

NEWSLETTER – May 2007

Welcome to the Business Forum's regular Newsletter, covering our successful May 2007 meeting and annual Networking Event, 2007, and including all usual areas of interest to members.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th June 2007 at the County Offices Sports Club, Plas Newton Lane, Upton, Chester, starting 6.30pm for 7.00pm, with usual bar & buffet.

Members Showcases

Julia McGuinness (Creative Connections)

“Play to your Strengths, Know your blind spots”

AND

Marie-Claire Carlyle

“How to attract clients using Feng Shui”

Members Meeting 10th May 2007

Charles Holmes of Ellesmere Port BC told us about the Benefits of Council Funding and **Gill Williams and Shirley Joinson of Chester City Council** told us about the Business Grants, Property Search and Planning services available through Chester City Council

Visit the following websites for more information:

www.chester.gov.uk

www.epnbc.gov.uk

www.nwda.gov.uk

www.businesslink.gov.uk/northwest

We also conducted our usual raffle, with deserving winners!! (Especially, Mr Colin Brown – who, “never wins anything!!!”) Another excellent reason to be a Forum member.

As you can see there is always a full programme for our meeting. If you would like to feature in any meeting, you can always agree to speak at one of our Members' Showcase slots. Alternatively, if there is a topic you would like to have covered at a meeting, please let us know. Contact Les George at chair@cepnforum.org.uk

NETWORKING 2007

Our annual Networking Event was held in Ellesmere Port this year on 24th May, where we set the 'Leadership Challenge', a self-discovery workshop to explore your beliefs and values, presented by LEARNING TO INSPIRE – Jane Douglas, Jo Lord & Darren Anglesea.

Effective Leaders genuinely believe in what they are saying and demonstrate their personal convictions through their behaviours. Jane, Jo and Darren led delegates through personal reflection to discover their specific personal beliefs, values and relationships.

For the record, Colin Brown **AGAIN(!!)** won a raffle prize. Looks like it's his year!

Strategic Partnership Update

A meeting of the Partnership took place recently. Look out for a report in our next Newsletter.

Website News

Did you know that the Forum operates a website where your membership and business will be advertised? We can also set up a link to your own website.

Read this Newsletter on the Forum's website, where we had 2343 visits in the 5 weeks of May, with an incredible 656 visits in the final week of the month, following our Networking Event. You've got to be in it to win anything from it!!

Why not log on, visit the site and find details of our strong membership by reading about your fellow members? Is your entry up to date? Do we need to change any member details?

NOTE: We need to update mobile phone details. Please check yours as listed on the site, and advise Mark of the numbers, or of any changes to the numbers listed since you joined the Forum. Thank you.

Let us know by emailing Mark Ireland-Jones at mark@wirralphoto.com

Members

With new members joining us on a regular basis, and with old friends deciding to move on to new opportunities, our member numbers have grown this month to a healthy 68.

The Committee is actively promoting the Forum on behalf of the membership, but if you know of any Start-up Businesses or existing SMEs you think will benefit from membership, please don't hesitate to tell them about us, or bring them along to our next meeting!

Member News

*****CALLING ALL FORUM MEMBERS*****

Would you like the chance to join our Members Showcase for 2007? We need presentations of between 5 -10 minutes. You can let all members know all about you and your business, including interesting facts or offers for other members.

Please contact Les George on 01244 512117, or at lesley.george@chester.ac.uk or at chair@cepnforum.org.uk

In addition, you can also have 200 words about your business published here on our Newsletter. If you have any special offers or events you are planning in the near future, you could publicise them here too.

Please send your 200 words to keith@ehrservices.fsnet.co.uk

Attendance at our monthly meetings

All members receive a copy of this Newsletter, as we continue to post out hard copies to all members each month. Members are also now sent a reminder about the meetings approximately one week beforehand. If possible, we would like members to confirm their attendance, or to indicate that they are unable to attend, so that we can cater for correct numbers.

You can help us by emailing the Forum Chair, **Lesley George**, at chair@cepnforum.org.uk. Thank you.

..... and finally,

don't forget our next meeting on **14th June**. All current members and guests welcome – come and meet the Committee and fellow members, and take part in important networking for your business.