

Sevington School

News

May 2017



My dear friends,

I was delighted to see Miss Squire and Sister Hannah the other day, to hear all the news which I now pass on to you.

It is 25 years since our charity began to educate our children through an actual experience into a different way of life, a different era.

*It is always a responsibility, and a cost, to keep the building in good repair. The chimneys, which were on the verge of being hazardous, have now been repaired. Our next big challenge is the toilets. As you will know to your discomfort it is not before time to **do something**. The plan is in place and we have always succeeded! How to help is shown overleaf.*

The Summer Sundays look to be especially good this year. It will be fascinating to have our items discussed by the Antiques Road Show specialists.

Any of your thoughts, ideas, comments I am always happy to receive and pass on to Miss Squire or indeed Mr. Neeld himself.

Enjoy the news.

Kay Oliver

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Please Spend a Penny for Us!

An Appeal to all our Friends

What are we planning?



It is now 25 years since Sevington School reopened its doors to pupils and visitors, and during that time all those involved with the school have worked very hard to maintain the fabric of the building and the quality of experience. We now want to embark on a long over-due project to replace our small and inadequate toilet facilities with a new extension, built in a style and materials to complement our authentic Victorian building, and providing an additional toilet for the disabled. This will allow us to offer a greatly enhanced visit to both school groups and adults and, in particular, to those visitors for whom our current toilet facilities present real problems.



How will we fund this?

We have so far had plans drawn up by professional architects and secured planning permission, with a view to completing the building work in the Spring of 2018. All work on our Grade II* listed building is expensive and we are now at the point where we need to raise a sum in excess of £70,000 for our project to go ahead. We have already secured £9,000 in funding and will be applying for grants from other local and national funding agencies. But we are also appealing to you, our loyal supporters and lovers of Sevington School, for your help!

How can you help?

- ❖ If you, or anyone you know, would like to make a donation, you can do so by sending a cheque to the Treasurer at Sevington Victorian School, Sevington, Wilts. SN14 7LD or by using our bank details: Lloyds TSB, sort code 30-91-99, account no. 02207537. We will soon also be able to give you details of our JustGiving account.
- ❖ If you have any contacts with corporate funders, or know of any organisations that might be interested in funding our project in any way, we would love to hear from you.
- ❖ If you would like to organise your own fundraising event, perhaps with a group or society to which you belong, please contact us. We would be very happy to support you in this.
- ❖ Please support our Summer Sunday open afternoons and other fundraising events we have planned for this year (see the posters in this Newsletter), and encourage all your friends to come along.
- ❖ Finally, please spread the word about our project - even Queen Victoria would forgive you for mentioning the unmentionable!

Thank you in advance for any help you are able to offer.

The Trustees



A Direct Link to our History

I have a special connection with Sevington School as my Great Aunt, Doris Holbrow was one of the last three pupils who attended the school when it closed in 1913. My paternal grandmother Alice (Doris's sister) and her other siblings all attended the school in the late 1800's and early 1900's and some remained in the area all their lives. The widow (Nellie Holbrow) of one brother (Charlie Holbrow) used to live in the house attached to the school room in the 1970s and 80s as a 'caretaker' for the school room. As a child I used visit her with my parents and we often used to have a look around the school room, she also used to open it up for visitors. In the late 1980's she moved into Calne with her sister and some teachers saw the opportunity to officially form a Victorian school experience, and set up the Sevington school project.

I met Meg at Bath Spa University, who was my history lecturer, when I was studying for my primary PGCE in 2009. I came along to a couple of open Sundays and became a Friend, then more recently I was asked to become a Trustee. I have passed onto the school various family memorabilia which my parents inherited, one of which is a 21st Birthday wish to Doris from Miss Squire.

I live in Devizes with my husband Chris and my three children aged 16 and twins aged 14 and I work as a part-time teacher at Five Lanes Primary near Devizes.

Jenny Jones

Summer Sundays

With better weather on the way, we're getting ready for a busy summer at Sevington.

This year marks our 25th anniversary and we'll be celebrating with a special exhibition during Heritage weekend. But there's lots going on before that. We've got groups coming from Calne, Chippenham, Frome and North Somerset and our two senior Miss Squires, Denise Lea and Celia Jennings, will be out and about flying the flag at WI meetings and the Chippenham Housewives' group. And bookings are already coming in for next year.

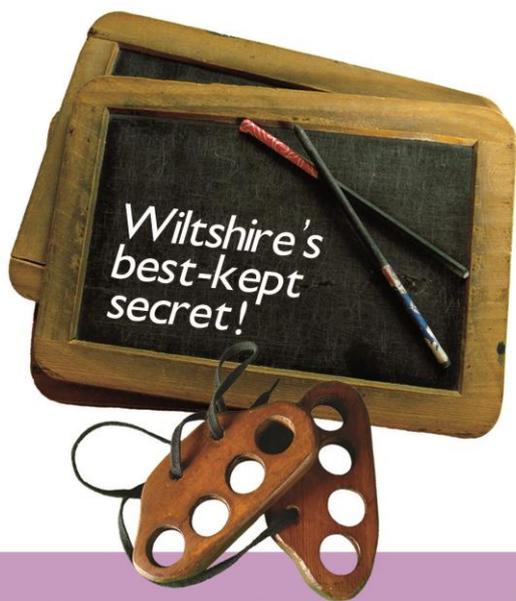
Highlights of the Summer Sundays include a teddy bears' picnic and a pop up exhibition entitled Miss Squire's World. We will be using objects, photographs and some recently discovered documents to tell the story of Miss Squire and her circle. And, to place some of those objects in context, we're delighted to welcome two TV experts from the Antiques Road Show, Mark Allen and Lisa Lloyd. More of that elsewhere in this newsletter.

None of this would be possible without the tireless support of our band of volunteers and Janet Senneck, in particular, deserves special thanks. She does make exceedingly good cakes. So do come along and try them and here's hoping for a wonderful summer.

Dinah Starkey

Summer Sundays 2017

at Sevington Victorian School



Sevington School is a beautifully preserved Victorian village school set in the heart of the Wiltshire countryside, close to Chippenham and Castle Combe.

Come and experience the authentic school room and the school mistress's house and gardens.

Open Days



Join us this summer for tours of the school, home-made afternoon teas and children's activities.

Sevington will be open from 2-5pm on:

Sunday 11th June

Sunday 25th June

Sunday 9th July - *Teddy Bears' Picnic and Story Time*

Sunday 23rd July

Sunday 13th August - *Exhibition: Miss Squire's World*

Sunday 27th August

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th September (Heritage Open Weekend)

Adults £2, Children £1, Family ticket £5



Chippenham SN14 7LD
www.sevingtonvictorianschool.co.uk

It took Edward 15 minutes to climb the scaffolding to check them.

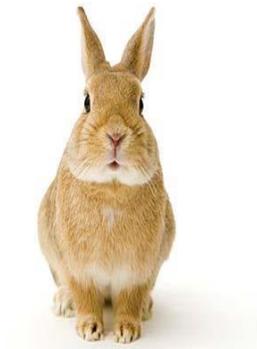


The Chimneys have now been repaired.

An elderly rabbit is best in a pie. Joint it, putting head and ribs to boil down for gravy.

Rub the meaty joints with lard, pepper and dust with fine oatmeal. Put a slice of bacon over a bay leaf at the bottom of a deep pie dish; lightly fry the joints and pack down onto it, scattering chopped parsley and onion on top, small chopped carrots, parsnip thinnings, mushrooms and some elderly peas - a few capers are good. Pack the old rabbit with a little finely chopped ham or bacon, a blade of mace, nipped up fine. A spoonful of cider, or a chopped apple should be added. Season well making it good and spicy. Let the top layer be thickly sliced potato, capped with chopped parsley and butter.

Fill up the pie-dish with the gravy and put on a thick white pie crust. Start the pie in a hot oven to raise the crust and let it cook slowly till the meat is tender. Make sure there is plenty of gravy in the dish and when it is done it will be found to be good hot or cold. It is better to start the pie cooking before putting on the lid as an old rabbit is a slow job.



Dorothy Hartley from " Food in England"

The 100 Club Winners

December
January
February

Brian Jennings
Mary Waite
David Powell

March
April
May

Jeni Williams
D. Runacres
Tom Gomersall

Looking forward to seeing you all in a lovely summer, with a little rain hopefully.

Kay