

Special Feature

Shampoo and Set for the Shaven Crown

You could almost hear the sigh of relief throughout the Wychwoods. Somebody had come forward to save the Shaven Crown from becoming Shipton's Quart Pot and now we have the real chance of a second refurbished inn in the village within a year. Phil and Evelyn Roberts had been searching for their own hotel for some time when they came across the Shaven Crown.

Phil has fifteen years of catering experience with Compass Group's Leith franchise business at the QE Conference Centre, the Royal Naval College and London Zoo. Evelyn, who is Dutch, had also worked in the hotel sector in London.

Change of Plan

The initial plan was to continue running the business as it was, while preparing for an extensive and much needed refurbishment. This plan however had to be quickly dropped when the Hotel's old boilers were condemned. As Phil points out, "This was probably a good thing as we could have been at an advanced stage in the work and then had to re-do much of it". Now they have the opportunity to put in modern, energy- saving boilers but it does mean that the business will be closed



until the refurbishment is complete in the spring of 2014.

Quite a List

Other items on the 'to do list' include re-decorating all eight bedrooms and re-fitting the ensuite bathrooms; reconfiguring the layout of the bar, losing some of the heavy furniture and alcoves to give more flexible usage and redecorating and furnishing the restaurant areas.

Our Own Boutique Hotel

The aim is to have a boutique hotel in the middle of the Cotswolds, which will appeal especially to overseas visitors wanting to spend several days in the area but which will also be used by locals for dining or meetings/celebrations or just frequenting the bar. The menu will consist of simple, quality English dishes using local ingredients and changing at least seasonally.

It is going to be a busy winter for the Roberts' family including children Antonia and Michael, but we look forward to hearing of progress and seeing the results early next year. We wish them every success.

Alan Vickers