





THE PRODUCE SHOW

This was a new initiative, led by Felicity and I honestly thought it would be a disaster but, as often happens, I was completely wrong. In fact, it was probably the best event we have held, and I know how much people have enjoyed the Great Winter Get-Togethers, the Coronation, the Jubilees and so on but this was a wonderful day.

For a start, it was different. Felicity and her stalwart allotment friends organised the classes, the judging and the prizes and she excelled herself with the vegetable auction.

I never thought I would be holding a brace of artichokes whilst she encouraged the over-excited audience to bid for them or the tomatoes, the carrots, the onions, the green whatever it was, potatoes, radishes; honestly, I could go on...

Children's decorated vegetables, sausage rolls [very popular with the male contingent] and Victoria sponges were an additional draw, and it was so enjoyable to watch the winners being humble and the losers gracious. Eating some of them at the end was a bonus for the die-hards.

Finally, I think we were all amazed at the fact that anyone had actually grown anything in the blazing summer heat but there they were and admiration was unbounded for these dedicated gardeners.

Thank you, Felicity for a fabulous afternoon.

PW



Visit to Wakehurst Place

Even though it was one of the hottest days of the year, this didn't detract from our enjoyment of Kew, Wakehurst on the day that we visited.

Its beautiful, peaceful and ancient High Weald landscape spanning 535 acres provided a very wide range of opportunities for exploring different attractions. Some of us took a guided tour of the many interesting trees on the site while others explored the American Prairie habitat, Asian Heath garden or Millenium Seed Bank.

Several of us made a point of finding the location of each of the four monumental Henry Moore sculptures that have been loaned to Wakehurst where they complement and highlight the surrounding landscape and are set alongside the work of other contemporary artists.

For those overcome by the heat, the Mansion House provided a cool place to visit, and the Stables Kitchen provided a much-needed comfortable location to quench our thirst and sample the tempting food on offer.

It really was a perfect summer day out!

ST STEPHEN'S RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2026

Website: www.ststephensra.org ststephensra@gmail.com

Dear Residents

We have had a busy spring and summer and are now looking forward to the Arts and Crafts Show, the AGM, Halloween and Christmas. I am happy to report that we have more members than before, 304 households, and if you are reading this and would like to join us, please let me know. We contributed to the lovely eaver Mural next to the Curzon and our logo also appears on the plaque next to it which is part of the 'Wild Walls' trail that can be viewed at a variety of locations across Canterbury.

More details of our activities are in this edition, but I'd like to add something about the highways. Jennifer does an amazing job of collating information from individuals for various consultations and Alister Brady has instituted new initiatives that have enhanced our roads and our safety. Apart from the zebra crossing outside Archbishop's School, there is a new one on Kingsmead Road, and he is leading the plans for a roundabout at the bottom of Downs Road on St Stephen's Hill which will hopefully slow down the traffic between the Hill and Manwood Avenue. Consultations are also taking place on a wider application of the 20mph limit.

Mel Dawkins, Beth Forrester and Alister make a formidable team and have been active with our Residents' Association, the Beverley Meadows group, the Friends of Hales Place Chapel, getting lids on bins, making sure lights are fixed and so many more issues. We are very, very lucky to have them.

With best wishes

Pauline

Dates for your Diary:

November 14th

Arts and Crafts Show.

November 14th

AGM



CROSS PURPOSES! Alister Brady, Sian, Jennifer and Beverley walk the walk on the new crossing in Kingsmead Road



