

Caribbean Evening September 2008

We had a hugely successful evening despite the appalling weather conditions! The Caribbean Flags that decorated the sides of the marquee and the Steel Band, along with the colourful and bright costumes of the guests helped make it very enjoyable even if the rain did drip from time to time between the marquee and the catering tent. Well done to the caterers Dave & Tracy and crew from the King William IV who were magnificent.

Many thanks to those of you who supported us, either by donations, being there on the night, or helping us to put the evening together. SSG could not have raised £2,894.84 without you. And last but by no means least our thanks to Grace & Barry for once again hosting this event for us in their lovely gardens.

XMAS Fayre and All Day Break- fast October 2008

This was held for the first time in the King William IV with our usual hospice cards on sale as well as a home produce stall, inexpensive gift stall and jewellery stall. We raised £230 from the stalls and each of the individual hospice stalls made profits as well.

We have been able to give the

How the two ladies did

Last issue we told you about Shelley Jennings' and Christine Symondson's test of friendship and communal generosity as they planned their sponsored cycle tour of Vietnam to raise money for Helen and Douglas House. We doff our cycling helmets on learning that they have raised £13,000. Shelley will be speaking at the WI meeting on March 5.

hospices £1,000 each this Autumn and I can assure you your support is recognised by them and greatly appreciated.

Future dates for events

Look out for a Wine Tasting & Fun Night Feb/March time

If you are not on the list and would like to be to get details of SSG and local events, please send me your e mail address to edie@speenbucks.org



Edie Radford, 488679

Engulfed in the Wide Sargasso Sea

The decision of the Speen Supporters Group to hold a Caribbean Carnival Evening on 6 Sep-

tember was never entirely likely to match theme and weather, but the gale that rebounded around the marquee, pitched for the event on the lawns of Willott's Farm, Speen, owed more to Hurricane Ike than the balmy nights and the soft white sands of the islands. Yet everything else was there: a venue decked out in the flags of the Windwards and the Leewards (though few, put to the test, could identify them all, except for a table that seemed to think they were representing Madagascar). This slight hint of geographical confusion also pervaded the dress, with Hawaiian shirts and leis prominent amongst the dreadlocks.

But the guests only needed to know that they were there to enjoy the wonderful work of the Sunblaze steel drum band, to eat an excellent meal which combined the

efforts of the organizing group and the King William IV, to patronize the bar with alacrity and enthusiasm, and then to sway to the music on the dance floor, or skitter around to the wilder rhythms of drums (and wind o u t s i d e) .