

SPEEN SUPPORTERS GROUP

Watch out for publicity regarding this fundraising team. A number of Speen villagers, touched in one way or another by cancer, formed this voluntary organisation to raise funds and awareness for five local hospice charities.

In January, representatives from Helen House, Oxford; Florence Nightingale House, Aylesbury; St. Francis Hospice, Berkhamsted; Iain Rennie Hospice at Home and the South Bucks Day Hospice, High Wycombe were invited to a charity supper in Speen's small village hall to talk about the work of their hospices. Despite the sad and scary elements of the word 'hospice' it was apparent to all attending that the work of the hospice movement is to improve the quality of life for those with life-threatening or long-term illnesses and support their carers and families. The evening was a great success in terms of Speen Supporters Group's aims, which are to raise funds (£688 profit from the evening), raise awareness and to have fun while fundraising.

A collection of foreign coins

Raising funds for local hospice charities

from Speen villagers was also very successful with over £450 collected so far and still more arriving.

On Valentine's evening, the group ran the first of its fortnightly quizzes in Speen's local, the *King William IV*. Diners in the candlelit restaurant wondered what on earth was going on in the bar next door

as Quizmaster Geoff Smith fought to be heard above the riotous teams battling for first place. It is a 'turn up, pay £1 and join in' affair and the ultimate goal is to take the entire pub over every other Thursday. A great little fundraiser.

The biggest event to be staged is

the Ladies Charity Fashion Night on Wednesday April 10th at the Town Hall, Wycombe Swan. A Corporate Fashion Event for business ladies will be held between 5pm and 6.30pm with wine and canapés including health and beauty exhibits and a mini 'Corporate' fashion show. This will be followed at 7.15pm by the Evening Fashion Event with a two course supper and wine, colour demo and fashion show run by Manhattan of Beaconsfield with a flavour of Style and Image concepts. Tickets are available from the Wycombe Swan Box Office on **01494 512000**, £15 and £25 respectively.

There are a number of other events in the planning stage including a Children's Teddy Bears' Picnic and Treasure Hunt in June and a Go-kart endurance race in September at Oxford Stadium.

If you are interested in any of these events or would like information about the Speen Supporters Group or the charities they help, please contact the Secretary on 01494 488696 or Email at speensupporters@beeb.net



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