

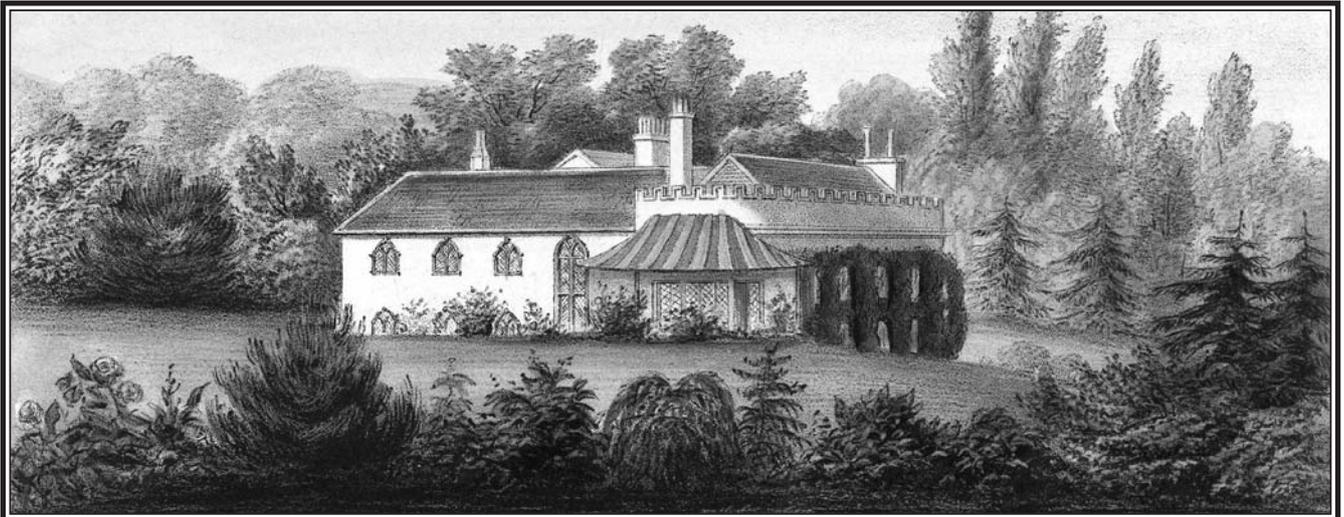
REGENCY



ELEGANCE

# *A Pen from the Glen*

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL • SIDMOUTH



**B**rexit or not what ever your beliefs, for us here in select Sidmouth, tucked nicely into our cosy 'glen'; a small, narrow, secluded valley; we remain firm in our mission to welcome domestic and overseas visitors to what remains to many our secret part of the world.

We hope to share with everyone the genteel, quiet and old fashioned in a good way; Sidmouth set in the dramatic back drop of the red Jurassic cliffs, and the Glen with elements of a bygone era making it obligatory to slow down and relax, be looked after, be pampered, have interesting conversations, become part of the Glen extended family.

Devon as a whole is blessed with rustic villages and towns, historic buildings and two National Parks: Dartmoor and Exmoor. No less than five areas of outstanding natural beauty, a Unesco Biosphere Reserve, a Unesco Geopark, and closest to us as we sit within a Unesco World Heritage Site, the Jurassic Coast. It is a large county with two coastlines but the great diversity of interesting activities and places to visit are spread throughout.

We look forward to welcoming you all too our beautiful part of the country in 2017.



## YEAR OF THE ENGLISH GARDEN

2016 has been Visit England's Year of the English Garden, and Devon can really celebrate all that is quintessentially the English garden. Close by to us is Bickton Botanical Gardens, always popular and mentioned in many newsletters. Knightshayes boasts it is one of the most varied National Trust gardens in the country with specialist produce including 102 varieties of heritage tomatoes. Killerton is set in a whopping 6400 acres of countryside estate. Dartington Tottnes is a grade II listed garden with beautiful sculptures. Northernhay gardens in Exeter probably in the main not discovered by many, was once the quarry site for the stone needed to build Exeter's ancient city walls, it offers monuments and views across the city. If you like exploring other people's gardens, many local private houses take part in [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk).

## TOUR OF BRITAIN CYCLE RACE

Unfortunately we did not have good weather for its Sidmouth to Haytor leg of the race. The crowd saw Olympic medallists Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish among the top riders tackling the 93 mile stage and 3100 metres of climbs to finish the day at Haytor on Dartmoor.

## RED ARROWS

In contrast the Red Arrows had perfect weather conditions for their spectacular display in August. It is hoped that they will be returning in 2017 as part of the Regatta activities held around the Bank Holiday weekend.



## SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK

A year can not go by without the mention of the Folk Festival with a programme of over 700 events the diversity is immense. Not only were there some big names like Seth Lakeman, Sharon Shannon, Show of Hands and Fisherman's Friends but new talent emerging is show cased. As Artist Director Alan Bearman aptly wrote 'with our ear to the past and an eye on the future' philosophy; the festival continues to emerge yearly with fresh material but wonderfully keeping English traditional folk alive and evolving. 2017 dates August 4th – 11th [www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)



*Pecorama model railway display*

## FULL STEAM AHEAD

Something different; the newsletter tries to cover different activities if you go back to the archives on our website you can catch up on each year's text. In August Pecorama holds a week of train demonstrations and guest engines, this year it culminated in eleven steam and two diesel engines all firing up simultaneously. Peco as it is affectionately called appeals to the young and to the enthusiast. The attraction has gardens, vistas and views; games, play areas, entertainment and trains; model railway layouts, authentic steam locomotive train ride, model railway products are actually manufactured there; the best selling railway hobby magazines are prepared and published at beer and printed in the Midlands. Pecorama Annual Loco Week (2017 21 – 28 August) [www.pecorama.co.uk](http://www.pecorama.co.uk)

## QUEEN VICTORIA'S WINDOW

In Sidmouth Parish Church, there is a stained glass window of national importance given to the church by Queen Victoria in memory of her visit to Sidmouth in 1819 and in memory of her father.

The Duke of Kent brought Victoria as a baby to Sidmouth where they rented Woolbrook Cottage now the Royal Glen Hotel. Unfortunately the Duke of Kent was taken ill and died. Victoria did not hold Sidmouth dear to her because of the premature passing of her father whilst she was so young; in the latin commemorative inscription it translates in part 'before she has learnt to know him His only daughter Victoria Queen of Britain'.

Sidmouth Parish Church are holding three major concerts by the Isca Ensemble, an orchestra with a membership of over 60 talented musicians from all over the South West. It has managed to secure some sponsorship to engage top national and international soloists. The orchestra attracts capacity audiences and continues to receive high critical acclaim. The two 2017 concerts are on Saturday 11 March and Saturday 13th May. All the revenue from advertising and box office receipts will be supporting the appeal, which involves the complete restoration of the beautiful South window in the church. If your visit coincides with either of these dates, and you wish us to purchase tickets for you, please contact reception. Donations, Gift Aid information please contact Sidmouth parish Church EX10 8LG.





Left and above: The spacious new Henry Suite with walk in shower and roll top bath

## THE HENRY SUITE

The Henry Suite has become a popular new edition to our selection of rooms. What previously comprised of a superior size bedroom and two single rooms either side has now become *The Henry Suite*. Looking over the west facing back garden it is quietly situated with a large deluxe ensuite with window, roll top bath, and separate large walk in shower, double windows in the bedroom with zip link twin or super king bed; adjoining is a separate sitting area with a bow window bay facing south with sofa and second television. This winter *The Elizabeth room* will be extended with new deluxe bathroom, a larger seating area, still with its own patio door out on to the garden.

## SIDMOUTH LITERARY FESTIVAL

The Sidmouth Literary Festival has become a 'must-visit' date in the calendar. Previous guests have included writers Nicholas Evans, Terry Waite, Fay Weldon, Penelope Lively, Simon Weston and Helen Lederer. Regency Sidmouth has fascinating literary connections to Beatrix Potter, Jane Austen, Elizabeth Barrett Browning and many others. Sidmouth Literary Festival June 17th and 18th, don't miss this star-studded event for readers and would-be writers! Speakers include best-selling author **Sophie Hannah** who will be talking about her crime novels including her recent Poirot book. There will also be a *How To Get Published* event with advice from Penguin editor Katy Loftus as well as a panel of literary agents. In addition, there will be a poetry competition, a Charlotte Bronte tea party, children's authors and many other events. For details, visit [www.sidmouthlitfest.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthlitfest.co.uk).

*Write By The Sea - see details in Specials on back page.*

## ROYAL RETREAT

We encourage you to book your treatment before arrival with Reception; Susan our in house Therapist will add a half hour to your treatment if booked in advance. Susan will be introducing the new launch of organic aromatherapy facials using fresh, organic fruit and vegetables 100% natural; Cornish sea salt body scrub with aromatherapy oils to complement her already comprehensive list of therapies.

Treatments are £25 for half hour, £50 per hour.



## VISITING WALKING GROUP

Sidmouth Walking Festival The third festival this September featured the six stages of the 40 mile East Devon Way, more strolls, Jurassic geology and a family friendly nature safari at Seaton Wetlands. 23rd – 29th September 2017 dates [www.visitsidmouth.co.uk](http://www.visitsidmouth.co.uk). All enquiries and bookings through Sidmouth Tourist Information centre. If you are organising your own walking holiday individually or as a group we would be very pleased to help.

## CRICKET ON THE FORTFIELD

Our own Luke Bess captained the 1st XI this year. The team was successful in both the Devon Cup and Premier League; some of the games saw all three brothers Bess playing and against cousin Bess when versus Exeter. The Fortfield was once more host to Devon matches see our list of dates further on for the Devon dates next year.



## SEASONS GREETINGS

We take this opportunity to wish all our Glen family which extends to all our Guests 'Seasons Greetings and A Very Healthy Happy New Year'. Our loyal and dedicated team look forward to welcoming you all and assure first time guests of our attention to make their visit the first of many; with best wishes Hilary, Vivienne and families and staff.

Reception will be open 9 – 2pm during December and 9 – 4 pm in January and February, at other times the telephone will be redirected to Vivienne, Luke or Hilary, or should you reach the answer machine, please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible. Online booking is available on our OWN website giving a variety of tariff options. However we will be pleased to hear from you personally as we know the majority of our Guests returning like to reserve particular rooms, and we like to make first time Guests' needs and requirements are matched with individual rooms. If you choose to make a reservation via an agent such as Booking.com standard Bed & Breakfast will apply with no specific room allocation and no special deals are available.

## TARIFF 2017 SPECIALS

**Write By The Sea 2017:** Friday 17th March until mid-day Sunday; 'The Drawing Room' Royal Glen

Learn to write with Sunday Times best-seller Jane Corry, author of 'My Husband's Wife' which is published by Penguin. Jane will help you to plot a story; create convincing characters; write sparky dialogue, understand the art of 'show and not tell'; and bring setting to life. There will also be lots of tips on how to get published. This hands-on workshop is suitable for all levels. Don't miss this amazing opportunity. Heavily discounted for resident Guests at £170.00 to include two nights Dinner B&B.

**Half Term Holidays.** Children Age 15 and under sharing with 2 adults Bed and Breakfast includes children's meal of daily roast, fruit juice and ice cream. (Other terms apply)

**Activity Breaks** tailored for your interest, and available at times using local events, if you want help planning your visit or wish to take part in an organised or escorted event please telephone reception who can send details or look on our website for further details of these. These will include Jurassic, History days, Science, Golf, Cricket, Rugby, Escorted walks, and Cycling routes.

**Group Rates** are available in March, April, May and October and best prices are dependant on minimum numbers, weekend or weekdays. We can cater from 20 to 55 approximately and welcome bridge players, walkers, history enthusiasts, golfers (4 courses within 10 miles), cricketers or family gatherings to name but a few. We do not accept large coach companies.

**4 nights for 3** – based on 1 night Dinner Bed & Breakfast daily rate, dates applicable, Saturday not included: don't cut short your break, fifth night pro rata. Rates are per person for 4 nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast

## DATES OF INTEREST FOR 2017

**Sidmouth Museum** Opening date and start of free guided walks 22 March  
**Donkey Week 2 – 9 May** www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk  
**Theatre Repertory at the Manor Pavilion** 22 June – 27 Sept  
**Free Hopper Bus** - circular route incorporating Peak Hill and Salcombe Hill and the Donkey Sanctuary 20 May – 29 Sept  
**Literary Festival** 17 & 18 June www.sidmouthlitfest.co.uk  
**Minor Counties Devon v Oxfordshire** Sunday 17 May  
**3 Day Devon v Cheshire** 2 – 4 July  
*To be confirmed MCCA v MCC 20 & 21 July*  
**Sidmouth Folk Festival** 4 – 11 August  
**Sidmouth Regatta** 26 & 27 August  
**Walking Festival** 23 – 29 September  
**Astronomy Weekend** 12 August  
**Science Festival** 7 – 15 October

## TARIFF 2017

*All prices per room per night unless stated*

### FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> - APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER - NOVEMBER

	Henry Suite & Elizabeth	Superior	Standard	Selected
2+ nts (DB&B) daily	£192.00	£172.00	£158.00	£148.00
2+ nts (B&B) daily	£150.00	£130.00	£116.00	£98.00
1 night (B&B)	£154.00	£134.00	£122.00	£102.00
Winter Special*	£316.50pp	£286.50pp	£268.50pp	£238.50pp

\*Winter Special: Feb - Apr 13th and Oct 22nd - November: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB. Fifth night pro rata (Saturdays not included)

### APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>

	Henry Suite & Elizabeth	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly (DB&B)	£1344	£1204	£1134	£1064
2+ nts (DB&B) daily	£208.00	£188.00	£172.00	£158.00
2+ nts (B&B) daily	£168.00	£148.00	£132.00	£120.00
1 night (B&B)	£174.00	£154.00	£138.00	£126.00
Spring Special*	£346.50pp	£316.50pp	£292.50pp	£274.50pp

\*Spring Special: 17th - 29th April: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB.  
 Autumn Special: 10th - 20th October: 4 nights for 3 daily rate DBB  
 Fifth night pro rata (Saturdays not included)

### SUMMER TARIFF: JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> - SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>

	Henry Suite & Elizabeth	Superior	Standard	Selected
Weekly (DB&B)	£1414	£1274	£1190	£1092
2+ nts (DB&B) daily	£220.00	£200.00	£180.00	£168.00
2+ nts (B&B) daily	£178.00	£158.00	£138.00	£126.00
1 night (B&B)	£188.00	£168.00	£152.00	£136.00

*All terms are per room (unless stated)  
 inclusive of VAT at 20% Singles less 50%*



★★★

THE ROYAL GLEN HOTEL, Glen Road, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8RW  
 Telephone (01395) 513221 • Email: info@royalglenhotel.co.uk • Website: www.royalglenhotel.co.uk

Proprietors: Mrs H Caldwell and Mrs V Bess