



## Dorset 2012-13

In last autumn's magazine I reported on The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic and Paralympic Games sailing events in Dorset. I now report on other activities during my year, as well as covering some things planned with my successor, Catriona Payne JP. To that extent, this is a joint report from both of us.

During 2012 we established a new charity, the Dorset Shrieval Charitable Trust, in conjunction with Alan Frost, High Sheriff in 2011-12. The Trust receives and distributes funds raised by or gifted to the Shrievalty, together with any grants we may attract from external bodies. As a charity, it will ensure that such funds are appropriately managed, while enabling Gift Aid to be applied. It will make grants to projects consistent with its charitable purposes, associated with supporting the police, blue light services and prisons, with particular reference to young people, and also to wider community projects.

The trustees are the serving High Sheriff, the immediate past High Sheriff and the person next in nomination, with the Under Sheriff as company



High Sheriff's Awards: Alison Calder, inspirational instructor of offenders working at the Jailhouse Café, and Mike Summers, industry manager at the YOI, Portland, receiving High Sheriff's Awards for their work at the Jailhouse Café; with Portland Harbour, Weymouth Bay and the Jurassic Coast in the background.

secretary, providing the permanent management of the Trust. In this way,

we hope to create a greater degree of continuity in the work of the Shrievalty and also introduce the person next in nomination to this work. He or she can thus more easily comply with the advice of the Queen's Remembrancer 'to hit the road running', when he or she takes office. We aim to invite the person second in nomination to attend Trustees' meetings as an observer in the autumn of each year.



Presenting the new Under Sheriff's staff to Katharine Jones, Under Sheriff, at Catriona Payne's Declaration Ceremony, held at Bryanston School on 8 April 2013.

The Trust, on its formation, received sums including the residue of money raised previously for Dorset Crimebeat, and funds raised by Alan Frost and myself in our shrieval years. Our first project has been to revive Dorset Crimebeat. Thanks to the generous offer of support from Simon Selby, who has run Somerset Crimebeat so successfully, we hope that the relaunch will take place early in Catriona Payne's year as High Sheriff. It is intended that



# News from and about Members

the relaunch will be promoted, in conjunction with the newly merged Dorset, Bournemouth & Poole youth offending team, by utilising the safer schools and youth inclusion support panel programmes as the vehicles to identify suitable Crimebeat projects.

The Trust's second project is a pilot scheme in conjunction with Bournemouth University (BU), in which two students undertake community work under the BU Student Development Awards to research specific projects. As most of the funding for this project was raised by Alan Frost, we agreed that the initial research should focus on the Bournemouth Safe Bus, the town's night-time economy, with its attendant problems, and on the work of the night chaplaincy. This year we hope to support projects associated with young people, including the problems of youth offending, covering the whole county.

During my year I emulated the model employed throughout the south-west region by replacing the Court Ceremonial and Service in Dorchester with a Legal Service. Thanks to the support of my Chaplain, the Revd Eric Woods DL, Vicar of Sherborne, the service was held in Sherborne Abbey in November. In addition to the judiciary and magistracy, a broad church of invitees embraced wider interests by including the blue light services, prisons and civic dignitaries. The revised arrangements seem to have been well received and will be followed later this year.

At my Declaration last year the Under Sheriff, Gary Cox, retired after many years' service, for which all those involved with the Shrievalty are most grateful. Katharine Jones, partner in Humphries Kirk, succeeded him. As the Under Sheriff's staff of office belonged to Gary, I commissioned the distinguished silversmith, Charles Hall,

to make a new staff for the Bailiwick. This was presented to the Under Sheriff at Catriona Payne's Declaration.

I have enjoyed a marvellous year, which has also included work with prisons in the county. I must mention a splendid project spawned on Portland, the Jailhouse Café. This is designed to teach catering and hospitality skills to offenders on licence working in the café, situated outside HMP The Verne, and to provide a route into work on release. It has proved so successful that a further café has been opened at Guys Marsh prison, near Shaftesbury. I am confident that the concept will be replicated elsewhere in the country.

I have received marvellous help and support from so many people, especially from Katharine Jones and her staff, my secretary, Gail Dinner, and from no one more than Jacqueline, my wife. □

**Jeremy Pope OBE DL**  
*High Sheriff of Dorset 2012-13*



Under Sheriff's Staff:

The design of the new staff for the Bailiwick of Dorset is based on the badge of the High Sheriffs' Association of England and Wales. It depicts the rose and oak leaves of England, the leeks of Wales and the crossed swords of justice and mercy, surmounted by the Crown.