



# Chamber News Update

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Sourcing local products and services?

New businesses are being added to our database everyday. Visit [http://www.lancaster-chamber.org.uk/local\\_sourcing.asp](http://www.lancaster-chamber.org.uk/local_sourcing.asp)

To include your own special event, promotions or news stories under our Members' News section send details to <mailto:info@lancaster-chamber.org.uk>

## CHAMBER NEWS UPDATE – 17th July 2009

### Content:

- **Membership News... New Members**
- **Members' News... Members' events, promotions & news stories**
- **Business Support.... Funding initiatives**
- **Training...**
- **Chamber Representation ... Liaison with Council**
- **Chamber Events ... Up-date on activities**
- **Local News...**
- **Other Commercial News...**
- **NWDA news links**

## Membership News

### New Members

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of businesses that have recently joined the Chamber. A warm welcome to all of them.

## Members' News & Information

### Connect 2 Cleanrooms Ltd helps boost immunity to Swine Flu

Cleanroomshop.com offers a range of hand sanitizers and surface disinfection products that are effective against Swine Flu and can help employees follow NHS hand hygiene guidelines ... [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

For the latest Government information on Swine Flu and to access the swine flu checker <http://www.nhs.uk/AlertsEmergencies/Pages/Pandemicflualert.aspx>

### New Chief Executive to lead NHS North Lancashire

NHS North Lancashire is delighted to announce the appointment of Janet Soo-Chung as its new Chief Executive. Janet joins NHS North Lancashire from her current role in the Leadership Academy and Performance Directorate at NHS North West. [MORE....](#)

### Keith's cycling adventures

We cycled nearly 100 miles through the hills of the Lake District on bikes, all in one day, with a major climb up Wrynose Pass somewhere in the middle and we raised some cash for a few of the charities I am interested in. Read more about Keith Simpson's epic journey visit <http://www.pagefast.co.uk/wrynose/>

## Business Support News

### Transition funding

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), with support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), has announced a £15m transitional venture capital (VC) & loan fund for businesses in the region. [MORE....](#)

### Funding secured to drive growth in the Northwest's medical technology sector

SMEs in the Northwest's medical technology sector are set to benefit from a £816,000

investment that will enable Medilink North West to increase its resources and support for the sector.

[MORE...](#)

## Training News

### Taxi trade embraces disability legislation

More than 30 people involved in the taxi trade have successfully completed a course aimed at raising awareness of their responsibilities under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

Carried out by Lancaster City Council, the training provided taxi drivers and proprietors with knowledge of the DDA and the practicalities of transporting wheelchair using passengers.

Coun Tony Wade, chairman of the council's Licensing Regulatory Committee, said: "The Disability Discrimination Act is a complex piece of legislation and all businesses need to be aware of how it effects the services they provide. "It is a testament to the local taxi trade that so many attended the training and shows how committed they are to providing a good and comfortable service to all sectors of the community."

## Chamber Representation News & Information

### Representation with City Council

The Chamber's recent meeting with the Council covered items on Fair Trade status for Lancaster, the City's Corporate Plan, management of Lancaster City Centre, empty shops initiatives and the Centros Planning inquiry. [MORE...](#)

### Chamber Directors set to re-focus

Chamber Directors are currently working on developing a future strategy for the organisation in response to changing demands from the growing membership. Priorities will include improving support services, communication and engagement with Members, strengthening the representational role and creating a hub for local business support activity.

### Export support and advice from start to finish

Chamber Certification Services are delivered by UK Chambers of Commerce, offering a host of International Trade services enabling your business to save valuable time, money and resources and increase productivity. Staff are fully trained and able to provide professional advice and certification to all business types, through every stage of the exporting journey. For more information call your Chamber or visit [http://www.britishchambers.org.uk/business\\_services/marketing/Chamber\\_Cert/e\\_shot.htm](http://www.britishchambers.org.uk/business_services/marketing/Chamber_Cert/e_shot.htm)

## Chamber Events

### Summer Social 2009

Wednesday 19th August will see over 100 people gather at Lancaster House Hotel for Lancaster Chamber's Summer Social. A glass of chilled Champagne will welcome you at the start of this relaxing evening - one which cannot be missed. Local is the theme with samoling, tasting and sampling the local delights and delicacies the region has to offer. [MORE...](#)

### August 09

[Extend your Horizons - Chamber 2 Chamber Networking - 12th August](#)  
[Summer Social - Mini Menu & Gourmet Evening - 19th August](#)

### September 09

[Chamber Golf Challenge 2009 - 2nd September](#)  
[First Aid in the Workplace - 9th September](#)  
[Employment Briefing - 15th September](#)  
[Business 2 Business Lunch & Exhibition - 16th September](#)  
<http://www.lancaster-chamber.org.uk/eventdetail.asp?PageID=59>

## Local News

### Plans for new science park are approved

Plans for a new science park at Bailrigg with the potential to support over 1,000 jobs have been granted planning permission. [MORE....](#)

### Lancaster City Council publishes its Annual Report for 2008/09

Lancaster City Council has published its Annual Report for 2008/09. The report gives an overview of the council and the district it serves, as well as a snapshot of some of its achievements and initiatives of the last year and priorities for the next 12 months. To view a copy of the report, visit <http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/annualreport> or contact Lancaster City Council's Corporate Strategy Service on 01524 582150.

### Promoting Lancaster's retail offer

A retail partnership led by the Chamber has just published the first guide to Lancaster's Independent Retailers. The 24 page guide aimed at visitors and locals alike promotes the high quality and diversity of many of the City's independents. With over 30,000 copies distributed throughout the region (including Visitor Information Centres) the guide highlights the unique shopping experience on offer in Lancaster's City Centre. To view the guide [CLICK HERE](#)

### Lancaster & Morecambe Etc.

In the spring of 2009, a small group of local retailers undertook the task of producing a non-profit making guidebook for Lancaster and Morecambe. Aimed at the style conscious, the guide presents a listing of the unique and cool; from independent retailers, boutique hotels to vibrant bars and restaurants. The guide also covers a wide range of great places to visit and things to do. [MORE...](#)

### Sustainable Procurement

The Sustainability Partnership of Lancaster District is hosting an event to raise awareness of sustainable procurement and showcase practical ways to enhance your business's commitment to a stable economy, a protected environment and a cohesive community through purchasing. The event will take place from 1.30 to 4.00pm on Monday 21st September at The Borough on Dalton Square in Lancaster and is aimed at purchasers and policy makers within local businesses. [MORE....](#)

### Merchant of Venice at Leighton Hall

Later this month the Festival Players return to Leighton Hall for the annual Shakespeare in the Garden tour. On Friday 31st July 2009 at 7.30pm, Leighton Hall's beautiful gardens will be given an Italian makeover for this exciting, two hour production of the Merchant of Venice, performed by an all male cast.

### Temporary Road Restrictions/Closures

Hasty Brow Road, Slyne with Hest 27-31 July [MORE...](#)

The road closure has been requested to enable British Waterways to repair bridge parapets at Belmont Bridge and LCES to undertake highway surfacing. No bus services are affected.

## Other Commercial News

### Royal Mail launches new web tool to help firms to grow

An online tool designed to help small and medium-sized companies make the most of direct mail has been launched by Royal Mail. Called 'Clear Prospects', it helps firms to attract more business and increase revenue from their existing customers through access to Royal Mail data. Businesses visiting [www.royalmail.com/clearprospects](http://www.royalmail.com/clearprospects) can register for a free data audit and until 31 August, Royal Mail is also offering two records for the price of one, on a minimum order of £10.

### NWDA Appointments

The NWDA is pleased to announce that Roger McLaughlin has been appointed as RDA Co-ordinator for England's 2018 World Cup bid. [MORE....](#)

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) is pleased to welcome the appointment of Robert Hough as the new Chair of the NWDA. Having been an NWDA board member since December 2007, Robert will take over from current Chairman Bryan Gray on August 17th 2009. [MORE....](#)

**North West Development Agency**

Follow this link for the latest e-newsletter from NWDA

<http://www.nwda.co.uk/files/NWDA%20Regional%20Newsletter%20July%2009.mht>

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