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NEWSLETTER

**CHORLEY
& SOUTH
RIBBLE
BUSINESS
CLUB**

September 2003

I thought a light hearted start to the season, to ease you back in after the holidays...

JUST for Laughs

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on...

At a recent computer expo(COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If General Motors had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon".In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics :

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull over to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For Some reason you would simply accept this.
4. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single " This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
7. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle,turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.

Thank you to Dea Parkin for that inspired madness!

Noticeboard...

Members news, special offers and members discounts, items for sale and items wanted. Just email me the details, your email and a logo. Any offers will also be posted up on the club website for 3 months.

AD-OPTIONS!

Small folding exhibition stand and PC projector available for hire to careful members. Stand £20 per day, projector £50 per day plus refundable deposit. Contact Steve Ward, 01772 435010. Email steve@ad-options.co.uk

Business Club Directories 2003/4

The new Directories were circulated to members with the July Newsletter, should you not have received your copy contact Christine and she will forward one to you. If you are a new member there will be a "Red Box" containing a copy of the Directory, Club Constitution, Window Sticker and Web Site Authority awaiting you at the next meeting, just speak to Christine if she doesn't find you first. Christine Brown Tel: 01772 621140 email chris@brown-lonsdale.co.uk



Ok Because we are all so busy... Caption anyone?

THE NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 7.45 for 8pm

2nd sept

Next meeting Tuesday September 2nd at Lancashire College.

Come and meet the Taxman!

Peter Robinson from the Inland Revenue Business Support Team will be talking to us in the first half and in the second, Our First Chairman Carole Mellars will be telling us about her new role at H.M. Prison Garth

Exhibition 2003

For those who didn't make it to the Exhibition, a good night was had by all. Thank you to all our Exhibitors and everyone who attended

Right: Brown & Lonsdale



Left: Barclays



Below: Town & Village - Colin Green



Above: Invisible Fence - Simon Butler



Right: Pourquoi Pas B&B



Left: Tony Spencer Photography

Business Club Powerboat Challenge

While Chorley was being flooded on Thursday 17th July, members of Chorley and South Ribble Business Club were on the water, taking part in a powerboat competition on Rivington Reservoir, Chorley. The event was run on exactly the same lines as the Honda RYA Youth Rib Championship Regional Finals currently taking place around the country. This was only the second time the Honda RYA Ribs had been used for an adult competition, the first being a yachting press event in April. The course consisted of a slalom followed by a man overboard exercise and then a reverse around a buoy before a sprint to the finish line.

The event was organised by Keith Ellison, Director of Springboard Events Ltd and Chairman of the Business Club. Despite the weather (the event was held on the wettest evening that even the North West had seen for some time), the course was laid and the competitors arrived having fought their way through flash floods to get there. The already bedraggled competitors signed on to try their hand at the course and waited nervously for their turn to come. Only two of the competitors had driven powerboats before, most had never even been in a boat previously.

With Keith instructing in one boat, Paul Hunterdale of the Anderton Hall Activities Centre in the other, Jan Ellison time-keeping and Andrew Norton of the Royal Yachting Association directing operations shore side, competitors were given a briefing on the controls and the course and a few minutes practice before attempting the course. Needless to say, the times weren't stunning but the improvement in boat handling seen in even the most nervous participant shows what can be achieved in a short time around a tight course. All the elements are there, power control, steering, stopping and reversing, in fact, putting the boat just where you want it to be! All participants agreed that the competition was good fun and hoped that the event can be repeated in 2004.

The eventual winner was Matt Crisp of Colours for Kids in a time of 1 minute 39 seconds, 2nd was Allen Lever of Optimum Systems for Quality in 2 minutes 05 seconds and 3rd Mike White from MLC Travel in 2 minutes 09 seconds.

As well as carrying off the Business Club Challenge 2003 trophy, Matt Crisp also cooked the barbecue that was enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike after the rain had stopped.



Magnotherapy for people and animals

Hilary Cox HJC Saddlery Repairs

New member Hilary Cox would like to introduce you to the benefits of magnotherapy. It is not a new concept, in fact the beneficial properties of magnets on health have been known for thousands of years. Ecoflow plc have been at the forefront of developing this science into practical products for over a decade for humans, animals, the home and car.

As blood passes through a magnetic field, it is subjected to a magnetic pulsing effect, which Ecoflow believes helps the body maintain a balanced PH and help relieve pain. The Bioflow® range of wristbands provides a variety of styles to suit any occasion or budget.

Ecoflow plc also provide effective protection from "electro-pollution" from mobile phones, computers, microwave ovens, pylons, etc. The most documented and worrying threat comes from mobile phones, and children are the group most at risk. The Biophone® which is a small device attached to the phone works specifically to help neutralise the effects of electro-magnetic radiation emitted by mobile phones. A clinical trial has been carried out on people claiming problems with mobile phones and the Biophone® was found to reduce the complaints by a staggering 42%.

The benefits of the products made by Ecoflow plc are not limited to humans. They have also developed a range to be used by animals and have achieved great success, destroying the myth that it is all in the mind. It even extends to the car and the home where the products are easy to fit and require no power supply.

The products come with a guarantee policy and if you find that within 90 days of purchase you are not fully satisfied with their performance, then simply return them for a refund (there will be a small handling charge deducted).

If any members are interested in any of the above products or know of anybody that could benefit, then please ring Hilary on 01254 830947 for a brochure or more details.

Flying Start for Women into Business

Gaynor Richards BEST Programme Manager

"UK start-ups would rise by 50% if the start up rate amongst women matched that of men. So that is why we must act to encourage more women to start and grow their own business." Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Recent statistics show that in the UK, women are still lagging behind men when it comes to setting up a business or becoming self-employed. The Small Business Service Household Survey 2002 shows that women are sole owners of only 12% of UK businesses and account for only a quarter of the nation's self-employed. The statistics are borne out amongst BEST Programme clients where only 25% of new company directors are women, despite equal numbers of men and women accessing our support programme.

The "Flying Start" events are designed to inspire and encourage women in the region to start up their own businesses. Workshops and business advice sessions will help delegates to identify and develop confidence in their own strengths and skills and to realise that women can succeed in business on their own terms. Exhibitors from a range of support services and agencies will be on hand to offer individual advice and there will be the opportunity to speak to women who have already set up their own successful businesses.

For more information, please contact the BEST Office on 0161 295 3090 or 0161 295 0464, or email g.m.richards@salford.ac.uk.

The Flying Start Event was sponsored by North West Business Access and Lloyd Piggott Chartered Accountants and was supported by Manchester Evening News.

(BEST is an ERDF funded programme of free business support managed in partnership by the University of Salford, Manchester Metropolitan University and Lancaster University)

CARDWATCH

If your company accepts payment by credit card and you would like to refresh your knowledge and train your staff how to spot and stop card fraud call Card Watch for a free information booklet
Tel: **08705 500 005**

Spot and Stop Card Fraud is produced by Card Watch, the UK banking industry programme which works with police, retailers and organisations including Crime Stoppers to fight card crime. APACS is the Association of Payment Clearing Services, the body which oversees money transmission and clearing activities in the UK. Its members are the major banks and building societies. Websites www.apacs.org.uk and www.cardwatch.co.uk are both full of useful information.

Easier still Business Club has a copy of the information pack and a Cardwatch video.

For info contact: Christine Brown, Brown & Lonsdale.
Tel: **01772 621140** or chris@brown-lonsdale.co.uk

calling all members!!

The club is about to release its new leaflets. Many of our members have the old leaflets in their shops or offices. If this is so please could you return the old leaflets and take a batch of the new ones (when they are available) as many of the details have changed.

If you don't already have some leaflets for distribution, but you have a shop or reception area and would like to advertise the club please ask a committee member at the next meeting for a batch.



Whats on in 2003/04

The programme for 2003 is full and has taken note of the response from members to the questionnaire circulated at the AGM. The programme for 2004 is coming along. If you have any ideas or if there is something you would like more information on speak to an committee member.

2003

Sept 2nd: – Meet the Taxman. *Peter Robinson*
Inland Revenue Business Support Team.
– *Carole Mellars*, - speaking about her new role at H.M.Prison Garth.

Oct 7th: – New developments in E-commerce, & the Internet – Thomas Cole Solutions

Nov 4th: – Wine Tasting.

Dec 2nd: – Member's Presentations.

2004

Jan tbc: – Annual Bowling Competition.

Feb 3rd: – TBC

Mar 2nd: – AGM.

Looking for commercial sites
or business premises?



How can the Central Lancashire Sites and Premises databases help you?

Last year over 2000 listings of available employment land and commercial premises were provided from the databases to all types of businesses, so if you are looking to start your own business, expand into larger premises or establish a new base, then our database is the logical starting point.

Our database contains up-to-date details of all available sites and premises in Central Lancashire (Chorley, Preston, South Ribble) We can search in seconds to list all accommodation that meets your needs.

Call your local Economic Development Team on: 01257 515300

- It's free
- It's comprehensive - retail units, offices and employment land
- It's accurate - records are constantly updated
- It's tailored - listings that meet your exact requirements
- It's thorough - you will receive two monthly follow up listings

Committee contacts

Chairman Keith Ellison Tel: 01254 832123

Treasurer Tony Hilton Tel: 01257 260366

Secretary John Thompson Tel: 01257 278400

Club Contact Christine Brown Tel: 01772 621140

Newsletter Editor Lisa Thomason Tel: 01257 413328

new members

Mrs Nerys Brown - Telecom Plus PLC
Tel:01772 451169
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Mr Alan Jones - The Accounting Team
Tel:01257 470227
ajones@iq100.net

E Duxbury - 1st Class Dismantlers
Bolton St, Chorley

Angela Moore - Awaken Life Coaching
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Greg Heath - Derbyshire Booth
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Eric Greenhalgh - Rainbow International
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Matthew Crisp - Colours for Kids
Tel:01257 278752
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Junk Mail, Faxes, Emails, Calls

If you don't like receiving Direct Mail, the Mailing Preference Service will be able to be of some help.

Registering with mps will stop most unsolicited consumer advertising material, addressed to individuals personally and delivered to their home address by post.

It won't stop unaddressed leaflets and those marked "The Occupier", "The Householder" or a business, nor free newspapers and inserts in magazines and bills.

You can register with any of the following:

Fax Preference Service, fps;

Telephone Preference Service, tps;or

Email Preference Service, emps.

Registration is FREE.

Visit www.mpsonline.org.uk for more information about all the above services and registration.

Not on line Tel: 0845 307 7707

