

The NEWS

July, 2014

ECONOMY: [Buzz at the Shambles](#); [Canal Latest](#); [Tourism News](#)

AFFORDABLE AND SOCIAL HOUSING: [Electronic Direct Debits](#); [Homelessness Prevention](#)

ENVIRONMENT:

RESOURCES: [Address Management Award](#); [Community Development News](#); [Museum News](#); [Youth Council News](#)

HEALTH AND WELL BEING: [Dursley Pool News](#); [Generation Games](#); [KAPERS 2014](#); [Social Rounders](#); [Wanted - Lifeguards](#)

CORPORATE AFFAIRS: [On-site Massage](#); [Rounders Report](#); [ORACLE – What Happened?](#)

WHAT'S ON: [Museum Events](#); [Sub Rooms Events](#); [Woodchester Mansion Events](#)

WELCOME

Joseph Gordon	Asset Manager	30 th June
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FAREWELL

Margaret Marshall	Enforcement Officer	10 th July
Gillian Alderton	Business Support Assistant	15 th July
Kristina Peart	Advanced Apprentice	18 th July
Paul Williams	Principal Environmental Health Officer	31 st July

CONGRATULATIONS

Judy Balfe has been successful in gaining her ADSO (Association of Democratic Services Officers) qualification at certificate level

Michelle Allen in Human Resources who has successfully completed and achieved the Intermediate Diploma in Human Resource Management

Kathryn Skill, who has moved from Business Support Officer to Democratic Services Officer

Adele Rudkin, who is now Accountant (Financial Reporting)

ECONOMY: *Help local people and businesses recover from the recession, grow the local economy and increase employment*

CANAL PROJECT LATEST

Cafés: It is good to see that we now have two canalside cafés at Ebley Wharf. Please give these ventures your support. With the trip boat Endeavour also running on this stretch, it has now become a very worthwhile place to visit! The LockKeeper's at Wallbridge is now temporarily closed, but we understand that a new tenant has been found and that it will be reopening soon.

Wallbridge Lower Lock: Alun Griffiths Ltd has now begun work on site. An immediate issue came to light when they traced the 11kVA cable under the towpath. This was found not be on its expected alignment, making the use of sheet piles impossible. We are now exploring the possibility of achieving a vertical edge by using stakes and wire mesh instead. Meanwhile, we are arranging a meeting with the contractor responsible for realigning the cable!

Fish were removed from the pound between the two locks using a stun technique, and were relocated. This will enable Griffiths to remove the weir retaining the water above the lock, thus draining the pound. They can then begin silt and debris removal, as well as working on the banks. The bank issue is critical, since the bend here is tight and must be widened enough for a broad beam vessel.

We still expect Land & Water Services to begin dredging below the lock in July, once the necessary consents have been obtained from the Environment Agency.


We have installed two webcams covering this section. One is already live and can be found at www.stroud.gov.uk/canalcams. The other will be switched on once the Land & Water contract begins. They are high definition and refresh every 15 seconds. Our thanks to Nick Allen Design and WSP Textiles for allowing connection into their routers.

Capels Mill: The three temporary sculptures are still sited IN the canal. They are being kept in situ until the large sculpture, designed by local artist Sam Freeman, is unveiled this Friday (4th July). Sam was winner of the canal 'Search for a Sculptor' competition, sponsored by Pangolin Editions to the tune of £12500.

Volunteers: As always, our volunteers are busy! The Cotswold Canals Trust volunteers from the Western Depot have been carrying out much needed towpath strimming between Eastington and Brimscombe. Another team, working from the workboat Wookey Hole, have been clearing banks nearer the water surface. Another team is maintaining locks and gates. The fairly recently acquitted reedcutting boat has been undergoing trials after modifications. Yet another team has installed showers in the new volunteer facility at Brimscombe Port.

Our Tuesday group has finished brickwork repairs at Griffins Mill Lock, Thrupp and has now moved on to removing the collapsed wall at Bowbridge. They have also been building a small retaining wall at Dudbridge Lower Lock, as part of the damage prevention exercise following the winter floods. The bigger Thursday group has finished laying the towpath base at Capel's Mil and is now moving on to the top surface.

Education: Following on from the Thomas Keble School mural painted at Dr Newton's Way in April, a new mural is taking shape under Downton Road Bridge, Stonehouse. This is being produced by young people from William Morris House, Eastington. William Morris House is a specialist college offering further education, training and social therapy for young people with learning disabilities.

We now have over 1600 users following the latest canal news on  @cotswoldcanals

Contact: [Dave Marshall](#), Canal Partnership Manager (754646) ([back to index](#))

BUZZ AT THE SHAMBLES

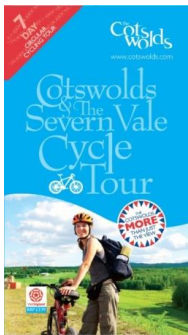
Friday 6th June saw the Shambles Market attract quite a crowd. Local entrepreneurs and businesses were invited to set up stall for the princely sum of £2. Understandably a full market ensued which combined with the kind weather made for a great success. The market looked great, with the new canopies on display and bunting a plenty. Existing and new stall holders commented on the exciting buzz and the sense of fun created. The event supported the national 'Love your Local Market' campaign, now in its third year.

Contact: [Michael Towson](#), Facilities Management Officer (754336) ([back to index](#))

TOURISM NEWS

Press Coverage

With Laurie Lee's 100th anniversary taking place in June, we received more press coverage as a result of press trips arranged earlier on in the year. You can read *The Independent's* [Laurie Lee: a literary landscape in the Cotswolds](#) article here. The Laurie Lee Way walk mentioned in the article is now officially open and highly recommended!



The Great Cotswolds Outdoors – Cycling Campaign

As you may already know the Cotswolds Tourism Partnership has created a 7-Day Circular Cycling Tour for the summer of 2014, as well as individual walking guides for many Cotswold villages and towns. We are working with local accommodation providers and attractions to promote businesses across the region via these projects, by recommending them on the downloadable itineraries and on the cycle map which will be sold in all Tourist Information Centres in the Cotswolds from the end of July. The campaign has already generated some national attention, with a spread in a dedicated cycling pull-out in *The Guardian*. You can find out more at www.cotswoldstourism/membership, which includes the link to the Guardian article.

Cotswolds Visitor Guide 2015

Sales are now open for businesses to advertise in the next Visitor Guide. The early bird discount ends 31st July. For the first time, we are now able to accept businesses which do not have a star rating, providing they have signed the Cotswolds Tourism accommodation quality charter.

Twitter and What's On?

Don't forget to visit www.visitthecotswolds.org.uk/events to discover things to do over the next few months. We have over 1900 following www.twitter.com/DiscoverStroud

Contacts: [Sara Chardin](#) and [Shirley Wood](#), Regeneration Officers (Tourism) (754307) ([back to index](#))

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: *Provide affordable, decent and social housing*

ELECTRONIC DIRECT DEBITS

Tenant services have recently been given the green light from BACS. The AUDDIS (Automated Direct Debit Instruction Service) project officially went live on the 8th May. Our customers can now benefit from the direct debit mandates being validated and sent electronically, this will therefore increase efficiency and a reduction in cost. The project involved much collaboration from different service areas for which we are very grateful.



Contact: [Sam Bedwell](#), Systems Project Officer (754093) ([back to index](#))

HOMELESS PREVENTION

Shelter has produced a report showing numbers of evictions and repossessions for 325 LA's (so 1 is bad and 325 is good) for 2013/14. Stroud has the second lowest at 35th of the 36 LA's in the south west behind East Dorset, and by far the lowest in Gloucestershire (the next lowest is Cotswold at 22nd). Nationally Stroud is 313 out of the 325. As all the LAs in Gloucestershire go through the same courts, it is directly comparable.

Obviously there are several factors involved so we cannot take all the credit, but it is a positive reflection of the prevention work that we and our partner agencies, such as the CAB, are doing in Stroud. Our homeless prevention initiatives are based on early intervention so as to reduce the risk of families under notice reaching the stage where the courts become involved.

Contact: [Phil Bishop](#), Housing Advice Manager (754065) ([back to index](#))

RESOURCES: *Provide value for money to our taxpayers and high quality services to our customers*

ADDRESS MANAGEMENT WINS GOLD AWARD

For the fourth year running Stroud District Council has been presented with a 'Gold Award' in recognition of its management of its address information database.



The award was presented at the GeoPlace annual conference and presentation of the Exemplar Awards 2014. The Awards celebrated excellence in service delivery that has been enabled through local government address and street information. The Gold Award for Address Data is given to authorities that have attained the highest standard in national tests on data excellence, and supply of regular updates to the national hub which manages receipt of address data from all authorities in England and Wales.

GeoPlace is the centre of excellence for the management of spatial address information and street data for Great Britain, and manages the National Address Gazetteer which contains information about addresses from every local authority in England and Wales. The quality of the data from local authorities is very important as over 75% of public sector organisations across Great Britain also use it in the form of the AddressBase range of products, made available nationally by Ordnance Survey. National projects include, amongst many others: Tell Us Once; rural payments; flood risk; Beyond Census 2011, Registration of land and title ownership; TV license revenue collections; fraud analysis; school admissions; and passport applications.

In presenting the Award to Neil Marriott, Neil Silley, NLPG Custodian said "Stroud District Council has achieved the highest standard of address information data management. Achieving this level demonstrates excellence and commitment to a process that brings local and national benefits".

Contact: [Neil Marriott](#), Principal Data Management Officer (754112) ([back to index](#))

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Craft and Chat - Art projects

Relaxed and informal arts and craft projects are taking place across the District at various locations. This is a great opportunity to meet new people within a warm and friendly environment. No interest or experience required, simply just turn up on the day. The project is free for tenants and residents. Projects are currently taking place in Uplands, Stonehouse, Nailsworth and Cam.

Cooking at the Arkell Centre

Cooking classes for local residents have been taking place at the Arkell Centre in Nailsworth. Participants who attended gained hands on experience in how to cook low cost, healthy meals for their families. Over 7 participants attended and the course is due to deliver again in the near future. Healthy meals included: keish, fish cakes and pizza.

Junior Wardens Stonehouse

From May - June 2014 seen another successful term of Junior Wardens in Stonehouse. Sessions are held on a weekly basis at All Pulling Together, in Stonehouse Park Estate. Each week the participants take part in a range of interactive and educational topics including: team building, first aid, cooking on a budget, animal welfare, the role of the police and neighbourhood warden. Sessions are delivered by Charlotte Galling the Community Development Officer and Phil Drew the Neighbourhood Warden as well as the Animal Welfare Officers, Safer Estates Officer and partnering organisations including the Police. The programme focuses on a range of different life skills to help tackle behavioural and social issues. Building trust and providing a support base for these young people is an essential part of the project. The junior wardens learn the value of engaging with society and the benefit of interacting with institutions such as the council and police. The junior warden project has also been successful in gaining funding for future junior warden projects from the crime and commissioners funding, meaning that projects will continue well in to 2015.

Tenancy on Tour

This summer tenant services will be holding events in 5 locations around the District to engage with local tenants about the services that we provide including: welfare and benefits, anti social behaviour, new build developments, repairs, tenant involvement and much more. 2 events have already taken place with over 90 tenants being involved. The remainder events are due to take place on: Thursday 14th August from 3-5pm at Pitman Place Wotton, Thursday 11th September from 3-5pm Highfield's Park Dursley, and on Thursday 25th September from 3-5pm at Duderstadt Close Paganhill. Tenancy on tour will also be attending the Pride in Your Neighbourhood Events throughout July.

StreetGames

StreetGames delivers free sports and activities to young people aged 8-16 years old in their local park or open space. During this summer holidays, StreetGames will be taking place at Highfield's Park in Dursley and Meadow Road Playing Field in Stonehouse. The sessions are free and there is no need to pre book just simply turn up and play.

Nailsworth Information Drop In

On the last Wednesday of every month Stroud District Council will be holding an information drop in from 2:30 - 4pm at the Nailsworth Arkell Centre, GL6 0ET. The information drop in will be able to help tenants and residents to carry out job searches, receive updates about our services, get advice on housing benefit, home seekers and the welfare reform, receive tenant training and much more!

Contact: [Charlotte Galling](#), Community Development Officer (754304) ([back to index](#))

MUSEUM NEWS

Objects from Museum Collections enhance WW1 commemoration events across the District

The Museum has been working alongside local history groups from across the district to ensure that local stories which relate to the First World War are not forgotten. We have been able to lend material from the stored collections to enhance local history displays. We lent a series of images of the female munitions workers at T.H. & J. Daniels for a display in Rodborough alongside research from the Remembering Rodborough group. We also took part in an exhibition at the Comrades Club, Nailsworth in May which included a small selection of medals and other commemorative material. We are also working with Randwick Local History Group on the story of Samuel Watkins of that parish, who died in April 1918, for a display to be shown at the Museum in November. More information:

<http://www.museuminthepark.org.uk/world-war-one/>

Walled Garden Update

DJP Construction have commenced work on building the new Community Learning Pavilion. Whilst heavy machinery was on site initial excavations took place to remove the vast majority of spoil for the Entrance Way. This had a knock-on benefit of allowing a neater solution for the foul and rainwater drainage on site. The Garfield Weston Foundation have pledged £20,000 to the Friends of the Museum towards the Entrance Way and the David Thomas Charitable Trust have given £20,000. A weekly photograph of the site is shared every Tuesday on Facebook and via a running slideshow in the Museum, there is also a monthly blog under the news section of our website

www.museuminthepark.org.uk. The project continues to attract a lot of attention and support.

Contact: [Kevin Ward](#), Museum Development Manager (763394) ([back to index](#))

YOUTH COUNCIL NEWS

Youth Council speak out at Healthwatch AGM

Five members of Stroud District Youth Council (SDYC) attended Healthwatch Gloucestershire's Annual General Meeting on 17th June and spoke out about the importance of having young people's voice heard on health and wellbeing issues. The meeting not only celebrated Healthwatch Gloucestershire's first year, but acknowledged the initial work it had done with SDYC and expressed a keen desire to build on this from hereon. Whilst hearing about the progress of the county's consumer champion for health and social care in England, members of the SDYC Health Focus Group interacted with adults asking questions about details concerning the annual report as well as their future plans to have 'youth health champions' in the county. Being the only young people present at the meeting, SDYC members were happy to advocate and speak out on behalf of all young people from Stroud district, but encouraged Healthwatch to build strong links with young people across the whole county. Photos of SDYC members at the meeting will appear soon on their website: www.youth.stroud.gov.uk

Research into Young People's Work Experience

A year long project to gain a greater insight into the quality of work experience for young people, was presented to the Stroud District Local Strategic Partnership on 6th June by the Chair and Leader of Stroud District Youth Council (SDYC). The research carried out by the SDYC Employment and Training Focus Group included a pilot project followed by a district wide consultation period involving secondary schools, a further education college and local youth forum groups. Aimed at 14 - 19 year olds, a total of 621 responses were obtained from an e-survey that asked a series of questions. The report is available via the SDYC website www.youth.stroud.gov.uk and highlights areas for improvement plus suggestions on the next steps to be taken by the dedicated focus group.

Contact: [Steve Miles](#), Senior Hear By Right Youth Officer (754504) ([back to index](#))

HEALTH & WELLBEING: *Promote the health and well being of our communities and work with others to deliver the public health agenda*

GENERATION GAMES

It was a fun-packed family day at Stroud District Council's sixth annual Generation Games. The event, which is a celebration of sport and physical activity for people of all ages and abilities, took place at Stratford Park Leisure Centre. Over 120 people of all ages took part.

The Generation Games are an opportunity for the whole family to enjoy the thrill and satisfaction of physical activity, perhaps in a sport or skill they have never experienced before. The aim of the event is to introduce people within the district to new and exciting ways to stay active, improve health and most of all have fun!

The participants took part in a variety of activities including Badminton, Archery, Zumba, Touch Rugby, Rounder's & Inflatable Assault Course.

Contact: [Hannah Drew](#), Sports Development Officer (754508) ([back to index](#))

KAPERS PLAY SCHEME

The popular scheme for 5 - 12 year olds will be running for four weeks of the summer holidays. The Kapers team aim to provide a safe and inspiring place for children to play and learn. Kapers is packed with fun and exciting activities including:

- Arts and Crafts
- Games and Competitions
- Drama and Music
- Sports and Activities
- Special Workshops
- Themed days and much more!

Times

- Extended Day - 8.30am to 5pm
- School Day – 8.30am to 3pm
- Main Day - 10am to 3pm each day

(Limited places are available so booking early is advisable)

Where can you find us?

28th July - 1st August: Wotton Sports Centre, Katherine Lady Berkeley's School

4th August - 8th August: Maidenhill Sport & Dance Centre, Maidenhill School

11th August - 15th August and 18th August - 22nd August: Thomas Keble Sports Centre

Prices

Extended Day - 8.30am to 5pm £16 per day £75 if you book for the whole week!

School Day - 8.30am to 3pm £13.50 per day £62 if you book for the whole week!

Main Day - 10am to 3pm £11 per day £50 if you book for the whole week!

Book online now at www.kapers.org.uk

Contact: [Hannah Drew](#), Sports Development Officer (754508) ([back to index](#))

SOCIAL ROUNDERS

Not played since school? Want to meet new friends? Want to get active in a friendly environment? Then come and play rounders – and it's FREE!

Where: Stratford Park Leisure Centre

When: Starting Monday 7th July at 6pm for 8 weeks

Who:- Anyone aged over 14

Contact: [Hannah Drew](#), Sports Development Officer (754508) ([back to index](#))

WANTED - LIFEGUARDS

Stratford Park Leisure centre is now recruiting for Lifeguards for the indoor and outdoor pools. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please ask them to contact us on 01453 766771 for further information. A National Pool Lifeguard Qualification is required for this role, but we may also be able to provide discounted/funded training for the right applicants.

Contact: [Dan Coleman](#), General Manager (07825 893315) ([back to index](#))

DURSLEY POOL NEWS

Summer Holiday Activities: The Summer Holidays are fast approaching, at Dursley Pool and Sports centre we have a variety of activities suitable for all ages. A copy of our programme is available at www.dursleypool.com or for more information and to book activities please call.

50% off Pool Parties during August! Call and book your party today!

Summer Passport: 6 weeks unlimited public swimming, inflatable fun, racket sports and shokk gym for just £20! This offer is available throughout July and August for ages 6 - 16 year olds.

Parent and Toddler Taster Lessons: If you have ever thought of trying parent and toddler lessons and haven't managed to commit now is a perfect time to give it a go. Throughout the Summer Holidays every Wednesday we will be running Parent and Toddler Taster Classes 10am - 10.30am for just £4.90 per child.

FREE Swim Fit: Have you tried our Swim Fit classes? If not, why not? Come and try a session in July for FREE! Swim Fit runs on the following days and times:
Tuesday 8.45pm - 9.45pm Thursday 9pm - 10pm Sunday 5pm - 6pm

Private Tuition but 5 sessions get 1 FREE: We have availability on our Private Tuition lessons over the coming months. If you book 5 sessions between now and the end of August we will give you a 6th session free of charge. Call for availability.

Contact: [Helen Andrewartha](#), Assistant Duty Manager (546441) ([back to index](#))

CORPORATE AFFAIRS

ON-SITE MASSAGE

Available here at Ebley Mill – perfect for busy people! Jacque Ticehurst, a fully qualified and experienced Holistic Therapist, offers Japanese Acupressure Massage at Ebley Mill. Accessing over 60 different acupressure points, it balances the body's energy and:

- Relaxes tight muscles
- Stimulates energy within the body
- Induces deep relaxation, but you go away feeling energized and focused

Massage is a proven preventative medicine helping to improve concentration and alleviate a great number of ailments at work, including:

- Neck and back strain
- Headaches and tension
- VDU fatigue
- RSI

The massage is received in a private room, through clothes, in a specially designed chair and costs £13 for 20 minutes. Go on, give it a try! To book an appointment..

Contact: [Julie Browning](#), Business Support Officer (754279) ([back to index](#))

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ORACLE?

At a staff consultation event on Friday 13th June, a sample of approximately 60 staff attended a drop in session in the Council Chamber to give their views on the ORACLE behaviours and whether we should re-launch and reinvigorate them.

The general consensus...



...but with some conditions

The Heads of Service group has been charged with responsibility to facilitate this and to enable it to be planned and shaped with the involvement of the wider staff body.

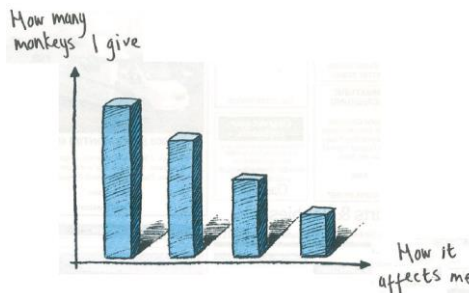
Step 1 – Get a group of people together

Do you want to challenge, shape and design the way in which the behaviours are introduced, how they are applied and how they will be recognised?

Step 2 – How are managers going to ensure it's useful, effective and consistent?

Managers aren't going to – you are! And then you're going to roll your plans out to the whole organisation so that we all make sure the system works.

Q). What's in it for me?



Ever moaned about stuff other people have imposed on you? Got an opinion and want to do something about making it a reality? Want to do something different and challenge yourself?

A). That's what's in it for you.

What Next?

Check out the results of the consultation: http://intranet.stroud.gov.uk/info/ORACLE_Event_Report.pdf

- If you are interested in getting involved or have any questions about this article or the report, get in touch with any Head of Service.
- We will shortly be holding an event where you can find out more about the ORACLE behaviours and how you can be involved in influencing their re-launch and how they can work best for you. Details will be sent to all staff by email in the next couple of days.

Contact: [Kelly Headley](#), Performance and Tenant Involvement Manager (754087) ([back to index](#))

SDC ROUNDERS MATCH REPORT

A balmy afternoon on 17th June in Victory Park was the setting for this latest event in the Council's Health & Wellbeing Agenda. Human Resources and Public Space Service produced an impressive turnout and representation also came from Planning, Facilities & Sports Development, Museum in the Park and Tenant Services.

Referee Hannah Drew gathered in the disparate group for a pre-match briefing. There was talk of rules, conventions, challenges, scoring and disqualification – then play got under way. Bowling was classy – deceptively slow, waist high deliveries caught out the unwary. Fielding was strong with notable

examples of excellent catching, blocking and accurate long throwing. Batting revealed several stars repeatedly launching the ball into the outfield –cynics wondered whether they had been practising.

To reward the players' hard work in the late-afternoon sunshine, a free barbecue was laid on and served by the Human Resources team. There were refreshing drinks, burgers and sausages – all most welcome and well received. Post match analysis showed that despite there having been no actual teams there were still winners: everyone had enjoyed an hour of exercise **in work time** in the fresh air and sunshine.

Stroud District Council was shown to have provided another tool to better enable staff to withstand the rigours of the job. For those who follow these matters a paper record of proceedings was kept. Bowlers, batters, fielders, rounders scored, catches made, catches dropped and 'no balls' were painstakingly recorded. It came in handy later when the brush used to clean the barbecue went missing – copies available. If you missed out on the Rounders (which did have to be hastily re-scheduled at the last minute, leaving many who had planned to come unable to make it) then put these in your diary now: 5-a-side football on 16th September; Dodgeball on 25th November. Contact Hannah Drew for an entry form or see your team coordinator for details

Contact: [Margaret Brown](#), Senior Business Support Officer (754420) ([back to index](#))

WHAT'S ON

WOODCHESTER MANSION EVENTS

Bat Walks

See our bats in their natural habitat on our 'batcams' and learn about these fascinating mammals from the experts. If the weather is good, you can walk outside the Mansion with bat detectors at dusk to see the bats leaving the building and foraging. These walks are provided jointly by the Gloucester Bat Group and Woodchester Mansion Trust. The Trust 'provides' the bats and venue and the Gloucester Bat Group provide the experts. There will be a charge of £5 per person for the walk and all proceeds are used in the preservation and protection of the bat colonies..

Please park in the National Trust car park (normal parking charges apply) and walk to the Mansion - approximately two-thirds of a mile. A member of the Gloucester Bat Group will meet you in the car park at the time stated below. Note that the times of the bat walks vary as the bats leave the Mansion at dusk and that varies throughout the year. We are planning to hold walks on:

- Friday 25th July - meet in the NT car park at 8pm
- Thursday 21st August – meet in NT car park at 7.15pm
- Friday 12th September - meet in the NT car park at 6.30pm

Numbers for these events are strictly limited - so advance booking is necessary.

Summer Fayre – fun for all the family

Saturday 5th July – 10am – 4pm. Free Parking – Free Shuttle Bus

Live Music – Real Ale – Children's Games – Gifts – Raffle – Tombola – Morris Dancers and much more!

Wildlife Workshop

Saturday 19th July – Children's Activity Day

Woody Wednesdays - Children's activities

Wednesdays 23rd, 30th July, 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th August

Contact: [Lisa Jamieson](#), Events Manager (861541) ([back to index](#))

MUSEUM IN THE PARK EVENTS

Until Sunday 13th July LYNN CHADWICK: THE MAKER'S STUDIO

Internationally renowned artist Lynn Chadwick (1914 – 2003) lived and worked for much of his adult life in Gloucestershire. To mark his centenary and for the first time ever, Gallery Pangolin recreate the artist's studio at the Museum in the Park. This unique exhibition offers visitors a fascinating insight into Chadwick's working practice.

Friday 4th July 9pm MOTHING EVENING IN STRATFORD PARK

Join moth expert Mick McCrea for an evening of mothing adventures in Stratford Park. All ages welcome but children must be supervised by a parent or carer. Wear suitable clothing and footwear, bring a torch and meet outside the Museum. Free

Sunday 6th July 11am – 4pm DROP IN FAMILY WORKSHOP: Inspired by Chadwick ... Beasts!

Taking inspiration from Chadwick's sculptures, we will create our own collection of strange and wondrous beasts! A creative drop in workshop for families with children aged 5 +, led by artist Alison Cockcroft. £1 per child, accompanying adults free.

Sunday 13th July 11am INSECTS, BEES & BUTTERFLIES – Biodiversity Walk in Stratford Park

Join Park Supervisor, Mike McCrea, for a walk around Stratford Park, paying particular attention to planting schemes which are attracting different species. All ages welcome, wear sturdy shoes and meet outside the Museum. Free

Tuesday 8th – Sunday 27th July Foyer Display: TREASURES LOST & FOUND

Come along to the Museum to help us celebrate the Festival of British Archaeology with this small foyer exhibition featuring objects from our archaeology collections. *Part of the Festival of British Archaeology*

Saturday 19th July – Wednesday 27th August 'ALL CONSUMING'

A new mosaic installation by Cleo Mussi. Leading on from her previous touring exhibition, 'Pharma's Market', 'All Consuming' explores themes such as genetics, economics and sustainable practices. It is a comment on man's evolution within our environment, our impact on the environment and our desire to consume and collect everything. This mysterious mosaic world is at times dark and disturbing, asking difficult questions which have no easy answers. It is also full of Mussi's trademark humour, wry observations, intricate and witty details and quirky beauty. *Supported by Arts Council England*

Saturday 19th – Sunday 27th July STROUD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY 30th Anniversary Exhibition

Stroud Local History Society presents an exhibition to celebrate their 30th Anniversary. Displays by past and present society members highlight local events, people and organisations.

Wednesday 23rd July 2pm – 4pm MEET THE ARCHAEOLOGY CURATOR

Drop in this afternoon and meet the Curator. Take a closer look at some rarely seen objects from our archaeology collection. See if you can guess what they are and how old they might be. *Part of the Festival of British Archaeology*. Free

Friday 25th July 11am – 4pm Drop in Family Fun: MINI DIGS DAY

Help us celebrate the Festival of British Archaeology - try your hand at being an archaeologist! Take part in our mini-excavations and see what you can find and if you can correctly identify it. All ages welcome. *Part of the Festival of British Archaeology*. Free

Saturday 26th July 7pm OLIVER TWIST

Outdoor theatre show presented by Jenny Wren Productions Play written by Jeremy Brock. An innocent boy falls in with a gang of ruffians in a dog-eat-dog world... but enough about the actors! Dickens' classic tale of poverty and pick-pocketing, privilege and prosperity is given the Jenny Wren treatment, as a small but perfectly formed cast unravel the secrets of Oliver's past, portraying all the colourful characters he meets on his perilous path. Expect laughter and tears, surprises and fears ... traditional outdoor entertainment for all the family! Bring seating, picnics and warm layers or blankets. Park open from 6pm for picnics. Ice creams, teas and coffees available from the Museum's foyer café. *Box Office: Stroud Tourist Information Centre 01453 760900. £10 (£8 concessions, £30 family ticket)*

Sunday 27th July 3pm **Behind the Scenes at the Museum: WALLED GARDEN TOUR**

A chance to find out what's happening in the Museum's Walled Garden. It may look like a building site now, but there are exciting plans afoot! *Free but booking necessary – call 01453 763394*

Wednesday 30th July 12 noon, 2pm & 3pm **PUNCH & JUDY SHOWS**

Step back in time and encounter the devious Mr Punch and friends! Traditional Victorian entertainment brought to you by master puppeteer Rod Burnett from Storybox Theatre Company. Shows last 30 minutes and take place outside in the Museum courtyard ... weather permitting! *Warning: not suitable for those of a delicate disposition. Donations*

Sunday 3rd August 11am – 5pm **MOSAIC WORKSHOP WITH ROBIN JAMES**

Discover the magic of mosaic making with experienced tutor and mosaic artist Robin James. Design and start work on a small mosaic panel which you can then complete at home. All materials and tools provided, but do bring along some favourite found objects to incorporate, such as seashells, pebbles and fragments of china. With summer holidays in mind, our theme is seascapes and tidelines, and the day is open to complete beginners as well as those who've tried mosaic making before and wish to develop their skills. For adults and students aged 16+. *Booking necessary – call 01453 763394. £42 (£35 Museum Friends)*

Deadline for the August edition – Friday, 1st August.
Please email [Dave Marshall](mailto:dave.marshall@museum.org)

Subscription Rooms events follow....

JULY EVENTS AT THE SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS

Friday 11th July 7.30pm THEATRE IN MR TWITCHETT'S

The Sub Rooms, in conjunction with Spaniel in the Works Theatre Co. hosts regular events in Mr Twitchett's Coffee House and Bar. See short plays, excerpts from new writing and discover what theatre companies in Gloucestershire are in the process of creating! This is an opportunity for theatre companies, writers and actors to put new work and work in progress in front of a live audience. Audiences are invited to pay what they think the show is worth, discuss the work with the performers and other audience members and offer constructive criticism. info@spanielworks.co.uk for further details. *Free. Donations Welcome*

Saturday 12th July 10am – 4pm CLOCKING OFF INFORMATION DAY

Part of the Stroud Valleys Clocking Off Festival An inspiring day of talks, tips and practical techniques for planning for, and dealing with, end of life matters. Eco and pet services, wood and willow samples, probate, inheritance and power of attorney issues. £2.50

Thursday 17th July 2.30pm YOUR MUSICAL MEMORIES Hosted by Trevor T Smith

Relive your musical memories at these monthly afternoon concerts; enjoy those classical pieces that have always lived in your heart, hear songs from musicals and arias from operas that have always been yours to cherish. Trevor presides over a feast of talent from local performers and gifted young artists. The themed community singing which always concludes each concert will lift your spirits and you can chat with friends over a cup of tea and a snack in Mr Twitchett's Coffee House and Bar before and after the concert. £5.

Saturday 19th July 10am – 4pm VINTAGE & CRAFT FAIR

Step back in time with Hels Belles Boutique... Hels Belles Boutique will be bringing over 30 of the finest traders selling all things vintage, handmade, antique & collectable to this fabulous fair. £2, Children free

Saturday 19th July 7.30pm SUMMER BALL – A CELEBRATION OF DANCE

A Summer Celebration of Dance & Fund Raiser with Dawn Morgan & friends for her 50th Birthday. *Raising money for Rainforest Preservation (Pachamama Alliance) & British Tree Planting (the Woodland Trust)*. An invitation to *all* dancers whatever your background, to enjoy an alcohol free evening of wonderful music, expert dance DJs, Jive, Reggae, Movement Medicine, 5 Rhythms, Free Dance, contact impro. Expect the unexpected! for information www.shapeshift.co.uk £20, £15 low waged/part-time (concs £12.50) children under 16 free

Friday 25th July 8.30pm JIVE DANCE

A great atmosphere and great dance floor. Dance the night away to top swing and jive music. www.justjive.com. £8 (£7 members)

Saturday 26th July Day programme 10am – 5pm. Evening showcase 7pm – 10pm. George Room
THE GOLDEN ROOM – A CELEBRATION OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE WRITERS PAST & PRESENT
Talks, Poetry, Film, Art, Music. A centenary symposium celebrating the Dymock Poets (incl. Edward Thomas, Robert Frost & Rupert Brooke), who gathered in Gloucestershire on the eve of the First World War to write, ramble, share poetry and support each other on their creative journeys. Featuring stimulating talks, multi-media presentations and creative responses by modern Gloucestershire writers. Hosted by Kevan Manwaring and Jay Ramsay. <http://cotswoldwordcentre.wordpress.com/> £12.50 for either day or evening/£20 for both. Booking essential.

Friday 29th August 8.30pm JIVE DANCE

A great atmosphere and great dance floor. Dance the night away to top swing and jive music. www.justjive.com. £8 (£7 members)

Café Bar



Mr Twitchett's Coffee House and Bar is open daily. We not only have the best bacon sarnies in town and great coffee but light lunches and evening tapas too. There's new furniture to make the place a bit more comfy; leather sofas and club style chairs give you more space to relax and enjoy what we have to offer, including live acoustic, electric and

electronic music at least once a month from local musicians and a monthly theatre session showcasing new writing and work in progress. The bar is open before and after all our performances and late every Friday and Saturday. Let us know what you think about the space, the menu, the entertainment and what else you think we could be doing in there.

Workshops & Classes

Wednesday 9th July in Mr Twitchetts 7pm – 9pm **SCRIPTWRITING GROUP**

The Subscription Rooms host a monthly group for anyone who is interested in scriptwriting for theatre, radio or television. These groups will offer an opportunity to share scripts that you may already have, to develop new works and to meet other writers. The group will run from 7 – 9, is hosted by John Bassett from Spaniel in the Works Theatre and is free. Donations welcome for refreshments.

Exhibitions

until Saturday 5th July 10am – 5pm **'AS I WALKED OUT ONE MIDSUMMER MORNING'**

Art inspired by the writings of Laurie Lee. Including work by Mark Mawer, Andy Lovell, Susannah Lester, Kerry von Zschock, Pamela Bowden, Clare Wimperis. *Supported by Stroud Arts Festival*
www.stroudartsfestival.org

Monday 14th July – Saturday 2nd August 10am – 5pm **JOHN BAILEY**

John Bailey is a local watercolour landscape artist and although he has been influenced by people like Fletcher Watson, Trevor Waugh, John Christian, Barry Herniman and Jane Lampard he is essentially self taught. His first love being watercolour because of its freedom, freshness and fluidity and because it has a life of its own. John does most painting "en plein air" on the spot and like's the immediacy of painting outdoors. John will also be exhibiting his stoneware and terracotta work. (*See this exhibition in The Tourist Information Centre*)

Coming Soon

Friday 1st – Sat 2nd August **TWITCHETT'S ALE AND CIDER FESTIVAL**

Friday 5th Septr 8pm **TOYAH: UP CLOSE & PERSONAL** £16 adv £19 door www.easytheatres.com

Saturday 6th September 8pm **MAGIC OF MOTOWN** £18.50 (£16.50 concs) www.easytheatres.com

Friday 10th October 8pm **JALEO FLAMENCO** £18 (£16 concs)

Thursday 6th November 8pm **JETHRO – THE LEGEND AT LARGE** £20

Friday 14th November 7.30pm **ELKIE BROOKS** £23.50

Regular classes and workshops

Mondays

Yoga and Relaxation: 5.45pm – 7.15pm

Yoga in Pregnancy - 7.30pm – 8.30pm

£6 per class. Call 07962 701 001

Wednesdays

Learn To Jive with Just Jive – 7.15pm – 10.30pm

£5 per class. Call 01453 752842

Contact: [Paul McLaughlin](#), General Manager (760991) ([back to index](#))