

Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce October 2008 Newsletter

What a busy month! Thank you to everyone who has given me such a warm welcome, both at the meeting and in the town. I am really enjoying my work for the Chamber.

Winter Hanging Baskets

The baskets have been ordered! If you have not already done so, **please send your cheque to Tony McDermott at Lanham and Francis Accountants, 77a Cheap Street, Sherborne DT9 3BA** . Tony is very kindly dealing with the financial side of things, and it would help him get the cheques in **by Friday 17th October**. Remember that if you had a summer basket and did not respond, we will have ordered a basket for you! If that is not what you intended, please call or e-mail me **asap**. (The summer baskets are coming down this week.)

Christmas Trees

Every year we organise Christmas trees, thanks in part to a generous grant from Sherborne Town Council. The trees are much admired and really add to the ambience of the town. We are ordering from Superplants again this year, who are expert at installing any additional brackets required, and fitting the required standard of decorative lights. We need to provide final numbers very soon. The Christmas tree order form is attached to this newsletter and is available on sherbornetown.com . **Please again send your order form and cheque to Tony McDermott, at Lanham and Francis Accountants, by Friday 31st October.**

Christmas Shopping Weekend 5/6/7 December

Plans have progressed. We have secured the services of the Town Band, Two Castles Youth Band and have arranged the markets. Paul Arthur of **Mid West Office Supplies** is organising a fantastic competition for children and it looks likely that we shall have a Father Christmas Grotto and face painting for kids.

I would like to hear from any traders who have a special promotion planned, so that it can be mentioned in the flyer, which is currently under production.

Please contact me with details of any promotions that you could run over that weekend, in particular if you operate an establishment where people could eat after the switching on ceremony, scheduled, in association with Rotary for 6pm on the Friday evening. I think that it would be great to highlight the possibility of eating in Sherborne on that evening, alongside shopping.

Christmas Tree Festival 6 -14 December, Cheap Street Church

Sherborne Chamber are again sponsoring a tree. This year Alex Ferris from **Castle Furnishings** has kindly agreed to exercise her artistic skills by producing the Chamber Tree Decorations. The theme of the tree is Shopping

in Sherborne. **Please drop off or send 4 of your business cards to Castle Furnishings, 13 Cheap Street, Sherborne DT9 3PU for Alex to beautify by Friday 24th October latest.** She will be preparing to decorate the tree shortly after that date. If you do not get your card to her, your business will not be represented.

Western Gazette Feature

The Western Gazette article is published on Thursday of this week, and features a photo of both old and new members at the Open Meeting earlier in the month. We also have a mention in the Dorset Magazine for the Festive Shopping and have strengthened links with Midwest Radio for Sherborne.

Gryphon School Business Breakfast 23 October 7.30 – 8.30

The Gryphon School is holding a business breakfast next week. There will be information and ideas to help local businesses benefit from the 2012 Olympic legacy and the July 2009 Gryphon School production of 'Far From the Madding Crowd'. If you would like to join in the Business Breakfast, please contact Lizzie Kingsbury at the school on 01935 810152 or <mailto:lizzie.kingsbury@gryphon.dorset.sch.uk>

Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce Way Forward Meeting Tuesday 21st October, 6pm, at the Eastbury Hotel, Sherborne.

We shall be continuing our Festive Shopping Weekend planning.

If you would like to attend this meeting, please contact me on 07594 805013 or by email at <mailto:cordelia@sherbornechamber.org.uk>

Report on Open Meeting

Chamber members new and old enjoyed a good evening at The **Eastbury Hotel** last week. Mike Burks from **Castle Gardens** spoke about the fire that broke out at his premises on 13th March this year. Mike is an interesting speaker and he told us in a very entertaining way about how the team at Castle Gardens responded to the fire, what kept Mike, Louise and the team smiling throughout the following days, and how they traded through such a massive upheaval.

What really struck me about Mike's talk, aside the clever business brains involved, was the tremendous community spirit shown. Some of the stories of human kindness were really heart – warming and showed how the Sherborne community can pull together.

It was the first time that I had met many of the members at the meeting and I had some super feedback and lots of fresh ideas to think about! Thank you. If you have any ideas to contribute please contact me. If you were one of the brave souls who came up with one of these ideas, beware – I shall be in contact soon!

Dorset Business Lunch - Meet the Neighbours Thursday 23rd October joint networking event for Yeovil, Somerset and Dorset Chambers

A fantastic opportunity to meet businesses and build relationships with

colleagues from across the border at this event held at The Manor Hotel, Hendford, Yeovil. Tickets £26 members (inc VAT), to include drink on arrival and 2 course lunch. Several Sherborne members are booked to go already. Why not join us?

Business networking is the best way of meeting other companies who might be in need of your goods or services. Save money on endless advertising by representing your company yourself!

How does it work?

Each person is assigned to a table where you will be able to introduce yourself to others during the meal. After the main course, everyone moves tables so that you meet another group of people. It does not end there! You are welcome to stay behind and network with others you have not yet met afterwards.

To book contact Sylvie Costantini, Events Manager Dorset Business, Chamber House, Acorn Office Park, Ling Road Poole, Dorset, BH12 4NZ Telephone 01202 714800 E-mail sylvie.costantini@dorsetbusiness.net Website www.dorsetbusiness.net

Changes to website and Membership Benefits Document

You may like to look at the website to see the announcements and events as well as changes of contact details and other updated documents.

Summer 2009 Colour Scheme

We need to decide before Christmas! – if you would like to be involved, please get in contact with me sooner rather than later.

SSDC Lufton Nursery Plant Sale

Our fantastic hanging basket supplier is open to the public Mondays to Fridays 9 – 4, selling a range of quality winter flowers, bulbs and hanging baskets. Contact Sarah Pinder 01935 462834 or <mailto:sarahpinder@southsomerset.gov.uk>

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter is due to go out on Friday 21st November, so all contributions to me please by Tuesday 18th November latest please.

You are welcome to use the newsletter to tell fellow members and others who receive the newsletter about any offers or promotions you are running, achievements of your business or bring items of interest to the attention of others. You are also welcome to add interested parties to our distribution list.

If you read this and are not a member, please give me a call to discuss how the Chamber might be able to add benefit to your business.

Cordelia McFarlane
Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Tel. 07594 805013

I am available for Chamber business Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am - 1pm.

Thank you to Sue and Anthony Elliot – Square of **Third Dimension** for sending out this newsletter.



Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Christmas Trees and Festivities 2008



Sherborne festive shopping weekend is 5/6/7th December this year. The official lighting up ceremony will be at 6pm on Friday 5th December. Please let Cordelia know of special promotions you plan to run that weekend. If you are a food establishment, please let us know of any tastings, specials, or late openings, particularly for the Friday evening and Sunday when you might not usually be open.

Every year we organise Christmas trees, thanks in part to a generous grant from Sherborne Town Council. The trees are much admired and really add to the ambience of the town. We are ordering from Superplants again this year, who are expert at installing any additional brackets required, and fitting the required standard of decorative lights. We need to provide final numbers very soon. Please complete the details below and send this form, together with your cheque made out to Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce to **Tony McDermott, Lanham and Francis Accountants, 77a Cheap Street, Sherborne, DT9 3BA by Friday 31st October.**

Order form for hire of 5 foot Norway Spruce Christmas Tree with white lights and RCD adaptor. Price is inclusive of erection of tree before the end of November and removal in early January. Tree, lights and adaptor are supplied by Superplants. We have managed to keep the cost down to **£41.13 inclusive of VAT.** Please send your cheque and form to Tony, detail above.

Business name

Contact name

Address

Contact telephone number

Contact e-mail

Please supply Christmas tree/s at £41.13 inclusive of VAT

Signed

Should you have any queries regarding brackets, please contact Cordelia McFarlane, tel. 07594 805013 or <mailto:cordelia@sherbornechamber.org.uk>
I am available for Chamber business Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am - 1pm