

Leighton Buzzard Observer, June 2 2009

www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk



FLYING HIGH: Exhibits at Mentmore's Arts Festival, pictured left. Above, if you fancy a cycling challenge, Mentmore offers a variety of possibilities this month. See Jane Cannon's Mentmore Village Link column, below, for details

very demonstrations, working rail use, military or vintage vehicles or other exhibits or demonstrations. Admission is £4 for adults and £2 for children. Refreshments are available and there is free parking and wheelchair access toilets. For more details contact the museum manager on 01525 82484 or the business manager on 01525 752701. For school visits, contact Julie Lloyd Evans on 0774 589 3205.

NO SWAN SONG: Alan and Norma, who have been looking after The Village Swan, Kinghorn Acre, since the departure of the previous managers earlier in the year, have been confirmed by the pub management committee as its permanent managers with effect from July 1.

"We thank you all for your support and look forward to a long and happy time, returning the Village Swan to its rightful owners, you the customers," said Alan.

The pub is owned by the villagers, and the management team stressed that the continued support of local people was essential to keep the pub open. The new managers showed the Champions' League Final on a big screen last week and Norma served a corned beef hash for the occasion. Meanwhile, the pub is looking for a 'Jack of all trades' kitchen assistant. Anyone interested should give Alan or Norma a call on 01525 229444 after July 1.

Mentmore by Karen Thomas

ARTS FESTIVAL: Our second Mentmore Arts Festival was held over the Whitsun weekend. The festival opened with a private viewing at on Friday, May 22, for the artists, their families and friends and other invited guests, it was then open to the public over the bank holiday weekend. Once again a very successful exhibition of local art was held in St Mary's Church and the village hall, and for the budding younger artists there was a children's painting competition. Throughout the weekend a variety of refreshments were available in the idyllic surroundings of the village hall garden.

The weather was marvellous, unlike last year, which helped enormously in providing an excellent attendance and final result. Local beneficiaries will include St. Mary's Church Restoration Fund (phase one of the two-phase project was completed the week before the festival) and the Willen Hospice.

Due to the complex nature of the accounting work we do not have final results for the weekend as yet, but rest assured, as soon as we know how much profit was made and what donations are to be given to each of the charities, we will let you know.

The committee wish to thank all those who helped and contributed to the festival as well as those who came, viewed and bought the art on sale.

See Terry cakes, 1st Jill Thomas, 2nd Sue Mills, 3rd Christine Johnson
Puzz: 1st Christine Johnson
RACER

foods that would have been eaten during the war. Caroline Bruce Edwards built an Anderson Shelter and all the children spent a few minutes in there after leaving an air raid siren.

After highlights for the school has been a visit by Year 5 to a science fair at St Henry Flood Grammar School. They did many different types of experiments in a real science lab and all had a thoroughly enjoyable day. Mrs Avery was very proud of all the children's behaviour and the grammar school complimented her on their standards.

Meanwhile, Brookwood is still collecting wreaths from Texas and Sarnbury's in the collection boxes by the school office.

Finally, parents have been asked to be considerate when parking to pick up children, after a number of complaints about cars blocking driveways. During the week before half term, the school participated in a national event to encourage children to walk to school with the theme of Talk And Walk.

"The following suggestions will help to improve the traffic situation outside the gates and help our children to be more active," said governor Margaret Witherden, "Leave the car at home and walk all the way. Marshworth children should be walked to the bus stop - don't use the car. Or park in a safe place away from the school and walk some of the way." Deputy head Sue Denton said each class had decided on a talk topic for each day and children were able to record their success on bookmarks provided by Bucks County Council.

ART EXHIBITION: Mentmore held another excellent art exhibition with a very high standard from local artists. Again Edward Stamp must have been the star of the show, but I didn't do too badly myself - in fact I had to go home to restock twice. Must be the LBO publicity which lots of people have commented on, and no, I didn't write it myself! I must thank all the organisers who gave their time and effort with such generosity. They are all so helpful and friendly, but I can't name the whole cast but two outstanding names do come to mind. Prince the dog, such a friendly and well-mannered asset to any event and Jonathon, the muscle man, who carried my artwork back to my car for me. I invited him home and would love to take him to every event I do, but sadly he declined. Oh well!

3rd Barbara Ellis
PHOTOGRAPHY
Reflections of a season: 1st Tony Mellorby, 2nd Paul Williams, 3rd Sue Mills
FAMILIES: 1st John Walsh, 2nd Diane Turley, 3rd Tony Mellorby
POETRY
Credit Church Blues: 1st Kate Wheelwright, 2nd Jan Walsh, 3rd Christine Johnson
Book review: 1st Ann Roberts