



Central Lancashire Business Club

bringing local businesses together

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Newsletter

Issue 25, January 2010

THE NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 7.45 for 8pm

2nd February 2010

Mark Cannon

Napthens Solicitors and Local Vicar



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

This month – January

Feb 2nd **Mark Cannon**
Napthens Solicitors and Local Vicar

Future Events

Mar 2nd **Stuart Jackson**
Edward Jones Investments



COMMITTEE CONTACTS

committee 2009-2010

Joint Chairman - David Kevill & Steve Ward
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Membership Secretary - Phil Lancaster
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Hon Secretary & Members Contact - Rachel Gill
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LUMENATA ECO PROJECT CUTS GOLF CLUB'S BILLS

Ashton and Lea Golf Club is celebrating a major reduction in energy bills after swapping traditional light fittings for the latest eco friendly versions – and almost halving electricity consumption in the process.

Last summer, Lumenata Lighting Design helped the 101 year old club, based in Preston, to get a four year interest free loan from the Carbon Trust to fund the new energy efficient lighting scheme.

The latest low energy light fittings were installed throughout the clubhouse and sensors that detect when a room is empty were fitted in the changing rooms to maximise on energy savings.

General manager of Ashton and Lea Golf Club, Simon Plumb, said: "Previously, our energy bills accounted for a massive chunk of our annual running costs, but since swapping to low energy lighting we have seen a significant and consistent reduction in our bills and that is a huge help in the current economic climate."

Lumenata director Paul Hindle said: "Electricity costs have doubled over the last two or three years, hitting many businesses hard, but switching to energy efficient lighting makes a big difference.

"Businesses usually benefit from the energy savings, which typically outweigh the cost of installation, immediately through reduced electricity bills."

Lumenata is approved by the Carbon Trust to survey premises for potential energy savings and help businesses secure funding to switch to more efficient systems. For more information, contact info@lumenata.co.uk.

AD-OPTIONS RAISE A GLASS TO SUCCESSFUL BEER FESTIVAL

Leyland, Lancashire, UK – At the end of a stressful working week, many people like nothing more than to head to the nearest bar and relax with a cool, refreshing pint of beer, and business gifts specialists Ad-Options recently came up with a way of combining work with pleasure so that the end of their working day could merge seamlessly into that long sought pint!

The promoters of successful specialist online keyring sites BlankKeyrings.co.uk and LoopKeyrings.co.uk achieved the feat by sponsoring a barrel of ale at the inaugural Leyland Beer Festival, held from Friday 4th December to Sunday 6th December at the town's British Commercial Vehicle Museum.

In putting their name to the event's supply of Coniston XB Bitter, Ad-Options not only helped to promote their identity locally, but also helped a number of good causes, with local charities benefitting from the profits generated by the festival, which hopes to return even bigger and better in 2010.

The Leyland Beer Festival kicked off with a business networking event for all sponsors in the afternoon prior to its public launch, allowing all the sponsors to create new business leads in a relaxed atmosphere amongst the scores of historic vehicles on show within the popular venue's confines.

Steve Ward, managing director of Ad-Options Ltd, said that he enjoyed supporting the event and hopes it will begin a legacy for similar events within Leyland in the future. He explained:

" We were delighted to be able to support an important event for our home town, and in particular one of the north west beers, which went down well with everyone from our company who sampled it.

" It is key in the current economic climate that companies do what they can to support others within their locality, and we were delighted to join forces with other firms from our region to support an event which will have been enjoyed by those who attended and will hopefully have generated a healthy profit to support the good causes that stood to benefit from the festival.

" Being able to meet up with other local companies at the networking event was an added bonus for us, and we look forward to the Leyland Beer Festival's return in 2010."



Directors Ann and Steve Ward with their sponsored barrel, Coniston XB



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Interim Management

Business Plan, Budget and Cash Flow Forecast Preparation

Project Management

Non Executive Directorships

Finance / Admin Recruitment Advice and Short Listing



RESOLUTION CORNER

Can you remember how much you paid last time?

I know I can not always remember such as this or when where etc., E.g. I could not remember how much I paid the last time my wives' car required tyres. I found it eventually, it must have taken 2 hours. Now, it will be within my grasp after a few clicks of the mouse.

The website www.lifesaddressbook.co.uk stores all your data so that you can organise your life on line. This means that if you are in Bali, Majorca, or France, etc your passport will be available the same way. Anywhere, anytime, any pc or internet mobile phone, no special software. If you look at the article " What Passport" in the December 09 issue you will know all about it.

This site has been developed to make it easier to locate all your relevant information. E.g. Insurance Policy info, will, vehicle records, P60, P11d, health, etc. What ever you wish to log, in one extremely secure place. You can enter the information easily after logging on to your own password protected area in www.lifesaddressbook.co.uk.

You can upload your important documents, Passport, will, insurance documents, insurance photos etc. The list is endless, you choose.

I am sure those in Cumbria after the floods last year, or Haiti, etc would now wish they had this site, they would have lost most if not all of their records.

You do not have to have a disaster to use this, just remember the times you have forgotten to renew your passport, MOT, Car Road Tax, partners birthday - oh the pain of it all. You can tell the system to send a reminder

on a date you want, it will send it a number of days before so that you are not embarrassed.

We were on holiday, well actually my sons wedding, in the Seychelles last January 2009, and received a text from one of our family about a property problem. I had no information, it was at home, the other text was from Inverness and an answer was needed urgently. Off to the PC in the hotel, login to my details would have been so easy if the www.lifesaddressbook.co.uk had been available then.

That is why a decision was made to invest in developing this site. Just to have the piece of mind knowing that it does not matter where I am, Phone dies, my pc not available I have put my life in order.

Have a look at the site, try it free for 7 days with no obligation. " Organise your life on line now"

www.lifesaddressbook.co.uk

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I am offering a good price, different to the web price, for any of the member' s who wish to purchase this site, There are also referral fees for all sales obtained. This is open to anyone who wishes to earn extra money, just contact me and we can discuss the referral scheme, you can earn £50 per customer this year and £25 next year as well.

Be Prepared, Be Resilient.

Failure to Plan is Planning to Fail

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Chairmen Chat About Chorley On Radio 4

Two club chairmen past and present made a repeat broadcast on BBC Radio 4' s ' You And Yours' programme over the new year period to review the longer term effects of last year' s Budget and forecast what may lie ahead in 2010.

Former chairman Graham Archer and current joint chairman Steve Ward both initially featured on the programme last Easter as the current affairs review came to Chorley to gauge initial assessments of what the Budget would do for the area. The production team then made a return trip to the north west shortly before Christmas to pre-record an update on the current economic situation, which was broadcast on New Year' s Eve.

The pair provided contrasting viewpoints on the current state of the UK' s finances, with Graham able to point out the lean pickings for long term shareholders and the retired, whilst Steve, MD of BusinessGiftUK.com, explained how being forced to re-invest in your business due to current low interest rates can pay dividend.

At the time of writing, the show was available as a ' Listen Again' feature on the BBC Radio 4 website at www.bbc.co.uk/radio4, with the Chorley feature starting at 40:38 where Chris Maguire, editor of the Chorley & Leyland Guardian, forecasts an optimistic outlook for the local area.

ROK WINS ACCLAIMED SAFETY AWARD

Employees from Bolton based builder Rok joined health and safety leaders to celebrate their success in winning the British Safety Council's International Safety Award. Following tough independent adjudication, Rok was successful in winning an International Safety Award from leading health, safety and environmental training, advisory and audit body, the British Safety Council. This award has been achieved by Rok for two consecutive years.

Commenting on the awards, Brian Nimick, Chief Executive of the British Safety Council, congratulated all winning organisations and applauded their commitment to preventing workplace injury and ill-health. "You should take great pride in your achievement - an achievement based on skill, hard work, good management and total dedication. These are challenging times. Let's continue to work together to promote the benefits and give well managed health and safety the credit and reputation it rightly deserves."

Prime Minister Gordon Brown added his support for the awards with a message to winners. He said: "In these difficult times, it is vital that health and safety should not be seen as a cost to cut but as a crucial part of a well-run business that delivers benefits to organisations, employees and the economy alike".

In order to win this prestigious award, organisations must demonstrate sound and effective health and safety policies, systems and arrangements and a commitment from the shop floor to the boardroom to a positive safety culture and the adoption of behaviours that have safe and healthy working practices at

their heart Training to provide workers with the necessary skills and competence to ensure risks to health and safety are properly controlled is vital too. Winning organisations must detail their senior managers' health and safety officers' qualifications and competence and provide information about significant advances they have made in improving health and safety performance over the course of the year.



Photo: BSC chief executive Brian Nimick hands Rok's second International Safety Award to Rok's director of Health, Safety, Environment and Quality (SHEQ), Shaun Davis (right) and SHEQ coach for the North West and West Midlands, Paul Hanks

BUSINESS GIFT TEAM CLAIM THE BIG PRIZE

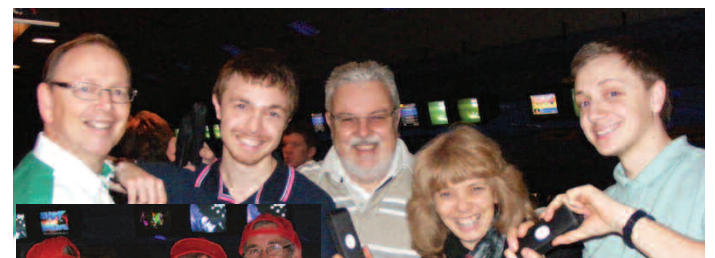
Leyland, Lancashire, UK - Leyland-based BusinessGiftUK.com completed a hat-trick of titles at the annual Central Lancashire Business Club Bowling Night with a shock victory amidst numerous technical glitches at tenpin in Walton-le-Dale.

The 2005 and 2006 champions secured their third title under the banner of BusinessGiftUK.com after some high scoring from Nicola Derbyshire, Steve Ward and Mark Hutchinson - the latter's impressive score of 152 (containing five strikes) in the first of two frames proving to be the evening's overall highest score.

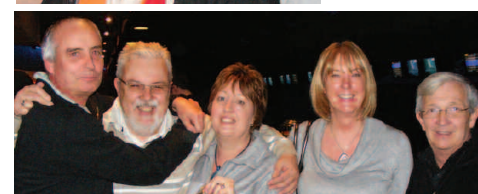
That, however, was countered by some low scoring from the rest of the team, and with technical problems including a forced change of lane due to pin problems and the loss of several rounds of scoring in the second frame, it came as something of a surprise to the team to learn that they'd claimed the title when the final scores were announced.

As ever, the key theme of the event was to bring local businesses together in a social surrounding, and this year's contest certainly succeeded once again with ten local companies represented in the contest.

Pushing the eventual winners for the title was a combined Thomas Cole Solutions and Spring Board Events team, which finished second, whilst the Club Chairman's team, made up of bowlers from Inspire Business Training, Swiftklean and Euxton Lock Services & Signs came in third.



Photos: Shots of the winning teams - first place BusinessGiftUK.com, second place Thomas Cole/Spring Board Events team,



third place Club Chairman's Team.