

THE UNICORN HOTEL

SOMERTON

West Street 01458 272101

Welcomes you to their excellent Restaurant and Hotel

3 different Christmas menus now available including
Buffet Menu and Party Menu

For full up-to-date menu go to
www.unicorn-somerton.co.uk

STOKE SUB HAMDON The Triangle Trust Christmas Bazaar is at the Memorial Hall on **Saturday 27th November** from 2.00pm-4.00pm. There will be a grand draw, seasonal gifts, tombola, cakes, refreshments and also Father Christmas with a present for every child. Everyone welcome.

TINTINHULL Take Art presents the talented and charismatic duo of Reg Meuross



(singer) and Bethany Porter (cello) on **Friday 12th November** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The show is called 'Songs about Tom, Dick and Harry' and features original songs about luminaries such as Tom (the poet Thomas Chatterton), Dick (Turpin)

and Harry (Farr, the 1st World War soldier), together with many others, including Elvis and Reg's Dad. The idea is to look at some of the events that have influenced the lives of inspirational men and women in history. Tickets £9 (which includes supper) from 01935 824039.

THORNFORD The film showing is 'Nowhere Boy' on **Monday 1st November** in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. The film depicts the young John Lennon's early life and features Kristin Scott-Thomas. Emotionally charged and with fine performances. Tickets £5 available from the Post Office and Stores. For more info or to book advance tickets call Glenda Cheleda on 01935 872571. **See 'Movies around the villages'.**

WEST CAMEL On **Thursday 18th November** at 7.30pm Teatre Che Y Moche present 'Oua Umplute' (Stuffed Egg) in the Davis Hall. They are one of Spain's leading companies, and present an entertaining and boisterous tale of an unforgettable crazy party. The band of four Spanish gypsy musicians celebrate the life of their late grandfather by playing the music he loved, using violins, guitars, saxophones and drums – music that ranges from love songs and classical to dance tunes. Tickets £8 (£6 child) from 01935 851214. The film showing on **Saturday 20th** at 7.30pm is the critically acclaimed 'The Ghost', adapted from Robert Harris' novel The Ghost Writer. With great performances and atmosphere this is not to be missed. Tickets £4 on the door. **See 'Movies around the villages'.**



WEST COKER There is a Grand Autumn Fayre for Breakthrough Breastcancer at West Coker Club (just off the A30) on **Sunday 7th November** from 10.30am to 4.00pm. There is a huge variety of stalls ideal for Christmas Gifts along with refreshments and good parking. Admission £1. For more information contact Pammy Smith on 01935 862938.

YETMINSTER Go along and catch the lovely film 'Letters to Juliet' which is showing on **Thursday 18th November** in St Andrew's Hall at 7.30pm. An enchanting love story set in Tuscany, of finding love and changing lives. Tickets £5 includes a free choc ice and are available in advance from Oak House Stores. More info from Sue Eadon on 01935 873699. The Christmas Fair will be held in St Andrew's Hall on **Saturday 20th** from 11.00am to 2.30pm. There will be many stalls including cakes, gifts, cards and jewellery, plus children's games and a raffle. Lunches and teas will be served and all are welcome. Admission 50p, children free. **See 'Movies around the villages'.**

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS?

Do you have a reasonable understanding of French and would like the opportunity of practicing it with other people without the need to join a formal class? Interested in joining a small, informal and mutually supportive group centred around the Yeovil-Sherborne area?

If so then please ring
Don Davis on

01935 414591

or send an e-mail to
donaldldavis@googlemail.com

Restaurant Review

Francesca Dening

The Unicorn Hotel, Somerton



Situated in the heart of Somerton the Unicorn is easy to find right next to the town car park. Originally a coaching inn with a history of at least 350 years, the atmosphere is welcoming and friendly with three inter-connecting rooms. There is a semi-circular comfortable bar area, a large inglenook fireplace with its own bread oven and tables and chairs for drinks and meals and finally a small 'snug' area with old leather chairs to watch TV. The restaurant is separate and seats up to 40 plus there is a large skittle alley which is regularly used for local events as well as private functions for up to 150. At the hotel there is accommodation for up to 12 people with rates starting from £50 for a single and £70 for a double and



outside a pleasant courtyard for the summer months where food or drink can be served by the aviary and fish pond. There are several menus available and food is served Monday to Saturday from 12.00 noon to 2.30pm and from 6.00pm to 9.30pm. As much as possible all the food is locally sourced and fresh fish is delivered daily from the Lyme Bay area. On Sundays the restaurant closes a bit earlier. For lunch there is a 'Something Lighter' menu which is good value and includes pies, crusty baguettes as well as dishes such as smoked haddock and chorizo tagliatelle. The Chefs Dinner Specials average around £12.95 and this changes regularly. For October they had a choice of chicken breast marinated in Cajun spices as well as pork tenderloin sauteed with blue cheese. They are currently also running 'Autumn Leaves Special' which is exceptionally good value with two courses for just £10.95 and on Thursdays they have a steak specials night. Finally, they serve a very popular Sunday Roast lunch at £9.95 with a choice of four roasts and two courses for £12.95 or three for £19.95.

Below are the impressions of the 40 people who joined the Dinner Club for our evening. We fully occupied the dining room and the tables were laid out nicely with water, butter and bread rolls and toothpicks on the table. We ordered on the evening from a set menu which offered us a choice of 3 starters and 5 main courses (£15.95 for 2 courses and £19.95 for 3 courses) and the food was served quickly and efficiently. Our choice to start consisted of duo of scallops with black pudding and chorizo dressed with chilli oil, crab and avocado timbale dress with lemon oil on a bed of rocket and broccoli, cauliflower and blue cheese soup with croutons. The scallops and crab were equally popular choices and both received good comments. Presentation was good, tasted delicious and they were also generous portions. The soup was also excellent. For mains we were offered Beef Wellington served with a rich Madeira sauce; pork tenderloin with a stilton, white wine and shallot sauce; rack of Somerset lamb on a bed of Colcannon mash with a port and redcurrant jus; salmon fillet topped with seared scallops on a bed of asparagus with seasonal salad dressing and finally chicken breast stuffed with sun blush tomatoes, pine nuts, garlic and fresh herbs, served on a bed of Mediterranean vegetables. All the main dishes were served with very generous portions of hot fresh vegetables. The lamb and beef Wellington were the most popular choices and both were superb.



Nearly all said they would have it again. The pork and salmon was well presented and was much enjoyed and finally the chicken was very good. Finally, for desserts we were offered treacle pecan pie, chocolate espresso mousse and raspberry and blueberry cheesecake. All those that ordered a dessert enjoyed them thoroughly and those that did not wished they had but were too full!

Other points that were made, staff were helpful and friendly, linen table cloths and napkins a real plus, very generous portions of vegetables and an interesting other menu with lots of fresh choices. As we numbered 40, many in the club thought they coped excellently with such a large group and served us all promptly.

The Conduit Dinner Club received a good service and excellent food. We therefore gave the Unicorn Hotel 8.8 out of 10.

100% said they would return – a recommendation in itself!

If you would like to join **The Conduit Dinner Club** please phone 01935 424724 or e-mail info@theconduitmagazine.co.uk for next month's venue. These evenings are a good way to get out and meet new people as we are normally 20+ people. You can also help us write the Restaurant Review!