

Newsletter

Parish newsletter

August 2011

This month, amongst other things we're talking about innovative housing in Salisbury, the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, sport club improvement grants and more...

£50million for inspired facilities



Sport England has today launched a £50million programme to refurbish and improve up to 1000 community sports clubs.

The **Inspired Facilities** fund is part of the **Places People Play** legacy programme that is bringing the magic of a home Olympic and Paralympic Games into communities across the country.

Investment will be available to breathe new life into tired facilities that can be unattractive to sports participants, expensive to run and difficult to maintain, putting these clubs right back at the heart of their local communities. There will also be money available to convert existing buildings into venues that are suitable for grassroots sport.



Typical investments might be:

- A sprung floor that converts an unused hall into a local multi-sport facility
- New changing rooms, so away teams no longer need to change in the car park
- New floodlights that mean a facility can be used for many more hours of the day.

At least £35 million of the funding will go to community and voluntary organisations, through grants of between £20,000 and £50,000. The remaining money will be open to a wider group of organisations, including councils and schools, with grants of up to £150,000 available.

Applicants whose project will benefit disadvantaged young people will also be invited to [apply for funding from the Thomas Cook's Children's Charity](#) from August this year.

Garden waste collection service - sign up now

Residents in the south, east and north of the county who wish to take advantage of the new non-chargeable fortnightly collection of garden waste, should sign up by 30 September 2011 to start receiving the new service in spring 2012

Residents can sign up online by visiting www.wiltshire.gov.uk/gardenbin or phone the council on 0300 456 0102.

Those residents who currently have a garden waste bin do not need to sign up for the new garden waste service.

If possible please would you support us by displaying this [garden waste collection poster](#) on your parish notice boards and other suitable locations you may have access to.

To find out more about the new waste and recycling collection service, including frequently asked questions visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste



Camp Activate



Amesbury Sports & Community Centre

Camp Activate is our holiday activity programme for children aged 8 – 14 yrs. We provide the perfect opportunity for your children to try out a range of activities, and make new friends.

Monday 15th – Friday 19th August
Monday 22nd – Friday 26th August

Morning session 8:30am – 12:30pm
Afternoon session 1:00 – 5:00pm

All day £25; Concession £18.75
Half day £12.50; Concession £9.40

We accept Free time vouchers

Activities include: Trampolining; Archery; Football; Racket Sports; Team Building games; Bouncy Castle; Arts & Crafts; Cooking; and much more!

For booking information phone 01980 622173.



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- [Devizes schedule](#)
- [Tisbury schedule](#)
- [Amesbury flyer](#)

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Activities include: Trampolining, archery, football, racket sports, team building games, bouncy castle, arts and crafts, cooking, and much more!

For booking information phone: 01980 622173

Cricklade – Best of the Best

Tuesday, 2 August, Cricklade steps up to the bar in Britain in Bloom's highest competitive category – Champion of Champions. In a total UK field of five, this pretty, historical town is only one of two finalists in the whole of England chosen to compete for this national title. Two RHS judges, Martyn Hird and Jeff Bates, will spend most of the morning touring the town taking note of the efforts made by the local community to bring the area to this outstanding level of achievement.



Among other fantastic efforts throughout the county, Cricklade leads Wiltshire in its success in the annual RHS competition. It has won the South West regional award four times and won the national title of Best Small Town in the UK in 2008 and was just inches away from winning it again in 2010. This is no easy feat as the Britain in Bloom contest is open to towns, villages and cities all over the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. Competition is high with more than 1,000 communities taking part in 2010.

Cricklade Bloomers, the voluntary group spearheading this along with the town council, Wiltshire Council and other local groups and individuals have again worked tirelessly to clean up and green up the town. Last week nine separate Cricklade groups impressed visiting RHS assessors in the countrywide campaign – It's Your Neighbourhood.

Chair of Cricklade Bloomers, Anita Barratt said: "We are all so proud of what our town has achieved. It's not just about floral displays, the aim is also to engage with local communities to improve the environment we live in so it's sustainable planting and landscaping through to the dealing with litter and graffiti. Next week is the culmination of years of effort with lots of success along the way and to win Champion of Champions would be a fabulous achievement as Cricklade is representing not only Wiltshire but the whole of the south of England.

The judge's route includes a visit to the Community Garden and the town's famous National Nature Reserve, North Meadow, as well as the resplendent High Street and various residential areas. The judges and other guests including Jane Scott, Leader of Wiltshire Council, will join Cricklade Bloomers in their garden behind the town council offices for a short lunch. This will give them a chance to chat about the town including future plans around the creation of a gateway to Cricklade at the Eastern Roundabout at the A419 and the creation of a Heritage Trail with interpretation boards around Cricklade.

The winner of the competition will be announced at a ceremony at St Andrews, Scotland on Sunday, 25 September 2011.

Photo and press opportunity

There will be a press and photo opportunity during the judge's tour when they visit Abingdon Court Farm at 10.40 am on 2 August. At this point everyone will also be treated to singing from local Community Choir – Sing 4/4.

For more information please contact Anita Barratt, Cricklade Bloomers on 07889 986166 or Shelley Parker, Town Clerk, Cricklade Town Council, 113 High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AE

- 01793 751394
- shelleyparker@cricklade-tc.gov.uk

Cricklade Bloomers at www.crickladeinbloom.co.uk

Innovative new housing scheme for Salisbury



An exciting new development, The Sidings and The Sleepers at Tollgate Road, Salisbury, has just been completed by Raglan Housing Association.

The design maximises the space available and offers 24 x two bed flats with underground parking, private and communal garden spaces plus cycle stores. Heating and hot water is provided by NIBE exhaust air heat pumps, which assisted in meeting Code for Sustainable Homes Level 3.

The scheme comprises a mixture of properties for general rent and for rent to buy which will help to address the demand for affordable housing in the Salisbury City area.

The Rent to Homebuy scheme is the first of its kind in South Wiltshire, and has proved to be very popular. It will enable applicants to rent a brand new home below market rent levels for up to five years, whilst saving for a deposit to eventually buy their home on a shared ownership basis. With house prices and rents at high levels in Salisbury, this is a welcomed initiative.

This development is another excellent example of what can be achieved through effective partnership working, with Raglan Housing Association, the building contractor, Parsons and Joyce, and officers from Wiltshire Council all working together to make this scheme the success that it is. Funding was also provided by the Homes and community Agency.

This scheme has been nominated for the Local Authority Building Control Building Excellence Awards by Paul Vignor, a Building Control Surveyor at Wiltshire Council. Paul says, "The interesting design, quality of build, and the excellent relationship between Building Control and the site management of this project would make it ideal for the LABC awards" The scheme will be nominated for the 2012 awards.

Winter grit bin review

It has not been possible to provide any additional grit bins this year because of the difficulties we have had keeping the existing ones filled during severe weather when our operatives are busy driving snow ploughs and gritters.

However, there is an opportunity for parish and town councils to review their existing grit bins to ensure they are where they are needed most. If you want any of them moved to better locations let us know before the end of August and we will carry out the necessary site inspections.

The provision of one tonne bags of salt to parish councils was very successful last year. It enabled communities to fill their own grit bins, and we are repeating the scheme this year. It is necessary to have undercover storage for the salt in a suitable location, and be able to transfer the salt to where needed.

Any requests for one tonne bags of salt or relocation of grit bins must be submitted by the 31 August.

Please contact Sarah Peterson in the highway support team with details as soon as possible email: sarah.peterson@wiltshire.gov.uk, telephone 01225-718789).

History Centre officially one of the best



The Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre has been officially recognised as providing one of the best archive services in the country. It has been awarded a maximum four stars in a recent assessment by The National Archives, which acts as the government watchdog for archives. The History Centre, funded by Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council, is listed in the top ten archives in England and Wales out of a total of 124 services across the country.

Stuart Wheeler, Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member for Leisure, sport and Culture said:

“Before the History Centre was built and opened in 2007, the National Archives told us that our facility for archives was not fit for purpose. Today, not only do we now have a modern state of the art History Centre, but also a service that is officially recognised as one of the best in the country and it confirms what our customers have been telling us. To reach this position in such a short space time, providing both excellence and value for money, is an outstanding achievement by everyone involved with the History Centre and Wiltshire is very proud of its Archive service.”

As well as considering the excellent facilities at the History Centre, the assessment looked at how the service performed during 2009-10, such as how it makes the wealth of material contained in over eight miles of archives available to family and local history researchers, at the History Centre, and through a service point in Swindon Central Library, material provided at Salisbury Library and online services, including over 200,000 downloadable images of Wiltshire wills; and high standards of customer care, notably a 100% successful score in a national customer survey.

It also recognised the centre’s exciting programmes of activities and events; its innovative partnerships with local communities and organisations, such as the Heritage Lottery funded SEEME Wiltshire Black History project; and pioneering work with schools and young people through a heritage education service that has been nationally recognised for its involvement as the south west regional champion for the British Library / MLA funded Campaign Make and Impact scheme. The service has been delivered to more than 21,000 customers, 10,000 remote enquiries and 300,000 online page views each year. For further information telephone 01249 705500 or go to the website www.wshc.eu

For further information contact Terry Bracher, Archives and local studies manager:

- 01249 705515
- terry.bracher@wiltshire.gov.uk

The full results can be found here on the [self assessment results page](#).

Street trading scheme

Your attention is drawn to a short two week consultation on the final draft of the proposed harmonised Wiltshire Council street trade consent scheme. This scheme has been drawn up following an extensive 15 week consultation carried out at the beginning of 2011 and subsequent changes agreed at the Licensing Committee in May 2011.

The scheme will be presented to the licensing committee on the 7 September 2011 with a recommendation for adoption by council in November 2011. If adopted, the scheme will promote a fair and open approach to street trading across the county.

Green Room



The new Wiltshire Warm and Well scheme has been set up by Wiltshire Council with the aim of improving the energy efficiency of properties by installing loft and cavity wall insulation. We will be actively promoting the scheme in several different ways and the Green Room is our latest tool in helping to reach residents throughout Wiltshire. The Green Room is a mobile advice centre that we have partially funded with the Warm and Well contractor, Domestic and General Insulation Ltd. It can be taken to both community and Local Authority events and shows, and members of the public can simply drop in for general energy efficiency advice as well as information on renewable technologies and how to apply for grants for

energy efficiency such as loft and cavity wall insulation, solid wall insulation and A-rated, fuel efficient heating systems.

The vehicle showcases several renewable technologies and there is a wide selection of literature and free energy saving gadgets that visitors can take advantage of whilst on board! If you would like further information about the Green Room and its whereabouts over the coming months or to enquire about booking it for a future event please get in touch:

- 01452 835090
- warm&well@swea.co.uk

Working in partnership to end rough sleeping

Homelessness is much more than providing a roof and often homeless people will have complex underlying problems that can be worsened by living rough or in insecure accommodation. This is why [Wiltshire Council and our partners are working together](#) to improve the housing, health and support options available to people who have no home or place to stay.

To enable us to understand local issues, we are asking you, the community, for help in identifying anyone in your local area who is sleeping out at night and this could be in a tent in the local farmer's field, squatting in a garage, sleeping behind the community hall or in the local park.

Keep Britain Tidy, Love Where You Live campaign



*Working together
for cleaner,
greener places*

Wiltshire is on the cleanest areas in the country and Wiltshire Council in partnership with local communities continues to strive for improvements.

Wiltshire Council is looking for partners to work with them to improve their local areas. Wiltshire Council can provide loan litter pickers, bags, bag hoop and gloves for interested groups. We will also arrange for the bagged litter to be collected

The council would also be interested in working in partnership with parish/ town councils and the local community on becoming a Keep Britain Tidy, Love Where You Live ambassador.

What is Love Where You Live?

Love Where You Live is a new campaign with the aim of inspiring everyone to think about their communities and take action to reduce litter in the locations where they live, the places they visit and the spaces that they use. It's about everyone taking responsibility – individuals, local authorities, government and multi-national companies to change the way people think and act about littering. We all love something about where we live and this campaign is about everyone working together to make change happen. No-one is excluded as we can all do something, whoever we are, to make where we live a better place



If residents, parish councils and town councils are interested either in undertaking community litter picks or becoming an ambassador would they please contact Leanne Starr, Cleansing Technician leanne.starr@wiltshire.gov.uk

Cllr Mr D Tonge, Cabinet Member said 'Wiltshire Council and the local communities should be rightly proud of all their hard efforts and the high standards of cleanliness achieved in the area. Wiltshire Council continues to offer support, advice and assistance to partners and continues to seek new and innovative ways to ensure the maximum benefit of its local highway and streetscene resources are achieved. I would like to thank all involved for their previous hard work and look forward to the opportunities of increased partnership working and all the good that this can achieve.'

Social Media for Destinations course

Corsham Town Council is looking to host a [Social Media for Destinations](#) training course in August of this year. The cost would be roughly £50 depending on how many people wish to attend and would run from 8.45am-1pm.

This course would be provided by Hidden Britain. If you are interesting in attending or would like further details, please contact Nicola Chruszcz at Corsham Town Council on 01249 702130 or nchruszcz@corsham.gov.uk

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge is an exciting new programme to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee led by its Patron The Duke of Cambridge. It is a landmark project to create a permanent, tangible and relevant legacy from the two major events scheduled to occur in the UK in 2012; Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.

The challenge will permanently protect a network of 2012 outdoor recreational spaces in communities across the UK by way of 'Deeds of Dedication' between the landowners and The National Playing Fields Association (operating as Fields in Trust).

All QEII Fields - whether sports pitches, children's play areas, woodlands, cycle trails, ornamental gardens or country parks - will be marked with a plaque provided by Fields in Trust. Additional benefits to town and parish councils and other landowners of taking part in the challenge include:

- Access to improvement grants (SITA Trust's £1 million QEII Fields Fund and Sport England's £10 million Protecting Playing Fields Fund are open to applications now. A new Fields in Trust Legacy Fund will also be launched later this year)
- Access to a resource pack to support local 'Have a Field Day' community events on outdoor recreation sites right across the UK to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Fields in Trust are working hard to engage local authorities and town and parish councils across the country towards the target of 2102 QEII Fields by the end of 2012. Since Prince William launched the challenge last year, hundreds of nominations have been made for all kinds of outdoor spaces to be protected as Queen Elizabeth II Fields. The range of sites is brilliantly diverse – a coastal path in Kent, a nature reserve in central London and, here in Wiltshire and Swindon, an open space with facilities for children's play in the parish of Minety, a recreation field in Kington St Michael, a park, a play area and a community sports facility in the town of Calne to name but a few!

To find out if your area is participating visit our website www.qe2fields.com and enter your postcode to see the local sites that will be protected.

Fields in Trust are confident in attracting further nominations for outdoor recreation sites across the county with the support of Sport England SW, GreenSpace SW, Wiltshire & Swindon Active Sports Partnership (WASP), Community First and Wiltshire Association of Local Councils.

If you discover your local authority is not participating then download our call to action form from the website to encourage them to get involved.

Fields in Trust has been incredibly privileged to be supported in the Challenge by HRH The Duke of Cambridge over the past year. In April, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge visited Witton Country Park in Blackburn on their last official engagement before their wedding. It was a fantastic event – despite the rain! – with thousands of people gathering to wish them well and watch the host of activities arranged on the playing field. The Duke of Cambridge then signed the Deed of Dedication for Witton Park which now has pride of place at Blackburn with Darwen Council. Outdoor spaces really do form the green hearts of our communities and this was a great opportunity to shine the spotlight on how important they are.



Other key supporters of the challenge include Fields in Trust's principal partner, ASDA and, in England and Wales, the law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer who provide pro bono support with the legal deeds. The Football Association, The Rugby Football Union, Rugby Football League, England & Wales Cricket Board and The Lawn Tennis Association are also actively backing the challenge.

For further information and a site nomination form please contact John Chapman, South West Regional Manager of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge on 01308 420600 john.chapman@fieldsintrust.org or visit www.qe2fields.com

Rights of way maintenance update

South

The parish maintenance programme has seen **Woodford** surveyed and the works will be completed soon. A longstanding surface repair in **Coombe Bissett** has been completed along with the PIGS (Path Improvement Grants) scheme in the parish. The Ministry of Defence will be providing and delivering chalk to a byway in **Tilshead** that has been severely damaged from motorised use. The rights of way team will top the repairs with planings once they become available.

North



The parish maintenance programme has been completed at **Luckington** and **Nettleton** has been inspected to be visited next by the Maintenance Contractor. The Roman settlement at the Fosse Way at Whitewalls Avon crossing, **Easton Grey** is a significant Scheduled Monument considered to be of national importance. Wiltshire Council has a responsibility to protect, as far as possible, important archaeological sites from damage. There has been extensive abuse of the site particularly by 4x4 vehicular users driving in and out of the river, carving ruts and hollows into the surrounding land and in the process exposing and damaging the archaeological remains. The river at this location is of ecological importance, being a spawning ground for trout and a habitat for otters. To

resolve these problems, a temporary traffic regulation order has been made (with proposed permanent legal restrictions) preventing access to the full extent of the site by motor vehicles and to limit motorcycles and accompanied horses to the designated track. Gates and barriers have been installed to enforce the closure and limit access to the site.



West

Surface work has been completed on a footpath at Wine Street in **Bradford on Avon**; the route is particularly steep so a resin bound surface has been used. A tarmac surface has also been completed on a footpath in **Holt** which leads to a primary school. Byways in **Upton Scudamore** have been resurfaced using planings. The parish maintenance programme has been completed in **Hilpertown** and **Semington** and **Trowbridge** have been surveyed and general maintenance works will begin shortly.

East

Surface works have been completed on a byway at **Easterton** that had extremely bad ruts. The chalk and stone used to complete the works was provided by Wessex Water who are currently installing a pipe line in the area. Wessex Water even delivered the materials to site.

Rights of way volunteers across the county

The South Wiltshire Ramblers Volunteer Working Party has completed the installation of a bridge on a footpath in **Landford** and a footpath in **Sedgehill**. Nick Cowen, Senior Rights of Way Warden for the area, the MOD and Tread Lightly has installed a large number of signs on byways on the plain to prevent confusion to the public about where the routes are. Tread Lightly is a voluntary motorised user organisation whose aim is to preserve access opportunities for all user groups and to help prevent illegal use by assisting with signage projects, patrols and promote legal use through effective education. Local parish working groups have also been working hard including **Tisbury volunteers** have completed some drainage work in the parish.



In the north the Cotswold Wardens have installed a bridge on a bridleway at **Colerne** and installed a gate in the parish of Ford.

The east/north Wiltshire Ramblers Volunteer Working Party will be resuming on 9 August and will be concentrating on projects such as improving the **White Horse Trail**. **Bishop Cannings** Rights of Way Volunteer Group has installed a 2 in 1 gate which they also paid for themselves.

The West Wiltshire Ramblers Working Group have installed a kissing gate in **Upton Scudamore** and cleared a footpath in **Studley Green, Trowbridge** that had featured in the Gazette and Herald, where the bridge steps have been improved and a handrail has been installed for safety. **North Bradley** parish council are sponsoring a kissing gate project around the village. Local residents are purchasing the gates to replace less accessible stiles and Ramblers Working Group is installing them. This project has been extremely successful in other parishes including **Corsley, Holt** and **Hilperton**.

Support your local market



Why not visit your local market or help support your local market by printing and displaying this [Wiltshire markets poster](#).

Wiltshire Children & Young People's Plan



A new [Wiltshire Children & Young People's Plan 2012-2015](#) has been drafted and is now out for consultation. Please read the draft plan and a [covering letter encouraging feedback](#) from Carolyn Godfrey (Director for the Dept. for Children and Education) and Councillor Lionel Grundy (Cabinet Member for Children's Services). This is an important consultation as the plan will inform priorities for children's services and the focus of partnership working.

The consultation documents are also available on the multi-agency website of [Wiltshire Children's Trust](#) and will appear shortly at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/consultations

Consultation responses can be submitted using the form at the end of the document and sent by email to Pathways@wiltshire.gov.uk or by post marked for 'The Pathways Team' at County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JN. The consultation ends 15 November 2011.

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.

Learning and 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.

Upcoming courses:

- **Minute Taking - 12 September 2011**
This minute taking workshop is ideal for anyone responsible for regular and accurate minute taking.
- **Managing a project - 3 October 2011**
This managing a project workshop is for those responsible for managing small to medium sized projects.
- **Negotiation skills - 6 October 2011**
Everyone negotiates something every day, whether this is with colleagues or within the family people reach most decision through negotiation. If you are looking to improve your effectiveness in these situations then this negotiating skills workshop is for you.

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 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.

If any town or parish have any particular training needs that they would like to discuss please contact Marie Todd 01225 718036, marie.todd@wiltshire.gov.uk or Lynda Williams 01225 713179, lynda.williams@wiltshire.gov.uk.

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 or tim@fredericksfoundation.net.

Quick links

- [Area Board information](#)
- [All the latest news releases](#)
- [Recycle for Wiltshire](#)
- [Roadworks](#)
- [What's on in Wiltshire](#)
- [What's on at City Hall, Salisbury](#) (new season brochure available soon)

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

The submission deadline for the September parish newsletter is **26 August 2011**.

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