

CEPN BUSINESS FORUM NEWSLETTER – May 2009

Welcome to the Business Forum's regular Newsletter, covering our successful May 2009 meeting and annual NETWORKING event, also including all usual areas of interest to members.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th June 2009 at the County Offices Sports Club, Plas Newton Lane, Upton, Chester, starting 6.30pm for 7.00pm, with usual bar & buffet.

Speakers

Ian Rankin of SaBRE

(Supporting Britain's Reservists & Employers)

"The importance and benefits of employing a Reservist" – what your business will gain

AND

Ewan Sturman

The Northwest's leading expert on word-of-mouth marketing

"Get the best from Networking – questions that get you more business"

Usual Bar & Buffet plus raffle for exciting prizes

Guests Welcome

Members Meeting 14th May 2009

Representatives of Business Link (NW) and Cheshire West & Chester Council and gave members details of schemes and some current funding initiatives being made available to companies based in their respective catchment areas.

David Carter of Business Link explained how they can work with businesses and broker service and links to assist a new or existing business to grow and prosper

Our thanks to Carol Vella, Meryl Pugh & Sue Eddison of the 'new council' for devoting their time to provide new information to our members.

This was followed by **Sylvia Thompson of House of Colour**, who led a short yet inspiring discussion on the use of colour to present and enhance your business image.

65% of all first impressions are based on visual impact, and all business people can make faux pas if they don't follow the unspoken and unwritten rules of dress.
The important message was that your clothes can raise your earnings potential!

We also conducted our usual raffle, with deserving winners!!

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 Carol Pengelly at chair@cepnforum.org.uk

NETWORKING 2009 – Ellesmere Port 21st May

Our annual Networking Event in Ellesmere Port was attended by members and non-members, who were treated to two fabulous talks.

The meeting started with **Gary Spinks from Cornea Consulting** entertaining us with creative thinking. Carol Pengelly the new Chair of CEPN commented "What a wonderful evening, Gary Spinks opened our eyes and reminded us that creative thinking is one of the most important things we need in business today." Involving

the audience – Gary showed how playing ‘scissors, paper, rock’ won an Auction House a million pound contract!

Molly Harvey - CORPORATE SOUL WOMAN followed Gary and gave a motivational speech showing how her business has succeeded, and how it lead on to her working for the UN

Molly Harvey is one of the most inspirational and motivational speakers around and the Business Forum was very pleased to secure her as a speaker. She achieved her purpose to touch the souls of those who attended, if they use the information she shared on the night, they will be soon on their way to achieving their goals.

Remember her motto: "Don't talk about it, just be it"

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 an amazing 2492 visits in May. 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 continue to update members' details. Please check yours as listed on the site, and advise Mark of any changes to the details 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 are at a healthy 62 this month.

The Forum's Committee meets regularly to discuss and organise the events and meetings of the Forum. Copies of the minutes of the Committee meetings are available on request to members. Contact chair@cepnforum.org.uk for a copy.

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 2009 or 2010? 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 Carol Pengelly 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, **Carol Pengelly**, at chair@cepnforum.org.uk. Thank you.

..... and finally,

don't forget our next meeting on **11th June**. All current members and guests welcome – come and meet the Committee and fellow members, and take part in important networking for your business.