

ALIQUANTUM

NETWORKING FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS

NEWSLETTER

www.networkingforwomen.co.uk

MARCH 2009

Gosport - 1 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Gosport Business Centre
Gosport PO13 0FQ

Romsey - 20 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Basepoint Business Centre
Romsey SO51 9AQ

Reading - 29 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
The Southcote, Reading
RG30 3AB

Havant - 8 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Basepoint Business Centre
Havant, PO9 1HS

Manchester - 21 April
6:30 - 9:0 p.m.
Worsley Old Hall
Manchester M28 2QT

Portsmouth - 14 April
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Premier Inn
Portsmouth PO6 4FB

Southampton - 27 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Solent Business Centre
Southampton SO15 0HW

Basingstoke - 15 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Basepoint Business Centre
Basingstoke RG24 8UP

Poole - 28 April
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Venue to be advised

Welcome to our March Newsletter. We hope you find the content both helpful and informative. Do you have a success story to tell? If you have a contribution to make please contact us to tell us about your news.

Pauline Lloyd - starting a riot!



Sunday, 29th March saw Pauline Lloyd (second from the left) one of our Manchester ALIQUANTUM ladies rioting in the streets! Furthermore, she was selected to 'knock off a Policeman's hat'!

No, she didn't get arrested - as she would almost certainly have done in the early 1900s as part of the suffragette movement - because this was done in the spirit of raising money for charity as part of Manchester Tourism week. Together with her Tourist Guide colleagues she was taking part in a walking tour dressed in Victorian costume and bringing the history of Manchester to life.

Our Manchester ladies will be able to find out more about the history of Manchester later this year when we hope to do a tour with Pauline as our guide. We plan to do this during the summer in the hope of good weather and we'll make sure there are suitable stops at a hostelry or two along the way!

If you want more information about guided walks or coach tours round Manchester you can contact Pauline on:
Tel: +44 (0)161 480 8692
Mob: +44 (0) 7723 503702
E-mail: Pauline.lloyd261@btinternet.com

ALIQUANTUM Manchester in April

FRANCHISING - Could you?; Should you?

Many people are looking at the alternatives available to them to grow their business or increase their income in the current economic climate, is Franchising something you would want to consider?

Stephen Owen is the MD of Smartway Franchising. During his talk at ALIQUANTUM on the 21st April Stephen will cover what a franchise is and what it means to be a franchisor or franchisee.

A motivated and dedicated professional with extensive experience gained in both new-start and established franchises, Stephen has a proven track record of achievement in the development of franchise opportunities and underperforming businesses to positively position for future growth and development. Stephen has extensive knowledge of developing franchise networks in tough economic environments and has developed successful franchises in widely diverse markets, from different business sectors such as the care sector to the construction industry.

AND FINALLY.....

As we face the challenges of business life in the current economic climate maybe there is a lesson we can learn from this:

*Alice came to a fork in the road. "Which road do I take?" she asked.
"Where do you want to go?" responded the Cheshire cat.
"I don't know," Alice answered.
"Then," said the cat, "it doesn't matter."
-Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland*

Coffee with Heather Stott



Laura was a guest on the BBC Radio Manchester Heather Stott Show on the 24th February. Heather's Coffee Club, as usual, was a chance for some lively debate on topics in the press on that day as well as the opportunity to get to know the other guests on the show. This month the other guests were Angela Epstein and Carl Nagaitis. Carl's name will be familiar to many people as he is fully familiar with networking for business events.

It was something of a skin of the teeth job as Laura got stuck in traffic on the way to the studio - so a big 'thank you' to the construction guys on Bury New Road who decided rush hour was just the time

to manoeuvre a crane and a large HGV onto their building site - you really made my morning!

For those who want to be entertained and keep up with what is going on in Manchester you can tune in on 95.1 FM or listen on line at www.bbc.co.uk/manchester.

Who do you know who runs a small charity?

Good fortune shone on us when our sister company, AQ Networking for business won the Business Card Prize draw held by HotLizard at Business South 2009. The prize was a free website and one year's support, hosting and maintenance - which we obviously don't need. However, all is not lost! With the full and generous agreement of HotLizard, we are offering the website to be used by a small local charity based in either Hampshire or Berkshire. As with all things we need to have a definition of how we will do that and this is how it will work:

Any charity that is small, registered as a charity, serves the local community, based in either county AND doesn't already have a website can send a 1 page outline containing the following information:

Charity Name
Registered Number
Name of Contact
Contact Details
A summary of the work the charity does within their local community

We will put all the entrants into a draw which will take place at the AQ Networking for business event in Reading on Thursday, 7 May (2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at The Southcote, Southcote Lane, Reading). The closing date for entries is Friday, 1 May 2009.

A representative of each charity entered into the draw will be invited to attend the event. So, who do you know who is involved with or runs a small charity serving their local community, whether that is community based or perhaps serving a group with special needs in the local community, that would like a website for free? Please ask them to contact us with the information requested above.

Entries should be sent to us by post and the contact details are:

Laura Swetman
AQ Networking for business
ALIQUANTUM House
42 Hill Road
Portchester
Fareham
Hampshire
PO16 8JZ

The closing date for entries is Friday, 1 May 2009

Surviving the Recession

The Federation of Small Business and local MP Mark Hoban recently hosted a Recession Survival Workshop at Cams Hall, Fareham with contributions by:

Andy Tonkin, Area Director Commercial Banking for Lloyds TSB Plc
Kim Beazley, CW Fellowes Accountants
Roger Salvetti, Partner Biscoe's Solicitors

A lot of practical advice was given by the panel who also answered many questions put forward by those in the audience. Among the many things of particular interest was the view expressed by Andy Tonkin that Lloyds TSB continues to provide appropriate lending support to businesses in his region and that one of the most important things any business can do is keep in touch with their business relationship manager. This view was supported by all the experts on the panel as it is a means of acquiring positive help and advice. The most important point was to get advice and support from your accountant and/or business relationship manager as soon as difficulties arise and not leave it until it is too late for anyone to help.

Advice for businesses is also available from other sources including the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR), Business Link, Government guidance Real Help Now and the British Bankers 10 Top Tips for surviving the downturn.