

NEWSLETTER

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CHORLEY
& SOUTH
RIBBLE
BUSINESS
CLUB



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Impression

January 2007

THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 6th February

7.45pm for 8pm @ Lancashire College, Southport Road, Chorley

Debt Collection Guide for Small Businesses
with Simon Robinson of Kevill's solicitors
plus Wendy Barker from Lancashire College
on the "ITQ" award

Training and Development

Wendy Barker from Lancashire College will be conducting a discussion at the February meeting on the "ITQ" award

Meanwhile, you may want to take a look at the range of one day Business, Professional and Personal Development courses we are currently offering that can help you develop your skills to propel your business forward.

From improving the performance and retention of your staff in our 'Motivating Your Staff to Achieve Goals and Targets' course to developing a networking hub and knowing how to use it to ask for help in our 'Developing Networking Skills in Your Organisation' to learning what your emotional hot-spots are and how to counter them in our 'Reducing Stress by Working Smarter' course, we are sure to have a course to suit your needs from just £49.

Did you know?

- Registered businesses with under and over 50 employees are entitled to FREE employee IT Training? If an employee uses IT as part of their job then an ITQ Level 2 qualification can be studied for free at Lancashire College.
 - Equality and Diversity Training is now a legal requirement? We offer Cultural, Disability, Drug/Alcohol and DDA awareness training to businesses with more than 5 people.
- For more information on these or any other courses please contact Wendy for details on 01257 276719 or email wendy.barker@ed.lancscc.gov.uk

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Changes to Emails, Websites & Text Messaging Services
Changes to the Companies Act came into effect from 1 January 2007. There was little notice of the changes which have not been widely advertised. **Emails** - With effect from 1 January, any email which could be seen as business correspondence should now include the following information:

Company registration number, Place of registration Registered Office address, If your trading name is different from your company name you should also include that information, for example "ABC Enterprises is the trade name of DEF Limited."

Websites - As far as websites are concerned further information will also be required. At one stage it did seem that regulators were looking for information on every page, but this has now changed and the information can now appear on your "About us" page. The following information should appear:

Business trading name, Registered company (if different from above), Geographic address, Company registration details where necessary, VAT Registration details where necessary, Business member of trade or professional associations. E.g. You should state that you are a member of "Chorley & South Ribble Business Club" if you are a Limited Company. If not a Limited company, why not state it anyway? If this information is already on your website, please check it is up to date

Text Messaging

- There is a suggestion that text messaging services should also include similar information, but with some texts limited to 160 characters this may not be possible. You are advised to speak to your text messaging service provider who can advise what action is required. This is new legislation and this advice from the club should be considered as a guide only. If in any doubt please consult your own solicitors or advisers. The Business Club cannot be held liable for any failure by members to comply with the new regulations.



The Renovation Revolution

Company : Surface Doctor
Contact : Nick Davis
Email : northwest@surfacedoctor.co.uk
Web : www.surfacedoctor.co.uk
Contact no. : 01772 627903 or 07792 326314
Club Discount : 10% off to all members

What we do: At surface doctor we specialise in resurfacing bathrooms and kitchens, which means we can make these important rooms look like new using our exclusive processes to ensure excellent results with terrific value at a fraction of the cost of replacing.

Our unique process enables us to carry out chip repairs and complete colour change resurfacing to baths & sinks, laminated work surfaces, fibre glass, ceramic tiles, porcelain, enamel, steel plastic & vinyl. We can also offer chemically bonded slip resistant surfaces for showers & baths and repair work to upvc window frames.

Members Presentations

The members presentation evening was a very lively affair with gifts, goody bags, chocolates and festive headgear. Many thanks to Ross Johnson and Tony Dickinson from Thomas Cole Solutions, Rachel Gill from Aspect Mortgages, Dean Weaver from PhotoPanarama, Jeni Davies from Consultant 365, Steve Ward from BusinessGiftUK.com and the thirty members present on the night for making this a memorable final meeting in 2006.



The 2006 Christmas Dinner at Farington Lodge was a very enjoyable evening. A four course meal was followed by a festive quiz, a limerick contest and a few seasonal jokes from the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Thanks to all who helped make it a fun and festive event. The best of the limericks were:

*There was a club chairman called Dave
Who planned on money to save
He used last years presents
To give to the peasants
But got back all that he gave*

*There was a club member called Ross
Who I'm told was a wonderful boss
His staff he would treat
To all they could eat
But always at minimal cost*



Bowled over

The January Bowling Night was well attended and a Business Club team led by Chairman David Kevill ended the two year run by BusinessGiftUk.com as Champions. A combined team score of 1130 by six bowlers over two frames pipped the Thomas Cole Solutions team into second place by just 5 points.

David Kevill also won the highest individual frame score with an excellent 143. Thanks to Phil Lancaster for organising the event and to Steve Ward of www.BusinessGiftUK.com for donating the prizes. Thanks to Chris Regan and Thomas Cole Solutions for the team photographs. Chris is a professional photographer available through Thomas Cole. Tel 01254 832815 or email adrian@thomascole.net.



Time gentlemen please !!!!!

Why is there a need for a new detox provision for alcohol ?
Because it's time ...

Time that we stepped back from our concern with clients and looked a little closer to home...

time that we remembered that alcohol dependence affects people from all walks of life.

Time that we acknowledged the plight of some of our own colleagues.

Stop – for just a moment. As a professional person, if you needed help with an alcohol problem where would you go? Think about it... If you, or a member of your family needed to detox from alcohol, how could you be assured that you could access a service that would offer you the level of personal and professional confidentiality that you would need?

People from high-profile backgrounds have the right to the same range of services as their clients, but need to be able to access other trained professionals in a way that respects their personal and professional confidentiality.

Homedetox.co.uk has been developed to address that need. We offer a new home-based service that is more accessible, affordable and acceptable to people who want to detox from alcohol in a non-residential setting – a new model of service that not only responds to self-referral but also offers a more financially viable solution for Professional Associations and Occupational Health Departments.

'Occupational Health Departments have a continuing need for help from clear thinking therapists to whom clients with alcohol dependency can be referred. Fran Miller's service is a welcome innovation and a big step forward in this difficult area of practice.'

PL. Zacharias Consultant Occupational Physician.

During the 15 years that I have been doing this work I've spoken with many people who found themselves trapped by self-defeating cycles of alcohol dependence. Many of them dedicated hard working people, guilty of just one thing, putting other people's needs before their own.

For many, alcohol had been their means of acknowledging themselves at the end of a hectic day, their reward for a job well done, a way of switching off and helping them to sleep.

I've come to believe that of all the drugs I've witnessed people struggle with, alcohol is the 'sneakiest', I've watched it weave its way into people's lives and rob them of their dignity, self respect, families and careers. But where can professional people go for help?

It is inappropriate to suppose that doctor's, nurses, solicitors and other business people with high profile careers can share waiting areas used by their own clients.

We are committed to offering a high quality, respectful service that enables people to come forward with greater confidence at an earlier stage of their struggle. We know that through earlier intervention we can help divert people from the indignity of entrenched dependency and the inevitable consequences it has for themselves, their families and their careers.

Homedetox.co.uk offers a 'programme of intervention' that addresses dependency as well as physical withdrawal from alcohol. We offer an opportunity for professional people to 'recover' their lives, their careers and their dignity.

I and other experienced NHS Specialist Nurse practitioner's work under the Medical Supervision and Clinical direction of Dr. Robert Hailwood. Rob has 12 years clinical experience of this work. Besides his work with Homedetox.co.uk he is employed in NHS substance misuse services in Greater Manchester.

We hope that in coming together I and other practitioners with Homedetox.co.uk can go some way towards offering a new choice for people, perhaps one that is not only more affordable but more acceptable to people who are concerned about their personal and professional confidentiality.

"Alcohol and Drug Services are happy to support a well thought through service that offers a greater range of choice for people. As a previous employee of ADS we know the standard for Fran's work and are confident that any initiative that she's involved with will be of the highest quality."

Liz Smith. Chief Executive Alcohol and Drug Services. 2006

With thanks to the many people who have given their time and skill freely to support the development of this service for the benefit of their colleagues.

Francesca Miller www.homedetox.co.uk 0870 2418826

Committee Contacts

Chairman - David Kevil
01772 629308 - david@kevil.co.uk

Membership Secretary & Club Contact - Phil Lancaster
01257 278392 - eastonlocks@uwclub.net

Secretary - Jon Neal
01772 721622 - info@totalscope.co.uk

Treasurer - Mark Howarth
01772 456554 - mark@howarth-associates.com

Newsletter Editor - Rachel Bill
0845 2480088 - rachel@aspectmortgages.co.uk

Chorley Lions Club - Charity Swimathon
Saturday 3rd February 2007

This annual charity fund raising event will happen again in February. It is good fun and we have put in a team from the club in the past, but not for a couple of years. For it to happen it does need a 'champion' in the club who will promote and organise the team. At present there is no one on the committee who is able to do this, is there anyone in the membership who would like to take on this role???? If you are interested in organising the team or just participating in the team on the day please contact John Thompson 01257 278400.



Dates for your Diary

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|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb 3rd | Chorley Lions Charity Swimathon |
| Feb 6th | Simon Robinson, Kevill's Solicitors on Business Bad Debts |
| Mar 6th | Chris Maguire, Editor, Chorley & Leyland Guardian and AGM |

Our Chairman David Kevill is rapidly catching up with committee member John Thompson for the most monthly prize wins. Come along to the next meeting and reduce their odds of winning again.



The chairman writes Happy New Year



I would like to wish each and every one of you a very happy New Year and I do hope that 2007 is an excellent year for you all.

I hope that you all had an enjoyable rest over the festive season. I certainly did. Well, apart from the central heating going on the blink over Christmas but hey we can't have everything can we?

Here I am wishing you a happy New Year and already a twelfth of 2007 has gone - help! At my age I can't afford time to go so quickly!

Modesty almost prevents me from mentioning the Business Club annual bowling tournament held recently. It would be wrong, however, not to thank Phil for his excellent organising and also Steve for yet again making a club event into something special. Thank you very much indeed. The results - well I'll leave that to others to report - except to say that miracles do happen!

Did you make any New Year resolutions? If you did, have you broken them yet? I made no resolutions this year because year after year I have broken them very quickly. I do, however, have some aims, some plans, some ideas for 2007. Some may reach fruition, some probably won't but I do believe that we should always have something to aim for, that dream we should all always have.

One idea that is very close to becoming reality is Efficiency in Business. Efficiency in Business is a group of specialist in various business fields, all of whom I have personally worked with in the past, who have all agreed to give up a percentage of their working week to give free advice to small and medium sized businesses. It's our way of giving something back for the help we've all been given over the years. More details will be available soon.

Chorley fm, who made a presentation to us a few months ago, is now on air. They are looking for new Board members or people who are willing to act as volunteer advisors. If you are interested please contact Neil Aspinall on 01257 271798 or 07931 161722.

The first of what promises to be another interesting year of meetings sees Simon Robinson of Kevill's solicitors give us a presentation on how to cope with business bad debts. I hope to see many of you there. To return to aims for 2007 for a moment, our membership is getting ever closer to the 100 mark, please lets all make it our aim to reach that number of members, and more.

Finally remember that we are always looking for new ideas to make our club even better, so please do let us have any ideas you may have.

See you at our next meeting on 6th February.