



# Chamber Communication - Chamber News Update

CHAMBER BENEFITS >>

EVENTS >>

EMAIL THE CHAMBER >>

## Photos from the **Business 2 Business Networking Lunch, AGM & Exhibition**

held on Friday 19th June 2009  
at The Crofters Hotel



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 – 29th June 2009

### Content:

- **Membership News...** New Members, AGM Report & photo' gallery
- **Members' News...** Members' events, promotions & news stories
- **Business Support....** Funding initiatives & digital industries sector report
- **Training...** New Diplomas & expansion of LEAD programme
- **Chamber Representation...** Liaison with City Council
- **Chamber Events ...** Up-date on activities
- **Local News...** Planning consultation, housing land report, Opportunity for local Construction companies, Social Enterprise Festival & road closures/restrictions
- **Other Commercial News...** Minimum wage set to rise
- **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.

### New President applauds business heroes

Report from Jon Price's inaugural speech to Members at recent AGM. [MORE CLICK HERE](#) to view photo' gallery from AGM and Business 2 Business lunch and exhibition held on 19th June.

## Members' News & Information

### Quality Counts for local Solicitors

Jobling & Knape, has been awarded membership of an exclusive nationwide alliance of high quality solicitor firms, [QualitySolicitors.com](http://QualitySolicitors.com).

### Twitter with Fisher Wrathall

We are currently building our Twitter service for property buyers, sellers, landlords and tenants. If you use Twitter please sign up as a follower and receive updates as to what's new, reduced, best buys and more.....

<http://twitter.com/FisherWrathall>

### Letter to Members from Harry Armistead Ltd

[CLICK HERE](#)

### Lancashire Association of Clubs for Young People (LACYP)

Seeking to recruit a part-time fund raising person (two days per week, flexible), at our office in Lancaster city centre. Duties include researching and writing



Photographs by: Neil Ryder  
Communications  
[www.nrcoms.com](http://www.nrcoms.com)

funding bids on behalf of our association to identified trust funds. Also to seek minor sponsorship for various existing projects. Candidates should possess sound written and communication skills. For further information, please contact Alan M Donkin at LACYP on 01524 65106 or <mailto:alanmdonkin@lacyp.org.uk>

### **Rescue the ducks and help YMCA rescue the homeless**

Paddling in the wake of two successful Duck Swim and Boat Race events, YMCA Lancaster "Don't Duck the Issue" team are aiming to coax another flock of competent neoprene clad swimmers into the welcoming waters of Windermere. Join in the fun and help raise awareness of young homeless people. [MORE](#)

### **The Cross Bay Challenge 2009 – join us for an adventure to remember!**



Register now at [www.crossbay.org.uk](http://www.crossbay.org.uk)

Local artist, Chas Jacobs has painted the Cross Bay picture (above) and donated it to CancerCare. Signed prints will be available and a silent auction will be held for the original – anyone wanting details should contact fundraising at CancerCare (01524 381820).

### **Spark goes out at All Fired Up**

All Fired Up is the latest Lancaster business to close due to the prevailing market conditions. [MORE](#)

## **Business Support News**

### **Support for North West businesses**

The NWDA have created a new brochure to promote the 'Solutions for business' products available in the North West. The brochure lists all products and eligibility criteria, download your copy now [CLICK HERE](#).

### **New NWDA funding project provides opportunities for biomass sector**

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) has launched a 'Grant For Improving Your Resource Efficiency', which is designed to help SMEs fund investments in carbon reducing technologies. [MORE](#)

### **Response to Redundancy project launched**

Is your company facing a new direction? Not sure where to turn for advice and guidance?

CXL in partnership with North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce are launching a brand new service to support employers facing the challenges of the recent economic climate. [MORE](#)

### **BBC Village SOS**

Village SOS is an exciting new initiative from the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and the BBC. It is searching for six UK villages with a great business idea and six

enterprising individuals to act as Village Champions and help them achieve their ambitions.

Together they will create a brand new venture that will bring new life and energy to the village with funding of between £100,000 and £400,000 from BIG.

[http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_village\\_sos](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_village_sos)

### **Business Link report on Digital industries sector**

Business Link has published its second report studying marketing services and media communities in the North West.

<http://www.how-do.co.uk/files/The%20Digital%20Industry%20report%20by%20How-Do.pdf>

### **Support for Creative sector**

Creative businesses in the Lancaster area will now be able to access bespoke business support through weekly "surgery" sessions at Lancaster's newly refurbished Storey Creative Industries Centre.

Sue Denver, Creative and Digital Broker for Business Link NW and Matt Hutchinson of Creative Lancashire will be hosting open drop-in sessions every Wednesday morning from the start of June. Matt will be there on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and Sue on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, from 10am to 12.30pm.

You can book an appointment in advance, or just turn up on the day:

<mailto:sue.denver@businesslinknw.co.uk> or <mailto:mh@creativelancashire.org>

## **Training News**

### **How employers can get involved in shaping education?**

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about the new Diploma qualifications.

### **LEAD expands across the whole North West**

LEAD is a 10 month leadership programme designed specifically for owner managers of micro businesses with up to 20 employees. It has a proven track record in delivering business growth for its delegates - 90% of businesses that have attended LEAD over the last 4 years have reported a significant increase in sales turnover as a result of attending the programme.

Following the success of businesses who have attended the LEAD pilot, the NWDA is now supporting the rollout of the programme across the region to support up to 2000 SME businesses in the next 3 years.

A series of FREE taster events are being held across the region where business owners can experience a taste of what LEAD can offer visit

<http://www.businesslinknw.co.uk/lead>

## **Chamber Representation News & Information**

### **Liaison with City Council**

Representatives from your Chamber's Board will meet with Council Officers and elected representatives on 13th July. If you have any issues or concerns you would like the Chamber to pursue on your behalf, please contact Ann at the Chamber on 01524 381331 by 1st July.

### **North West business supports EU membership**

But hampered by host of regulation [MORE](#)

Thanks to those members who responded to our recent EU survey. 13.7% of respondents from across the region were from the Lancaster District Chamber.

[CLICK HERE](#)

## Chamber Events

### July 09

Members' Evening @ [Lancaster House Hotel - 8th July](#)

[Understanding & Developing your Employees - 14th July](#)

[ICT Cluster Group Meeting & Presentation - 16th July](#)

### August 09

[Extend your Horizons - Chamber 2 Chamber Networking - 12th 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](#)

Members' Evening @ [The Dukes Theatre - 30th September](#)

## Local News

### Council consults on Planning Obligations

The Chamber has been invited to contribute towards the development of a new Council policy for Planning Obligations (also known as Section 106 Agreements). If local planning regulations affect your business then take this opportunity to contribute your views [CLICK HERE - Leaflet & Letter](#)

### Local housing land report

The 2009 Housing Land Monitoring Report for the 1st April 2009 has now been published visit

<http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning-environment/forward-planning/local-development-framework/housing-land-monitoring-report-2009/>

If you have any questions in regards to this please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Jones on 01524 582591 or email <mailto:rjones@lancaster.gov.uk>

### Temporary Road Restrictions/Closures

Bulk Road Lancaster 10th to 12th August. [CLICK HERE](#)

Fairfield Road, Heysham 24th August to 16th September [CLICK HERE](#)

Sugham Lane, Heysham 17th – 21st Aug, 24th-28th Aug, 1st – 3rd Sept [CLICK HERE](#)

Regent Road, Morecambe proposed temporary One-way traffic restrictions

Phase 1 - 20th July to 4th Sept [CLICK HERE](#)

Phase 2 – 10th Aug to 25th Sept [CLICK HERE](#)

Phase 3 – 24th Aug to 6th Nov [CLICK HERE](#)

The restriction has been requested by North West Gas Alliance to enable improvement works to be carried out on the gas supply network.

### Opportunity for local Construction Companies

Mansell Build, based in Cheshire are looking for sub-contractors for a 'New Leisure Centre' and 'Pre-School Nursery' at the University of Central Lancashire. For further details go to

[http://www.lancschamber.co.uk/forum/displaynew\\_message.asp?mid=19612&fid=16&opted=&threadlevel=2](http://www.lancschamber.co.uk/forum/displaynew_message.asp?mid=19612&fid=16&opted=&threadlevel=2)

## Other Commercial News

### New department for Business Innovation & Skills

The Government has created a new Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) whose key role will be to build Britain's capabilities to compete in the global economy.

The Department will be created by merging the Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR) and Department of Innovation, University and Skills (DIUS).

The merger of BERR and DIUS brings together the parts of the government with key expertise in these areas. Go to for more information.

<http://www.berr.gov.uk/aboutus/pressroom/page51711.html>

### **New minimum wage**

New rates will apply to the National Minimum Wage with effect from from October 2009.

For workers aged 22 and over, the minimum rate will rise from £5.73 per hour to £5.80. For workers aged 18 to 21 it will rise from £4.77 per hour to £4.83 and for workers aged 16 to 17 it will rise from £3.53 per hour to £3.57.

### **Help for unemployed managers**

The Institute of Leadership & Management (ILM) is offering six months free membership to any recently redundant manager in the UK. [MORE](#)

### **Over 30 Northwest businesses short-listed for Green Business award**

[MORE](#)

### **Regional Development Agencies: Non-Executive Board Members Wanted**

£8,666 p.a [MORE](#)

### **North West Development Agency**

Follow this link for the latest e-newsletter from NWDA.

<http://www.nwda.co.uk/files/NWDA%20Regional%20Newsletter%20May%202009.mht>

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