

Bulletin

March 2011

Comedy Networking Evening & AGM



Richard McFarland Catering
Professional catering for all occasions

6.15pm AGM registration

Attendance at the AGM is free of charge for those leaving as soon as the meeting closes

For those who have booked a place Tickets £30.00 + VAT includes:

7.00pm Delicious Thai style supper provided by Richard McFarland Catering including:

Fragrant Thai Style Chicken Skewers, served with a oriental style leaf, Bean Sprout and Fresh Lime Dressed Salad with Warmed Garlic and Coriander and Naan.

Also includes a glass of wine

7.30pm Informal networking and business card exchange

8.00pm Take your seats for Live Comedy in the main room (3 top comedians) headlining: Mr Bob Mills followed by disco until late

To reserve your place email : office@stalbens-chamber.co.uk

LUSSMANN'S
FISH & GRILL



Graham Lane, Andrei Lussmann, Lisa and Sue. Photo taken by Spike Brown, Blue Feather Photography

Fifty Chamber delegates enjoyed a superb 2 course networking lunch at Lussmanns on Friday 18th of February.

This is the first of a series to be held this year at this award winning very popular St Albans restaurant in Waxhouse Gate.

Andrei and his team were perfect hosts and we look forward to the next lunch when we hope to see many of you!

St George's Day Lunch 2011

Can you or one of your contacts donate an item for our auction this year?



The St George's Day Lunch is a great fundraising opportunity and a great way to raise your company profile by being Involved! Please contact the office if you can assist. We will be making donation to two local charities; Grove House Hospice and Emmaus.

Our guest speaker this year is Phil Tufnell and we have over 350 local business delegates attending.

Don't Just Join.... Join in!

HERTFORDSHIRE BUSINESS?

DON'T MISS THE BUSINESS EVENT OF THE YEAR!

THURSDAY 10TH MARCH 2011 : RAMADA JARVIS : WATFORD

THE
HERTFORDSHIRE
BUSINESS

EXPO

REGISTER NOW
FOR YOUR FREE TICKET
www.hertsexpo.co.uk



EXHIBITION

OVER 75 HERTFORDSHIRE BUSINESSES



NETWORKING

NETWORKING BREAKFAST HOSTED BY 4NETWORKING : 08:00
SPEED NETWORKING HOSTED BY THE BUSINESS CLUB : 11:00 and 15:00
OPEN NETWORKING AND SOCIAL MEDIA ADVICE FROM THE SOCIAL MEDIA CAFE



HEADLINE SPEAKER : KRISS AKABUSI MBE : 14:00



MASTERCLASS

SEMINARS FROM PENNY POWER : 10:00, DEXTER MOSCOW : 12:00 AND STEVE CLARKE : 13:00
WORKSHOPS FROM 7 LOCAL BUSINESS EXPERTS : HOURLY FROM 10:00



KRISS AKABUSI MBE



PENNY POWER



DEXTER MOSCOW



STEVE CLARKE

View schedule and **BOOK** your **SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS**
and **NETWORKING**

EVENT SPONSORS



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BUSINESS
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University of
Hertfordshire



Business Seminar in ICT Knowledge Transfer

Find out how your business could benefit from a Knowledge Transfer Partnership in ICT with the University of Hertfordshire's free business seminar

When: 09 March 2011, 9:30am to 1:00pm
Where: Aldenham Golf & Country Club,
Watford, Hertfordshire WD25 8NN

How much: FREE

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is a national programme that helps businesses grow by accessing the University of Hertfordshire's cutting edge expertise in ICT, science and technology.

Spaces are limited.

To register, please email be@herts.ac.uk or call 01707 286406.

Harpenden based tax and accountancy specialist **Mark Fordham** advises:

Tax Point of a Transaction for VAT

Q: I have recently registered for VAT and I am getting slightly confused regarding when my supplies and purchases take place in regards to VAT quarters. Could you please explain to me when a transaction takes place for VAT purposes?

A: The date when a transaction takes place for VAT is called its tax point. It is not always the date the supply is actually made. It is vital that you apply the correct tax point to a transaction to ensure that the VAT is declared on the right VAT return and at the correct rate. The basic tax point is the date at which the goods are made available to the client (or for services the date they are performed). If a VAT invoice is issued before this date, the date of the invoice becomes the tax point. Similarly, if payment is received before the goods are supplied/ work is done, then the date of payment becomes the tax point. The date a VAT invoice is issued will also become the tax point if it is issued between 1 to 14 days after the supply takes place. If an invoice is issued 15 days or more after, then the date of supply remains the tax point. It is possible to raise a pro-forma invoice for goods which you have not yet supplied or received payment for. A pro-forma invoice is not a VAT invoice, but it does enable the business to raise a sales document. No VAT is due on this document and it must be clearly display a message such as 'This is not a VAT invoice'.

**MAKING YOUR MONEY
WORK HARDER!**



THE CHANCE TO GRILL LOCAL POLITICIANS AND BUSINESSPEOPLE ON THE ISSUES THAT MATTER

Your Questions Offers the St Albans Community the Forum to Make Their Voices Heard

Radio Verulam 92.6FM is launching an exciting new programme entitled, "Your Questions", a panel discussion similar to BBC's television programme Question Time, to provide a forum for debate in the community. The first programme will be recorded in the evening of Tuesday, 15th March at the Maltings Theatre in the centre of St Albans starting at 7 pm and it will be broadcast on Sunday 20th at 4.00 pm.

The programme will be recorded in front of a live audience, providing members of the public who live and work in the district with a platform to question a panel of guests about issues affecting the area. The panel itself will comprise a variety of participants, including leaders of Hertfordshire County and St Albans District Councils, MPs, heads of business, educational, charitable and service organisations, members of the media, celebrities and other figureheads whose opinions help to shape what happens in the district.

Admission is free and there will be a bar and coffee available together with forms for people to submit their questions.

Presenter of "Your Questions" John Stephenson, said "Radio Verulam is proud to be playing a role in bringing together local residents, businesses and community leaders to debate topics which are important to them. We are really keen to get as wide a representation of local interests in the audience as possible and I look forward to chairing a lively discussion".

Radio Verulam has set up a special "Your Questions" website, where guests can reserve their place at the recording and submit questions or feedback in advance of the programme. In addition, there will be an opportunity to submit questions on the evening, prior to recording. All questions will be subject to review and selection by an independent panel before the programme is recorded. Members of the public who attend the recording will have the option to read out their question or have the question read out by the presenter.

Guests will be able to turn up on the night, but Radio Verulam strongly encourages people to pre-register via the website to avoid disappointment as spaces are limited. For Radio Verulam listeners who cannot make the recording or listen to the broadcast, a podcast will be available

For more information about the programme and to reserve your seat, follow the link to Your Questions from Radio Verulam's home page, <http://www.radioverulam.com/> or you can go direct to: www.radioverulam.co.uk/yourquestions.html



Bike it. Bus it. walk it. it.

Are you a business in St Albans with less than 250 employees?

Our aim is to save you up to £10,000 on your transport costs, with a free personalised travel plan funded by the EU and provided by the University of Hertfordshire.

- 1 Travel plans can cut car use from between 10% - 30% meaning staff time is not wasted behind the wheel.
- 2 Travel plans have been proven to decrease sick leave by 63% and improve productivity of staff through home and flexible working.
- 3 If there was no congestion within St Albans, businesses would gain a total of over £34million per year, equating to over £6500 per business.



Did you know St Albans city has the second highest carbon footprint in the UK?

Let us help you make savings
 call: 01707 281 366 or visit: freshwaystowork.org.uk



Network St Albans

*Source: Telegraph.co.uk

Printed on 100% recycled paper



Business Breakfast Meeting
 Wednesday 16th March 2011
 7.15am – 9.15am
 Freddie's
 52-56 Adelaide Street
 St Albans
 Herts
 AL3 5BG



Peter Carroll, Fair Fuel UK

Peter Carroll and his team are spearheading the nationwide Fair Fuel UK Campaign which is fighting for the abolition of the massive Fuel Duty hike planned for April and for the stabilisation of fuel prices. Peter was the architect of the successful Ghurkha Justice Campaign of 2009 getting Joanna Lumley involved and seeing the campaign through to victory in a blaze of media interest. He and his team are building Fair Fuel UK into a similarly powerful campaign using the renowned Motor Journalist Quentin Willson as a front figurehead.

Peter will explain Fair Fuel UK and set out how local members can add support.

Peter operates his own PR/Lobbying/Campaigning company – Why Not Campaign Limited – which offers a complete range of communications services to businesses large and small. Previously, he has owned and operated several road freight companies. In his early career he was a research scientist and served as an Officer in the Royal Air Force. Peter has travelled up from his home in Folkestone where he lives with his wife Lynne.

Do you think this will affect your business? Have your chance to ask Peter questions!

We look forward to seeing many of you, there for another fantastic breakfast at this superb venue!

£21 (plus VAT) for members, £26 (plus VAT) for non-members.

Book now on-line www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk/buy-online/events/

A presentation by 'Fresh Ways to Work' lead by University of Hertfordshire will follow Peter Carroll. Ideas for Travel Plans for you company to potentially save thousands of pounds each year!

New Member

We look forward to welcoming the following company to the Chamber:

Hosking Associates

Chartered Health & Safety Practitioner

P O Box 872

St Albans

Herts AL1 9DF

Tel: 0845 130 5350

Email: louise@hosking-associates.com

Web: www.hosking-associates.com

Contact: Louise Hosking

BULLETIN 2011

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E-mail: office@stalbands-amber.co.uk

Website: www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk



Mayor's Pride Awards 2011

Nominate your hero for the Mayor's Pride Awards

The Mayor Cllr Maxine Crawley, will present local residents and organisations with The Mayor's Pride Awards in recognition of their contribution to the community. This will take place at an awards evening featuring live music and dance at the **Alban Arena on Thursday 28 April at 7.30pm.**

This new initiative, organised by St Albans City and District Council, will be an opportunity to thank the unsung heroes and volunteers from across the district who have put others before themselves, shown an outstanding contribution to the community, or achieved great things in the face of adversity.

The Mayor is looking for winners in the following categories: a Child or Young Person of Courage, a Community Champion, an Environmental Champion, a Community Orientated Business of the Year, a Community Project of the Year, an Award for Bravery, Voluntary Sector Award, a Cultural Innovation Award and an Outstanding Dedication to the Emergency Services and Armed Forces. Further details are available on the Council's website: www.stalbans.gov.uk/mayorsprideawards.

The Council's Community Project Officer, Ricky Manning said, "The Mayor's Pride Awards will be a fabulous evening of celebration to honour members of the community and local organisations that have gone the extra mile for others. This is a community event through and through; expect warmth, sincerity and copious amounts of neighbourly spirit, coupled with fantastic live entertainment from local groups."

You can nominate someone or a group. Tell us exactly why your nominees deserve to win. You can pick up a nomination form from the Council offices in St Peter's Street, St Albans, or from doctors and dentist's surgeries, leisure centres, the Alban Arena, Harpenden Public Halls, The Maltings Arts Theatre and community centres. Simply **complete the nomination form** and send it to the Council to arrive **by 14 March 2011.**

FREE TICKETS for the awards evening are available now from the Alban Arena's website: <http://www.alban-arena.co.uk/whats-on/the-mayors-pride-awards/> or alternatively by telephoning the Alban Arena Box Office: 01727 844488.

Contact for the Mayor's Pride Awards:
Ricky Manning, Community Project Officer
Tel: 01727 819369
E-mail: ricky.manning@stalbands.gov.uk