



# HOTEL, SPA & GOLF RESORT NOW OPEN!



May 2009 saw the much anticipated opening of the Bowood Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort. 18 months of building, 20 years of planning, and a flurry of activity in the last weeks prior to 'D-day', that few have ever witnessed at Bowood before.

As new staff were appointed, and equipment mastered, curtains were being hung and carpets laid. It was very much a case of all hands on deck, with Lady Lansdowne at the helm. Having decorated all of the public areas and the 43 bedrooms with her meticulous attention to detail, she was still overseeing all the interior tweaks, assessing the perfect height for pictures, fluffing up cushions and arranging locations for flowers and candles right up until the eleventh hour. It was ironic that having spent the previous two Mays almost permanently in a state of deluge, the gardeners were having to water the newly laid grass around the hotel entrance twice daily!

After several secret meetings with staff and protection officers from Clarence House, it was made public that the official opening of the hotel would take place on May 16th and be conducted by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cornwall. The weekend was also designated as a dummy run,

with almost all the bedrooms filled with guests of Lord and Lady Lansdowne all under strict instructions to "try everything and report back".

By 5.30 pm on the 16th, the relevant parties, staff, local dignitaries and Lansdowne family members congregated at the hotel for a delicious tea, served in the library and bar area, and were treated to tours of the hotel and spa whilst waiting for the Duchess to arrive. At bang on 6.30pm the official car drew up outside the hotel and a radiant Duchess stepped out to cut the ribbon.



After a private tour of the hotel and an introduction to everyone present, The Duchess made a touching speech and declared the hotel officially open.



She was then presented with a posy of flowers by Amelie Leather, the Estate Manager's 4 year old daughter.



## STOP PRESS - NEW HOTEL SECURES PRIDE OF BRITAIN AND AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION SUCCESSES.

The new hotel has just been approved for membership of Pride of Britain Hotels, gained a four star rating from the Automobile Association and been awarded two AA rosettes for the Shelburne Restaurant. These successes are all the more impressive since they have been achieved within three months of the official opening.

Its admittance to 'Pride of Britain Hotels' means that Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort is one of just two Wiltshire properties to be included within this collection of the finest privately-owned hotels in the country. Established for 27 years, Pride of Britain Hotels currently has a membership of 38 hotels and Bowood is now included alongside the likes of Dorset's 400-year-old Plumber Manor, The Goring in London's Belgravia (which claims to be the capital's oldest privately-owned luxury hotel), Gloucestershire's Calcot Manor & Spa & Maison Talbooth on the Essex-Suffolk border. This prestigious non-profit-making consortium welcomes diversity yet guests at any of the delightfully different properties can be sure of consistently high standards of hospitality, comfort and good food.

# Around Bowood

## A message from Lord Lansdowne

Well, we have done it! The hotel is built, and is up and running. I hope Members, who have now had a chance of visiting it, feel that it complements the course and raises Bowood's profile. Some Members have naturally been concerned that golfing guests might conflict with Members' weekend play. By the time you read this, I hope those worries will have been allayed. Obviously, some residents will want to play on Saturday and Sunday mornings, but they will be in a minority. Most short break guests won't want to get up early, so the impact on Members will be minimal.

I am told, in the best of times, establishing a new hotel takes three years. The present economic conditions are far from normal - anything but! It appears that a financial meltdown has been avoided. However, the aftermath of this is going to be felt for years to come. In the winter newsletter, I questioned whether the consequences of the Government's monetary and fiscal policies would result in deflation, or conversely inflation. The jury is still out. The worst scenario will be a long term economic recession, i.e. deflation. This will hit, not only our business, but the majority of businesses world wide. Let's hope the actions taken by central governments around the world will be enough to "re-boot" their economies and stimulate a return to prosperity. I fear, whichever scenario, it will be a long haul.

In the end, quality products normally survive. Bowood is a quality product. I am under no illusion that we are in for a challenging year. The trials and tribulations of building the hotel are now behind us. However, I suspect they will pall into insignificance by comparison to the challenges of establishing this new business!

Delighted that Chris le Cheminant has, once again, been elected Captain during this milestone year. I so appreciate his wise advice. We have no better ambassador for the Club. Also, delighted that John Dale, whom I have known for many years, has been elected his Vice Captain. Congratulations to both.

Up until the 11th July, we had only half the average rainfall for that time of year. Since when the heavens have opened, and we have had the wettest July since 1888 - what a transformation in just three weeks! I have seldom seen the course and park looking so lush and healthy in mid summer. Members tell me the course is playing exceptionally well - so congratulations to Ross and his team. By the time you read this, the wild flowers will have been cut and cleared. So, good news for those whose drives miss the fairway, not so good for our ball sales!

Do hope you will find time to spend many happy hours playing our wonderful course before the summer is over.



## A message from James Stewart

Welcome

Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort is now open. This is an exciting time for Bowood and the feedback from customers and members alike has been highly positive.

Individuals, members, clients, companies or HBAA members are more than welcome to come for a showround of the Resort. So, if you have not seen the hotel and spa yet, please feel free to contact the team here to make a date to visit.

To ward off gloomy economic times, this summer's fantastic weather along with Bowood's popular and successful £99 family season ticket has resulted in the House & Gardens and Adventure Playground being extremely busy.

The event season has seen the Bowood Dog Show and Summer Fair in June and the Wiltshire Game & Country Fair in August, both events proving to be the shows to come to in the area.

Finally to all our current Bowood clients, members and season ticket holders, may I thank you for your continued support and wish you and your families a great summer which hopefully will include some time spent at the new Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort.



## Estate News...



...from Estate Manager,  
Charles Leather

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Forest Gate is the perfect location for small and medium sized enterprises requiring high quality office accommodation in a unique environment. Serviced offices, a light industrial unit and approximately 1000sq ft of office space is currently available at the development on the A4 between Calne and Chippenham. There is direct mainline access to London Paddington which is a just over an hour from Chippenham station. The development is well connected to the M4 and is in easy reach of Bristol, Bath and Swindon. All units are available with free parking.

### RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

The Bowood Estate currently has the following properties to let:

**76 Black Dog** - A spacious semi-detached period house offering 3 bedrooms, off street parking and a large garden.

**Pillars Lodge** - A charming cottage with garden situated at the edge of the Bowood Estate.

**1 Derry Hill Farmhouse** - Former farmhouse renovated as a semi-detached property with double garage, small barn and garden.

For more information on available units and properties, go to [www.bowood.org](http://www.bowood.org) and follow the appropriate link or call the Estate Office on 01249 812102.

# Golf Club News

The Club Championship, played off the blue tees, was reclaimed by Mark Slater. Mark beat Matt Law by one shot after Matt's second round of -1 was not quite enough to match Mark's great combined score of +4

Other major results:

Dr Joseph Priestley Jug	Div 1	Sayed Kazemi	81-9 = 72
	Div 2	Jordan Bayliss	84-18 = 66
Simon Swales Salver	Div 1	Sayed Kazemi	39 pts
	Div 2	Paul Moyle Harris	40 pts
<b>Club Championships</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>Mark Slater</b>	<b>73+75 = 148</b>
	<b>2nd</b>	<b>Matt Law</b>	<b>78+71 = 149</b>
PSP Trophy	Div 1	Matthew Griffith	76-8 = 68
	Div 2	Patrick O'Shea	87-18 = 69
Atwell Martin		Steven Evans	43 pts
Seniors Championship		Michael Twelves	42 pts
Captains Day		Luke Gorman	38 pts
Arthur Cole Cup	Div 1	Dan Lee	40 pts
	Div 2	Miles Taylor	43 pts
Peter Pinnegar Cup	Div 1	Kit Straker	41 pts
	Div 2	Derek Purvis	39 pts

On the course, the bunker improvement programme continued during the winter with a further 6 bunkers remodelled and upgraded as part of the 5 year improvement programme. The rough is being cut earlier this year, this should make the course play a little easier and also provide time for the rough to grow back a little ahead of the winter. In this way the course appearance will be improved throughout the year with clear definition between the fairways and rough.

This year's captains were introduced at Captains Day:

Mens Captain	Chris Le Cheminant
Ladies Captain	Viv Monument
Seniors Captain	Peter Thomas

We have pleasure in announcing that Paul McLean has been promoted to the position of 'Acting Head Professional'. I am sure all the members will agree that Paul will make a great Head Professional. Paul's promotion follows the departure of John Hansel who has left to take up a new role at Hambrook Golf Range in Bristol.

Would members playing in the evening please remember to check in at the Brasserie when the Pro Shop is closed

## House News



If you are looking to entertain the children during the summer holidays why not purchase a Family Season Ticket for Bowood House, Gardens and Adventure Playground for only £99 (max 2 adults & 2 children)? The season ticket has already proved to be so popular with our visitors that we have sold more than ever before. The success has been due to the fantastic value offered, with families recouping the purchase cost in less than four visits.



## Dog Show & Summer Fair a Huge Success

The fourth annual Bowood Dog Show & Summer Fair was another great success, with just under 5,000 visitors attending and raising just over £27,000 for local charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust, Springboard Opportunity Playgroup, The Wiltshire Blind Association and many more.

Although the surrounding areas experienced very heavy rainfall throughout the day, the sun shone over Bowood, and all the visitors had a great day out. The new Canine Corner proved very popular, the dog classes were all very well attended, and the cookery competitions throughout the day between Lady Lansdowne and Tom Parker Bowles proved a huge hit with the crowds!

"I am absolutely thrilled that we managed to raise so much money again for charity this year, making the total raised by all four shows just under £95,000." Commented Lady Lansdowne, Show President. "Planning has now started for next year's show, which is going to be held on Sunday 13th June, so please make sure you save the date in your diaries!"



## Hotel open to Non-residents

Non-residents are welcome to visit the hotel for morning coffee, afternoon tea, light meals and dinner.



### Shelburne Restaurant

Under the direction of Executive Head Chef, Chris Dawson, the restaurant is already receiving rave reviews. The menu features British Contemporary cooking with local seasonal ingredients. Whilst this is fine dining in a superb location, prices are very reasonable with a 3 course dinner ranging from just £25 to £36. Reservations are recommended, please call 01249 822228.

### Shelburne Bar

This elegant bar adjoins the library and patio and specialises in cocktails. Head Bartender, Knud, is the reigning South West Bartender of the Year and a number of his cocktails have won awards. In addition the bar features Peroni, Becks, Guinness, 6X & Stowford on tap plus a wide selection of other beers and wines.



## Spa Tours



The amazing new Spa is proving very popular, and a recent addition to members is the availability of Elemis Spa treatments. There are still memberships available and with rates starting from just £55 per month the spa provides a touch of luxury at an affordable rate. The gym features all the latest technogym equipment and the pool is also state-of-the-art, both feature exceptional views through panoramic windows. The spa team would be happy to show potential members around the facilities. To arrange your tour please call the Spa on 01249 823883.



# Events Calendar

## August 09

- 17th Junior Golf Coaching Week
- 17th Learn Golf in a Week
- 23rd Sunday Carvery at The Golf Club
- 25th Ladies Open
- 26th Seniors Open - FULL
- 27th Robert Scott Junior Open
- 29th Bowood Men's Open
- 30th Bowood Mixed Open

## September 09

- 5th BOWOOD SATURDAY ORGAN CONCERT SERIES
- 7th Learn Golf in a Week
- 21st Learn Golf in a Week
- 27th Sunday Carvery at The Golf Club

## October 09

- 3rd BOWOOD SATURDAY ORGAN CONCERT SERIES
- 25th Sunday Carvery at The Golf Club

## November 09

- 22nd Sunday Carvery at The Golf Club
- 25th Ladies Festive Lunch at The Golf Club

## December 09

- 1st Christmas Party Nights Start
- 13th Family Christmas Carvery
- 20th Family Christmas Carvery
- 31st New Year's Eve Ball

For details please visit [www.bowood.org](http://www.bowood.org) or call 01249 822228

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PARTY NIGHTS 2009

Party Nights & Lunches from £20 per person  
Places are selling quickly for these events, if you haven't yet booked, call our Hospitality team on 01249 822228 for a list of remaining dates!

## NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL

Celebrate the New Year in style with a superb 4 course dinner, disco and a luxurious stay in the brand new hotel for only £199 pp (double occupancy).

This package includes:  
1 night B&B (luxury double room)  
18 holes of golf per person  
Use of Spa  
Pre-dinner Canapes and a glass of Champagne in the Shelburne Bar  
New Year Eve Ball with 4 course dinner followed by coffee and disco until the early hours

For more details and reservations please call 01249 822228

## SPA MEMBERSHIPS

There are still a few memberships available call 01249 823883

## Visit the Bowood JOB OPPORTUNITIES page on our Website.

All of our current employment vacancies are advertised on our website. The details are updated on a regular basis so if you are looking for a new challenge in a beautiful location add this page to your list of favourites.

## WIN A WEEKEND FOR TWO

Sign up for our Bowood Newsletter and enter into our prize draw to win a weekend at the new Bowood Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort for two. The two night stay at Bowood is inclusive of Golf, Spa membership during your stay, Dinner, Entry to House & Gardens (during the season), Entry to Rhododendron Gardens (during the season), Accommodation & Breakfast.

To enter please complete the on-line registration form at [www.bowood.org](http://www.bowood.org)



### HOTEL, SPA & GOLF RESORT

Hotel, Spa, Golf, Meetings, Conferences, Weddings, Banquets, Party Nights, Queenwood  
(01249) 822228  
[resort@bowood.org](mailto:resort@bowood.org)

### BOWOOD ESTATE

Residential & Commercial Property, Agricultural Lettings, Fishing & Riding Permits  
(01249) 812102  
[estate@bowood.org](mailto:estate@bowood.org)

### HOUSE & GARDENS

Adventure Playground, House, Gardens, Rhododendron Walks, Concerts, Outdoor Events  
(01249) 812102 [events@bowood.org](mailto:events@bowood.org)  
[houseandgardens@bowood.org](mailto:houseandgardens@bowood.org)

### Email Updates

If you want to keep up to date on the latest news from Bowood you can register on-line by visiting [www.bowood.org](http://www.bowood.org)

**BOOK HOTEL ROOMS ON-LINE AT [WWW.BOWOOD.ORG](http://WWW.BOWOOD.ORG)**