

North Dean Ladies take a table at SHH Ladies Autumn Lunch

On Wednesday, 1st October, The Horse Trust in Speen once again opened its doors to host another delightful charity lunch in aid of SHH (Speen Helping Hospices) Fundraising in the Chilterns for Four Local Hospices. The event brought together supporters, friends, and members of the local community for an afternoon of companionship, fun and delicious food.

Among the attendees were four ladies from North Dean - Alison Kent, Melinda Pooley, Judith Broadley and Karen Mudie, each accompanied by their octogenarian mothers, Edwina, Grania, Ruth and Valerie with Judith also bringing along her daughter, Jem - creating a wonderful three-generation gathering. Christine Ryman also joined our table, adding to the fun atmosphere at the table.

The conversation around the table was marked by laughter and nostalgia with the mothers all sharing fascinating stories of their evacuations during the Second World War, recalling where they were evacuated and the challenges of those times special memories.

The food was absolutely delicious. Guests enjoyed a beautifully prepared three-course meal, cooked and served by dedicated volunteers from the



charity, despite the kitchen being incredibly small. The meal began with a tuna mousse served with melba toast, followed by a main course of Mediterranean chicken (with tomatoes and olives) accompanied by baked mint rice and a pomegranate and olive

salsa and finishing with a raspberry and meringue semifreddo. Each ticket included a free glass of fizz, wine, or cordial, which went down very nicely.

There were smiles all round when Val won a beautiful outdoors potted plant and Melinda won an Anthurium indoor plant, in the raffle draw.

Although there was no formal guest speaker this time at the lunch, Grainne Suter gave an engaging talk on the origins and purpose of Speen Helping Hospices, sharing how the charity began and the vital support it continues to provide to local hospices and families affected by life-limiting illness. Her words reminded everyone of the support and difference SHH continues to make.

The afternoon was a great success - a perfect blend of good company, good food and laughter. Events such as these not only raise valuable funds, in this case £2,274, for Speen Helping Hospices but also strengthen the bonds of friendship and community. Well done SHH.

Neighbourhood Watch - The Dark Side of Winter

Stan, Chair WDNHWA

As the clocks go back and days get forever shorter, burglaries become more common. Have you done all you can to ensure you are not a victim? Being part of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has been shown to reduce the likelihood of you becoming a target. Do you have a NHW scheme in your area? If not, would you be prepared to start one? Road signs and house stickers are supplied at no cost to you. You might also consider outside motion activated lights, cameras (real or realistic fakes) or camera doorbells. Wycombe District NHW have a

number of free helpful leaflets. Also we could set up a table at any event with leaflets and a selection of competitively priced products. Let's make our villages no-go areas for burglars.

Welcome to North Dean

We would like to welcome new residents to North Dean since July 2025, Philip & Victoria Mitchell, of 1 Deanfield Cottages. May you spend many happy years in this friendly village

PETER KEEN

By Sarah Keen

Peter and his family moved to Rosebank Cottage in Speen in 1975 and then moved to Upper North Dean Farm in 1981. His two older children, Sarah and James, attended Speen school where the family made long lasting friends.

Peter was a founder member of Rotary in Princes Risborough, and he went on to support numerous local charities and organisations.

He loved playing golf and set up the Lodge Hill Golf Society. Lots of fun golf days were enjoyed.

On moving to North Dean, Peter became chairman of the North Dean Village Hall committee. He organised lots of amazing events raising money for the village. Does anyone remember the ferret racing evening which was so much fun. He went on to be chairman of the Trustees of North Dean Village Hall and even though he did retire from this role, he still



remained a key figure at the meetings and events.

His other interests were being a trustee of Heart of Bucks, a volunteer for Bucks Vision and he drove the community bus in Risborough for many years. He also took over the role of organising the Speen and North Dean golf competition which still runs very successfully.

He absolutely loved his house/home in North Dean and could often be seen

sitting in his chair by the front door waving at anyone who walked or drove by (always accompanied by a glass of wine in the evenings).

He also loved driving his beloved Massey Ferguson tractor which he had for years. He could often be seen driving up to Speen causing traffic tailbacks.

He will be greatly missed by many.

WILLIAM SUMMERS

1946 – 2025

Written by his family

William was born on 1st December 1946 in Barnet to loving parents Gerald and Marjorie, as the youngest of four children. Gerald was a pioneering modern furniture designer, and together with Marjorie ran an engineering supply company specialising in roller and ball bearings.

When Gerald died unexpectedly, twenty-year-old William stepped in to run the family business

alongside his mother. With quiet determination, he continued to lead the company until his retirement decades later.

In 1969, William married Diana. Together they raised four children and were later blessed with eight grandchildren. While he worked hard, family was always at the heart of everything he did. A devoted husband, loving son and brother, and an endlessly supportive father

INREMEMBRANCE

and grandfather, William was always ready with advice, help, and words of encouragement — and never missed a chance to say how proud he was of those he loved.

Shortly before his retirement in 2006, William and Diana moved from Northwood to Speen, a village which they quickly grew to know and cherish. They poured energy into renovating “Cottage Farm” with William’s trademark meticulous care. “If a job’s worth doing, is worth doing well” he often said, and we think he made a fine job of it.

A friendly and welcoming man, William found this returned as he became part of Speen village life, making many new friends in the process. For many years, he was involved in running the Fete, designing and building stalls,



putting up marquees and quietly helping everything run smoothly behind the scenes.

He was also an active member of the Rotary Club, notably organising the car parking for the Kop Hill Climb (“you can never have too much tape”). And he enjoyed providing technical support for The Arts Society, with over 20 Speen members and Speen W.I. Those who knew him will remember

his ready smile, dry humour, and the twinkle in his eye whenever a practical challenge or good joke came his way.

William passed away at his home on 5th August aged 78. He will be deeply missed by Diana, their family and the many friends whose lives he touched with kindness, humour and generosity of spirit.

IAN WATERMAN

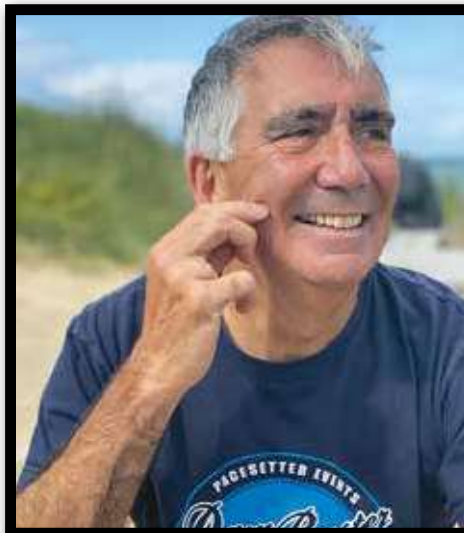
19th October 1956 – 26th August 2025

Written by the Waterman Family

Ian moved to Speen with his new wife Debbie, in August 1990, after their return from honeymoon.

Ian embraced life in Speen and in the mid 90’s he commenced the role of compere of the Speen Bonfire night, a task he thoroughly enjoyed and continued right up until last year’s bonfire night.

Ian also compered the Speen Fun Day for many



years and in more recent times the Speen Fete.

Ian, was a keen runner and triathlete, and he ran the London marathon in April 2002 to raise funds for the Speen Helping Hospices charity.

As a fitting tribute to Ian, often referred to as the “voice of Speen”, his celebration of life was held on the Playing Fields in the village marquee on September 19th.



SHH

shh-shop.org

Fundraising since 2001 for local hospices in Chiltern Villages

Helen & Douglas House for Children - Rennie Grove and Peace Hospice Care

South Bucks Hospice at Butterfly House - Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity

SHH - Raising Funds in Chilterns Villages December 2025

by Gráinne Suter, Chair SHH

It has been a very busy summer and autumn for our fundraising group these last few months.

In July we ran a plant, flowers and preserve stall at **Speen Fete** on one of the hottest days of the year. Fortunately, the SHH stand was in the shade and we kept cool with some very chilled prosecco! Hildreths in Prestwood donated a large quantity of the plants which all sold very well.

Then early September the group organised a very successful **"Sip and Sparkle"** luxury afternoon tea at **Speen Festival 2025**. It was very well attended with tea, sandwiches, scones, cakes and fizz. The chintzy crockery and white tablecloths made it a very classy affair as did the quartet entertaining the visitors with cello, viola and violins.

SHH received donations from both Speen Fete and Speen Festival for our contribution to their events.

The High Wycombe branch of **Tangent** invited us to speak at their Friendship Lunch in September and Jill Roberts, their new president nominated **SHH** as their charity for the year. The lunch raised £600 which was donated to SHH.

On the 1st October the first **Ladies Autumn Lunch** was held in the Sefton Barn, at The Horse Trust. For many years, apart from during the Covid era there has been a Spring lunch in May at The Horse Trust. The ladies attending the Spring Lunch were asked if they would be interested in an Autumn event. The answer was a definite yes and 60 tickets were sold (the maximum that the barn can accommodate). The £40 ticket covered a complimentary glass of wine and a three-course lunch followed by coffee and chocolates.

On the 11th October we had another brilliant **Comedy Night** organised by Elliot Wengler at Lacey Green village hall. Elliot had booked some class acts headlined by Michael Akadiri, Kathryn Mather, Phil Alexander, Nick Byard and Caitriona Dowden. Ticket sales were good, the bar was busy and everyone

had a great evening out.

The Annual Bridge Afternoon at North Dean village hall rounded off the autumn events and this year we had more tables than ever participating and everyone enjoying the now legendary afternoon tea.

The **Christmas Market** in the Chapel on the 16th November had a very good footfall again this year and we did a good line in bacon rolls and mulled wine.

We round off the year with the **Christmas Hamper raffle** with four great prizes, tickets are for sale online at £5 a ticket @ www.shh-shop.org/ and in the shop, and finally the **carol singing 15th, 16th and 18th December**. Dates and routes will be posted on **Sales and Wants**.

We are always keen to try new fundraising events and if you have suggestions or would like to help get in touch and contact me at events@shh-shop.org or on 07778 803 260.

For 2026 we have a **Quiz Night** planned for **7th February**.

For detailed information about all our events check out our website www.shh-shop.org

On the 29th July the Chairman of **Hypnos Bedding** – **Peter Keen** from North Dean passed away. His wife Judy has been on the SHH committee for many years, and she and her family requested that any donations in Peter's memory be donated to SHH. We are very grateful to the family for this as over **£5,000** has been raised and this has made a significant contribution to the fundraising for the hospices.

At the end of the year, we will divide the money raised in 2025 between the four hospices and full details will be posted on **Sales and Wants** and on **the SHH website**.



SPEEN FETE UPDATE

Lucy Johnston

Save the Date - Next Year's Fete is on Saturday 11th July

Thank You to Attendees and Volunteers

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who attended and volunteered at this year's Speen Fete, especially those who braved the heat to make the event a memorable one. Your support and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated.

Charity Donations and Community Support

We are delighted to share the fantastic news that this year's Fete has enabled us to donate a total of £4,300 in profits. Each of the 11 Speen organisations that participated has received £300, recognising their valued contribution and involvement. Additionally, our Charity of the Year, The Getaway

Thank you,
Speen Village
Fete.

Committee and
all Villagers

The Getaway Foundation
enjoying (the) outdoors with family, friends



"It's a lovely heartwarming thing you do"...

"Seeing my children being free with a smile on their faces
is priceless" (2018 Family Feedback)

Foundation, has been awarded £1,000. This donation is a significant step towards covering the £1,864 required to provide a family in need with a holiday through their initiative.

Get Involved: Join the Fete Team & Volunteer

The Fete team is a small, friendly group. We would warmly welcome new members from all generations to join our committee, as all types of skills are needed to ensure the event's continued success.

**For more information please contact
Lucy Johnston 07770868029**

RECIPE

Chocolate Orange Energy Balls

From Mandy How - recipe by @doctorbowl (Instagram)

Makes about 25 balls.

Ingredients

- 2 cups of oats
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 2 tbsp chia seeds
- 13 medjool dates
- Juice from 1 large orange
- Toppings: melted chocolate and orange zest (optional)



Method

Blend all the dry ingredients together. Add the orange juice slowly.

The mixture should come together. If too dry add more orange juice. If too wet add more oats.

Roll into balls.

Roll in melted chocolate, top with some orange zest.

Refrigerate until set.



by Liz Patroe

It's nearly Halloween (as I write this) after which minds will be turning to Christmas and the New Year so now seems a good time to pause and look back to late summer when Speen played host to its 14th Festival - photo spread on the following pages.

The Playing Fields, the Marquee, the Village Hall, the Chapel, the village itself and the surrounding countryside made it possible for us to stage 21 very different events. Without these, most of which rely on fundraising efforts and bookings to keep going and looking good, we would not be able to bring the village together, make new connections, learn new things, and generally enjoy ourselves. So thank you to the volunteers that take care of these important and irreplaceable village assets.

Through the generosity of our event organisers, many of whom gave their time, and the enthusiasm of those attending events, we were able to raise just under £8000. This has now been distributed to charities proposed by event organisers and to

village organisations mentioned above. This is a fantastic outcome. I won't divulge how much was raised by those who enjoy a tipple or two but safe to say, The Dragon Tavern, played an important role (thank you, Helen)!

Being a fairly windy and rainy two weeks made things interesting ...! Not least, the partial collapse of the marquee just after the last event. It was humbling to see so many people come to the marquee's rescue at short notice so thank you to all of you who helped that Monday morning.

Inevitably, questions will be asked (and already have been asked!) about Speen Festival 2027 ... The planning team can attest to how rewarding it has been to organise this year's event. So, if and when the call goes out for support next year (with planning starting about a year before the festival starts), I hope there will be new faces with exciting ideas and enthusiasm ready to take up the baton.

Thank you again.



