

## Weston Manor, Weston on the Green, near Oxford

### Country House Hotel



### History

Weston Manor is a 12<sup>th</sup> century English Manor, with a rich history. Built on a Saxon settlement, the core of the house is 16<sup>th</sup> Century and has many surviving Tudor features.

The manor has had a variety of owners throughout its history, including royalty - Henry VIII once occupied the Manor. During the Second World War the BBC inhabited the house. But since 1944, apart from a short period in the 1960's when the Dunlop tyre company owned the property, the Manor has been owned by hoteliers.

The current owner, Dudley Osborn, purchased the Manor in 1983. Continuing the restoration works begun by his predecessors, he converted the 18<sup>th</sup> Century stable block into conference rooms and bedrooms, for which he was awarded a certificate from the Oxford Preservation Trust.

Ghosts also feature at Weston Manor, with the most famous being 'Mad Maude', a young nun burnt alive 5 centuries ago after falling in love with a monk, when the estate was believed to be a monastery. Also sighted regularly is the phantom coach that comes through the rear yard and then vanishes and a Cavalier has also been sighted in the hotel drinking from a goblet!

### Historic relations

Dudley Osborn has owned the hotel for nearly 30 years and been a beacon member for over 10.

*"I find lots of advantages in working with beacon and I use beacon for all purchasing apart from 3 local suppliers in Oxford for meat, fish, fruit and vegetables. I use Matthew Clark for all drink purchasing, and am really impressed with the pricing which beacon has been able to secure with both Matthew Clark and House of Townend, our new wine supplier."*

In these difficult times Dudley has been keeping a keen eye on cash flow, working closely with Sam in central billing to manage payments throughout the month.

*“ The main advantage I find in working with beacon is pricing and managing cash flow, I’m also glad to have two points of contact - my account manager Stephanie Duncan and Sam Kemp in central billing. I’ve found that there is always someone on hand to help me when I need it.”*

*“I’ve recently finished a stint as a regional chair for the BHA (British Hospitality Association) and beacon is very well regarded within the organisation.”*

*“I find the annual directory of suppliers very useful, and I particularly liked the new compact edition for 2011. It seems beacon is always keen to move things forward and make positive changes to their business, which benefits me as one of their members.”*

**With thanks to Dudley Osborn at the Weston Manor, [www.westonmanor.co.uk](http://www.westonmanor.co.uk)**