

# THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB

## Chairman's Report

It is with great pleasure I can report on a very exciting period in the history of the New Cavendish Club. After a well supported and entertaining Christmas Party, thanks to the inspired idea of our excellent Manager, Victoria Hyam we celebrated our first New Year's Eve. The "full house" signs quickly went up and the house party was on its way. Our staff were outstanding and with a traditional glass of Champagne the evening swung. Delicious food, an amazing magician and keyboard player, dancing and great fun continued into the night and spilt over to a very jovial late breakfast.

Johnny Barclay the President of the MCC was my excellent guest speaker at my first Chairman's Dinner, a very exciting and entertaining evening.

We must always remember that our Club was founded by Lady Ampthill in 1922 for the VAD's. We celebrated their Centenary in November and were very honoured to welcome HRH Princess Alexandra on March 31st. Her charm and interest overwhelmed us all as she spoke to everyone at the reception and made us so proud when she renamed the Jubilee Room the Centenary Suite in honour of our founders.

I just can't thank the members and staff enough for all their support but because of the economic situation earnestly ask for your continual help and introduction of new members. My appeal for funds to complete the technical amenities of the newly furnished Centenary Suite is still open and I would be so grateful for your generosity.

I look forward to meeting you in the very near future at a function or breakfast.

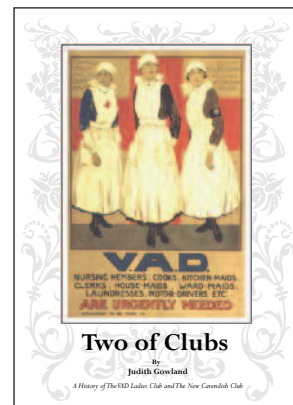
*Susan-Ann Dowle, Chairman*

## Club History

After 3 long years of relentless and meticulous research, Judith Gowland and Pat Swinhoe-Standen have completed our club history and the result is "The Two of Clubs". The book traces the formation of the club back in 1922 right up to the present day. As well as detailing the important fact and figures, lovely personal and individual stories come out, like Herbert the hall porter who came with the original building in Cavendish Square when only 16 years old and remained with the club until his retirement in the 1980's. Throughout the book it becomes clear of the financial roller coaster the club has been on since it began but how the tireless work and the commitment of the members and Board of Directors over the years have kept it going. Through bomb blasts, post-war shortages, less than scrupulous members and finally allowing men as members the club has keep its spirit and drive.

The book times nicely with the VAD centenary celebrations that have taken place over the last 12 months and despite there being a lack of public recognition of the VAD's the club has honoured and remembered their work and efforts and reminded our newer and younger members why we enjoy the warmth and character of our home from home.

The book is available from the club at £15.



# THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB

## 2010 - Programme of Forthcoming Events

### **THURSDAY 13th MAY/ 20th MAY/27th MAY - COOKERY WORKSHOPS**

Experience the New Cavendish kitchen at first hand. Take a cookery class with our Head Chef. Learn something new and enjoy some delicious food.  
Details to be confirmed.

### **WEDNESDAY 12th MAY - WOMEN OF THE YEAR SUMMER EVENT**

Speakers will be Lucinda Macdonald, Psychic Worker and Clairvoyant and Vinnette Melbourne, Educator, Counsellor and Magistrate  
Cheques to be made directly to 'The Women of the Year'  
Supper 7pm for 7.30pm  
Price: £33.00 per person

### **SATURDAY 5th JUNE - COLONEL'S REVIEW**

HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel Grenadier Guards will take the salute.  
Guests are requested to be seated at 1000am and the parade will finish shortly after midday.  
Price: Colonel Review only: £11.00 per person  
Price: Colonel Review and a light buffet lunch to be served back at the Club, including transport: £30.00 per person

### **TUESDAY 22ND JUNE - VISIT TO THE SUPREME COURT**

Fully Booked.

### **THURSDAY 22nd JULY - NEW CAVENDISH CLUB MEMBER'S BBQ**

Join us for our annual extravaganza of summer feasting.  
Time: Welcome drinks from 6.00pm and BBQ supper from 6.30pm. Guests welcome.  
Price: £26.00 per person – inclusive of £2.00 donation to the garden fund

### **TUESDAY 14th SEPTEMBER - AGM and CHAIRMAN'S LUNCH**

1100am – Coffee will be served. 1130am - AGM for shareholders and members, followed by a lunch hosted by our Chairman and Directors. Please note the meeting is open to shareholders and members. Accounts will be sent to the shareholders prior to the meeting. 12.00 for drinks, followed by lunch.  
Price: £30.00 per person

### **SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER - JAZZ EVENING AND DINNER**

Details to be confirmed

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION**

Following last year's very successful evening we are delighted to inform members that we will be repeating this event. Please make a note in your diaries. Details will follow

Bookings for any of the above events can be made via our website or direct with the Meeting and Events Manager, Deborah Roberts [events@newcavendishclub.co.uk](mailto:events@newcavendishclub.co.uk)

# THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB



## Sue Light

Back in November last year during our week long exhibition of VAD and Club history, Sue Light gave an entertaining and enlightening talk on VAD history. Sue whose interest in nurses during the great war does not claim any historian title or occupation but simply an enthusiast of women during war times. Sue has travelled to France several times for the BBC including working on a documentary with comedian Jo Brand on WWI nurses.

The full talk is available to download on our website but here are a few extracts for those that could not join us.

“For some women (in 1909), the chance of a few days away at a summer camp alongside members of the Territorial Forces, was an occasion to remember for a lifetime – or it might have been, if something rather bigger hadn’t come along. I wonder if those women ever thought in 1909 that within a very short time they would be experiencing things that few women had every experienced before, and not many ever would again? They were on the brink of something quite unique.”

“In all areas the women were expected to see things and do things that they had never been expected to confront before. Things which few people would ever be expected to confront even once a lifetime, let alone on a daily basis. In the beginning they cleaned and scrubbed, set trays, and boiled eggs, and later moved on to help the trained nurses with dressings and treatments, viewing every bodily cavity never designed to be viewed from the outside. They learned to smile and accept mutilated faces without flinching or turning away. They learned to breathe through their mouths during the dressing round, to prevent the stench or gangrenous limbs overwhelming them. And often they did all this for no monetary reward. Their reward was knowing they were serving their country, as their brothers, their fathers and their friends were serving theirs. It was both their wish and their duty”

“But these women were versatile and willing, self sacrificing, and with a deep sense of patriotism and a range of skills and life experiences not usually seen in military hospitals, and with stamina which surprised everybody, even themselves. They found comradeship, independence, and a freedom that they had never grown up to expect but which changed their lives forever. Perhaps it could be argued that without them the war could not have been won, by 1916 the military nursing services would have been unable to cope, and by 1917 may well have collapsed completely. Without nurses, the medical services, already terribly understaffed could not have continued to give the care that enabled wounded and sick soldiers to return to the ranks, For the want of a nail, The Kingdom might well have been lost.”

### Wifi

We have finally had WiFi installed. The free facility is available in the basement, on the ground and first floor. Some areas on the second floor also receive a strong enough signal. The network is called ‘Cavendish’ and the password is 12345 – lets keep things simple!

Although we are moving forward with our technology please consider those members that use the club as a quiet haven, and we respectfully ask that mobile phones are not used in the drawing rooms and the bar and restaurant area including at breakfast. Business meetings should also be kept to less than 3 people in the public area. There are often small meeting rooms available without reservation. Contact any member of staff who will be able to help.

### Parking

Some members may not appreciate that we have a parking arrangement with APOCA parking on Bryanston Street just behind The Cumberland Hotel. To use the facilities park your car as normal and then get a 24hr or 48hrs voucher from reception. 24hrs cost £15 and 48hrs £30, the charge is added to you room bill. You can then use the voucher as a payment method when collecting your car. Make sure you use the voucher at the pay kiosk. You will then be issued with an exit ticket to use at the barrier as normal.

# THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB

## Staff News

Jelena has joined our staff as accountant following Leon's resignation. Jelena comes from a solid accounting background in the hospitality industry including working for several years at The Berkeley Hotel, her husband is also a chef so between them they understand this demanding and challenging industry we work in. Jelena is in the club Monday to Friday and can help with any invoice or billing enquiries you have, she welcomes the opportunity to leave her desk to interact with members so feel free to ask to speak to her at any time.

Fabio has joined us as our weekday breakfast chef. It is not an easy job at the club as this is the most popular meal of the day and the atmosphere in the breakfast room really sets you up for the day ahead. Susan Ann is often there meeting new members and getting to know everyone. Fabio is Italian so whilst our members are appreciating his good English breakfast, our staff are experiencing some truly authentic Italian staff lunches.

Olesja in housekeeping has started her maternity leave and given birth to a healthy baby boy. We all wish her and her growing family well. Another Olesja has started on reception and shortly completes her 3 month probation period. Emma has been promoted to Assistant Housekeeper to give Honor some long overdue help in running a 7 day operation. Boom and Sara have joined our permanent restaurant staff as Gosia is promoted to Restaurant Supervisor to back up Nagesh.

Over the next 12 months we are starting a comprehensive training programme across all the departments. This will give everyone from management to chambermaid, from Director to kitchen porter the opportunity to work together and understand the role that everyone plays in the Club.

The Club continues the traditional staff fund instead of tipping. All service charges and personal donations are distributed to everyone, except management, in December and July. If any member would like to contribute towards the fund please forward payment clearly marked staff fund to the office or leave a donation in the box on reception.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone that has donated towards the Centenary Appeal, the total raised so far is £3,700 against a target of £10,000. With this money we are going to install a new air conditioning unit in the Centenary Suite. The skylight will be opened up to provide some natural light, but with blinds to darken the room for presentation and powerpoint work. For the growing number of corporate clients using the room we are also installing a fixed overhead projector. The new suite will provide us with up to date facilities for our corporate clients and a pleasant light filled room for dinners and luncheons. It is not too late to contribute as we don't intend to get the work done until the summer when the room is not being used.

Donations can be forwarded to Victoria.



## Photographer

If anyone would like to buy copies of the official photographs we had taken during HRH Princess Alexandra's visit to the club, they are available directly from the photographer. Follow the link [www.philgammon.co.uk/cavendish\\_club](http://www.philgammon.co.uk/cavendish_club), where you can view and order any prints.

They are also available to view in contact sheet form at the club for those without the internet and we can order on your behalf. Each print costs £5.

# THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB

## THE NEW CAVENDISH CLUB 2010 EVENT BOOKING FORM

NAME OF EVENT	NO OF PLACES	PRICE	TOTAL
<b>Thursday 13th/20th/27th May</b> Cookery Workshops	_____	TBC-	_____
<b>Wednesday 12th May</b> Women of the Year Event (Please make all cheques payable directly to Women of the Year)	_____	£33.00	_____
<b>Saturday 5th June</b> Colonel's Review only	_____	£11.00	_____
Colonel's Review and Buffet	_____	£33.00	_____
<b>Tuesday 22nd June</b> Supreme Court	Fully Booked	N/A	_____
<b>Thursday 22nd July</b> NCC Member's BBQ	_____	£26.00	_____
<b>Tuesday 14th September</b> AGM and Chairman's Lunch	_____	£30.00	_____
<b>Saturday 2nd October</b> Jazz Evening and Dinner	_____	TBC	_____
<b>New Year's Eve Celebration</b>	_____	TBC	_____

Bookings for any of the above events can be made via our website or direct with the Meeting and Events Manager, Deborah Roberts [events@newcavendishclub.co.uk](mailto:events@newcavendishclub.co.uk)

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

.....

Postcode: ..... Telephone: .....

**PAYMENT DETAILS:**

Cheque attached ..... Total payment: .....

Please charge my credit card: Visa/Mastercard/American Express/Delta

Name of cardholder: .....

Card number: .....

Expiry date: ..... Start date: ..... S/N: .....

Signature: .....