a wonderful facility in the heart of Emsworth. As a member, please encourage all your friends and family to use the buildings.

REX BALLARD-NEALE.

FROM THE BOOKING SECRETARY.

During the first quarter of the year, we are expecting the Assembly and Lumley areas to be redecorated. I will do my best to inform group leaders when their usual areas will be affected and find them alternative accommodation where possible. Inevitably this is going to cause some disruption and inconvenience, but I'll try and keep everyone informed as far ahead as possible. I'm sure you realise that the work needs doing and that you will be patient and understanding. Yours in trepidation, MAUREEN.

THE CRAFT MARKET - ELIZABETH MARDEL.

Liz, as we know her, has for the past fourteen years co-ordinated the Craft Markets. This has meant a tremendous amount of work between each monthly meeting. Craftsmen prepare and display their own work, which means that they and potential customers meet and can discuss the function, shape, colour and finish of the wares offered.

It has been Liz's privilege and responsibility to consider and harmonise the accumulative whole effect, and to present the resulting visual feast which we have enjoyed for so long. This doesn't happen by 'waving a wand'. Liz, by using her own talent, training and experience has sought out willing craftsmen who are designing well, using good quality raw material and with an excellent finish. With the help of other appropriate practitioners, she has selected goods of a high standard which are sympathetically displayed (all within the limiting physical conditions). Her tact and diplomacy has ensured stallholders have a fair share of opportunity; with their good will she has created a superb atmosphere on the first Saturday morning of each month. Quality and a fair price for handmade articles has been the hallmark of the action.

Obviously, much willing, cheerful and patient help has been necessary behind the scenes; all the people who have been so reliable and committed are known, but this 'thank you' ought to be solely to highlight our gratitude to Liz who, without financial reward, has done so much for the community. What a wonderful opportunity has existed for local people to walk into the Village Centre to buy superior goods at affordable prices. The genuine worth of our thanks will be manifest in the way in which we continue to publicise and support the new coordinators as they develop the market and explore new ways and opportunities.

Always we will remember our amazing Liz Mardel.
HELEN BARNARD.

P.S. There will be no Craft Market in January and February - the first one in 2005 will be on 5th March.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR November 27th.

Many, many thanks to all of you who came along to support our event; thank you to all the helpers, stall holders and the customers who dug deep into their pockets to raise the grand sum of £752.01 on the day; this was boosted by Mary Falkner's handicrafts which she sells at the Thrift Shop every Thursday by £202.75. Thus a grand total of £954.76 was realised!

JUMBLE SALE

On January 22nd we are holding a New Year Jumble Sale. This is a good chance to clear out your cupboards to make way for your new Christmas presents!!

We will always collect if needed, or you can drop off on the morning. We are open early to take donations and from 10.00 till 12.00 to offer our bargains. Refreshments will be served. 20p entry. All monies to-the Centre.

G. Algar - 375733

S. SWaine - 375544

TEA DANCES

(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT)

Every Thursday 2.00 - 4.00 p.m. beginning 20th January 2005. Modern and sequence dancing, accompanied by keyboard and C.D. music. Basic instruction available.

£2.00 per head, including light refreshments. Come along for a pleasant, sociable afternoon.

For further information, ring Brian or Gloria on 373558.

SWING JIVE DISCO

Whether you want to dance, just sit and watch, chat or all three, Come to the Devcaster Swing Jive Disco. Enjoy the music of artists such as Glen Miller, Frank Sinatra, Bill Hayley. The Jive Aces and many many more! Join us in the Lumley Room at the Emsworth Community Centre of Saturday 22nd January 2005 at 7.30 p.m. Admission is by ticket only at £4.00 and there will be drinks on sale. Tickets are available from Shaun or Linda on 01243 372092 or visit our website at www.devcaster.co.uk

BLOOD DONATIONS

The first session of the year will be on MONDAY 14th FEBRUARY - the usual slots, 1.00 -3.25 p.m. and 4.20 - 7.15 p.m.

Please attend if you are called, and if you are free of infection. If you have never given blood, how about making it a new year resolution?

Maureen Ballard-Neale.

QUIZ TIME with Judy and Martin - Saturday February 26th at 7.30 p.m.

The thirteenth edition of this annual light-hearted event will take place in the Mountford Rooms at the Community Centre. The tried and tested popular format will continue with questions on all manner of subjects being put to all teams simultaneously. Two or more people comprise a team, so find some friends and come and join the fun.

We hope that all last year's participants, both regular and new, found it an entertaining and worthwhile evening and will return for more of the same. We are particularly keen to have representation from all groups, organizations and members who use the Community Centre, together with as many members of the general public as we can attract

Tickets for the evening will cost £3.00 per person and will include a Ploughman's Supper. Please book your tickets in advance from Judy on 375626, Maureen on 372294 or Alison on 377493.

There will as usual be a raffle. Any contribution to the prize list would be appreciated. We look forward to seeing you.

Judy and Martin Carrington (375626.)

FOLK DANCING

Starting Monday 17th January, the Club meets once a fortnight at 7.30 in the Assembly Rooms. The dates until Easter are as follows:

January 17th and 31st
February 14th and 28th
March 14th.

Barbara is a most patient and inspiring caller and Brian and his friends provide us with live music. All are welcome to come and join us.

Maureen Ballard-Neale.

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PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS

We now have two parent and toddler groups meeting in Rooms 1 and 2 of the new Mountford Suite:

Cygnets P.T.G. Tuesdays 9.30 -11.00 a.m. Starting 4th January. For further information ring Rachel on 378463.

Bo-bo Beans. Play and Learn. Fridays a.m. starting 7th January.

For further information ring Neal or Larry on 544544.

If you have under school age children, do get in touch and join in.

EMSWORTH MARITIME AND HISTORICAL TRUST.

Please note - the first meeting of the year is at 7.30 p.m. at the Centre on THURSDAY 6th JANUARY NOT 5th as published in 'The Echo'. Adrian Fox will be giving a video representation of Travels in the Far East.

BARBARA WEDLOCK.

We are very sad to learn of the death of Barbara, so very well known and loved by our Rambling Club; she supported Brace in his entire social and holiday ventures, which have given so much pleasure to the Ramblers.

We send our sympathy to her sons, their families and her own twin brothers. Helen

Barnard.

STOP PRESS DIARY DATES FOR EMSWORTH MARITIME & HISTORICAL TRUST.

12th February Illustrated talk by Cdr. B Witts- History of Whale Island 7.30 pm Mountford Rooms.

10th March A.G.M. Time and venue as above.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Subscriptions for 2005 are due in January. Thanks to all who have already paid their subscriptions, with a special thanks to all of you who kindly added a donation with your subscription.

If you do not require the form it might be an idea to pass it to a friend or neighbours and encourage them to join us. If you belong to a group or class that uses the Centre, perhaps you could persuade others in the group to sign up.

Once again, thank you for your support.

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Louise Bird.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Emsworth Community Association

Subscriptions per Household £2.00
Postal £3.20

Mrs. M. L. Bird
Membership Secretary
4 Creek End,
Emsworth P0107EX.

The above are the subscriptions for January 2005. Please return this form together with your subscription to Mrs. M. L. Bird at the above address. Cheques payable to Emsworth Community Association.

Thank you for your support.

Name.....

Address.....
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Area.....