

# Chamber News

## January 2009

[www.burnhamonseachamber.org](http://www.burnhamonseachamber.org)



### Next General Meeting:

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009, 6pm**  
**Upstairs Function Room, Somerset &**  
**Dorset Public House.**

**SIMON DUNFORD: EDF ENERGY**  
**HINKLEY POINT EXPANSION**

**HARLEY COOK: SEDGEMOOR DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RESTORATION OF MARINE COVE**

**DAWN CATLOW: APPLES & ORANGES**  
**MARKETING DURING A RECESSION**

**LAUNCH OF THE NEW ONLINE BURNHAM-ON-SEA SHOPPERS' GUIDE**

### OTHER BUSINESS:

**BRINGING COACHES BACK INTO BURNHAM**  
**SPOT THE ODD ITEM IN THE WINDOW COMPETITION**

### IN ATTENDANCE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS:

Cllr. ERIC GILL, CHAIRMAN OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

**OPEN TO ALL THE TOWN'S BUSINESSES**

*Please note only paid up members can speak and vote on motions.*

*Any staff member can attend Chamber meetings - not just the business owner or manager!*

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY IN 2009**

**SATURDAY, 4 APRIL TO SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2009 INCLUSIVE: SPOT THE ODD ITEM IN THE WINDOW COMPETITION.** Following the success of the events in 2007 & 2008, the Chamber shall once again run this popular competition. The idea is for businesses to put a small item into their shop window, which differs from items normally available in that shop. Participants have to name as many of the odd items as possible. There are a maximum of 35 spaces available. These are only available to members. The Chamber will provide a £100 cash prize and will offer further prizes should members wish to donate these.

The aim is to bring more people into the town during the Easter School Holiday to see the range of goods and services available here. Please contact the Committee if you want to join in with this initiative at the meeting or email [competition@burnhamonseachamber.org](mailto:competition@burnhamonseachamber.org), by the end of February.

**TUESDAY, 21 APRIL 2009: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND COMMITTEE ELECTIONS; ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMPETITION WINNER (6pm); TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2009: GENERAL MEETING (6pm); WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2009: GENERAL MEETING (6pm); SATURDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 2009: SWITCH ON OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (Time to be confirmed). Newsletters will be published quarterly in April, July and October.**

## NEWS IN BRIEF:

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** The Chamber has responded to the Tesco planning application. The deferral of the decision about the Sanders Garden World application was noted. The Chamber welcomes the ongoing work to review the goods that could be sold at this site to protect the vitality of Burnham Town Centre.

**BRINGING COACHES BACK INTO BURNHAM:** A number of members have expressed concerns about the reduction in coaches visiting Burnham. It is proposed that businesses affected by this should work together to offer an incentive scheme to coach drivers to encourage them back into the town, in order to boost visitor numbers and hence trade. **This will be discussed at the general meeting so please attend if you are interested in being involved with this initiative.**

**SOMERSET CHAMBER:** The Burnham Chamber is an affiliate of the Somerset Chamber. Through the Somerset Chamber website at [www.somerset-chamber.co.uk](http://www.somerset-chamber.co.uk) you can access the Somerset Chamber monthly newsletter and valuable sources of information for business, as well as the Somerset Business Directory. When this is published, Burnham Chamber members are included. **You can also join the Inter-Member discount scheme.** 30 minutes free advice is also available to members on employment law and health and safety issues from Somerset Chamber members.

**BRIDGWATER CHAMBER:** Our Bridgwater colleagues are holding a Murder Mystery evening on Friday, 30 January 2009 from 7.30pm at Rookery Manor in Edingworth. Tickets to include food are £25 per person and are available from [admin@bridgwaterchamber.org.uk](mailto:admin@bridgwaterchamber.org.uk) or on 0845 1222077.

**WESTON CHAMBER:** Our Weston colleagues in association with Weston College are holding an open meeting and seminar about 'Commerce in the Credit Crunch'. The event including buffet takes place on Tuesday, 14 January 2009 from 7pm at The Bistro, Weston College. Please book your place by telephone on 01934 411594 or by e-mail [christopher.batt@weston.ac.uk](mailto:christopher.batt@weston.ac.uk).

**SHOPPERS' GUIDE:** Already over 30000 of the new edition of the Shoppers' Guide are in circulation. We have now arranged to dramatically expand our distribution of the guide across the county to bring further shoppers to Burnham. Please email [shoppersguides@burnhamonseachamber.org](mailto:shoppersguides@burnhamonseachamber.org) or contact any committee member if you are running low on supplies.

**MEMBERS' FEEDBACK:** To ensure that the Chamber Committee is meeting the needs of its members, in the early Spring a membership survey will be circulated. Please complete this to assist your Committee with planning future Chamber activities.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Over 70 businesses have either joined or renewed for this year. Only by joining can you influence the Chamber's work, speak and vote at meetings, display the membership badge, take advantage of discounted services through affiliation to the Somerset Chamber of Commerce & Sedgemoor Tourism Association and take part in other Chamber events. **REMEMBER THIS YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES ONE FREE LISTING IN THE NEW ONLINE SHOPPERS' GUIDE ON [www.burnham-on-sea.com](http://www.burnham-on-sea.com).** Categorised by business type, members will have their name, address, phone number, email and website displayed. **The sooner you join, the sooner your business will be included! THE BIGGER THE MEMBERSHIP, THE BIGGER THE VOICE OF BUSINESS IN THE TOWN.**

**NEWSLETTER:** All businesses can sign up to receive this newsletter, and other Chamber communications, by email through the Chamber webpage at [www.burnhamonseachamber.org](http://www.burnhamonseachamber.org). **PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH ALL OF YOUR STAFF!**

### **YOUR 2008/9 COMMITTEE:**

**Chairman: Alex Turco.**

(T) 788646, 07834 184385.

Email: chairman@

**Vice Chairman: Geoff Shickle.**

(T) 786446. Email: vicechairman@

**Past Chairman: John Edwards.**

(T) 794751, 07742 390569.

Email: pastchairman@

**Secretary: Rhonda Mills.** (T) 783276.

Email: secretary@

**Treasurer: Jonathan Walter.**

(T) 07808 988182, Email: treasurer@

**Christmas Lights: Mike Ham.** (T) 782568

**Committee: Mark Newman.** (T) 07834 635797

**Louise Parkin.** (T) 786728.

**Honorary President: Gerry Germain.**

(T) 785031, Email: president@.

**Membership Adviser (non committee role): Tom**

**Ashton,** (T) 786726.

Email the committee:

[title@burnhamonseachamber.org](mailto:title@burnhamonseachamber.org).

Published by the Burnham-on-Sea Chamber of Trade, January 2009. All information contained is for guidance only and no responsibility taken for the contents of external websites referred to herein.