



CHAMBER BENEFITS >>

EVENTS >>

EMAIL THE CHAMBER >>

Chamber Communication - Chamber News Update

Sourcing local products and services?

New businesses are being added to our database everyday. Visit

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 – 25th January 2010

Content:

- **Membership News... New Members**
- **Members' News... Views.... Offers.... Requests**
- **Business Support.... Music Mission**
- **Training... First Aid Training, Export for Beginners, Basic Health & Safety.....**
- **Chamber Representation... Empty Shops Funding, Non-planning consents Consultation, Tackling Scammers, Infrastructure survey, Regional Economic Survey results, Advice on Advertising in sponsored publications**
- **Chamber Events ... Networking, Women in Business, Briefings & Workshops.....**
- **Local News... Economic development report, Consultation on Morecambe Area Action Plan, Temporary road closures**
- **Other Commercial News... Small Firms Summit, NWDA Newsletter, NWDA consultation on Regional Strategy**

Membership

New Members

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of businesses that have recently joined the Chamber.

Members' News & Information

LACYP (Lancashire Association of Clubs for Young People) seek weekend and occasional Quad Bike Instructor [MORE](#)



Aira Force, Ullswater



Newbiggin Crag



Milnthorpe Sands

Photos by Steve Pendrill

Mount Recruitment invites you to sponsor Jon Clayton on his climb up the highest mountain in North Africa in support of St John's Hospice, Lancaster [MORE](#)

The Dukes presents..... the modern day classic, My Mother Said I Never Should, will be enjoying a fresh revival at The Dukes from 4 – 27 February 2010. [MORE](#)

Arteria with Gallery 23 is off to a flying start with an inspiring showcase of talent from The Art & Craft Guild of Lancashire. The exhibition runs from 12th January until 20th March 2010. Work can be viewed Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm and on Saturdays from 9.30am until 5.30pm. [MORE](#)

Lancaster Dealer named Britain's BEST - [MORE](#)

Two Chamber members with a flair for art are about to put their talents together....

Wray's popular Bridgehouse Farm Tearooms www.bridgehousefarm.co.uk are keen to support local artists and photographers, with regularly changing exhibitions throughout the year. The next exhibition will feature a selection of framed landscape photographs by Lancaster-based commercial, pr, wedding and portrait photographer and Chamber member Steve Pendrill www.stevependrillphotography.com. The exhibition runs from 9th February until 11th March and the popular tearooms are open every day except Mondays.

Ludos Dance – has a vacancy for a part time Finance Officer [MORE](#)

AM Support Services – wins significant award for environmental management [MORE](#)

Business Support News

Musical Mission

UKTI promote trade mission to Texas, USA for music sector [MORE](#)

Procurement process commences for long term £184m VCLF for the Northwest

The Northwest Regional Development Agency on behalf of a new holding company Northwest Business Finance Ltd has released the bidding documents to open up the competitive tender process for companies wishing to be part of one of the largest public sector Venture Capital and Loan

Funds in Europe. [MORE](#)

NEW Apprenticeship Grant for Employers of 16 and 17 year olds

A new grant for employers has been announced to make it easier for employers to take on young Apprentices. Over the next 10 weeks the National Apprenticeship Service will provide up to 5,000 Apprenticeship Grants for employers* of 16 and 17 year olds.

The grant of £2,500 is to enable employers to offer 5,000 new Apprenticeship places and take on an unemployed 16 or 17 year old Apprentice immediately. The £2,500 grant is in addition to the costs of training which are already met by the National Apprenticeship Service.

[Read more here](#)

Training News

February 2010

[Emergency First Aid at Work \(Appointed Person\) Training Course - 11th February](#)

March 2010

[Export for Beginners - 2nd March](#)
[Basic Health and Safety \(CIEH\) Training Course - 24th March](#)

April 2010

[Emergency First Aid at Work \(Appointed Person\) Training Course - 22nd April](#)

Discipline & Grievance Workshop

26th January at White Cross [MORE](#)

Lancashire & Blackpool Tourist Board training programme

From customer care training through to welcoming international visitors(Welcome to Excellence), from how to start with Social Media to dealing confidently with conflict(Success Through People) there is a huge range of opportunities available for you and your staff/colleagues and with prices starting from £28+vat per person training has never been more affordable. Funding available for eligible tourism businesses.

<http://www.lancashireandblackpool.com/site/develop-your-business/spring-training>

FREE Business Leadership Event

With Special Guest Speaker, Sahar Hashemi, founder of Coffee Republic
Specifically designed for business owners who

employ up to 20 people, will give you the skills and knowledge to develop from a good leader, into a great one! Panellists include; Paul Heathcote MBE, chef-proprietor and entrepreneur; Damian Hughes, former England footballer and Manchester United coach; Carol Chadwick, Director of Wall Panelling Ltd and ex LEAD delegate.

To register go to: www.eventsforce.net/leadership

FREE Innovation Workshops

The [Enterprise Europe Network \(EEN\) Northwest team](#) will be holding a series of [FREE workshops in the Northwest](#) that are designed to give SMEs guidance on various aspects of innovation.

These afternoon workshops will comprise short presentations, a substantial Question & Answer session, complimentary buffet lunch, and networking opportunities.

Held over a 5 week period in Liverpool & Lancaster, the topics to be covered include Innovation Networks, Intellectual Property Rights, and Innovation Funding Opportunities. You are very welcome to attend individual workshops or all three. [Click here](#) to see the event flyer and booking form.

Chamber Representation News & Information

Empty Shops Funding

Lancaster City Council has received £52,631 of government funding to support town centres during the recession.

Each local authority has discretion to decide how and when to spend it. The city council met with Chamber members in December to get their views on how the funds might best be used and the issue was discussed again at the council's liaison meeting with the Chamber in January.

As a result of that feedback Cabinet has agreed £22,000 for Lancaster, £22,000 for Morecambe and £8,000 for Carnforth. The council will now go back to the Chambers to discuss how they wish to see the money spent.

Non-Planning Consents (Consultation)

The Chamber would like to hear from Members who have views on non-planning consents and have experience of this aspect of the development process. [CLICK HERE](#) for background info.

The full consultation document and terms of

reference can be found at the following web-link - <http://www.bis.gov.uk/penfold>. If you wish to submit evidence to the Chamber please respond before Friday 29 January 2010.

Scamnesty (Tackling the Scammers)

Lancashire Trading Standards have asked Chamber's to act as collection points for scamming material being sent to businesses. The scamnesty will take place during the whole of February. This is part of a national exercise attempting to enhance the warnings to consumers and make sure that the regulators are made aware of the scams operating. If your business receives any type of scam communications, either hard-copy, e-mail or by phone, you can forward information/copies to the Chamber at <mailto:info@lancaster-chamber.org.uk>

Infrastructure Survey (British Chambers of Commerce)

An effective transport, energy and digital communications infrastructure is crucial for businesses and the economy going forward. We would therefore be grateful if you would tell us about your experiences and views on these issues through our online Infrastructure Survey. This survey will be vital to helping inform political decision-makers just how the business community really feels on these matters and will only take around 10 minutes to complete.

[Enter survey here](#)

Whilst we will collate and publish findings from the survey, information that you provide will remain confidential. If you feel a colleague is more qualified to complete this survey on behalf of your organisation, please feel free to forward this message.

Regional Economic Survey Results

Business confidence continues to improve according to the latest Quarterly Economic Survey from Chambers of Commerce North West.

[MORE](#) and for full Results [CLICK HERE](#)

Advice on Advertising in Sponsored Publications

If your business is approached for advertising in crime prevention or associated publications [CLICK HERE](#) for some important advice on how to avoid being scammed.

Chamber Events

January 2010

[Members Evening - 27th January](#)

February 2010

[Sage Accounting & Payroll - Taster Session - 2nd February](#)

[Women in Business Network Sponsored by Natwest- 5th February](#)

[Build a Better Business! - 9th February](#)

[International Trade Network - Developing](#)

[Opportunities for Overseas Trade - 24th February](#)

March 2010

[Members Evening - 10th March](#)

[Business Benefits – Invest in Training - 16th March](#)

[Business Lunch - Sponsored by NWDA - 18th March](#)

[Chamber 2 Chamber Networking - 23rd March](#)

Local News**Local Economic Development Report**

For a summary of business activity in the Lancaster District [CLICK HERE](#)

At the end of October 2009, unemployment locally was 3% compared with 4.7 for the North West and 4.1% for GB.

Council consults on Morecambe Area Action Plan

The Council is to prepare an Area Action Plan for central Morecambe. It will set the framework for how the central part of the town should develop and change over the coming years. It will allocate land for development and include policies for managing development within the plan area. If you want to find out more about the present consultation please go to www.lancaster.gov.uk/morecambeaap for information on how to get involved.

Temporary Road Closures

Market Street, Lancaster overnight 15th February to 7th March [MORE](#)

Market Street, Lancaster, 7.5t weight restriction overnight 1st to 14th February [MORE](#)

The restrictions have been requested by United Utilities to enable planned maintenance work to be carried out on the electricity supply network.

Yorkshire Street East, Morecambe 25th to 28th January [DETAILS](#)

Spring Garden Street, Lancaster Emergency closure

23rd & 24th January [DETAILS](#)

The closure has been requested by National Grid to enable repairs to a leaking gas main.

Other Commercial News

Small Firms' Summit

Thursday 18 February could be a big day for the Region's private sector. [MORE](#)

North West Development Agency

Follow this link for the latest e-newsletter from NWDA

<http://nwdainteractive.com/1G3-3215-C46Y9WTAC/cr.aspx>

NWDA Consults on Regional Strategy

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) and 4NW, the Regional Leaders Board, have begun a region-wide consultation programme to inform the development of the Northwest's new integrated Regional Strategy (RS2010). Consultation events will be taking place across the region during the consultation process. The document is available to download - <http://www.nwregionalstrategy.com/>

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