

Bulletin

Dec 2011



**Daniel Goodwin, Chief Executive
St Albans & City District Council**

Daniel Goodwin Chief Executive of St Albans City & District Council gave his annual presentation to the Chamber members last Thursday morning bright and early at Kashu on Hatfield Road. Daniel spoke to 85 delegates about how things are progressing in the district and the council's activities over the last year, with particular emphasis on its work with business to support the local economy.

Delegates had the opportunity to ask questions at the end of his presentation and various subjects were touched upon including St Albans Carbon Footprint (we have one of the largest carbon footprints per head in the country). Daniel mentioned a local company employing 30 people all working from home and the Government has just launched guidelines on 'Alternatives to Travel'. Our Guest Adrian Dixon from adneXus asked *"What is SADC doing to help promote these initiatives, especially the 'Anywhere Working' policy where organisations are encouraged to challenge the concept of the daily commute by letting people work from home and / or stagger hours. Also help with the technology such as video conferencing that will enable these ways of working to be effective."*

Other questions came from Ivor Kellock, Mike Peters and Kashu owner Gels about promoting the heritage and culture offering in St Albans and also progress with writing a new District Plan.

**Seasons Greetings
To All Chamber Members
Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas and a very
Happy & Prosperous New Year**



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Rayner Essex Partner Appointed as President of Global Alliance



Stephen Jacobs, a Partner in the St Albans and London based accountancy practice, Rayner Essex, has recently been appointed as President of INPACT International. INPACT is an alliance of accountancy practices with over 150 member firms around the world.

Stephen recently chaired the annual INPACT conference which this year was held in Istanbul. The conference was attended by over 80 INPACT delegates. The event was also attended by fellow Rayner Essex partners Antony Federer and Mark Moore.

Commenting on his appointment Mr Jacobs said:

“I am honoured to be appointed as President of INPACT. The Alliance is a powerful mechanism for our members to share best practice and to provide cross-border advice and support to clients. During my presidency I aim to enhance these links and ensure that not only our member firms benefit from the Alliance but also their clients.”

Rayner Essex has seen an increase in international work in recent years. This has typically involved helping businesses set up operations in overseas jurisdictions and assisting overseas groups that wish to set up business in the UK.

More information on Rayner Essex can be found at www.rayneressex.com whilst information on INPACT International can be found at www.inpactint.com

The Chamber Ball 2011



Our Sponsors from :
51 Peagusus, Hunston properties and
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Lisa, Graham, Cllr. Geoff Harrison and
Cllr. Michael Weaver

All pictures by
Blue Feather Photography

Thank you Message from Crohn's and Colitis UK.....

Thanks very much for the donation from the Chamber Ball Raffle – we are very grateful to receive this, and also to have enjoyed the benefit of such excellent awareness raising at the St Albans Chamber Christmas Ball.

This continued awareness raising of IBD (inflammatory bowel diseases ie Crohn's and Colitis) is vital, so that people will understand and support those who live with the challenges posed by these long-term, fluctuating conditions. If we could also present our recent research on Employment to Chamber, as mentioned in a previous email, we would be very grateful.

Finally, I thought you would like to tell the members that the Chamber's donation will go towards our Personal Grants fulfillment in 2011. We offer personal grants of up to £300 to those in need, as a result of their IBD – they may have lost their jobs, or had to stay at home to care for a sick child, or they may be a student just starting at university and suddenly having to have access to en suite toilet provision. All cases are assessed, to ensure that this help goes to those in greatest financial need.

Nicola, too ill to work after her fifth operation, was washing her sheets by hand almost daily because sores around her colostomy bag were causing leaks. She wrote to tell us that when she received a grant for a washing machine, she cried with relief.

We do not give money, we provide the service or goods required, often directly to the university, retail outlet etc. In 2010, for example, we granted, amongst many, many other requests:

42 washing machines
8 tumble dryers
7 washer dryers
2 showers

In total, over 245 grants were made in 2010 by our Welfare Committee, a 25% increase on 2009. Due to an increase in applications in 2011, we have been concerned regarding fulfillment and so the Chamber donation will mean that in 2011, two or more individuals in need will benefit, and on their behalf we are very grateful - thank you so much.

Suzi Clarke, Director of Marketing & Fundraising



**Join us for the next Herts Business Alliance
Networking Breakfast Meeting between
Watford Football Club,
St Albans Chamber of Commerce &
Watford Chamber of Commerce**

**THURSDAY 19th January 2012
7.15am**

**The Corporate Lounge
Watford Football Club**

**Guest speaker David Coulson
Senior Business Executive
East of England Development Agency
2012 Games.**

The London 2012 Olympic Games has already provided a wealth of business opportunities for businesses in the East of England.

David Coulson, EEDA Senior Executive 2012 Games, will highlight the additional, non-contract opportunities for businesses and the tasks needed to prepare for those opportunities.

David's role at EEDA is to maximize the opportunities and legacy for businesses in the East of England from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. A significant aspect of his work is to promote Compete For, the on-line procurement website for the Games, which has seen 15,000+ regional registrations on the site and contracts awarded worth approximately £50m to businesses in the region.

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE CALL Lorraine Marshall on 01923442442

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

New Members

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

Security Unlimited

Private Investigations, Process serving & Surveillance

The Studio, Flint Cottages

North Orbital Road

St Albans

Herts

Tel: 01727 810418

Web: www.securityunlimited.co.uk

Contact: Vince Comb

Position: Director

Email: agents@securityunlimited.co.uk

Mr Simms Traditional Sweet Shop

Confectionary Shop

5 French Row

St Albans

Herts

AL3 5DU

Tel: 01727 8568568

Contact: Stephen Burland

Position: General Manager

Polar Bear Law

Dispute resolution Solicitor

27 Brampton Road

St Albans

Herts

AL1 4PP

Tel: 02071526550

Contact: Oliver Smith

Position: Director & Solicitor

Email oliver.smith@keystonelaw.co.uk

Home Instead Senior Care

Care in the home to the elderly

Suite 7B

35 High Street

Sandridge

St Albans

Herts

AL4 9DD

Tel: 01727 895941

Contact: Fiona Harrell

Position: Owner

Email fiona.harrell@homeinstead.co.uk

Gallagher & Associates

Property

Kinetic Business Centre

Theobald Street, Elstree & Borehamwood

Herts

WD6 4PJ

Tel: 01727 575445

Contact: Paul Gallagher

Position: Managing Director

Email : info@gaaproperty.co.uk

In A City Deals

Daily Online deals

Unit 17 Brick Knoll Park

Ashley Road Industrial Estate

St Albans

Herts

AL1 5UG

Tel: 01727 220744

Contact: Charlotte Delcore

Position: Director

Email charlotte@inacitydeals.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2012

- **Thursday 19th January 2012 - Herts Business Alliance Breakfast at Watford Football Club 7.15am**
TO BOOK CALL 01923 442442
- **Tuesday 31st January 2012 - Networking Lunch at Chez Mumtaj 12.30pm** **BOOK NOW ONLINE**
- **Wednesday 8th February 2012 - Business Breakfast at The Wicked Lady 7.30am** **BOOK NOW ONLINE**
- **Friday 24th February 2012 - Networking Lunch at Lussmanns 12.30pm** **MORE DETAILS SOON**
- **Thursday 1st March 2012 - AGM followed by Comedy at Havana St Albans 6.15pm** **MORE DETAILS SOON**
- **Friday 20th April 2012 - St George's Day Lunch at Sopwell House Hotel 12.30pm** **SPEAKER TBC**