

# Newsletter

Parish newsletter

December 2011

This month, amongst other things we're talking about 2012 - a year of celebrations, the 'real deal' for Wiltshire shoppers, and South West in Bloom success for Trowbridge and Devizes.

## Mobile libraries – biennial route review



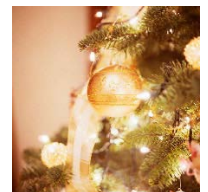
Wiltshire libraries have four public mobile libraries and one residential homes mobile. Between them they visit over 400 stops in communities across the county. The service offers a wide range of stock, including large print, talking books, DVDs, and children's titles. Stops range from ten minutes at some locations to two hours in larger communities; the public mobile libraries operate on a fortnightly timetable and the residential home mobile library visits on a four weekly rota.

Every two years these stops are reviewed to ensure they are located in the right place, promoted to the community effectively and new stops added where possible. It is also an opportunity to check library services are provided in the most appropriate way; for example, would some residents be better served by the home library service that comes direct to the customer's home?

We will be contacting parish councils in the New Year to help with the route review process. Public consultation will take place from February to April 2012; in the meantime, any suggestions for new stops or new locations for existing ones should be communicated to Rebecca Bolton, outreach services manager on 01225 713706 or email [rebecca.bolton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:rebecca.bolton@wiltshire.gov.uk) New mobile timetables are expected to start on 1 July 2012. Current timetables can be viewed at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries)

## Christmas carol service reminder

Just to remind you all of the invitation extended by The Leader of the Council, Cllr Jane Scott, for two members from each parish council to join her at the Wiltshire Council civic carol service being held on Tuesday 13 December at 7pm in St. Mary and St. Melor Church, Amesbury. The service will be conducted by the Archdeacon of Wilts, The Venerable John Wraw. Following the service, seasonal refreshments will be served in the new Wyndham Hall.



Cllr Scott hopes your parish council can come along to this seasonal celebration and looks forward to welcoming your representatives. Please e-mail Jean Potter [jean.potter@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jean.potter@wiltshire.gov.uk) to confirm who will be attending. Thank you.

## Waste and recycling news

---

Following the introduction of plastic bottles and cardboard collections in north, west and east Wiltshire, there will be a change to fortnightly collections of household waste during February and March 2012 in the north and south of the county. This will bring collections in line with those in the east and west of the county where fortnightly collections are already in place. It is hoped that this, along with the extension of the recycling and composting services, will enable the council to reach 50% recycling.

If you would like someone from the council's waste team to come to your parish council meeting or community event to discuss the new waste and recycling collection service please contact Vicki White 01225 718523 or Laura Snoulton 01225 776655 or email [wasteandrecycling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wasteandrecycling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

### Black box recycling collections in east Wiltshire

Please remind residents to remember to put their black box(es) out before 7am on the day their collection is due to ensure their recycling is collected.

### Christmas tree recycling

Residents who currently have a garden waste bin can put their real Christmas tree out by the side of their bin for collection on their normal scheduled garden waste collection day during January. Alternatively trees can be taken to a household recycling centre for recycling.

### Garden waste

Residents who have signed up for the garden waste collection service will receive their new bins during February and March 2012. Residents who already have a garden waste bin will continue to receive fortnightly garden waste collections. For more information about how the new service will be rolled out please see our [frequently asked questions about garden waste collection](#)

### Bad weather

During inclement weather waste and recycling collection services may be affected. If this happens on the day residents' collections are due, they should keep their bins out at the usual collection points and they will be collected as soon as possible. Residents are also advised, where possible, to check the council's website for more information at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk).

## The Localism Act 2011

---

[The Localism Act](#) received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011. Although the Act contains a number of important measures, most of these are not yet in force.

The Act contains a number of enabling provisions. These give the Secretary of State power to introduce regulations and guidance that will make the measures 'live.' We anticipate that the key areas will come into force from April 2012 onwards.

## Bus services over the Christmas period

---

Wiltshire Council is advising passengers who wish to travel by bus over the festive period to check their bus time tables carefully. As 27 December and 2 January are public holidays, only a small number of bus services will be operating on these days and there will be no buses running at all on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. In addition, on 29, 30 and 31 December, most buses operated by the Andybus, Stagecoach and First bus companies will be running to Saturday timetables, rather than their normal weekday timings. Normal services will resume on 3 January 2012.

Staff in the council's passenger transport unit are in the process of producing a series of posters explaining the level of service that will be in operation in each part of the county and these can be [downloaded here](#) or printed copies can be ordered by telephoning 01225 713452. These posters will be on display at major town centre bus stops but the council welcomes the support of parish councils in publicising this information and displaying posters in your local community.

## Local bus shelters for local communities

---

Wiltshire Council wishes to give local communities the opportunity to look after these local facilities in a way that best meets local needs. This is in line with the policy to transfer assets to local communities.

Bus shelters provide a clear benefit to the local community. The use of buses in Wiltshire is increasing year on year and a surprisingly wide cross section of the community goes shopping or to work that way. Some people, particularly young people, rely entirely on public transport for independent travel. Even people who don't use buses benefit because they reduce congestion and parking problems. In some places the local bus stop provides an informal meeting place and somewhere to display community information.

There are already many bus shelters in Wiltshire that were erected by town or parish councils and are successfully maintained by them, and over the last ten years more bus shelters have been built along main bus routes by Wiltshire Council or its precursor authorities. Returning these shelters to local communities would allow local councils to use their own suppliers and give complete local control over design, cleaning and maintenance. It could also create opportunities to do so more economically using local knowledge and resources.



The idea works – the bus shelters in Royal Wootton Bassett were recently taken over by the town council with real benefit to the community. A legal agreement between the two councils confers full ownership of the shelters on the town council. The town clerk, Johnathan Bourne, says “In taking over the ownership of bus shelters we have been able to shape maintenance of our shelters to meet local requirements”

Where shelters are fitted with lights and real time bus information units connected to the street lighting power supply, Wiltshire Council will continue to own and look after these electrical items after the local council takes ownership of the shelter. This will avoid the local council becoming liable for the safety, maintenance or running costs of such items. The advertising (Adshel) shelters in Salisbury will continue to be owned and maintained by Clear Channel Ltd under the long term contract entered into with the former district council.

To find out more or discuss the possibilities contact Steve Ibbetson on 01225 776655 or email [steve.ibbetson@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:steve.ibbetson@wiltshire.gov.uk)

## Off-road success!

---

A new partnership agreement has been negotiated for Swindon Borough Council's BMW off road motorcycles to be used within Wiltshire as well as Swindon.

Their first use, as a result of the new arrangements, was in an operation requested by Amesbury NPT to tackle inappropriate use of the restricted byways and bridleways around Newton Tony and Cholderton. Roads Policing and the Rural Crime Team officers in addition to NPT, patrolled the area on the morning of Sunday 11 September, utilising both police 4x4 vehicles and the off road BMW GS650 motorcycle.

During the patrol a moto x motorcycle was seen on the bridleway from Grateley to Newton Tony. The driver ignored requests to stop by the police and sped off causing distress and alarm to several walkers on the bridleway. Units quickly moved in to the area and the rider and his passenger were caught a short time later. The 17 year old rider was reported for several road traffic offences and his vehicle was seized by police. He was also issued with a Sect 59 ASB Warning Notice, to deter him from undertaking such activities at any time in the following 12 month period.

The communities affected by this behaviour have been sent a very clear and high profile message that their concerns are being taken seriously, and where possible and appropriate Wiltshire Police will respond robustly to those concerns. A further operation is planned for later in the year.

## Wiltshire Council suggests solar panel caution

---

Wiltshire Council is encouraging homeowners to consider carefully the long term implications before agreeing to install solar panels on their homes.

Sue Wilkin, senior public protection officer at the council, said although solar panels could bring about savings, homeowners needed to be aware of the long term commitments. There would be a legally binding lease agreement with the company who carried out the installation. Homeowners with a mortgage must advise their mortgage companies of their intentions, because not to do so would be a breach of the terms of their mortgage.



Once agreed the panels must stay, even when the homeowner wants to sell. Anyone wishing to purchase the property would do so subject to that lease. Leases for solar panels were not always the same. Gains to be made from the scheme were not the same with each supplier and small print should be read carefully. Some leases did not provide for repairs which then became the liability of the homeowner. Some solar panels were self cleaning and others required professional cleaning at regular intervals to remain effective. Some were extremely heavy and unsuitable for certain roof structures.

Sue Wilkin advised: "Schemes such as grants for insulation, solar panels or any other home improvement should be properly looked into before agreement. The companies offering the schemes are businesses, and their primary concern is to make money, and salesmen will not necessarily give people the best advice. If people are unsure, they should talk to [Consumer Direct](#) on 08454 040506. If they are thinking of solar panels, and have a mortgage they should talk to their mortgage company before signing up. Even though people may have legal rights to change their mind for a short time, if they signed up when the salesman called, people may still end up paying some charges if they later don't go ahead. If people succumb to the salesman's chat and are then worried, they should take advice immediately before their rights expire."

## 2012 - A year of celebration

---

[The toolkit is now online](#). If you would like any further information, please send an email to [2012celebrations@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:2012celebrations@wiltshire.gov.uk)



Are you holding a community event to celebrate 2012? Please let us know of any activity your community may be planning to participate in throughout 2012; whether it is related to the Olympic Torch, the Diamond Jubilee or just an event for your community to come together, please email [2012celebrations@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:2012celebrations@wiltshire.gov.uk).

Please note you can also add details of these on to the [leisure and recreation](#) page on the Wiltshire Council website.

## 'Spray Art' wall launched in Chippenham

---

A designated 'Spray Art' wall will be opened in Chippenham as part of a six month pilot on 1 November to allow young people with an artistic flair to show off their talents.



Due to a recent spate of graffiti related incidents in Chippenham, Wiltshire Council working in partnership with the police, Chippenham Town Council, Chippenham Area Board, the local community and businesses, has designated a wall which young people can use instead of drawing on properties around the town.

Graffiti is a criminal offence but when young people use the designated wall for spray art, they will not be charged with criminal damage in exchange for agreeing not to place graffiti elsewhere in the town. Feedback received from young people in Chippenham shows that they welcome an official site so they can spend more time devoted to creating art rather than worrying about the repercussions. A charter has been drawn up with young people from the youth centre and the Community Area Young People's Issues Group (CAYPIG). This explains how the wall should be used appropriately including respecting other people's art, not spraying anything offensive, and respecting the surrounding environment.

The spray art wall will be under the first road bridge, off Avenue la Fleche into Gladstone Road by the weir (Gladstone Road Bridge). There is a pavement running alongside this wall and the area is undercover. No wildlife will be disturbed as the path is already in existence. The wall will be regularly re-painted white to ensure that there is always space for new art. Any artwork that is considered to be particularly good may be reproduced.

Keith Humphries, cabinet member for community safety said: "I am delighted we have been able to set up this spray art project. We have listened to local young people and made this wall available for them. This will allow young people in the town to express themselves creatively which in turn should reduce the illegal spraying that has taken place recently. We look forward to seeing some of the great art that is produced"

# 'Have a go' – skills taster events

---

## Growing a skilled workforce for Wiltshire

In February 2012 Wiltshire Council will host two 'have a go' skills taster events at which there will be practical opportunities for young people to try out new skills.

The events, to be held during National Apprenticeship week in Chippenham on Wednesday 8 February and Salisbury on Thursday 9 February, will provide introductory sessions in different skills across a range of occupational settings. Exhibitors will showcase activities designed to ignite young people's passion for learning and introduce them to skills they may never have considered as possible career options.



The overall aim of these events is to inspire young people to think about their future jobs, career path and study options, as well as develop their understanding of and preparation for the world of work.

To request more information, or to register as an exhibitor, please contact Paul Gaunt, employment and skills programme development manager, on 01225 718314 or email [paul.gaunt@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:paul.gaunt@wiltshire.gov.uk)

## DWP work experience programme

---

Roles are sought to offer work experience placements of between 4-8 weeks for unemployed individuals - mostly within the 18-24 year old age group. The start dates on the programme run up until the end of March 2012. Placements will be for between 25 - 30 hours per week and must include an element of training and development. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Paul Gaunt, employment and skills programme development manager, on 01225 718314 or email [paul.gaunt@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:paul.gaunt@wiltshire.gov.uk).

## No barriers' week 3-10 December 2011

---

### Activities to mark the International Day for Disabled People, 3 December 2011

Once again Wiltshire Council together with the Wiltshire and Swindon Users' Network is promoting a 'no barriers' week. Information and discussion events are being organised by Wilts and Swindon Users' Network, Equal Chances Better Lives, Carers' Support, Wiltshire Involvement Network and the Employers' Forum on Disability. Find out [what is happening in your area](#).

Wiltshire Council has organised several informal training sessions for staff and councillors, which include deaf awareness, avoiding stress-related illness and exploring appropriate language. To find out more contact [equalities@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@wiltshire.gov.uk)



# Support your local market

## Wiltshire Council Christmas markets 2011

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to Christmas and to help make everything run smoothly, Wiltshire Council will be organising a number of additional markets in the lead up to Christmas. This will create opportunities for shoppers to browse a variety of goods to make Christmas special.

Why not visit and support your local market for anything from fresh fruit and vegetables, cheese, fish or even some new shoes? You can also support your local market by printing this [Wiltshire markets poster](#) and displaying in your notice boards.



The following dates have been planned in addition to the weekly markets throughout the county:

### December 2011

**Monday 5, 12, 19 December** – Market Place, Chippenham.

**Tuesday 6, 13 and 20 December (8am – 5pm)** – Bouverie Hall Car Park, Pewsey; High Street Corsham and The Shambles Market Hall, Devizes.

**Wednesday 7, 14, 21 December (8am – 5pm)** – Salisbury Street, Amesbury and High Street, Marlborough.

**Thursday 1, 8, 15, 22 December (8am – 5pm)** - Market Place and Shambles Market Hall, Devizes; Market Place, Wilton and Bridge Street Car Park, Bradford on Avon.

**Friday 2, 9, 16, 23 December** – Market Place, Chippenham; Phelps Parade, Calne and Central Car Park, Warminster.

**Saturday 3, 10, 17, 24** - Shambles Market Hall, Devizes, High Street, Chippenham and High Street, Marlborough.

### Chippenham Special

**Monday – Saturday 19 – 24 December (inclusive)** – Market Place, Chippenham.

Councillor Tonge said, “It’s good to see the markets adding value to our local communities and providing value for money to the residents of Wiltshire, especially leading up to the festive period. The service is a key component of Wiltshire Council’s promise to provide low cost, effective services and to support local communities”.

Wiltshire Council’s markets team would like to thank all its traders and users for their support to the markets service throughout 2011.

## 'Real deal' for Wiltshire shoppers

---

Wiltshire Council is helping to make sure people get the 'real deal' when they shop at local markets.

The council will be signing up to a national charter called the 'Real Deal' to block fake goods from being sold at its markets. This charter was officially signed at Devizes market on Thursday 24 November, during National Consumer week.



Cabinet member for trading standards, Keith Humphries, said: "Counterfeit goods cause great harm not only to the brand owners but also to legitimate traders that face unfair competition from cheap fake brands. Fake products are also sometimes unsafe and could put the public in danger. By signing up to this charter we can give confidence to residents and visitors that the goods they buy in our markets are genuine. The 'Real Deal' stamp of approval is a great way to ensure people can shop and trade with confidence."

By signing up to the charter all council run markets will display the 'Real Deal' logo. The council will also benefit from working with traders, industry groups, copyright and trademark owners and other local authorities.

Steve Clover, the council's head of consumer protection, added: "The 'Real Deal' campaign will really help us to reduce the sale of counterfeit goods. It will also help us to tackle other problems including the sale of potentially dangerous goods and encourage general fair trading. As part of this scheme we will also be providing support to local traders and retailers."

Shoppers are encouraged to report any concerns they may have regarding the sale of fake products. To report the sale of counterfeit goods people should contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040 506. People can also anonymously report counterfeiting or other illegal activity by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## Shopmobility - 'Teddies for tragedy' appeal

---

[Shopmobility in Salisbury](#) staff, volunteers, customers and the Sixpenny Handley WI, have knitted 100 teddies for the Teddies for Tragedies appeal.



The bears were handed over to Richard Parsons of the Trussell Trust by Doris West who project managed the appeal and are now on their way to orphanages in Bulgaria. During the day the teddies will be kept safe at the end of beds or cots in the colourful drawstring bag that comes with each one and at night they will be given to babies and young children to help them sleep.

The appeal continues and staff are already collecting for the next delivery in the new year. To obtain a copy of the pattern please visit Shopmobility in Salisbury 01722 328068 or email [shopmobility@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:shopmobility@wiltshire.gov.uk)

# Operational flood working group update

---

## Chapel Lane flood alleviation scheme achievement, Hankerton



One of the major components of this flood alleviation scheme has been completed recently by Wiltshire Council who installed a 450mm diameter pipe through private land at Hankerton. The overall scheme is to provide an efficient drainage route between Chapel Lane, Hankerton and Pill Bridge, almost 2 km away. Several landowners worked with Hankerton Parish Council, Wiltshire Council, The Environment Agency and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to create an improved drainage path.

This was achieved by dredging the existing watercourse, creating a new piped watercourse and a new swale. All these features were designed to alleviate flooding in a way that has the least environmental impact.

This scheme has demonstrated the benefits of partnership working, resulting in a reduced flood risk for the local community. Well done everyone.

## Flood warden and Community Emergency Volunteer (CEV) seminar

---

### Who are you going to call?

The council, the police, the army, the fire brigade or ghostbusters – who will you call and who will turn up? You've drawn your plan up, got a few telephone numbers, but have you tested the plan, will it work and who takes on what responsibility in an emergency?

In conjunction with the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Council's emergency planning department we have organised a practical seminar to allow your flood wardens and CEVs to work through different types of emergencies on Thursday 19 January, 10am – 2pm at the Civic Centre, Warminster.

To book your place contact: [renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk) or [nickp.reed@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:nickp.reed@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Dates and Venues of Operational Flood Working Group

Southern Meeting  
Wednesday 14 December 2011  
Churchfields Depot  
Salisbury, SP2 7NP

Northern Meeting  
Wednesday 18 January 2012  
Monkton Park  
Chippenham, SN15 1ER

Town and parish councils wishing to attend the meeting to advise the secretary of the group [renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:renate.malton@wiltshire.gov.uk) of their attendance and issues they would like discussed

## Rights of way- update

---

Earlier this month the Rights of Way team, with the help of the South Wilts Ramblers volunteer group, have replaced a flight of steps on a public footpath in Allington, near Salisbury. The path runs up a steep escarpment from the centre of Allington village, to join with a network of paths that loop across the downs and on to the neighbouring village of Boscombe.

The project took three days to complete, with the rambler volunteers helping to build the basic structure on the first day. Wiltshire Council's Rights of Way officers returned for two further days to complete and secure the steps then fill them with over a tonne of stone – no mean feat when all of the stone had to be carried in buckets from the bottom of the slope. The old steps were damaged and difficult to use so this work will enable comfortable use of this path for years to come.

## Bowerhill celebrates walking route improvements

---

Residents of Bowerhill near Melksham are celebrating the improvement of another link to open up access to the countryside near where they live.

Mike Mills of the Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) said "This path completes the work begun in 2010 to create an attractive new circular walk. It uses a permissive path and public rights of way to take in a wood, the canal and lovely views towards Seend Cleave. The surfacing of this path at Locking Close means that the canal and picnic area is more accessible to everybody through the whole year, even those in wheelchairs or parents with children in pushchairs. It is great to see how well used this route has been by local residents."



The scheme was led by the BRAG with advice from Wiltshire Council's rights of way section and was strongly supported by county and parish councillors. The funding has been provided from Wiltshire Council's Paths Improvement Grant Scheme (PIGS), Melksham Without Parish Council and Gompels Healthcare. PIGS aims to help parish or town councils to create new paths or upgrade existing paths, for example to improve access to local services and enhance countryside access for both residents and visitors. It is hoped to run the scheme for a fifth year in 2012.

For further information contact: Michael Crook, countryside access development officer at Wiltshire Council. 01225 713349 or [michael.crook@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:michael.crook@wiltshire.gov.uk)

## Biss Meadows Country Park

---

Come and explore your local country park and discover the natural wonders on your doorstep!



Biss Meadows Country Park is one of Trowbridge's hidden gems located behind Tesco, and also accessible from the West Ashton Road. The Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park was formed in 2008 to preserve and promote the wildlife in this area of outstanding natural beauty. The voluntary community group are in the final stages of submitting an application for a Community Spaces/Big Lottery Grant to restore one of the two ponds in the park.

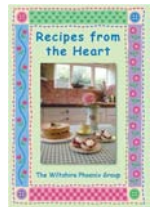
This year, the Friends have organised many exciting events in Biss Meadows including: bird walks, pond dipping sessions, a bat walk, bug hunts, moth trapping and a bug house making workshop, as well as taking part in the Big Butterfly Count. The group also organise monthly working parties from 10am - 12noon every second Sunday in the month. The Friends group receive a tremendous amount of advice and support from Leo Wirtz, Wiltshire Council's senior countryside ranger; Bill Austin, head of direct services at Trowbridge Town Council and Trish Carpenter, the town council secretary.

The Friends are always keen to welcome new members. Membership is free and with a variety of volunteering opportunities, there is sure to be one that suits you. We are also currently recruiting additional committee members; for more details please email [secretary@bissmeadows.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bissmeadows.org.uk). Find out more about events at [Biss Meadows Country Park](#) or [become a Friend](#).

## Charity cook book – 'Recipes from the heart'

---

This year, Wiltshire Council is pleased to be supporting 'Recipes from the Heart', a cookbook created by the Wiltshire Phoenix Group, a survivor's forum for domestic abuse victims. The foreword to this cookery book has been kindly written by Mary Berry, one of the UK's best known and respected cookery writers. Members of the Phoenix Group thought the idea of producing a cookbook would be an exciting project to work on together, as well as an opportunity to fundraise for future victims.



The Phoenix Group are "excited and very thankful to all those who have donated their recipes and for the positive response to their project". The cookbook was launched during Wiltshire's Domestic Abuse Awareness Week and can be purchased for £5.00 (plus p&p). If you would like a copy please email Alison Crook [alison.crook@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:alison.crook@wiltshire.gov.uk)

If you are or know someone who is living with the affects of domestic abuse, please speak out and seek support, call the National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247 (freephone in partnership with Women's Aid and Refuge) or [www.speakoutwiltshire.com](http://www.speakoutwiltshire.com) in an emergency please call 999.

# More 'South West in Bloom' success!

---

## Trowbridge



Members of the Friends of Trowbridge in Bloom Committee were delighted to hear that Trowbridge was awarded a gold award in the St Bridget Cup class in the South West in Bloom 2011 competition at the awards ceremony in Newquay in September.

Trowbridge fell under scrutiny on Wednesday 13 July when the South West in Bloom judges visited the town, assessing it under the three main criteria – horticultural achievement, community involvement and environmental responsibility. They also visited a number of Neighbourhood Award projects which had also been submitted to the competition for the first time this year, each of which received an award, including the Trowbridge Community Sensory Garden which was awarded 'outstanding'. Projects included those carried out by schools, colleges, community groups, residents' associations, garden centres and allotment associations, all working together to bring about a feeling of community and town pride.

Mrs Jennifer Polledri, chairman of the Friends of Trowbridge in Bloom committee, said, "When the judges visited Trowbridge it was not just an assessment of the day itself, but also a judgement on what the town, the businesses, the neighbourhoods, the churches and the schools had achieved during the year. I would like to congratulate everyone for their splendid efforts in helping Trowbridge to win a gold award!"

## Devizes

After several years of trying and three years of inching closer and closer with a silver-gilt, Devizes and Roundway finally came home with a gold award in 2011. Following the launch of the project in January, the town's In Bloom committee worked hard with the parks team, neighbourhood groups, schools, shops and businesses to provide a spectacular display all over the town. They also demonstrated good working partnerships with Wiltshire Council, environmental organisations and professional partners which will last a lifetime. Devizes and Roundway are so proud to have been presented with their gold flag. Plans are already in hand for 2012 with a launch event in January and yes, they are going for gold!



Wiltshire Council staff and its contractors played a significant role in helping both Devizes and Trowbridge win gold in this year's South West in Bloom competition. Streetscene staff based in Devizes and English Landscapes staff in Trowbridge worked hard all through the year to ensure that both towns did well. This work includes services directly supplied such as grounds maintenance (planting out bedding plants, cutting grass etc) and street cleaning. It also includes support offered to town councils and other community organisations.

This work does not happen overnight (or in the lead up to judging) but all through the year. Employees work really hard and are committed to making a real difference to the appearance of the towns where they work. They deserve to be congratulated and proud of the fact that their efforts were recognised.

# Sporting activities

---

## Return to badminton

A new '[Back to badminton](#)' programme is starting at Avon Valley College in January. Jointly provided by Wiltshire Council, Badminton England and Avon Valley College, the programme covers the basics of the game and is a great opportunity for adults aged 16+ to rediscover sporting abilities, get active again or just meet a group of like-minded people.

## Sportivate tennis

A new '[Sportivate Tennis](#)' programme will be running at Victoria Park Community Tennis Centre, Salisbury, starting in March 2012 for 17 – 21 year olds. 'Sportivate' is a Sport England funded project that is aimed at encouraging young people aged 14 – 25 to participate in a range of exciting sporting opportunities.

## Pewsey Extreme and Tidworth T2A

[Pewsey Extreme and T2A alternative sports clubs](#) run weekly throughout the year. Both clubs are aimed at young people aged 11+ years old and include a wide variety of alternative and extreme sports, such as power kiting, mountain boarding, dodge ball, archery, parkour, climbing and skiing to name but a few, with different activities running in the holidays periods. Membership to the club costs £5, which includes a free Xtreme hoodie plus £1 -2 per session depending on activity.


For more information or to book a place please contact:

T2A: Joyce Stretton, Army Welfare Service – 07810 771630  
Pewsey Extreme: Angie Burnett, Wiltshire Council - 07770 423521  
Karlene Jammeh: Sports development officer on 01722 434437.

Both clubs are offering a range of exciting activities over the course of next year, including ice skating, climbing and parkour.

## Amesbury Leisure Centre

Why not come along to Amesbury leisure centre to join in the following activities:

 **Roller skating**  
Every Saturday from 4pm-5pm  
£2.40  
All ages welcome  
You will need to bring your own skates

**Christmas party- tickets must be purchased in advance**  
Tuesday 20 December from 2pm - 4pm  
£2.00  
Under 11s only  
Disco and entertainer plus a present from Santa Claus!



## Tisbury Leisure Centre

Why not beat the winter blues and join us for some fun, sport and activity with some new sessions now taking place, and others planned for the near future?

All activities cost £2.40 per session, except netball coaching, which cost £3 per session. Please contact [Tisbury sports centre](#) 01747 871141 for more details.

Activity	Day	Time	Age
<b>New Sessions</b>			
Fun Circuit	Mondays	3.30pm-4.30pm	5yrs+
Ladies Football	Wednesdays	11am-12noon	16yrs+
Tag Rugby	Wednesdays	4pm-5pm	5yrs+
Girls Football	Wednesdays	5pm-6pm	5yrs+
Over 50s Football	Thursdays	11am-12noon	50yrs+
Teeny Tots Football	Fridays	11.15am-12noon	3-5yrs
<b>Special Christmas Event</b>			
Christmas Party and Roller Disco	Friday	23 Dec 2.30pm-4pm	5yrs+
<b>Due to commence in the New Year</b>			
Netball Coaching	Mondays	3.30pm-4.30pm	8yrs+
Tennis Coaching	Wednesdays	2pm-3pm	Adults
		4pm-4.30pm	5-8yrs
		4.30pm-5.30pm	9yrs+

# Learning and development courses

---

## Minute taking

Are you responsible for taking minutes at meetings? This one day course, on Wednesday 7 December or Thursday 22 March, will develop your skills to ensure that your minutes are clear, accurate and professional.

## Developing resilience to change

If there is one thing that is constant in life it is change. Love it or hate it the reality is that it comes thick and fast in today's workplace and we could all be better equipped to deal with it. This half day workshop, on Wednesday 14 December or Monday 16 January, helps you to develop simple strategies to take on change and win!

To find out more, please contact [CorpLearningAndDevelopment@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:CorpLearningAndDevelopment@wiltshire.gov.uk) or telephone Katie Hunter on 01225 713176

# Councillor development programme

---

Wiltshire Council runs a number of courses specifically aimed at councillors as part of its councillor development programme. Some examples of the topics covered are chairmanship skills, dealing with challenging behaviour at meetings and active listening. More details on future events can be found on the councillor development event page on the Wiltshire Council website.

If any town or parish councillors or clerks are interested in attending events they can book a place by emailing [councillordevelopment@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:councillordevelopment@wiltshire.gov.uk) or calling Rita Sanders on 01225 718 375. Please note that priority for places will be given to unitary councillors and that a fee may be charged to cover the cost of the trainer and training materials (details for each event can be found on the councillor development event page).

If any town or parish have any particular training needs that they would like to discuss please contact:

- Marie Todd: 01225 718 036, [marie.todd@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:marie.todd@wiltshire.gov.uk)
- Lynda Williams: 01225 713 179, [Lynda.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Lynda.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk)

# Parish newsletter feedback

---

If you have any comments or suggestions about this newsletter, please email [communications@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:communications@wiltshire.gov.uk). We welcome all feedback from the town and parish councils.

**Newsletter back issues:** <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parishnewsletterhome>

## Wiltshire Council website – useful features

---

### Subscribe to committee meeting updates

You can now subscribe, via the Wiltshire Council website, to receive email alerts telling you when meeting papers for committees you are interested in are published on the council's website.

To use the subscription service, simply go to the agendas, minutes and reports page and 'subscribe to updates' to register.

### Town and parish council information area

The town and parish council area of our website has been expanded to provide more information for the public on local councils and to provide a number of useful links for town and parish councils. These include guidance and forms from Wiltshire Council, and links to the National and Wiltshire Association of Local Councils websites, and a link to the parish newsletter.

You can find the town and parish information area via the council and democracy section of the website.

## Fredericks Wiltshire: Business loan fund

---

Fredericks  
foundation



Wiltshire Council is working with the Fredericks Foundation and GWE Business West Ltd to deliver loans to viable small or micro businesses denied access to credit through the banking system.

### For more information contact:

Terri Stevenson or Tim King on 01793 698023 or email [terri@fredericksfoundation.net](mailto:terri@fredericksfoundation.net) or [tim@fredericksfoundation.net](mailto:tim@fredericksfoundation.net).

## Quick links

---

- Area Board information - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm)
- All the latest news releases - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm)
- Recycle for Wiltshire - [www.recycleforwiltshire.com](http://www.recycleforwiltshire.com)
- Roadworks - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/parkingtransportandstreets/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm)
- What's on in Wiltshire - [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm)
- What's on at City Hall, Salisbury - [www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk](http://www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk)

This newsletter is produced by the corporate communications team at Wiltshire Council. For more information, please email [communications@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:communications@wiltshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01225 713663.

The submission deadline for the January parish newsletter is **30 December 2011**.

