

## Cheers for our Local Pubs and Shops

*We hear in the media that local pubs are closing their doors for business at an alarming rate - how lucky we are here in the Wychwoods to be well-served by five local hostelrys. What better time to show them our support than at this festive season when they are all laying on extra events to help.*

**At the Shaven Crown** Christmas festivities will really kick off from the 19<sup>th</sup> December with a party and live music in the bar. Following this will be our Sloe Gin competition on the following night, so bring along your gin and test it against the rest of the village! There is no charge for these events just come along and join the fun. Over the Christmas period we will be closed on Christmas Day, and open just for drinks on Boxing Day lunch. As we head into the New Year we will be having a special gala dinner on New Year's Eve, and will gather once again around the courtyard to sing in 2010. For events please email: relax@theshavencrown.co.uk Finally, a MASSIVE thank you to all those who sponsored my cycle ride from London to Paris in July. Between you all £2500 was raised for Christian Aid to help those in poverty around the world.

**Philip Mehrtens**

**The Swan at Ascott**, the recipient of three well-deserved accolades has a special Christmas menu for parties of 8+ throughout December. During January and February they are offering two main courses for the price of one for both lunch and dinner, Tuesdays to Thursdays. They will be closed for the first week of January. Ring: 01993 832332 for details.

**The Lamb at Shipton** is offering half-price glasses of champagne every Thursday in the run up to Christmas. On

Christmas Day they will be open for drinks. On New Year's Eve they are hosting a special party night in a marquee on the terrace, with disco and buffet supper. Tickets are £39.50 each; ring Tracey or Paul on: 01993 830465.

**The Quart Pot in Milton** gets into the swing with a disco on Christmas Eve and a four-course dinner on Christmas Day. On Boxing Night they have evening entertainment in the bar and round off the celebrations with a hog roast and entertainment to help see in the New Year. Tickets are just £5 so ring: 01993 830589 if you want to join in the fun. Approaching Christmas it is time to look forward to parties. They have a special party menu and lunch menu available throughout December that run alongside regular menu offerings, so if you are a group of 2 to 32 please give them a call and they will send you a menu. Call on: 01993 830330. Lunches from £12 per person, dinners from £18.50.

**...And Our Shops.** 'Liquorice' in Milton has a wide range of gifts at prices to suit every pocket; take a look you'll be surprised what is in store. Even if you don't find what you want this time, you will have enjoyed a chat with June. Just along the road is **Wychwood Deli**, where Chris carries an extensive stock of goods both local and international and will be happy to advise you on the perfect cheese.

**Christine Halliday**