

Sherborne Chamber of Trade and Commerce May 2011 Newsletter

Welcome to the May newsletter. April saw the wonderful Faces of Sherborne Photography Exhibition, and The Royal Wedding Shop Window Dressing Competition, which hit the local headlines for two weeks in a row, drawing people back into the town after the disruption of the gasworks. The hanging baskets complimented our sunny town and added to the atmosphere.

This month we have our AGM, the French Market, and the first in a series of three Town Band Events.

Executive Committee Meeting, Tuesday 10th May, 6pm, The Three Wishes

This will be an executive committee only meeting. Any agenda items to Cordelia as soon as possible please. Minutes of the last meeting are available to members.

Chamber AGM, Tuesday 10th May, 6.30pm, The Three Wishes

All executive committee members should attend, and any members are welcome to attend as well. Should you be thinking about going onto the committee, nomination forms available from Cordelia. You are welcome to contact me for a chat about what is involved.

Chamber Links Event, Tuesday 17th May, 6.00 - 7.30pm, Kingston Maurward, Dorchester Cost £15.00 including light buffet dinner and refreshments

Adrian Whiting, Assistant Chief Constable with Dorset Police, to update us on how the Police are preparing for the 2012 Olympics, including safety & security for the Games, the transport routes, spectator arrangements etc. If you'd like to come along please contact Karen Homer at Dorset Business on 01202 714800 or book online at www.dcci.co.uk.

French Market, Sunday 22nd May, 9 -4, The Parade, Sherborne

We have worked with Sherborne Castle Estate and The Town Council to host Le Marche de France. Fingers crossed for fair weather so that we can all enjoy the wonderful produce and atmosphere. There will be cheese, bread, chacuterie, crepes, sweet treats as well as honey, soaps, tablecloths and other authentic products. Oh la la.....

Sherborne Town Band Event, Sunday 22nd May, 2.30pm, Pageant Gardens

After the success of Royal Wedding Event, Sherborne Town Band will perform in Pageant Gardens again. Sabins Deli will hold a BBQ, and the ice cream man on a bicycle will be on hand to refresh.

There will be two further events on 19th June and 24th July. If you would like to get involved, please contact Cordelia.

Business Seminar, Tuesday 24th May, 8.30 -11am, Kingston Maurwood College, Dorchester

Free Business seminar open to our members. Topics include marketing on a budget, looking after your team, financial advice for business owners, tax tips for managed businesses, and law lines for your business.

Contact member Nick Taylor of HR Dept on 0845 250 8284 for more information

Steam Dreams, Tuesday 24th May, 1-4pm

The Steam Dreams locomotive is timetabled to stop in Sherborne at 1pm and again at 4pm. I expect that some visitors to the town may be expected during that time. Wonderful!

Barn Dance, Toy Barn, Blackmarsh Farm, Saturday 4th June, 8pm to 12.30 am

Member Toy Barn is hosting this event in aid of the Friends of the Yeatman, 60th anniversary. The band is called Teasing The Cat, a traditional 4 piece band with a caller. Tickets are £15.00 per head and a hog roast is provided. There will be a disco to finish the evening and a licensed pay bar.

Tickets are available from Castle Gardens, Sherborne Photographic and the Toy Barn.

Report on Meet the Neighbours Lunch with Somerset Chamber, at the Eastbury Hotel, Sherborne.

This was a fantastic lunch, hosted at The Eastbury Hotel. Our Chairperson Kate Heal attended and spoke at the event.

Report of April Executive Committee Meeting, Kafe Fontana.

Thank you to Kafe Fontana for hosting this meeting, and providing us with much appreciated coffee. Minutes have been distributed to members.

Report on Faces of Sherborne Photography Exhibition

What a fantastic evening. About a 100 people turned up to see Jim's wonderful photographs. Jim kindly presented the Chamber with an etching to commemorate the event. We hope to hold a follow up exhibition.

Chamber Meetings and Events 2011

Up until recently, we have had monthly meetings at which 'everything' is done, plus a few open meetings a year. We have agreed that as we do more and more, and now we have a committee of 12, we need to structure things differently. A list of executive committee meetings, members meetings, open events and town events is on www.sherbornetown.com

Report on Royal Wedding Shop Window Dressing Competition

Retailers really got behind the spirit of the occasion with more than 30 windows in town decorated – shoppers commented on how much they appreciated all the effort, which had brought many smiles to faces!

Attached pdf showing winners. There should be some photos on the website soon too.

Thank you to all businesses who took part and especially sponsor Liz Burt of Home Sweet Home who had the difficult job of judging and put so much time and effort into making it such a success.

Festive Shopping Event Action Group

We are meeting on Tuesday 10th May to firm up some ideas investigated since the last meeting. If you are not a part of this group and would like to be, or have something you would like us to know about, please contact Cordelia.

Events Action Group

Nick Taylor been looking at ways to add value to membership through events, and is organizing a series of monthly breakfast meetings in Sherborne with other town chambers. He is also looking at business seminars and a marketing club. We expect to announce dates and venues shortly.

Membership Action Group

We are delighted to attract new members, Please promote Sherborne Chamber to anyone who you think may be interested, and let Cordelia know.

Parking Action Group

Nicky King is awaiting a response from the council on revised parking charges and proposed South Street parking restrictions.

Tourism Action Group

Margaret Balfour is our committee member who attends tourism meetings.

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter is due to go out at the start of June. Any contributions to Cordelia before the end of May 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

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I am usually available for Chamber business Mondays and Tuesdays 9am - 1pm.
www.sherbornetown.com