

The Swan

Friday Update

Dear Friend and <<Partner's First Name>>,

PLEASE HOLD THE DATE!

At Sneaky Beak 2 last weekend, we announced the date when The Swan will open its doors and start serving the community once again. For those who have not already heard this exciting news, the date of the Grand Opening of The Swan will be the weekend of 20th July. Please hold the date as we would love to see you there when we open!

SNEAKY BEAK 2

What a great evening was had by all. The weather continued to hold which brought a lot more people through the gates than we were expecting but we had planned well, and consequently had more than enough food and drink to go around for the 200+ people.



The band – Mark and Sherridan – provided fantastic music entertainment and had people not only singing along but up on their feet dancing the evening away.

It was lovely to see so many of our Swan families bringing along their dogs and luckily two of our amazing volunteers had made swan print bandanas, so a number of those

dogs went home wearing their very smart accessories.

We received so many positive comments about the BBQ, the volunteering sessions and the progress being made in the buildings. It feels so good to be part of something that is literally bringing our community together. We simply cannot thank you all enough for being part of this amazing project. Here's to many more Swan events!



There is a [cracking short video](#) on Facebook which summarises the fun that was had by all. You will know the dancers on sight! There are also some [photos](#) on the [website](#).

NEW BAR, ANCIENT BARTOP



We are very fortunate to live so close to Windsor Great Park, with its stunning greenery, ancient forests, wildlife and historical monuments all on our doorstep. We are even more fortunate to incorporate some of this rich natural heritage in the refurbishment of The Swan. We have friends in high places!

The Crown Estate has kindly donated a huge wooden plank from a fallen 300-year-old cedar tree in the Great Park, to continue its life as the new bartop in The Swan. It is very fitting that our cedar bartop is almost as old as The Swan itself, and also that we can find such a wonderful piece of wood locally and in an environmentally friendly way

BUILDING UPDATE

Hello another week has flown by so quickly and we have been making some great progress. The Volunteer Day has given us a great platform to move forward from.

The plumbers and electricians have been busy undertaking the remainder of the first fixing works to the bar areas.

The school room is still work in progress and it is taking time as we have so much old timber to fill and prep but we are getting there.



I went to see the Fire Brigade a few weeks ago to ask if they could kindly assist in taking the old Swan pub sign down for us. It was too dangerous for us to work from a ladder and a tower scaffold or cherry picker would have cost too much and would block the road.

They came along on Tuesday evening to do this for us. So it is a huge thank you to Chris, Mark, Craig and the team at Station 20 Red watch for helping us and being part of The Swan Community.

We will adding the lads to our [Swan Heroes](#) page very soon.

Our husband and wife team Gerry & Alan have done some amazing work to the exposed brickwork in the bar. We are going to look so trendy!



I have been busy with Matt our new manager choosing all the pub equipment including a cocktail station! We are also going to have a rather nice coffee barista machine. As you can see, he can't wait to welcome you to The Swan in a few weeks time.

I have ordered some nice birch wood timber for the new sign and this will be taken to our artist on Wednesday who will start work on creating our new sign incorporating the new logo (which is top secret).

We are still working on the bar cellar getting it ready for all the specialist equipment needed and we are damp sealing it at the moment.



We will be posting some photos from June in our [renovation diary](#) in the next couple of days. It lets you see what is going on and also records it for future generations.

Please, please do come along and volunteer in the week , we do need you, just turn up and there will be task for you whatever your ability. Also a huge thanks to those that came on Saturday. - there are some [photos of the morning on the website](#).

Enjoy your weekend, Marilyn (site project manager)

HELLO FROM ALEX

Alex Loveless has signed up for the Thames Path Challenge at the beginning of September, a 100km route that follows England's greatest river upstream and passes by The Swan. He will run 50km from Putney to The Swan (Runnymede, actually) on the first day, and then walk another 50km from The Swan to finish in Henley on the second day.



He's doing this to raise money for the Green Room's graduate programme at The Swan because, in his words, "we need to help some amazing kids be more amazing". Please visit his [Just Giving page](#) and read why this cause is so important to him.

Here's Alex, "training" for distance running. Doing some of the heavy lifting in the renovation work for The Swan turns out to be good exercise (as many of the volunteers will agree!). So you will find him on site when needed, training while also helping the renovation efforts. Two birds with one stone...

SWAN LIFELINE

Swan Lifeline is the oldest registered charity devoted entirely to the care of sick

and injured swans in the Thames Valley and surrounding areas. They do a wonderful job – in a typical year, they rescue over 700 swans and admit over 300 for treatment! The Rescue Centre HQ is not too far from The Swan, on Cuckoo Weir Island, South Meadow Lane, in Eton.

Please join us there for their Summer Open Day on Saturday 22nd June, anytime from 11:00 to 15:30. There will be a variety of stalls (including ours!!) and activities on the day, and of course an opportunity to see the swans and cygnets in their care!



Have a great weekend!

Warm regards,

Will & Richard

For and on behalf of the The Friends of The Swan

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