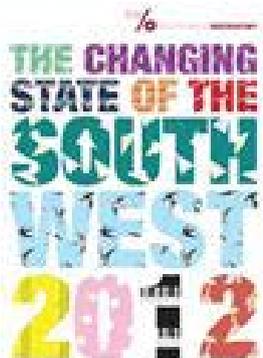


Welcome to the South West Observatory's Spring 2012 newsletter, compiled by the SWO Core Unit and featuring updates from around the SWO network. In this edition you'll find news and updates on the latest **Changing State of the South West 2012** report, the revamp to the **SWO Economy Module**, details of our response to a recent Government **consultation on ending regional statistics**, plus a full run-up of the last quarter's **network news** and events. Also, don't miss the 'physical challenge' set on the back page of this newsletter as part of the **Living Streets Walk to Work** Week initiative! Remember, we provide weekly **Friday Updates** which you can sign up to receive direct via our website and, if you're on Twitter, you'll get even more regular updates by following us [@swobservatory](#) Edited by Andy Dunne andrew.dunne@swo.org.uk

STATE OF SOUTH WEST OUT NOW!



At the end of March, SWO launched the latest edition of its State of the South West series, providing up-to-date analysis on issues across key policy themes. Set within the context of widespread and unprecedented reform of public policy, governance and delivery structures, all happening at a time of financial constraint, this year's publication, **The Changing State of the South West 2012**, sets out to make sense of the current situation and contemplate what might lie ahead.

This report again highlights that the South West has a greater proportion of people of pensionable age than any other region - almost 20% of the region's population. This is set to rise further, to over a quarter of the total South West population by 2030, which has implications for a number of policy areas.

With the latest GDP figures marking the UK's return to recession, and the threat from the European

debt crisis ever-present, uncertainty in the economy is a central theme that has an impact directly or indirectly on all areas, and is highlighted in most sections of the report. The Economy and Labour Market chapters point towards the multiple economic challenges faced by policy makers: in particular rebalancing the economy towards the private sector and the prospects for private sector jobs growth in a region which over the past decade has become heavily dependent on the public sector.

The potential role of new Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) is another common thread running throughout the document. In highlighting the challenges to skills and

Featured in the Report

New Sub National Arrangements: Local Enterprise Partnerships, Enterprise Zones, transfer of assets from RDA to HCA, BIS Local, Cabinet Office Regional Researchers

Policy Changes: The Localism Act 2011, Environment White Paper 2011, the Health and Social Care Bill, Welfare Reform, Apprenticeships, Funding for Higher Education, Abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies.

Decentralisation and Devolution: Elected Mayors, Neighbourhood Planning, Elected Police Commissioners... and the Big Society

Other news: Great Western Franchise, Olympics 2012

learning, in particular for those aged 16-24 not in education, employment or training (NEET), the document considers the role LEPs can play in dialogue with colleges, universities and business. Whilst no planning powers have been given to LEPs, they will be encouraged to have an important strategic role in planning and transport, in addition to administering some key funding streams. As detailed in the Transport chapter, a number of major schemes outlined prior to the October 2010 budget have been approved and are going ahead.

Localism and decentralisation is another theme. From the transfer of health and social care functions

to Local Authorities, to neighbourhood planning initiatives, proposals for elected Mayors and Police Commissioners, all on top of notions for the 'Big Society', the Government's vision of giving more power to local people affects all areas. As well as new opportunities, decentralisation and devolution of powers brings uncertainties. For neighbourhood planning, a challenge will be to attend to specific local needs, without being constrained by administrative boundaries and not working to the detriment of neighbours. With high levels of civic participation, volunteering and a thriving 'third sector', the South West looks well placed to capitalise on the Big Society ideals, but with

economic uncertainty comes new challenges over support and funding.

When compared to other parts of the country, the South West still fares relatively well in changing and challenging times, although there are pockets of deprivation in particular in its urban and isolated rural areas. A concern in times of hardship is that inequalities between areas can worsen. But there is an opportunity for new partnership working, a fresh approach and devolved decision making, to focus funding and attention on those areas most in need.

To access the online edition see www.swo.org.uk/sotsw2012 01

spotlight on: economy

NEW LOOK ECONOMY MODULE

In January we redeveloped and redesigned the Economy Module website to add new features, bring old content up-to-date, whilst at the same time improving usability and navigation for visitors. The Economy Module has always been an important feature of the SWO network so, with the disbanding of the RDA and its Economics and Intelligence Team, which had previously provided content for the site, it was important that we continued to offer an economic service.

Bringing the Economy Module in-house, with content and oversight provided by Shane Vallance (former RDA economist), has enabled us to maintain continuity with what was previously available, whilst at the same time use new flexibility to offer more dynamic content.

In view of the changing landscape, the Economy Module now offers a section specifically devoted to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) with an 'Economic Snapshot' provided for each of the 6 LEPs in the South West. Focusing on headline data around GVA and GVA per head, output, annual gross earnings, claimant count, unemployment, business births and deaths and enterprise start-ups, each profile aims to give a broad economic analysis

of the LEP area alongside the LEP's visions and aims. Also available via the Economic Profiles are links to SWO's Local Profiles plus all links to the individual LEP websites.

Drawing together all sections of the site are the new Economic Data pages, in which we highlight a selection of important economic and

Information on South West economic sectors is also available via a new sectors section, which features information on the 2011 industrial structure plus a group of useful 'sector cluster maps', mapping South West companies with key and emerging technologies.

The sector cluster maps were part of the South West

two important documents - The Economics Story (a summary of current and historical 'story' of the South West economy) and the Economic Development Guide (a toolkit for economic development, useful for Local Authorities and LEPs).

Much of the information previously available on

business datasets charting the current situation and changes over time. Covering a range of economic data, from the balance of payments and balance of trade through to PMI data, LEP vacancies and South West industrial structure, each chart is underpinned by the accompanying data, available to download, plus a brief explanation about what each measures and how.

RDA economic legacy. As part of the RDA's learning, a number of tools were developed and reports written on specialised topics which remain useful to practitioners. Through the new Legacy and Evaluation page, organised by theme, we have made available a number of important reports published between 2007-10; highlighting in particular

the Economy site remains useful, but we have done work to reorganise content to make navigation more intuitive and logical. In particular we have condensed information about the South West Regional Accounts, economic publications and Research and Resources to one page, using tabs to click between to organise content by theme or subject.

WE WANT YOUR VIEWS!

We want the Economy Module to be a useful and informative resource to you and your colleagues, so, 3 months on from the initial redevelopment, we would like your thoughts on things so far.

In particular we're looking for feedback about whether or not you've found the site useful, how often you've looked at it, and what suggestions you might have for improvements and further developments. Please email economy@swo.org.uk

MAKING ECONOMIC SENSE

In March, SWO ran a day-long course which explored **economics and the economy in 2012**. Nigel Jump took delegates through some of the principles of economics for development and how to use these to interpret current economic trends and policies. It also looked at the prospects for and needs of local economies in the medium term.

We're in the process of planning future events. If you are interested in attending a re-run of this workshop (updated in view of changing circumstances) or would like to suggest topics for future events or courses, please fill in the form www.swo.org.uk/events/economics2012

SWO news

SWO CORE UNIT NEW DIGS

We vacated the ground floor of East Reach House at the end of March. Still in Taunton, our new offices are located at:

South West Observatory, Dennett House, 11 Middle Street, Taunton, TA1 1SH

All email addresses and telephone numbers remain the same.



Other East Reach organisations have also relocated:

Equality South West have moved to Bishops Hull House on the outskirts of Taunton 01823 240260.

Project Taunton have moved to The Auction House located on the Firepool site 01823 354743.

Creating Excellence and RTPi are also located at Dennett House.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

As we restructure in view of funding changes, the Core Unit team has become smaller. At the end of March, we said goodbye to Ray Perrins and Lou Maddocks. We wish them well for the future.

ARE YOU ASSOCIATED?

In order to provide a flexible service SWO is also growing its bank of Associates. This enables us to respond to small or large commissioned projects. If you're interested in finding out more about SWO Associates or registering your services, see www.swo.org.uk/associates

CONSULTATION ON REGIONAL STATISTICS

In February, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published a consultation document on proposed changes to its statistical publications, including a proposal to end regional level statistics.

In our consolidated response, compiled with input from the SWO network, we urged DCLG to reconsider its plans in relation to regional statistics. This was based on three main issues: a number of organisations still

use regional level data; analysis at a local authority level sometimes includes a regional comparison; and finally, although LEP networks are establishing, they are not yet fully understood nor their boundaries identified with.

Responses from the network indicated that regional level data continues to be analysed and used by partner organisations in spite of the fact that the former regional tier of government has been removed. A number of large organisations, including the Environment Agency and South West Public Health Observatory, are still working at a regional level, whilst others, such as the HCA and Education Funding Agency are still organised into areas which are made up of 'former' regions - for example the 'South and South West' (HCA) or the 'Western Territory' (Education Funding Agency).

In addition, whilst organisations do require data at the lowest possible level possible, the importance of retaining a larger, regional level is important in order to paint a wider picture of a specific issue.

You can read SWO's response at www.swo.org.uk/resources/consultations

REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE UPDATE

The latest South West Regional Intelligence Group was held at the end of April and featured presentations from Ben Neild (South West Skills and Learning Module – SLIM) and Kanak Ghosh (ONS Census Outputs team), along with an update from the SWO Core Unit.

Ben Neild spoke about **SLIM's recent report on apprenticeships**. This work was commissioned by the Heart of the South West LEP, in order to understand better the challenges involved in growing apprenticeship provision in Devon and Somerset.

The work found that tensions exist between the Government's desire for provision to be 'employer-led' and its desire to ramp up the delivery of one form of provision – apprenticeships. Providers are working hard to drive up the number of young people (16-18) in fully-funded apprenticeships, however, the difficulties of the current economic climate, coupled with the fact that providers are facing a period of considerable upheaval and competition in the training market place is making this difficult to achieve.

Adult Apprenticeships are however rising among people aged 25 and over,

as a result of employers converting existing employees over to apprenticeships.

Kanak Ghosh from ONS clarified some key information about the **availability of the 2011 Census outputs**. He explained that the first data release would be in July 2012, the second between November and February, and the third and fourth releases to follow later in 2013. Kanak also spoke about dissemination methods, which include the overall ONS website, the Neighbourhood Statistics site (NESS), NOMIS, and the ONS Data Explorer, which is currently being developed.

All of the presentations, along with the Information Exchange from the last meeting, can be found here: www.swo.org.uk/regional-intelligence-group

The next meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday 18 July in Taunton; details of the agenda will be released shortly. The Regional Intelligence Group forum is open to all practitioners working in data, analysis and research across the public, voluntary and community sectors. If you are interested in attending a future meeting, please e-mail the Network Research Coordinator sarah.hardwick@swo.org.uk

network update

This section provides updates from across the network, including the SWO thematic modules, Local Intelligence Networks and the wider network

SOMERSET OUR COUNTY

The Partnership Intelligence Unit at Somerset County Council publishes a wide range of statistical information on the physical, economic, social and environmental characteristics of Somerset.

'Somerset: Our County'

aims to tell the story of Somerset by outlining some of the key facts and figures on people and neighbourhoods, health and wellbeing, crime and community safety, the economy and jobs, education, skills and learning, housing and travel and access.

To download a copy of the report see <http://bit.ly/Jn9E3H>

Also at Somerset, check out the new look SINE website, updated and arranged to better complement INFORM Somerset: www.sine.org.uk

Via the Inform site (linked to via SINE) you'll also find lots of new data available, including Electoral Division Profiles, new business, employment and benefit data plus a new INFORM Somerset user guide.

Economy

Via the Economy Module you'll find briefing papers about recent GDP estimates, consumer business investment and profitability plus an overview of the latest UK and South West economic data.

Further to its development (see p2), there have been

a number of recent releases on the Economy Module site. With the release of monthly claimant count data, we have updated LEP claimant count charts and data tables which show a slight fall in numbers unemployed mirroring the national picture. For more see <http://bit.ly/HYFupj> and <http://bit.ly/I9pJOO>

Also out via the Economy Module, you'll find a Briefing Paper providing a commentary on the March Budget, which

looks at the impact of some of the Chancellor's announcements including the revisions to growth and borrowing forecasts, support to businesses and personal finances.

To download the briefing paper see <http://bit.ly/GFM2Y7> Additional alerts and briefings on the Economy Site have included the monthly Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) survey of selected companies. These provide an advance

indication of what is really happening in the private sector economy, tracking variables such as output. Identical methods in all regions are used for collecting data so that accurate comparisons may be made across geographies.

For more see <http://bit.ly/K2gjqR>

Find out more at <http://economy.swo.org.uk/publications/special-publications>

DEVON NO TIME FOR SCONES

Work in Devon is progressing on the **Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Budget** work (pilot from DCLG) aiming to identify how much the Council spend on communities.

Work continues on the facts and figures pages on the inDevon website, so that data drawn from ONS, NOMIS and Police automatically updates. This is progressing well - a draft is now available on the inDevon website www.indevon.org.uk/communities

Devon is also finalising publication of their data to ensure they meet the Open Data requirements under the local government code of recommended practice. To find out more contact mark.painter@devon.gov.uk

Skills & Learning

Over a year ago, the Gloucestershire LEP was launched on the basis of a proposal that included among its four priorities 'connecting education and skills with the needs of business and the local economy - ensuring the ready supply of talent and, and attracting and retaining young people'. Recognising the significant manufacturing presence in the area, Gloucestershire LEP has established an 'Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing' group. The Skills and Learning Module is working with the group to support efforts by local partners to foster closer connections between education and skills providers and manufacturing employers. This complements a manufacturing/STEM skills event held at the end of April. <http://bit.ly/JW1bsa>

Public Health

SWPHO has been busy with the publication and release of new Injury Profiles providing a snapshot of injuries occurring in each local authority in England. Interactive maps and charts enable comparisons to be made regionally and nationally for over 40 injury related indicators.

The aim is to highlight the burden of injuries and large variations across England, and the information should prove useful to the wide range of organisations

with an interest in injury prevention. News of the Injury Profiles was widely reported on in local, regional, national and international news. For more on see <http://bit.ly/I3wQa9>

Via SWPHO, the National End of Life Care Intelligence Network (Neolcin) reported on deaths from liver disease, which was also widely reported in the media. This described a 25% increase in liver disease deaths between 2001 (9,231 people) and 2009 (11,575 people); in contrast to

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network update

Environment

The Duchy College is running a new Farm Business Survey (FBS) for the South West. The FBS provides information on the physical and economic performance of farm businesses in England, to inform policy decisions on matters affecting farm

businesses. It is intended to serve the needs of farmers, farming and land management interest groups, government, government partners and researchers.

All the information on it is in the public domain, used by Defra and recognised by the National Statistics. These include Region Reports (these are ready made and the most popular

reports covering farm numbers, farm types, farm size, farm income, farmer age); Farm Benchmarking (mainly for farmers to be able to compare their own performances against other farmers, but also able to compare data against all the different EU27 countries); Data Builder (this allows you to generate your own report from a range of information collected).

A fourth section Projection Calculator is going to be available this summer. This will allow projected prices from the futures market to be added to help forecast predicted income. This might be useful to help predict a change in crops that farmers might decide to grow. For more see www.farmbusinesssurvey.co.uk

GLOUCESTERSHIRE NEW TOOL

The Gloucestershire Economic Evidence Tool is now available on the Inform website. It has been designed to complement the Local Economic Assessment by providing the latest data for each of the themes covered in the Assessment. To date the worklessness theme has been completed. <http://bit.ly/JMHWmB>

Housing & Planning

On 27 March the Minister for Planning Policy made a statement to Parliament to announce the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

This sets out the Government's planning policies for the England, and advice on how these are expected to be applied.

It also provides a framework within which local people and councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans.

To find out more on this, see the Housing and Planning website <http://housing-planning.swo.org.uk/planning>

In response to the Troubled Families government initiative, Gloucestershire is the first authority in the South West to provide the Department of Work and Pensions with a sample of person identifiable data that will be matched to their systems to enable identification of "troubled families".

South West Laboratory work

other major causes of deaths, which have been declining.

To find out more see <http://bit.ly/96O5Ys>

In other news, the latest South West Public Health Transition Bulletin from April (<http://bit.ly/KubWDU>) looked at developments in public health and NHS Commissioning, whilst the National Drug Monitoring System South West (NDTMS-SW) News (<http://bit.ly/JIHrdC>) highlighted changes with the Drug and Alcohol Monitoring System.

Culture

The Culture Module has produced a new Cultural Tourism briefing paper, which provides an introduction to the concepts of cultural tourism and cultural heritage, presenting an overview of the state of cultural tourism.

Whilst the focus of the paper is on South West England, it also extends to the UK and Europe.

Learn more via <http://bit.ly/ICZYsA>

Also available via the Culture Module, you'll find a latest **Finding the Dots** research publication, highlighting recent culture, sport and tourism announcements and events, including a breakdown of the recent DCMS **'Taking Part'** statistical release (see below). To download Finding the Dots see <http://bit.ly/JbkiN5>

The release in March of the Taking Part survey revealed a significant

drop in public library visits in the South West; from 47.9% to 41% (comparing data from 2005/06); out of 909 respondents, 81.7% had engaged with the arts at least once in 2011, 75.3% had visited a heritage site, and 54.5% had done sport in the previous four weeks; in the second half of 2011, 40% of 385 respondents had digitally engaged with culture. Find out more <http://bit.ly/yi5JYU>

For more on this contact karen.mcdonald@gloucestershire.gov.uk

This is not an exhaustive list of SWO network activity, rather a selection of news items demonstrating the breath of work afoot by network members. If you would like us to flag up information about research or policy in the next edition, please email to let us know.

ageing society

UWE SEMINAR SUMMARY

On 25 April 2012, UWE held a seminar, hosted by the **Healthy Communities Research Forum**, on the topic **'Preparing for an ageing society: is the built environment fit for the future?'**

With talks from **Guy Robertson (Head of LGiD Ageing Well Programme), Professor Graham Parkhurst (Director of the Centre for Transport and Society at UWE) and Cleo Newcombe-Jones (Planning Officer, Bath and North East Somerset)**, the seminar addressed how we view our ageing population, what their needs are, and how we provide for that population in terms of the built environment, transport and connectivity.

Guy Robertson looked at how, in terms of service provision, the financial burden of care and pensions, for example, we often draw negative associations with an ageing population, yet older people make a significant contribution to the economy. In 2010, the older population made an estimated £40 billion contribution in terms of volunteering, social care and charity work/contributions (Age UK, Statistical Briefing). Guy commented on the relative wealth of



the older population in terms of assets (eg home ownership), and often relatively high disposable income. Our ageing population should not be considered just as vulnerable or as a drain on society.

Against this, a healthy outside living environment is essential. Satisfaction with ones neighbourhood is a key factor in quality of life, and this is particularly true for the older population. A healthy living environment is dependent upon green space, adequate transport links, supportive social networks, connected communities, local facilities, safer streets and attractive environments.

UWE has also been working on *'Grey and Pleasant Land - Travelling through the Rural Lifecourse'* - a major collaborative quantitative and qualitative research project aimed at benefitting the quality of life of older people (read more <http://bit.ly/lzNj9P>).

Drawing on this research, Graham Parkhurst commented that development tends to be car-oriented, with cycle and pedestrian planning often considered 'an afterthought'. Yet when you look at modal use, walking predominates for short trips in the UK. In the Netherlands, cycling and walking increases with age. In the UK this is not the case; cycling is much lower at older ages and it was questioned whether we regard cycling as dangerous in this country.

The middle-older aged population are much more reliant on cars, and UK License holding amongst the over 70s is set to rise. Whilst concerns are expressed in the media about having more pensioners on the roads, in fact many older people 'opt out' of driving voluntarily in their early 70s. There are a number of question marks over future car dependence; with oil prices increasing, people may opt out at an earlier point.

Interviews with older people identified that their biggest travel difficulties included access to facilities such as the cinema and museum, as well as hospitals. This is perhaps contrary to some of our beliefs or expectations around the needs of older people - we tend not to consider 'entertainment' as much as, say, getting out to the post office or local shops.

Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) Council has recently produced a guidance document sharing information on how to adapt properties to ensure that housing stock meets the needs of an older population. This has included retro-fitting to make sure they are as energy efficient as possible, and organising an 'Open Homes' weekend, where people can visit properties around the city, and question owners on what improvement measures have been put in place (read more <http://bit.ly/MkkONu>).

BANES has also produced Guidance to Neighbourhood

Planning, offering practical tips on how to get more involved in community planning as a result of new legislation (<http://bit.ly/HFgiq8>).

Examples provided by the audience of developments to improve the living environment included the Ilfracombe Neighbourhood Community Budget, and the work of local Neighbourhood Partnerships in Bristol, where small interventions - such as having adequate benches and toilets - can improve mobility for older people.

One of the issues encountered in providing appropriately connected communities for the elderly is of segregation in view of the general lack of interaction between older and younger individuals when it comes to the use of outside space and leisure time. Some areas have invested in 'intergenerational centres' to address this - which offer a chance for people from the younger and older generations to participate in activities to break down stereotypes (find out more via Merton Council <http://bit.ly/nYwu26>).

Delegates also looked at what else could be done to utilise new technologies for the benefit of the older population, creating 'virtual mobility' by using websites such as liftshare.com

If you have any queries, please contact **Sarah Hardwick**

elsewhere...

REGIONAL STUDIES CONFERENCE

Employment or Growth: Theory, Evidence and Policy Choices

As reported in the last SWO newsletter, the South West and Wales Regional Studies Association (RSA) branches held a joint Conference in Bristol on 26 April focusing on economic development and looking at business start-ups, apprenticeships, knowledge sourcing, regional growth and international and interregional investments.

Chaired by Professor Don Webber (UWE), a total of eleven papers were discussed throughout the day. Hannah Hickman (UWE) and Prof Martin Boddy (UWE and SWO Chair) examined whether the new National Planning Policy Framework meant an end to spatial planning concerns; Nick Clifton (Cardiff Metropolitan University) considered the different patterns of knowledge sourcing by small firms and Ben Neild (South West SLIM / Exeter University) evaluated apprenticeship provider perspectives (also see p3).

Based on the productivity performances of NUTS3 regions since 1980, Don Webber highlighted which European regions had evolved in similar ways to regions in the

South West and Wales, and looked at how this information might be used to identify policy-making partnerships. He also showed that the RDAs boundaries might have been better defined in view of similarities in their productivity evolutions.

Damian Whittard (ONS) assessed national and regional dimensions of foreign direct investment. Based on the observation that multinational enterprises initially decide which country, and then, which region within that country to locate to, his paper sought to identify the factors that attracted FDI to 33 OECD countries and then focused on the factors that attracted FDI to South West England.

Laura Norris (Cardiff University) examined the growth potential of marine sciences in the Atlantic Area, assessing how traditional knowledge can support marine sciences and lead to increased regional competitiveness and growth. She also evaluated whether economic shocks could act as a catalyst for innovation-led growth.

There are plans to hold a similar one-day conference in April 2013. For further information please contact Prof Don Webber don.webber@uwe.ac.uk

Many thanks to all the contributors from across the SWO network. Newsletter edited by Andy Dunne, Communications Officer, Core Unit South West Observatory, Dennett House, 11 Middle Street, Taunton TA1 1SH
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Walk to Work Week 14–18 May 2012

Be part of it →



YOUR PRE-OLYMPIC CHALLENGE!

From the *State of the South West 2012* we already know that walks of over 50 yards make up 23% of all trips in the South West, but how active are you?

Normally we include within the newsletter a challenge to test your brain power. This time we're supporting the Living Streets Walk to Work week (taking place between 14-19 May) by setting you a physical challenge which you can take part in individually or as a team.

We're asking you to log your walks to and from work, at lunchtime and in the evening, between now and the next edition via the Living Streets website. Let us know when you register and we'll keep a check on the leaderboard and will send

a prize to the individual who clocks up the further distance and the winning team.

To take part, visit the Living Streets Great British Walking Challenge www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us/events-and-challenges/great-british-walking-challenge sign up to My Living Streets, and register yourself and your team. We'll let you know who's won in the next edition.

What do you see on your walk to work? If you walk past something interesting on your walk to work, then we'd love to see it. Email a photo with its location to editor@swo.org.uk in time for the next edition.

BRAIN BOX OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Mike Smith from Somerset County Council - winner of last edition's Maths GCSE questions competition!

DIARY DATES

17/05/2012 *London*
**HE, FE & Skills
Conference 2012**

22/05/2012 *Bristol*
**Sharing or Separation:
Which Way for Streets
of the Future?**

24/05/2012 *Swindon*
**Dementia: Keeping it
in Mind**

13/06/2012 *Taunton*
**SWO Training:
Introductory Statistics**
(back by popular demand)

13/06/2012 *Exeter*
**South West Forum:
Proving your Impact
Annual Conference**

16-17/06/2012 *Bristol*
**Bristol Festival of
Nature**

27 June *London*
RTPI Convention
**Planning 2012: Making
it work!**

10-11/07/2012
Birmingham
**Welfare to Work UK
Convention 2012**

For further details and on-line booking for SWO events see www.swo.org.uk/events

COMING UP NEXT EDITION

- SWO Autumn Events Programme
- Wiltshire's State of the Environment Report
- And more...

Our next newsletter will be available in September please send articles to the Editor by 7 September.