



Central Lancashire Business Club

bringing local businesses together

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Impression

Newsletter

Issue 13, November 2008



DICKENSIAN EVENT

This year's Dickensian themed Christmas lights switch on and festivities are, proposed for Saturday 29th November. This year there will be three stage areas, one of which it is hoped will be hosted by the BBC Radio Blackburn. Another feature will be a synthetic Ice Rink, which will be in place on 28th, 29th and 30th November. Ice skates can be hired for 20 minute 'slots'. The third area will be for children's entertainment with a variety of small fairground rides and will be adjacent to the Flat Iron market, near Booths supermarket. As last year, local shops and market traders will be dressed in Dickensian costume to add atmosphere on the day. If any members are interested in participating in any way or wish to put on a stall, please contact Irene Riding on 01257 515300 or Irene.riding@chorley.gov.uk.



LANCASHIRE TRAINING

Whether you're looking for a fun night-school programme, need some training to get on at work, or are a training provider seeking to promote your courses, www.lancashiretraining.co.uk have the perfect solution.

Officially launched in October to the people of Lancashire, this innovative website is already offering over 500 courses from 75 training providers around the county and is proving a phenomenal success in its first month of operation.

Exclusively marketing courses in Lancashire, the user-friendly comparison site has brought a large number of courses and providers together under one domain name, making it easier than ever to find or advertise a course. With new providers joining every week, the site is easy to access, easy to join and easy to navigate!

Course-seeker? Then you will relish the opportunity to find courses in your local area all on the same page, whether you're a would-be scuba diver or eager to set up your own business. Find special offers, register your interest or book your place online today.

Training provider? This is a fabulous opportunity to market your course inexpensively and effectively, as well as finding out what your competitors are offering. With the online booking facility, potential customers can sign up on the spot!

With established providers already signed up and offering courses you'd be a fool to miss out!
Call 08451 66 20 62 for more information



new members

WELCOME TO

Christopher Beard

Phoenix Fit-Testing Services
Respiratory Fitness Testing

Edmund Magdziarek

EJM Investigations

Private & Commercial
Investigations

THE NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 7.45 for 8pm

7th October 2008

'Annual Wine Tasting'

At the Central Lancashire Business Club
November meeting **Brian Wilding of Chorl Dale Wines** will be presenting his annual club wine tasting.

Don't forget to book your taxi!



THE CHAIRMAN WRITES

It's good to talk

I don't know about you but I am definitely not a winter person. I do like to sit in a warm room watching snow falling outside and even love walking the dog in the snow, fresh crisp snow, not the dirty slushy type that all snow becomes a couple of days after falling. But fresh snow apart I really am not a winter person. I am sat here bemoaning the fact that today the clocks have gone back, a sure sign that winter is around the corner, I have just spent a couple of hours trudging round a very flooded Cuerden Valley with my dog and I am sat here watching the rain pouring down when I really should be cleaning the car - ah, see in all difficult depressing times we can find a bright spot!

I am sure that there have been times when we have all had to battle on in our business lives finding it difficult to find that bright spot. At such times I find it's good to talk, as the old BT (I think) advert said, and this is where an organisation such as the Central Lancashire Business Club really is invaluable. Whatever difficulty you are facing it is more than likely that another member has been there, done that before. Whilst we all hope to gain business by being a member of the club I feel that this is not necessarily the main aim, I like to think of the club as a group of friends, friends who are always happy to help.

Like everything though, the more you get involved the more other members will get to know you and the more you will benefit. Whilst we get a regular very healthy attendance at our meetings it would be very nice to see those members who rarely, if ever attend. If you are one of those members and there is something we could do differently that would make you attend club meetings please let me know. Every suggestion is welcome. What better meeting to try than the November meeting when we have our annual wine tasting event, courtesy of Brian Wilding.

This is a very relaxed event so come on, pop along and get to know us.

It was great to see six visitors at our last meeting and despite a hastily prepared presentation due to unfortunate late cancellations by both our planned speakers; I think they were pleased with what they saw. I must take this opportunity to thank Steve for some quick thinking 'on the hoof' as they say, which was the major contribution to making the meeting a success. It is encouraging to note that almost all visitors who attend our meetings do become members, so we must be doing something right. There is definitely a lot of interest out there in organisations such as the Central Lancashire Business Club. I have always had a dream of achieving a membership of 100 but so far we have got close but never quite managed to hit the target. With your help I am sure that we can make it before the agm in March. Please spread the word about the benefits of becoming a member.

I am fast approaching the end of my third year as Chairman and I must say that it has been a fantastic experience. I feel, however, that to maintain the high standard achieved by the Central Lancashire Business Club it is vital to maintain a fresh approach, to regularly introduce new ideas and thoughts. For that reason, and that reason alone, I have decided that I will not be standing for re-election in March, although I am more than happy to remain a member of the committee. Would you be interested in being the next Chair of what is a very successful organisation? If so please let myself or any committee member know. I can assure you that as Chair you will have the support of what I can honestly say is probably the best committee I have ever been a member of.



COMMITTEE CONTACTS

committee 2008-2009

Chairman - David Kevill

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Membership Secretary - Phil Lancaster

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Treasurer - Paul Ainsworth

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Members Contact - Rachel Gill

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Publicity - John Thompson

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Newsletter & Website - Lisa Thomason

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

This month - November

4th: **Wine Tasting** with Chordale Wines

Future Events

Dec 2nd **Members Presentations**

Dec 16th **Christmas Dinner** at Leyland Golf Club

Jan tbc **Annual Bowling** competition

2009

Feb 2nd **Mike Ridley** from Resolution - 'The Unusual Side Of Cruising'

Mar 2nd **AGM plus Annick Morris**



NETWORKING BREAKFAST

MAS North West is hosting a manufacturers' networking breakfast in Blackpool, on Thursday 20 November 08, to introduce the range of support services available.

BERR's Manufacturing Advisory Service in the North West, delivered by The Manufacturing Institute, will show how delegates can reduce costs by taking waste out of the operation using some simple lean techniques. A local manufacturer will tell their own story, complete with highlights, lowlights and invaluable do's and don'ts! This is a great opportunity to network with other manufacturers and find out how to improve business performance and competitiveness.

The event is aimed exclusively at manufacturers. Further details are available here:

http://www.manufacturinginstitute.co.uk/event_details.asp?PageId=204&EventId=483&c=



FREE Breakfast Seminar

'Internet Marketing - Building a Successful Web Business'

The Pennine Lancashire Business Net is holding a free e-business breakfast event - under the No Limits brand - in Burnley on 27 November '08.

Specifically designed for Owners, Directors and Senior Managers of businesses prepared to be inspired by exceptional speakers with thought provoking ideas at the leading edge of this topic. It is also relevant to webmasters and marketing managers who influence online marketing strategies.

This powerful seminar will give businesses all the tools, techniques and approaches to equip them for a successful online future. Jan Klin, one of the most sought after speakers in internet marketing, will share some great success stories and powerful success techniques; including a free webinar for every delegate - a complementary and highly practical electronic tutorial. If you want to attend email ddu@blackburn.gov.uk New business start-ups and people thinking about going into business will find support at this event for getting the most from innovation and technology.



RESOLUTION CORNER

with Resolution Opportunities

When is a Disaster "A DISASTER"

"It will not happen to me" must be the most consistent and incorrect answer to the above, and in reality Disasters can happen at any time. It's not IF but When!

The only difference is, the level of the Disaster; it can be at a small or annoying level all the way to the Immense or Catastrophic level.

The definition of a Disaster is -

"Anything which interrupts your Normal Business Operation"

Earlier this year I completed a Risk Assessment and Disaster Recovery Plan for Creative Joinery Ltd Chorley and one of the High Risk subjects was his one and only Power Saw, a specialized item and not easily replaced. He invested in another Saw as a backup to his business, the loss and disruption would have been too much to bear.

Recently John suffered a major problem with his original Saw, due to the backup plan his business was not interrupted. This made the task extremely easy, he lacked any worries whatsoever.

This Risk Assessment is vital to prove that the Disaster Recovery Plan to be put in place will reduce your Risk to an acceptable level.

The Risk to one business is totally different to another one. A kettle in an office is a minor irritation to that of the Café!

Ask yourself a question - Can you survive if your business is shut down for 5 days?

The reason may not always be your fault, the gas main may blow up, pandemic flu, or next doors business has a fire.

Be Prepared, Be Resilient.

Failure to Plan is Planning to Fail

Mike Ridley - Resolution Opportunities Ltd.

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Online Marketplace

Don't forget that the club website now has an online marketplace where you can sell, request and create special offers. Check out www.businessclub.uk.com/marketplace.php to see how it works.

HOW SMART IS YOUR RIGHT FOOT?

You have to try this please, it takes 2 seconds. It is from an orthopaedic surgeon...

This will boggle your mind and you will keep you trying over and over again to see if you can outsmart your foot, but, you can't. It's pre-programmed in your brain!

1. Without anyone watching you (they will think you are GOOFY...) and while sitting at your desk in front of your computer, lift your right foot off the floor and make clockwise circles.

2. Now, while doing this, draw the number '6' in the air with your right hand. Your foot will change direction.

I told you so!!! And there's nothing you can do about it! You and I both know how stupid it is, but before the day is done you are going to try it again, if you've not already done so.