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Selsey Life

community news magazine

August 2008 issue no. 120

SESSIONS HOUSE AN UPDATE

Tuesday 1st August 2006. Sessions House, our most beautiful home was gutted by the most disastrous fire, due to the unforgivable carelessness of our neighbour and Selsey lost the "Jewel in the Crown" of the North High Street Conservation Area.

Two years have passed and we have sold "Sessions" to Syliva Marshall, a lady from Surrey who will restore the house to its former glory. The house was, for a time, threatened with demolition and the site built on, but an appeal to English Heritage resulted in a thorough inspection by a very knowledgeable lady, Patience Trevor, and the house is now much more firmly listed Grade II than it ever was. (Most of what was original to the 17th century survived.)



The day following the fire two very kind ladies collected money by door to door collection, which they passed to us. We still have this and propose to use it to place a plaque on Sessions, recording the date of the fire and its restoration and our names and that of the new owner. This will help ensure historical accuracy. History of the house pre-1908 is non-existent.

We have had two years of ongoing trauma and will be moving very soon to West Dorset, to be near our daughter and to return to the area where we met over 50 years ago. Our grateful thanks go to all who have supported, encouraged and prayed for us over this most difficult time.

Ken, Jean and Wellington Chapman

garden furniture

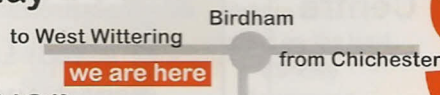
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