



## 'Surprise Supper' Speen Supporters Group

A very enjoyable evening was spent in the village hall on 3rd February hosted by the SSG. A lovely supper prepared by Jean Baines and

Marjorie Stockley was provided for 50 people who came to support the SSG in their unending task to raise money for 5 local Hospices. Representatives from each of the Hospices gave a short but enlightening speech between courses about their own organizations and how our money has helped them. At the end of the evening, over coffee and mints, each Hospice was

presented with a cheque for £500. The hospices are: Florence Nightingale House; Helen House (incorporates Douglas House); Iain Rennie Hospice at Home; The Hospice of St Francis and The South Bucks Day Hospice

Many thanks to all who came to support this event and we hope to see you again at future functions.

Nikki Allan



Each hospice was presented with a cheque for £500

## Ladies night out!

We decided that having read Great Expectations we must go and see the stage version especially as it was on at the R.S.C. What could be more pleasant we thought than spending a gloomy January evening at the theatre? How shall we get there? It was unanimous. A stretched limo. Let's do it in style! Everything was duly arranged by Judith (Newenham) and we all arrived promptly at 16 Abbotswood. It was Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. We were due to leave at 5.00 p.m. and a call came through at 5.05 to warn us the driver was running half an hour late. He'd had a puncture and was changing the tyre! We had a drink and a bit of a chat and decided not to panic.

At 5.30 we leapt into the limo, complete with our rations, champagne, chocs, coffee and shortbread. Obviously this driver knows where he's going we pondered nervously, as we twisted round Devil's Elbow and then the Horses Rest Home. After all he's got Sat Nav. I suppose it could be a bit intimidating having eight opinionated ladies telling you which way to go, but that man deserves no sympathy. After taking us through Naphill, past Hughenden Manor into Wycombe, he then drove us up the West Wycombe road through Stokenchurch to the ,very busy (at that time of night) M40.

The interior of the limo was very pleasant ,but the coloured lights ,music and even the glass of champagne couldn't dispel our anxiety that we might not get there in time. We fell out of the

limo into the car park , not even outside the entrance and flew into the foyer just as they were announcing "this is the last call to take your seats". We'd made it with two minutes to spare! It was a really excellent production which we all enjoyed. We had recovered sufficiently by the interval to have a drink, including Anna Odlin who had travelled back from Sheffield that evening through horrendous traffic also arriving with only minutes to spare. Our return journey was uneventful and we easily managed to drink two more bottles of champagne. A big thank you goes to Judith for organising it for us, but don't ask her for a recommendation for a stretched limo company please!!

Eddie Radford



Ladies in the limo



## Speen Quiz raises over £2500



Geoff and Clare—over 4500 original questions!

After four years of running the fortnightly Speen pub quiz, Geoff and Clare Smith have finally decided to hang up their clipboards. *(Although the quiz is still continuing - see below.)* The couple have put a marvellous effort into giving a lot of people a lot of fun and what's more, through the quiz, have raised over £2652.70 for the Speen Supporters Group Charity in aid of local hospices. (The entry fee has always been exactly £1 and Clare says the odd 70p was found on the floor one night. However, if you think it was yours please don't bother to claim it.) They reckon to have compiled at least

65 separate quizzes - and at around 70 questions per quiz you can imagine the work required to find over 4500 original questions!

The quizzes started in the William IV and in the early days Geoff and Clare recall as many as 27 people being crammed into the small bar to the left of the main entrance. Over the years the quiz moved into the main room and then down to the Gate at Bryants Bottom, where a number of residents were already quiz regulars. Normal attendances have probably averaged about 25-30, but have been as low as 9 and as high as 80+ (a Christmas Quiz in Speen Village Hall). The regular quiz is always on a Thursday evening, but there have been 3 special Christmas Quizzes and last year there was a Speen Festival Quiz.

Geoff and Clare are now taking a well-earned break from compiling quizzes and leaving it to others to continue. John Radford has led the move to keep the quiz going and several people have volunteered to

prepare an evening's questions. The quiz is now alternating between the William (sorry, De Wanium) and the Gate. Everyone is welcome (you don't need to come with a team, you can just join up with other competitors on the evening) and the object is to enjoy yourself - no-one takes it too seriously. So give it a try; it's a good night out and some people like to have supper in the pub before the quiz starts at about 8.00pm.

**Forthcoming dates and venues are: 9<sup>th</sup> March De Wanium, 23<sup>rd</sup> March The Gate, 6<sup>th</sup> April De Wanium, 20<sup>th</sup> April The Gate.**

Martin Stockley

### London Bridges Walk - 25<sup>th</sup> June 2006

Help raise kidney awareness and organ donation by walking eight of the London Bridges on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2006.

The Bridges Walk starts and finishes at the Tate Gallery on the south side of Tower Bridge and walkers will snake across the eight bridges, including Tower Bridge, London Bridge, Southwark Bridge, Millennium Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge.

Registration fee is £7.50 per walker, there is no minimum sponsorship but walkers are encouraged to raise as much sponsorship as they can. Proceeds will be used to further the work of Kidney Research UK and help improve the lives of people living with kidney disease.

For more information or to take part in the London Bridges Walk please call Kidney Research UK on 08456 121226 or visit [www.kidneyresearchuk.org](http://www.kidneyresearchuk.org)

*Supplied by Hughenden Parish Council*