

## **Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce February 2009 Newsletter**

Sherborne has had a bright start to February. Despite some problems connected to the unusual weather conditions, many people have really enjoyed the snow.

### **Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce Business Survey 2009**

Polish exchange student Malgorazata Gebaska (she lets us call her Gosia) arrived in Sherborne a few weeks ago, and will stay until April to gain some work experience and practice her English.

Gosia is working two days a week for the Chamber, on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. She is involved in a number of projects, including an update of members' details, and a survey of members' expectations of the Chamber and other businesses in Sherborne.

We really are looking forward to your ideas for Sherborne Chamber of Trade. Please look out for Gosia as she is dropping in on businesses over the next few weeks.

### **Membership Renewal/ Winter Hanging Baskets/Christmas Trees**

All amounts due to the Chamber are about to be chased up. If you have paid, thank you.

### **Sherborne CCTV Scheme**

Victor Clarke was our representative at this meeting, held last week. We hope to receive an update soon.

### **The Three Wishes Pancake Race, Cheap Street, Sherborne - Shrove Tuesday – 24<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am.**

Following the success of last year's event, The Three Wishes Pancake Race is taking place again, in Sherborne on Shrove Tuesday – 24<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am. Local businesses are encouraged to enter, and funds raised will be used to help build a new clubhouse for Sherborne Rugby Club.

Entry is only £1 per person and the winner will receive a voucher for a tea party for six from The Three Wishes.

Contact The Three Wishes on 01935 817777 should your business wish to join in.

We have attracted a lot of publicity from this event.

### **Environment Conference and Workshop - 26<sup>th</sup> February at the Gryphon School, Sherborne**

An Environment Conference and Workshop will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> February at the Gryphon School. This promises to be a great opportunity for people of Sherborne and surrounding areas to hear from a variety of good speakers on environmental matters, discuss potential ways forward and to share their views on what needs to be done. Opportunities for developing actions for local

traders and funding through the Chalk and Cheese mechanism and fairtrade will be included in this conference. For information please contact Kevin Waterfall on e-mail: [kevin.waterfall@btinternet.com](mailto:kevin.waterfall@btinternet.com), tel: +44 (0)1935 812779, mobile: +44 (0)7825 152251.

Mike Burks of Castle Gardens is attending on behalf of the Chamber and will update us in due course.

### **Steam Dreams Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2pm – 5pm (provisional times)**

The Steam Dreams train 'Oliver Cromwell' will be arriving in Sherborne on Easter Monday. If this can be of any benefit to your business, do take advantage of it. In December nearly 400 people alighted from the train in Sherborne. Do contact me if you have any ideas about using this event to your advantage.

### **Marche de France**

The French market looks set to go ahead in Sherborne this year. Discussions are underway between the Chamber, the Town Council and of course Mache de France to finalise location and dates. Having exhausted all other possibilities, we are looking at Cheap Street again, from the top to the Post Office – please let me know if you have any issues you would like to talk through before plans are made final.

### **New Member Phillip Binns, Stockbroker and Financial Advisor for Edward Jones.**

Phillip joined us at the January meeting, and has since joined the Chamber. Phillip offers financial advice and guidance face to face on a wide range of areas including:

planning for a comfortable retirement

living in retirement. Ensuring your investments do not erode through inflation.

school/university planning

protecting your family and business.

estate planning solutions

building investment portfolios

ensuring at all times that your investments are invested in a tax efficient manner.

Phillip describes what he does: I serve individuals and business owners. All my energy and resource are dedicated to helping people reach their long-term financial goals. I take a measured approach to investing and recommend a diversified mix of investments that I believe will perform well over the longer term while helping to reduce risk. This is always conducted on a face-to-face basis.

I am qualified stockbroker and this has many advantages for my clients. An example of this is I am currently working with a number of clients who are looking for a better return than the bank. I have access to corporate bonds, which at the moment, are paying between 6% -8% gross depending on the term.

Contact Phillip at the new offices at 247, Westbury, Sherborne DT9 3EJ  
Tel 01935 813853. Mobile 0759 567 9197.

### **Fingerprint's 'Double Whammy' Offer**

Fingerprint are offering fantastic deals on Business Stationery throughout 2009. With their 'Double Whammy' offer, you get the opportunity to double your order absolutely FREE!

If you order 2000 letterheads and 500 business cards, they will give you another 500 business cards absolutely free or if you order 1000 letterheads and 250 compliment slips they will give another 250 compliment slips for FREE.

There is plenty of flexibility with their offers so give them a call on 01963 220200 or 01963 220003.

### **The Conduit Magazine**

The Conduit Magazine is launching a new Special Features section, which is designed to be 'quirky and interesting'. We will let you know when we are doing different features. So far we will be covering 'National Bed Month' and 'A Day in the life of a Professional' in our March edition and in our April - St George's Day which will cover the quintessence of the English! Each of these features will give good editorial so a good way of getting your business noticed in a topical and interesting way. Just contact: [theconduit@onetel.com](mailto:theconduit@onetel.com) or 01935 424724

The Conduit Magazine runs a free service for businesses and charitable organisations. We will put a free advertisement into our Classified Section - similar to Our 'Bargain Hunters Corner'. This is ideal for part-time workers as well as full time. To advertise your job vacancies completely free of charge just e-mail: [theconduit@onetel.com](mailto:theconduit@onetel.com)

### **Federation of Small Businesses Keep Trade Local Campaign**

It has estimated by the House of Commons All-Party Small Shops Group that there will be no independent retailers left by 2015. This has implications for the whole community. The FSB is suggesting that an independent regulator should be created to ensure that local planning decisions do not have a negative effect on the interests of the local community and unfair pricing advantages, such as below cost selling, should be prohibited.

We have been a bit slow getting started with this one - Is any Chamber member interested in organising a petition from their shop? Please let me know as soon as possible.

### **Dorset Business**

Sherborne Chamber is affiliated to Dorset Business. Please look at [Sherbornetown.com](http://Sherbornetown.com) Chamber Advice Page for details of their member-to-member discount scheme and forthcoming events.

### **January Way Forward Meeting Update**

A bumper attendance of sixteen people attended the meeting. Many thanks to Nigel Hamman of the recently refurbished Swan Pub, PC Mike O'Donnell, our three visitors and of course the usual regulars. We had such a good time that we plan to hold the AGM there! Thank you to all who attended and

contributed. The only issues discussed and not covered elsewhere are the need for someone to develop the environmental side of things for the Chamber. Mike Burks is attending the Environmental Conference in Sherborne. Is there anyone out there who could liaise with the council on the issue of cardboard collection for example? Also, some members would like to hear more about the proposed farmshop at Sherborne Castle.

### **March Open Meeting - 6pm Thursday 12th March Oxley Sports Centre, Sherborne**

The next Chamber meeting is scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm at the Oxley Sports Centre, Sherborne. It will be an open meeting, so do bring a friend or colleague. Wine and nibbles be on offer, and of course the chance to chat to local business owners.

We have three presentations lined up. The first will be by Trevor Rogers, a local specialist in business continuity planning who has many years' experience. He will explain what can go wrong, how to develop your plan and practical steps a business can take to become more resilient.

The second speakers will be Discount - Age representatives Valerie Singleton and Nigel Houghton who will explain to us how Sheborne could become a model town for their scheme.

Finally Matt Nelson from the Oxley Sports Centre will offer us a tour of the facilities and will be handing out some free vouchers for use of centre.

If you are interested in coming along please contact [cordelia@sherbornechamber.org.uk](mailto:cordelia@sherbornechamber.org.uk) or call 07594 805013.

### **Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce AGM and Way Forward Meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 6pm, at the Swan Pub, Swan Yard, off Cheap Street, Sherborne.**

We shall hold the AGM on this date, drinks and nibbles will be provided. This meeting is open to members only. We shall also have an update on Way Forward progress. Agenda items to Cordelia please.

### **Next Newsletter**

The next newsletter is due to go out at the end of the first week in March, all contributions to me please by the end of February.

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 usually available for Chamber business Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am - 1pm. I will not be available until Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February.