

DECEMBER 2019

Hello All

Its nearly December so we can talk about Christmas! The station will start to look festive next week with the delivery of an 8-foot tree, kindly donated by Stonepitts Farm in Seal.



Café interior

Why not stop off at the Station Café to see the tree during December and treat yourself to coffee and cake before a hard days Christmas shopping, or drop in for a well-deserved breakfast after wintry walk!

The café is open from 6.30am to 2pm Monday to Friday. For the full menu visit www.batandballstation.com

NEWS

• ROSE PLANTING

To commemorate Queen Victoria's visit to Bat & Ball station in 1867, two David Austin 'Reine Victoria' rose bushes were planted either side of the entrance gates, by the Mayor and the Town Clerk who planted one on behalf of Cllr Rachel Parry, Chairman of the Friends of Bat & Ball Station. The roses should be a lovely addition to the station when they start to bloom next Spring.



The Mayor and Town Clerk planting 'Reine Victoria' roses

- PLANTING

A selection of shrubs and grasses have been planted by volunteers to the area behind the ticket machine. Thank you to all those involved and to the Open Spaces team who helped to weed and prepare the area prior to planting. Below are some before and after images.



Station entrance - before and after planting

- MEMORIES OF PUBS!

We have had a request from local author Keith Wade who is writing a book on the history of pubs and inns of Sevenoaks, past and present. He is currently putting the finishing touches to the section on the impact of the railways which features all the pubs directly linked to the railways in some way, including the Bat and Ball Inn and the Railway Tavern. He would like confirmation of certain facts, including the dates when both pubs finally closed and is also interested in any memories people may have, particularly about the Railway Tavern (which was called 'Tracks' for a brief time in the 1980s).

If you think you can help Keith with dates or any of your own memories please email me heo@sevenoakstown.gov.uk and I can pass on his details. Thank you in advance.

- 'GRIEF ENCOUNTER' MURDER MYSTERY EVENT – what a great success!



Kings Cross - The winning team

This event was the last for the HLF Activity Plan and linked to the Museums at Night (Festival) which sees museums, galleries and heritage sites across the UK open their doors for exciting evening events. Bat & Ball Station was the perfect venue for this fun 'whodunit' Murder Mystery based on Grief Encounter. Guests enjoyed a welcome glass of prosecco followed by a fish & chip supper and were entertained by the fabulous actors from Moneypenny Productions. Teams of 4-6 people sat on tables named after London railway stations, they followed the clues and questioned the suspects to work out who did the deadly deed! Kings Cross Station were the winning team, and each received a winners certificate.

Over £120 was raised from the raffle with all funds going to the Mayors charities (SSAFA and Sevenoaks Air Cadets). We had some lovely feedback from the guests, and it was suggested this event should become a permanent fixture on the STC event calendar. Watch this space!

EVENTS

- CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, CAROL SINGING & MINCE PIES!
Tuesday 3rd December 4-5.30pm (lights will be switched on at 4pm)



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, CAROLS & MINCE PIES!

Come along to see the Christmas lights at Bat & Ball Station. The Mayor will officially switch on the lights at 4pm, followed by carol singing from Sevenoaks Primary School choir.

Everyone is welcome to make a decoration to put on the Christmas tree. There will be hot drinks, mulled wine, Christmas biscuits and mince pies on offer to help you get into the Christmas spirit.

There's no need to book – just turn up with friends and family and enjoy this festive event!

This is the last newsletter for 2019 so I would like to wish everyone a

Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Linda Redden