

The Queens' Trumpeter



OFFICIAL VOICE OF BRITISH RED HAT QUEENS, CO-QUEENS, VICE QUEENS AND FIRST LADIES



ISSUE 8

NEWSLETTER DATE
DECEMBER 2010

Contact:

Queen RedMel
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Queen of the Crimson
Crumblies

~ FIRST Essex Chapter ~

THE QT WISHES ALL IT'S READERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!

The FIRST WORD from Queen RedMel ~~~~

First week in October saw the long awaited EuroDisney Funvention. There will be a report from Sue Denny, La Reine de Domfront herself, who organised the event on page 8 in this issue, but I wanted to give my own impression.....

Friday morning, Jennie, The Lady Boz, and I boarded the Eurostar headed for Paris Disney and arrived early afternoon. We checked into our hotel, The Sequoia Lodge, and then went across to the convention hotel to meet the other ladies. After registering, we went back to get ready for the evening. After the reception, we had a lovely dinner and met other red hatters from the UK, Belgium, Australia and the US (among others) and were entertained by Minnie and Mickey!! Next day after breakfast, we made our way to Disney where we were at leisure to wander around and go on rides all day except for a photoshoot at mid day. In the evening, we dressed in our finest red and purple and had yet another wonderful dinner (it was France! The food was tres bon!!!!) Our entertainment was provided by the Australians who had us in stitches with their sketches and songs. Great success!!! Sunday morning and we all had breakfast in the convention hotel and said our goodbyes. swapped presents and cards and hugged our new friends.



Jennie and I spent the rest of the day back at Disney - searching for our inner child!!! Well, you had to, didn't you???? We had a great time and can't wait for the next one!! (Sue???????)



Queen RedMel

INSIDE :

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To all those who contributed.

Thank You

DON'T FORGET TO WRAP UP AND KEEP WARM—I AM PRETTY SURE YOU CAN GET THERMAL UNDERWEAR IN PURPLE SOME-WHERE!!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Red Hat Friends

Upcoming Events

GATHERING OF QUEENS 2011

Queen Lindylou and the Ruby Belles of Witham have now finalised the group booking for the 2011 Gathering of Queens to be held Friday 4 March - Monday 7 March at Warners, Holme Lacey Hotel in Hereford.

Here are some details on how to book.

All bookings should be made direct with Warners (however Linda would appreciate you also e-mailing to let her know you are going)

Your contact at Warners is Barbara Flood 0800 072 0772
Please call between 8.30am - 5.00pm, asking for Barbara personally quoting booking reference : 53551451

The cost of a Twin Room will be £217.00 pp (unfortunately the slight rise in price is due to the new VAT rates which start in January + Warners' own annual price increases – however, we are still saving £72 pp on the brochure price)

As is the usual deal we have 3 nights for the price of 2 (Sunday night is free for those able to stay on, sorry the price remains the same regardless if you chose to stay 2 or 3 nights)

A Deposit of £65 now will secure your place—The balance of £152 is to be paid by 14 January 2011

There are 4 Single Rooms at no extra supplement on a first come first served basis

The 2011 UK Red Hat

Convention

will take place in

October 2011

In Brighton

Hosted by

Queen Helen and

The Brighton Belles

(more later)



A bit about Holme Lacy House

With the serenity of Regency England, Holme Lacy House is a beautiful hotel in the a perfect location to explore the Wye Valley. Holme Lacy House has played host to the great and the good so frequently during its ancient and remarkable history that you'd think it's worthy of a raft of Royal Warrants. This magical Grade I-listed mansion nestles in the Wye Valley just 20 minutes from Ross-on-Wye and close to the handsome city of Hereford. There are 20 acres of restored formal gardens and landscaped parkland. The pond, topiary, beddings and hedges laid out with geometric precision and the sense of golden proportion that typified a gentler era.

Relax and unwind or get energetic - the choice is yours. Holme Lacy House has a range of leisure facilities including Fitness Studio, Archery*, Croquet, Fencing*, Tennis, Outdoor All Weather Bowls Green, Indoor Heated 17m Swimming Pool, Bubble Pool, Steam Room, Sauna. Plus you can look good and feel good after a visit to the health and beauty salon. *All treatments available at an extra cost.

PLEASE EMAIL LINDA AT lincan47@yahoo.co.uk for details of how to get to Hereford and suggestions for alternative (cheaper) accommodation.

The following announcement from Choccy.....

The South West Area international Red Hat day 2011 will be held here in Weston-super-Mare.

This event promises to be great fun and will be held on Monday April 25th 2011 on the BRAND NEW GRAND PIER
<http://www.grandpier.co.uk/>

All details for those interested along with a registration form can be found on our website www.classyandsassyhatters.org Please book early as places will fill quickly!

Here is some news from a new chapter

London Chapter Accepts New Member!

Hello from Milton Keynes -

The "Thoroughly Modern Millies" is nearly one year old -we have had a great deal of fun and we have set up our second chapter-The Thoroughly Modern Mollies with Queen Mary Poppins at the helm.

On 13th December we are getting an award from Age U.K. for making the lives of ladies in Milton Keynes Happier and Livelier. It is called The Golden Wonder Award (for we are in our golden years and we are wonderful ladies ---nothing to do with crisps)Also, there is a cheque for £500 given by both Milton Keynes Council and Age U.K.

We are full of daft ideas and have done laughing yoga, kite flying, belly dancing lessons and tai chi in the park, as well as the usual outings, theatre trips ,cinema visits , lunches and tea parties

Our latest wheeze is to make the ugliest fairy for our Christmas trees at home so that each Red Hat in Milton Keynes will be the most beautiful Princess on Christmas day in her house !!

To make an ugly fairy -carve an apple to be the face -dip it in vinegar to dry it wrinkly and then clothe it with whatever you fancy -brillo for hair and tinsel to add that glamorous sparkle after all even ugly fairies deserve to sparkle !!!

We have to spend our windfall in Milton Keynes and on the Community -but we will have a " hooley" in one of our lovely parks in the summer and invite you all -spread the red sequined greetings from us all -will forward a photo of us getting the cheque

Best wishes for the Season from

The Thoroughly Modern Millies and Queen Eliza Doolittle

Queen Lorna of the London Red Hatters has submitted a photo of her latest member. Lorna says she doesn't want to upset this lady by telling her to get a purple outfit but hopes she will come to their next outing!! One wonders what her 'red hat name might be!!! 'Lady Lillibet' perhaps!!!!



Here is a photo of some of Lorna's London RedHatters on an outing—without "The real Queen"!!!!



There comes a point in your life when you realize:

- * Who matters,
- * Who never did,
- * Who won't anymore,
- * And who always will.

So, don't worry about people from your past, there's a reason why they didn't make it to your future.

- Anonymous



It's All About



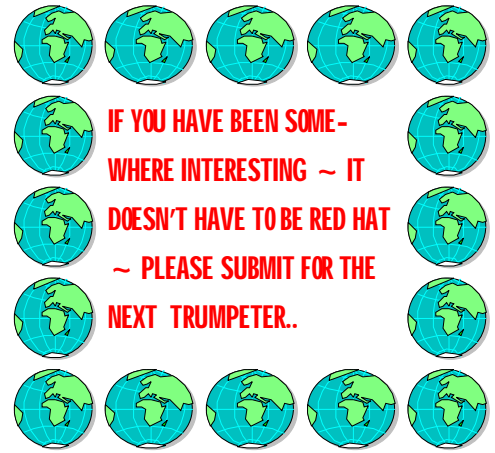
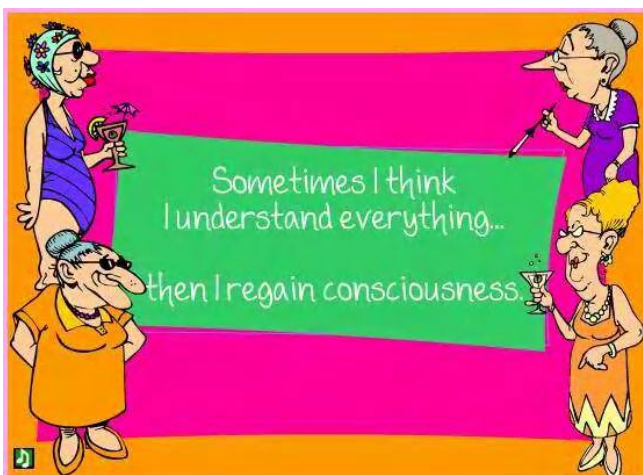
Sisterhood

FUN STUFF

YOU MIGHT BE A RED HATTER IF....

- You are fifty or older and having the time of your life
- The only colours you see in the shop are red or purple
- You dress more outrageously now than when you were in your teens & twenties
- You have two types of clothes, purple clothes and red clothes
- You have more sequins & rhinestones than a Liberace costume
- You don't think there can ever be too many feathers on a hat
- You watch the old movies just to see different styles of hats
- You have more girlfriends now than you did when you were in school
- Your family asks you if you are going to wear that in public?
- You stop to talk to another woman or group of ladies because they are wearing red hats
- You always claimed to hate hats, but now you own lots of hats
- You wonder why you didn't have all this fun years ago
- You finally remembered what it is like to have fun, laugh & act silly
- You no longer dread getting old, because you have lots of friends to get there with.
- You've discovered the greatest sisterhood for women
- You can laugh at life
- People stop and talk to you and ask you what the Red Hat Society is all about !!

THANK YOU IRENE STRANGE!!



IF YOU HAVE BEEN SOMEWHERE INTERESTING ~ IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE RED HAT ~ PLEASE SUBMIT FOR THE NEXT TRUMPETER..



WISHING A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL RED HATTERS CELEBRATING IN DECEMBER JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

DON'T FORGET TO REVERSE YOUR COLOURS!!!!



Love this photo of a red hat snowlady sent to me by Queen Maur the Merrier—made by her friend 'Lady Hattygolucky' from the Blueberry Muffins of Worthing!!!



HAS YOUR CHAPTER
DONE SOMETHING
INTERESTING??
DETAILS COULD BE
HERE NEXT TIME!!



SEND YOUR PICS IN!!!!

PLEASE.....

The Ruby Belles Annual Day Out to the Seaside

We once again travelled to Walton on the Naze by train. After our obligatory pergola photo on the head above the pier we then walked down into town to a coffee shop for Toasted Teacakes and Coffee.

Then off into town to track down the charity shops and any others selling red, purple & bling, followed by a walk along the prom before returning into town for our Fish & Chips lunch.



Queen Linda and some of her Belles enjoying the sunshine.

After that, there was fun on the beach, the arcade on the pier, and back to the beach cafe for tea and ice creams before our day was over.

The weather was great and everyone enjoyed a fun day out.



24 NEWS

www.EDP24.co.uk/news

KING'S LYNN

Hats off to fundraising for carers

Swarms of ladies dressed in purple outfits and red hats will descend on a West Norfolk town next week to raise money for charity.

Sluice Women, members of The Red Hat Society, are hosting a tea party at King's Lynn's Town Hall next Tuesday to raise funds for West Norfolk Young Carers.

The international society is based on a poem by Jenny Joseph which reads: "When I am an old woman I shall wear purple with a red hat that doesn't go and doesn't suit me."

Ros Turner, Queen of the society's Downham Market chapter, said: "The Red Hat Society is for ladies of 'a certain age' who want to have fun."

"It started in America about 13 years ago when a few ladies framed copies of the poem and gave it to their friends together with a red hat as a 50th birthday present."

"The idea caught on and there are now more than 40,000 chapters worldwide in countries including Australia, Sweden, Holland, Spain,

By DAVID BLACKMORE

China and Russia. Membership of the Red Hat Society is all about ladies making friends because there are a lot of ladies who get to their late 50s and 60s, are on their own and just stay at home all the time.

"Most have worked hard, brought up their families, possibly cared for elderly parents so what better way is there for them to enjoy an afternoon than in convivial company."

Sluice Women started in 2007 with seven members but the Downham Market chapter now has 65 members, all aged over 50.

The chapter regularly meets on the last Thursday of each month in the conservative club in the town.

"Each month we enjoy a lively and entertaining speaker and time for members to socialise and to suggest and sign up for future fun events," Queen Turner said.

"These can be in the form of a trip to the theatre, the cinema, a garden



THE PARTY: A previous Red Hatter tea party for Sluice Women. Pictured is Queen Ros Turner, right, with her cats, with 12 other members there for the party. A tea party will be held in King's Lynn next week.

show, bowling or even a meal at a restaurant.

"We are always being asked if we are on a hen night when go out and we get so many people ask us what we are all about - it's lovely."

The chapter is hoping the event at the town hall between 3pm and 4pm will raise a "hatful" of money for the

West Norfolk Young Carers.

The charity works hard to identify, target and support young carers aged between seven and 18 living in West Norfolk. It is also West Norfolk mayor Zephia Christopher's chosen charity for her year in office.

Ladies from other Red Hatter chapters including the Pen Fatales

from Holbeach, Gadabout Girls from Wisbech and Guyhirn-based Fenland Fillices will attend the charity event.

Queen Turner added: "We would be delighted if anyone else wants to come along for this special afternoon."

For further information, call Queen Turner on 01366 383154.



My Group



Thanks to Ros Turner, Queen of the Sluice Women of Downham Market for this article which appeared in the local paper. I did my best to reproduce it!!

Chapter Events



I would like to thank Queen Pearl of the FENLAND FILLYS for contributing this piece to brighten up our dreary lives.....

Pearl says.....

I thought you might like to hear about our 1st Birthday party. One of our girls thought we should have something a little different for our Birthday party so suggested a butler to wait on us. But this was no ordinary butler as you will see from the attached photo. We had a really good time and a lot of friendly banter with our butler Simon who informed us that it was his first booking. I'm sure it will not be his last!!!



NOTE TO OTHER CHAPTERS ~~
what a wonderful idea!!!!



Hmmm! Nice buns!!! - Ed.

This year as many of you aware has been particularly difficult & sad for me, and I know it will be along time until I am back to some sort of normality

I have Red Hat friends who have also lost loved ones this year too, so know only too well I am not the only one hurting

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank British Red Hatters, so many to name individually, who have contacted me and met me throughout the year. And who have shown me such kindness and concern as I have attempted to enjoy Red Hatting once again.

Showing true Red Hat Spirit and Sisterhood, I applaud you all...I send my love to other Red Hatters who are grieving this Christmas

I wish you all a most joyful Christmas and a very Happy 2011

THANK YOU Linda Queen LindyLou Ruby Belles Witham



Murder/Mystery Weekend. October 23/24th

In October 2010 some of the Boudicca Babes from Colchester went to the Manor of Groves Hotel in Sawbridgeworth for a weekend designed to exercise those 'little grey cells'. I booked the weekend not knowing the storyline and was a bit fazed to be told it had a Sci-Fi theme and we were invited to dress in the evening as for a Sci-Fi Convention as fans of a fictitious TV series along the lines of Star Trek or more likely Blakes Seven.

When we had settled in to our rooms we went to afternoon tea, and what a spread it was, a selection of sandwiches, scones and cream and lovely gateaux. The 'actors' played the part of the original cast of the series who were meeting for a reunion after a break of several years during which time one of the team had died.

While we had our tea they came and chatted at our table and we got to know them individually and could ask relevant questions although this wasn't very productive until someone was murdered in the corridor. Then the fun really began!! We adjourned to one of our rooms to discuss the whys and wherefores.

Having decided we didn't have the figures for lycra and I had promised we could wear our posh frocks, we decided to be Ladies on the Titanic waiting in vain to be rescued by David Tennant. [Dr Who Christmas Special]

We had an excellent dinner during which time we were again joined by members of the cast and quizzed them to try to fathom out who had done what to whom. Another murder between courses had us rethinking our original culprits. Again we adjourned to have another discussion.

After an excellent buffet breakfast we re-convened for coffee and the closure of the 'Convention'. One more murder to finish off the event and then we had to decide who was the murderer and why??

I'm not saying any more in case you decide to go to one of these events and I wouldn't want to give anything away. Suffice to say that we all had a great time and will be going again to another of their weekends.

The food and service was excellent and the whole event very well organised. I would thoroughly recommend it. The company that runs these events holds them in some lovely locations all over the country so its worth looking on their website for one near you. Check out the website if you are interested in doing this with your chapter.

www.KillingGame.co.uk

What a lovely photo of the outgoing Queen of the Boudicca Babes—Maggie Shannon—and some of her Babes. Maggie is second from right. Maggie has handed her 'Queen's' crown and robes over the Queen Lauren (third from left, I hope—correct me if wrong!) Good luck Lauren.



I'M SO OLD I CAN
LAUGH, COUGH,
SNEEZE, AND PEE ALL
AT THE SAME TIME.



Life Is More Fun
With
Red Hat
Friends!

THE FIRST EUROPEAN DISNEY FUNVENTION!!!



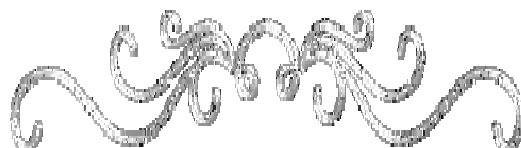
They arrived by way of Honolulu, the Rhine Valley, Vienna, South Africa, London and Hong Kong and returned home via Monaco, Madrid, Korea, the Loire Valley and Dubai to name but a few places. But the key destination for the Red Hat ladies from as far afield as the USA, Australia, the UK, Holland, Belgium and France was Paris France - the city of romance and of Mickey Mouse!

The Disneyland Funvention from 1-3 October saw 62 Red Hatters from around the globe getting together to make new friends, eat, drink and hit the theme parks in their beautiful red and purple regalia.

Queen of the Red ExpHat Society, Normandy (the only chapter in France) Sue Denny said that after two years of preparation it was a dream come true to see the Red Hatters having such a hoot together. They ranged in age from pink hatters from Belgium and Australia in their thirties and forties to 84 years' young Betty Collins, who came all the way from Illinois, USA.

Many arrived early and a group of thirty travelled into the heart of Paris on the Thursday evening for a spectacular night out at the Lido on the famous Champs Elysee. Sue says 'It was a treat to see the faces as we emerged from the Metro right in front of the Arc de Triomphe. They had seen pictures of it all their lives, but the sight of it was too much for some of them!'

The weekend saw two receptions, one where Mickey and Minnie Mouse were guests of honour, two dinners, a day at the theme parks and a farewell pyjama breakfast. But the highlight of the weekend for everyone was the cabaret put on by the Australian Red Hatters on Saturday evening.



INFORMATION PAGE

HERE 'S WHERE YOU WILL FIND ALL THOSE THINGS YOU DIDN 'T KNOW YOU DIDN 'T KNOW!!!

ONLINE RED HAT MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE

Dear Ladies, to those of you that have not yet had a look at our very own British Red Hatters shop, please do so at www.BritishRedHatters.co.uk. Here you will find an abundance of Red Hat Goodies, including Red Hats, Hat Pins, Badges, Gloves, Feathers, Fishnets, Clothing, Aerial Toppers, Desk Top wobblers, Bags, Pens, Stationery, Magnets, Wine Glasses and much much more. Stock changes daily and new items are always being added to make sure you add the shop into your favourites. It seems the range of items in our shop is so successful that we currently have customers from France, America, Australia and most recently, New Zealand.. A huge warm welcome to all new customers..

Remember you can sign up to the Red Hat Ladies Newsletter from here, where you will be notified of all new stock arriving as soon as it hits the shelves.

Please note that the shop will be closed from Friday 17th December 2010 until Monday 10th January 2011 for a well earned holiday, and some necessary stock taking, so please order early for your pre-Christmas delivery

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your custom in 2010 and look forward to meeting you all again in 2011

Pinkisses to each and everyone of you—

Lady Pink Fizz, aka Sharon, Boudicca Babes, Colchester.



DRESS CODE FOR ATTENDING RED HAT EVENTS

AS A MEMBER OR A SUPPORTING MEMBER YOU ARE ENTITLED TO READ AND POST ON THE QMB. IT IS A FUN PLACE TO VISIT YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES. DON 'T BE SHY - IT 'S A VERY LIVELY BOARD AND IF YOU HAVE NEVER POSTED, YOU WILL BE MADE VERY WELCOME.

The new website for British Red Hatters has been up and running for a couple of months now - <http://redhatters-uk.com>. Hopefully everyone has had a chance to look at it. There are a lot of new pages with more info than we have had before.

In order to keep the site fresh and up-to-date, I would like to ask chapters that produce newsletters for their members, to copy it to me at the following email address ms.redweb@gmail.com. That way, I won't have to pester you for news but can pick out anything that catches my eye and contact you for your approval or more details.

I would also like everyone to check that the new UK website address has been added to their own Chapter website. I have noticed that one or two still have the old .ik address showing. This is ok for the moment as re-direction takes place but eventually that will fade away.

Lastly, please let me know your new website address if you have had to change because of the closure of a BT site supported by Recipero. The UK links page can then be brought up to date. If you are a new Queen, please send your photo for the Queens page.

Many thanks and Merry Christmas to all!

Pam Dilley - UK Webmistress

Ensure that all your members keep to one of the few 'requirements' in the Red Hat Society - if you are 50 + and with red hatters, you MUST have a red hat on your head (or Fascinator) and be wearing purple - (although the whole person doesn't have to be in purple, the Queen's booklet indicates that the more 'official' colour the better - including our shoes. (Purple should dominate). It would be dramatically spectacular to see and we look like more of a cohesive whole - quite fabulous and impressive! There's something about group courage when it comes to growing older disgracefully! Naturally, if you are less than 50 years of age then you wear pink hats and lavender clothing. Obviously, as you all know, if it's your birthday month,

YOU MAY REVERSE YOUR COLOURS!!!!

NEXT ISSUE ~ MAY 2011

DEADLINE FOR TEXT ~ Mid April

**LOTS OF RED HATTERS ARE ALSO ON
FACEBOOK NOW ~ COME AND SEE**

CHAPTER DIRECTORY ~ , if you have any changes to your chapter in the way of phone numbers, email addresses etc, please contact Queen Tripalot (Pauline) at Pauline.lol@sky.com