

## **Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce June 2010 Newsletter**

### **Chamber Barbeque Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30pm Eastbury Hotel**

Please buy your tickets as soon as possible from The Eastbury Hotel or Hunts Accountants. Ticket numbers are limited, and the cost is £20 a head, which will cover you for a drink on arrival, fantastic menu and dessert. Jazz musician Julie Dunn has been booked. The only thing you have to risk is the weather. The Eastbury opened their new Bistro a few weeks ago, so come and see how they have improved their facilities yet again. The BBQ is the ideal opportunity to meet business owners in the town informally. You are welcome to invite guests.

I need some helpers to display and deliver BBQ flyers. Please get in contact with me if you are interested.

### **The Royal British Legion National Veterans Day Tri-Service Parade and Commemoration Service, Sherborne Abbey, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 3pm**

In 2009 a National Armed Forces Day was introduced. The County of Dorset RBL have decided to hold an official Service of Commemoration at 3pm, preceded by a Veterans and Tri-Service Parade through the town.

Many important officials will be in attendance and a large number of Veterans Associations and Regimental Associations will be taking part.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr Jack Skelton-Wallace, Organiser and Co-ordinator for the event on 01747 825388.

This is a great opportunity to benefit from increased footfall in the town!

### **Sherborne Chamber of Trade Meeting, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 6pm, The Three Wishes Meeting Room**

This meeting will consist of a number of short reports from each of the action groups, followed by any other business.

### **Sherborne Chamber of Trade Meeting, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 6pm, Onward Driver Training, The Old Fire Station, Ludborne Road**

We look forward to a presentation from member Phillip Hastings and an update on action group progress.

### **Constitution/Rules Action Group Report**

Nick Hunt, Anthony Elliott-Square, Nick Taylor and Cordelia will meet on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the various examples we may use as a basis for Sherborne.

### **Member Benefit Scheme Action Group Report**

Liz Burt, Joanne Myram, Sarah Sims, Nick Taylor and Scott Gibbons met last week to discuss the structure of a possible scheme.

### **Development of Relationship Action Group Report**

Nick Taylor and Cordelia are working on this project. We would like as many new faces as possible at the BBQ. Cordelia has met with the president of Yeovil Chamber, and made contact with their new secretary, who will promote the BBQ to her members. We have been invited to two Yeovil events, which we have regrettably been unable to attend. Is there a member interested in taking up this link?

Cordelia has made a presentation to the Rotary Club, with whom we work on the Christmas promotion already. We are now looking to co-operate in other areas as well.

Nick has been networking to help establish his new business, HR Dept and has promoted the Chamber. In particular we are looking to set up a local network of Chambers of Trade.

We have the beginnings of an arrangement with Business Link to come to Sherborne in September.

We shall invite Dorset Business to come and speak to us at the October Meeting.

#### **Shopping Guide Action Group Report**

Janet Schoefield, Andrew Maddock, Margaret Balfour, Dominic Drabik, Phillip Hastings, Cordelia and possibly Simon Haslam will meet on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June to discuss plans.

#### **Christmas Action Group Report**

Nick Hunt, Liz Burt, Sarah Sims, Thelma Drabik, possibly the Wallaces (White Hart) and Mike Conlin (Superplants) and Cordelia will meet on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June to move forward with planning.

#### **Report of Railway Anniversary Day**

The Mayor organized a day to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the railway in the town. This was a super day, supported by Sherborne Chamber of Trade. Mid West Office Supplies and The Toy Box ran a competition to attract children to participate in the event. Mid West Office Supplies and Boots won the Best Dressed Business Window Competition. Some great publicity for the town was generated.

#### **Report of Sherborne Chamber of Trade May Meeting at Kafe Fontana**

Ian Manley from the Council spoke to us about business waste collection, and a possible alternative they may offer for recyclable products. We then discussed the various projects on the go.

#### **Report on French Market**

We were very lucky with the weather last weekend, and the market in town attracted plenty of folk to town. Town Mill Bakery, The Toy Box, Moshulu, Mid West Office Supplies and Olivers were all open, along with some of the national stores. It was a lovely scene. Sherborne in Bloom ladies Gillian Gunner and Valerie Todd sold their jute bags, and we have a donation to make to Sherborne in Bloom on behalf of the French Market, who have also covered the administrative costs of organizing the market. Not a single complaint about the event was received, and lots of people said how pleased they were that the town could host the market.

#### **Sherborne Police Panel Meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30, Gryphon School**

I am looking for a member to attend this meeting to represent the Chamber. Please contact me asap if you are interested. Thank you.

#### **New Member Representative**

Is there a member who would like to welcome newcomers to business in the town? I

have three contacts who are interested in joining and would like to speak to a member. Please contact Cordelia if you are interested in helping with this.

### **Heroes Welcome Scheme**

Heroes Welcome is a scheme where veterans are able to receive some acknowledgment from the business they visit, whether something small like a small discount or a free cup of tea, or something larger.

Dorchester is supporting the scheme and there has been positive feedback from business.

There is some a registration fee of about £100 from the participating town and supporters get stickers to put in their windows. See [www.heroeswelcome.co.uk](http://www.heroeswelcome.co.uk). Please let Cordelia know if you are interested in participating.

### **Sherborne Access Guide**

Lizzie Kingsbury of the Gryphon School will be collaborating with members of the Sherborne Outreach Group to continue work on the Sherborne Access Guide of the Sherborne Area Equality Forum?

The next stage, having surveyed the roads and pavements in the centre of town and produced a map to show where remedial work could improve access for people with poor mobility as well as a comprehensive Sherborne Access Guide, will be to visit retailers and other public premises to see how accessible they are.

We appreciate that a similar but somewhat contentious survey took place back in 2005, but are keen to make sure that ours takes place in a friendly and co-operative atmosphere since we appreciate how helpful your members already are to people with disabilities of all ages.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lizzie on 01935 810152 regarding the plans and if any of the Chamber members have comments on access issues, I will be pleased to discuss the proposed project work.

### **Sherborne in Bloom Adopt a Tub Scheme**

SIB have a small number of planters and tubs for adoption and sponsorship for the summer season 2010. The tubs are strategically placed throughout the main shopping centre of town and offer a prominent position for advertising your business.

The Sherborne in Bloom colour scheme for this year is orange, yellow and white. Flowers for the season supplied by SSDC are the trailing plant Creeping Jenny, Surfinas white and Victorian yellow, and New Guinea impatiens in fanfare orange. The tubs will be planted and maintained either by SSDC or an adoptee-gardener and watered by the Town Council. The season will run from June until September 2010.

The following opportunities exist to sponsor a tub and for this you would be able to have a small sign reading 'the tub is sponsored by and your (business) name, contact details, website and logo. Sponsorship of the tub is £115 including the cost of the small sponsorship sign supplied by Alpha Signs of Yeovil.

**TUBS - all are located near the following businesses**

- Cheap Street – pinch points situated at the top of Cheap Street outside Castle Estates offices and Ruby - 2 Tubs
- Cheap Street - Dyne Drewett offices
- Cheap Street - Post Office - sponsored and planted by Volunteer Centre West Dorset
- Cheap Street – Bellissima – sponsored by Charterhouse
- Half Moon Street - the Pear Tree - sponsored by Melbury Gallery
- Digby Road - Tourist Information Centre
- Digby Road – outside of the Station
- Old Market Car Park near Pay and Display
- Westbury/corner of Horsecastles Lane – Old Silk Mills

This is a great opportunity to be involved in Sherborne in Bloom and will help the town score points with the Britain in Bloom judges for the business community. If you would like any more information about Sherborne in Bloom you are welcome to contact me, Caroline Rowland, Co-ordinator of Sherborne in Bloom on 01935 816961 or email [c.rowland@sherborne-tc.gov.uk](mailto:c.rowland@sherborne-tc.gov.uk).

### **New Member Onward Driver Training**

*ONWARD Driver Training recently moved into superb new premises at the Old Fire Station, in Ludbourne Road (opposite Sainsburys). The new light and airy office provides a top-quality training room with the latest equipment for up to 20 people in smart and comfortable surroundings.*

*ONWARD specialise in Corporate Driver Training. Principal Philip Hamilton-Hastings has over a decade of experience in this field, training and assessing everyone from company car and van drivers through to training Utility Company and Emergency Service drivers off-road in 4x4 and 6x6 vehicles. Following a 20-year career as a Fire-Fighter, Philip has a wide range of training qualifications, being a RoSPA Advanced Instructor, a DSA Approved Fleet Assessor, a Department for Transport SaFED Instructor, and a LANTRA accredited All-Terrain Instructor, working all over the UK, Europe and the Middle East. He is also one of only a handful of qualified independent trainers in the UK delivering high-quality Emergency 'Blue Light' training to various agencies, and 'Green Light' training to Emergency Doctors, Hospital Consultants and Organ Retrieval Specialists. He is a Diploma holder in Driver Training, and is also currently studying for an MSc in Driver Behaviour and Education at Cranfield University. In addition, Philip delivers Driver Awareness and Speed Awareness classroom courses on behalf of a number of Police Forces.*

*The biggest workload at present arises as a result of the Corporate Manslaughter Bill, whereby companies, institutions and charities who employ drivers in any capacity (paid or unpaid, whether in company or their own private 'grey fleet' vehicles) are directly liable for the actions of their drivers. Few companies realise that they are compelled to actively ensure that both their drivers, and any vehicles that they use, meet basic standards of competency and safety. The mere production of a driving licence and an MoT is not enough! This applies equally to a partner in a firm of Solicitors or Estate Agents as it does to a delivery van driver, a care worker or even the office lady who drives once a week to the bank!*

*In the event of a collision involving such a driver (1 in 3 of all collisions on Britain's roads involves someone at work at the time, with the highest incidence being on rural roads), the Police will expect to be provided with a comprehensive audit trail for both the driver and the vehicle by the employer. If this is not the case, the employer will*

*probably face charges under the Corporate Manslaughter Act, where there has been a fatality, or the Health and Safety (Offences) Act, where there has not.*

*ONWARD Driver Training provide a complete service, from driving licence and vehicle documentation checks, as well as driver assessments, through to a complete Corporate Road Risk Policy tailored to individual companies' needs and working environments. We can provide anything from a short group Driver Awareness Presentation through to a full company vehicle and driver audit.*

*We also assist private clients, for instance assessing elderly drivers for medical or insurance purposes, training and refreshing drivers who are having problems with activities such as towing, reversing or even parking!*

### **New Member Eason Funeral Services**

*Eason Funeral Services was originally owned in the 1930's by Rowland Eason & was continued by his son Cecil. Cecil was a carpenter, wheelwright, small builder & undertaker! Cecil retired in 1971 and shortly after the business, along with Easons of Yeovil & Green's in Wincanton, was bought by local man Mr Ian Raby.*

*In 1987 Ian sold the business to a company called Great Southern, but stayed on to run it. In 1994 Great Southern were bought by SCI (An American company) & Ian left Easons.*

*SCI were subject to a management buy out & the 'new' company was named with the ethos of what they stood for in mind - Dignity. Greens in Wincanton was incorporated into the Sherborne office & we now have a team who work both in the Yeovil & Sherborne Easons.*

*Dignity is one of the biggest funeral service and funeral plan providers in the country. Being part of a large company gives us the benefit of working to national standards, as well as ongoing training programmes for all our staff. There is a network of branches throughout the country so support and assistance is never far away. Having said that, it is important for us to retain our local identity and we are encouraged to do so.*

*Easons also offers its support to the local community, we undertake various fundraising activities, this year our charity is Childrens Hospice South West. Dignity owns a fairground organ & we use this at events to raise money for charities.*

*I came to Sherborne in 2006, after meeting my now husband! Sandy was then a player for Sherborne Rugby Club (since semi-retired!) & had just bought a house in Sherborne when we met. I was living in Somerset & had been working in the area as an RSPCA Inspector. I was able to move the job but found, after 18 years, that along with the house move I needed a career change. I was immediately drawn to the funeral service & started with Easons as a funeral arranger. I became Business Manager for Easons Sherborne & Yeovil (along with ARW Connock of Shepton Mallet & Hill & Son of Wells) at the beginning of 2009. I am very proud of the work we do and the fact that we care for our families & the loved ones they have lost as though they were our own, whilst still providing a professional service.*

Thank you for your contributions and welcome to Sherborne Chamber Phillip and Kate!

### **Business Link**

We are strengthening our association with Business Link. For information on events, go to <http://www.businesseventsindorset.co.uk/>

**Dorset Business Affiliation**

Don't forget our affiliation with Dorset Business. Check out the website [www.dorsetbusiness.net](http://www.dorsetbusiness.net) and take advantage of the fantastic events and courses on offer. This month they are offering courses from Practical Bookkeeping to an Import and Export workshop. As a member of Sherborne Chamber you are entitled to benefit from the member rate.

**Rural Services Network**

This is a useful organisation, to look at what they offer and subscribe to the newsletter check out the following link <http://www.rsnonline.org.uk>

**Next Newsletter**

The next newsletter is due to go out early July. All contributions to me before then 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 are one of our new members, please send me some information about your business so that we can introduce you to our members via the newsletter.

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 Mondays and Tuesdays 9am - 1pm.

I will not be available for Chamber business 2 – 8 June.

[www.sherbornetown.com](http://www.sherbornetown.com)