



LAKE NEWS



Hampshire Lakes Entertainment

Casino Night 8th November

Get ready for a fun evening coming again to Hampshire Lakes in November! You will be greeted with cocktails and be given your fun money for the evening. Will you play Blackjack, Stud Poker or Roulette? We are having three tables this time and your professional croupiers will show you how to play and the resident who is luckiest will win a prize! Of course you may decide to form a syndicate and play with friends but that's up to you, just exchange your money for chips and a start playing.

Dinner will be a special party buffet so you will be free to play or eat as you wish.

The evening will be a Bond Themed Black Tie event so dust off those glad rags and let's party!

Joan Russam

REAL CROUPIERS! FAKE MONEY!



Theatre Together

We have seen a trio of top plays on consecutive weeks at Woking Theatre recently, all very different.

"**42nd Street**" was set on Broadway and followed the fortunes of a small-town girl, with wonderful tap-dancing and a very energetic chorus line and several well-known songs.

"**The King and I**", set in Siam, was a worthy successor to the Yul Brynner/Deborah Kerr film. The setting was the palace and the King's many children were scene-stealers whenever they were on. The singing was excellent and the whole thing was beautifully colourful and dramatic.

"**Life of Pi**" was very different. This is a set book for GCSE and there were many schoolchildren at the performance. I am sure they could follow it rather better than some of the other members of the audience. The Indian voices were not always easy to understand but the incredible "animals" were very impressive. It was easy to believe that they really were in the boat with Pi. A big "thank you" to Joan Russam who goes to so much trouble to book all these entertainments, aided by other committee.

Wendy Wooldridge

Life of Pi

This item is separate because it might have been a book review or an HLE item: it mentions both the book (the last of the big spenders, I found it on eBay for £1.89 including P&P) and the play at Woking on 4 Oct. I'd been told the play was hard to follow and thought the book would help. It did.

By the way Pi (which he says is $\pi = 3.141\dots$) is short not for "Pious" but for the eponymous hero's given name "Piscine Molitor". I thought at first it might have come from Pious because Pi himself actively practises Hinduism, Islam and Christianity, all at the same time. These are both indications of the surreal nature of the story. It makes you think.

The main part of the story is a fantasy: a report by Pi of what happened after the sinking of his ship, carrying a menagerie, in mid-Pacific. Of the five originally in the one lifeboat, Pi himself is the only human, and only he and a tiger survive for any time.

Much of it is apparently impossible and could be seen as either allegorical or the product of a brain deranged by sun and starvation. Pi even comes up with an alternative version because no-one believes him! One agreed set of facts and two stories. You choose which you think is the better one, he suggests.

The show covered most but not quite all the main ideas of the book. I'd been looking forward to the animal puppetry, after having seen it done so well in "The Lion King" but was disappointed. Although the puppets and



puppeteers themselves were brilliant they were far from convincing because the puppeteers were not dressed in dark or camouflage clothing and the spotlight operators illuminated them as much as the puppets. I was not alone in finding the diction mostly unintelligible - but much of the audience laughed occasionally so it must be my hearing. *Sam Dauncey*

Bistro Matters

Sometimes events fall short of what we hope for – the food is not to our liking or other things can go wrong. If this happens, please respond straight away, food can be returned to the kitchen and will be exchanged or put right. If you are not happy with something else, please tell one of the HLE team who will be present and can help to resolve your problem straight away.

Hampshire Lakes Entertainment strives to ensure that everyone has an enjoyable experience when attending their events.

Joan Russam

DIY Dining

Saturday 14th October was the first DIY dining event at Hampshire Lakes. What does this mean? Well it means that on those evenings when the Bistro is not open residents are able to use the available space to get together and enjoy food and wine but they have to bring it all themselves.

One table comprised seven of us enjoying a takeaway with plastic containers full of food and bags of rice crackers all heaped in the middle of the table. We didn't totally slum it as we had proper plates. We brought our own wine, glasses, cutlery and plates (thank you Carolyn) and a great fruit salad provided by Janet.



Our takeaway came from **Rice** which was delivered promptly and on time. *Jenny Hydes.*

On Saturday 14th October Ruth asked 7 friends to the first DIY Bistro Dinner. laid up a lovely table for 8 with cloths, napkins, cutlery and glasses. Ruth's menu started with a glass of fizz, then a cold starter, followed by a hot main and then a sublime dessert. Wine and chocolates supplied by the guests made this a super evening. A big thank you to Ruth

who picked up the gauntlet and ran with it to produce a superb meal.

We all made sure that we left everything as we found it as we hope for more DIY evenings in the future. *Jill Woolgar*



So two ideas for DIY dining. Don't miss out in the future. Get together and plan your next DIY evening in the Bistro. *Jenny Hydes*

Statuettes

My mention last month of the statuette in the Oakleigh Square garden prompted the following from Brefni.

Hi Sam,

The stone lady in the October Lakes News is identical to the one I brought here from my previous residence. I bought her from a local garden centre and I have had her for over 25 years. She now lives in the bit of garden outside my apartment. Regards, Brefni

I went to take a photo of Brefni's and realised that we have quite a selection, some of which form the front page header, above. For a way to kill a few minutes: locate them all.

Our heartfelt Condolences

Go to Vic Oliver and his family on the loss of his wife Jan. Vic and Jan, together with their little dog, Dougal were the very first residents to move into Hampshire Lakes nearly 8 years ago.

Jan was an avid reader and she was a very valued member of the book club. Although she specialised in mathematics she was very widely read and a fount of knowledge on literary matters. Jan never grumbled about the severe pain she often suffered. We will all miss her and assure Vic he has our support.

Volunteer Drivers

Until further notice please phone Wendy on 4662. If you get the answer phone just leave a clear message with your name and phone number and I will ring you back. *Wendy Wooldridge*

Library Update

The Book Club's next meeting is on Thursday 2nd November. at 11 am in the Library. Everyone is welcome to come to chat about books they have read.

Please, please do not donate books to the library unless you have asked first if they will be useful and likely to be read by residents. Only last month large out-of-date manuals, diy books and hard back copies of Dickens were left in the 'returned books' boxes. Perhaps those who left them there - despite being asked not to - do not realise that it's residents who then have to throw them away!

Diana Duckworth

Book Review

Prisoners of Geography by Tim Marshall

is not a work of fiction, as might be supposed from the title, but is a fascinating account of how geography has played an important part in shaping the way that societies grow, develop and interact with each other, over the centuries and in present times.

Tim Marshall has participated in many of the conflicts between nations in the past twenty five years and has seen how present events are affected by historical ones and shaped by the physical surroundings in which societies and countries develop.

Climate, mountains, deserts, rivers, jungles, access to natural resources and demographics have all had a profound effect on the way that as different nations we have interacted with each other and continue to do so.

I was fascinated by much of this book's information and deductions. So much so, that I bought and read the follow up book, **The Power Of Geography** which is equally informative and gives a lot of insight into the relationships between the major global powers.

Brefni Bray

A warm welcome to

Jeanette 'Karel Doyle' who has recently moved into 58 Oakleigh Square. We hope you will be very happy here at Hampshire Lakes.

Hampshire Lakes Residents' Association

www.hlra.info

Keep browsing!

The next scheduled committee meeting is, as usual, on the **first Saturday** of the month: **4th November, at 10.30 am in the library.**

The HLRA has now an action plan for the forthcoming year. Please visit the website for all updates.

Jenny Hydes

Membership Renewal

There are still some residents who may wish to be members but have not yet paid the £15 subscription. They should contact me.

Carolyn Hill, 4609

Plaudits

Thank you to whoever arranged to place benches strategically round the grounds. They are very welcome to those of us who are ambulatorially challenged!

Thank you to the window-cleaner who, when he could not clean the sills properly, came inside to do a much better job.

Thank you to our lawn-mowers who now remove wet grass clippings from paths by front doors and patios.

I asked once and it is now routine. *Wendy Wooldridge*

DARK NOVEMBER BRINGS THE FOG,
SHOULD NOT DO IT TO A DOG.

Flanders and Swan

Food Bank

Food Bank

Please continue to give generously. All goods should be in date and packets should be unopened. Don't forget that money can be handed in at reception. Thank you all for keeping goods flowing in.

(Many of the volunteer drivers donate to the food bank the money given by the residents they help)

Wendy Wooldridge

Pub Games Nights

Don't forget. First and fourth Tuesday evenings at 7pm if the bar is not open. Bring your own drinks, glasses and, if you want, nibbles and be ready to share your incompetence at darts, Pool and maybe other unfamiliar games (or just to chat).

Sam Dauncey



Don't Forget

To book your tickets for the Fashion Show on November 14th. It's £5 including a drink and tickets are available from Reception.

To book your place on the coach for the Christmas shopping trip to Kingston on November 16th. Kingston is an excellent shopping venue with great places for lunch.

Lakes News is written by "ordinary" residents and printed and delivered for us by the administration team.

We want it to inform, entertain and help keep everybody involved with what is happening. Content is based on articles and stories **sent in by residents**. Concerns? Compliments? Requests? News? Interests? Suggestions? Offers? Photos? Ideas to make people think?

We fill the gaps!

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jennyhydes@icloud.com

Your contributions are our life-blood.

We do not mean to infringe anyone's copyright but if we have, please let us know, so that we can acknowledge or, if required, remove the offending item.