

# Bulletin

March  
2012



WATFORD & WEST HERTS  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## Herts Business Alliance Business Breakfast

Wednesday 28th March 2012

7.15am – 9.15am

Watford Football Club

Vicarage Road

Watford

WD18 0ER

T. 01923 496000

## ROSS WILSON

### Football Business Director, Watford FC

ROSS WILSON was appointed as Watford's Head of Football Business in June 2011. He took over the role, which had previously been merged with the Head of Academy, from John Stephenson. He will be speaking about the business aspects of working for a big club or organisation where financial decisions have a huge impact on success!

Ross, who was born and grew up in Falkirk, began his football career at his local club, Falkirk FC as the Head of Education and Welfare then progressed onto being the Head of Football Development.

He set up the highly successful Academy structure at the Scottish club which is now proving fruitful and bringing players through the ranks into the first team. This experience stands Ross in very good stead as he takes over the reigns of a position where communication between the recruitment team at WFC and the Harefield Academy is key.

Ross oversees the day-to-day running of the recruitment and football administration departments at Watford and also deals with contractual issues and agency networking.

Ross works very closely with the Head of Academy Nick Cox as well as Watford manager Sean Dyche. His job title was amended in December 2011 to fall in line with other members of the club's Executive Board.

**Come and network with over 100 other like minded business Delegates  
at The Herts Business Alliance Breakfast. We look forward to seeing you**

**£25 (plus VAT) for members, £30 (plus VAT) for non-members.**

**Book now on-line [www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk](http://www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk)**



# BIZ QUIZ

Raising money for Iain Rennie Grove House Hospice Care

quiz masters:  
**Richard Crook & Daniel Seeby  
of Co-op Bank**

**When?**

Thursday 15th March  
7.00pm for 7.30pm

**Where?**

St Albans City FC

**What?**

£15 a ticket, includes curry  
& a pint!  
Ideally tables of 6

**How?**

Contact Linda Petrons  
on 01442 820721 or email  
lpetrons@irhh.org



Tickets are limited so book early!

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## *New President's message.....*



Photo—Blue Feather photography

Last night we held the Chamber AGM in The Old Town Hall in St Albans. The Agenda included the election of a new director, Sabra Swinson of Cerco Communications, and the re-election of four other serving directors. It also included a swap of offices between myself and Graham Lane. The result is that I was elected President of the Chamber and Graham the Vice-President. The previous President, Sandra Oldfield, on behalf of the members, thanked Graham for his service and I did the same on behalf of the directors and management.

Graham Lane has been an exceptional President. For the last three years he has served over and beyond the call of duty, personally taking senior roles in a number of important local bodies and initiatives and making many personal appearances representing the Chamber. I'd like to wish him a quiet Vice-Presidency but, knowing the man as I do, I am sure that his contribution to the Chamber will diminish only slightly, if at all. He ends his Presidency with the Chamber in a vibrant and active state and, considering the economic environment since 24 March 2009, when he became President, this is no mean feat.

I hope that my Presidency will also be a success although I suspect that my approach to a number of things will be different. However one of many things that I share with Graham is our love of the District and, in particular, its business community. It is a real privilege for me to serve as President and in future bulletins I can tell you a little more about myself and my vision and aspirations for the Chamber. For today, the message is "Thank you Graham".

**Peter Goodman  
Chamber President**



Radio Verulam YOUR QUESTIONS ' Business Special



Radio Verulam hosted another 'Your Questions—Business Special' this week at The Maltings Arts Theatre.

The panel *pictured left* above consisted of Mel Hilbrow (St Albans Enterprise Agency/ Chamber Director) David Lloyd (Herts County Council), Meirion Anderson (Institute of Directors) Julian Daly (Leader of St Albans City and District Council) and Michael Weaver (Harpenden Town Mayor, Chamber Director and experienced Re-tailer)

Members of the audience were invited to submit their questions regarding matters which affect local business. Matters such as business rates, localism, parking, traffic, shop vacancy rates were discussed

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Wednesday 28th March** **7.15am**  
**Herts Business Alliance Breakfast**  
 Watford FC Corporate Lounge  
 Speaker: Ross Wilson, Football Business Director

**Friday 20th April 2012** **SOLD OUT**  
**St George's Day Lunch**  
 Sopwell House Hotel **12pm**  
 Speaker: Eddie The Eagle Edwards

**Wednesday 2nd May 2012**  
**Business Breakfast** **7.30am**  
 St Michael's Manor Hotel  
 Speaker : TBC

**Friday 2nd June**  
**Business Breakfast**  
 The Marchmont Arms , Piccotts End  
 Speaker : TBC **7.30am**

**Friday 6th July**  
**BBQ Lunch** **12.30pm**  
 The Fox, Harpenden

## St George's Day Lunch 2012 COMPLETELY **SOLD OUT**



We are looking for auction items for this event. If you can support our fundraising activities please do get in touch.

The Chamber would like to thank **PwC** for sponsoring this event and also the following additional sponsors:

**Lloyds TSB Commercial**  
**My Mustard**  
**Debenhams Ottaway Solicitors**  
**Hertfordshire Business Independent**  
**Havana**  
**Impact Logo Products and Trophies.**

We are still looking for companies to sponsor the Dessert , The Table Flowers and also the Champagne Reception . Prices start at only £200. For more information go to

<http://www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk/buy-online/marketing/>



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

### New Members

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

#### Business Doctors

*Strategic Business Consulting*  
27 Birklands Park

St Albans

Herts

AL1 1TS

Tel: 07557 657433

Web:

[www.businessdoctors.co.uk/mid\\_hertfordshire](http://www.businessdoctors.co.uk/mid_hertfordshire)

Contact: Kevin Blissett

Position: Regional Director

Email: [kevinb@businessdoctors.co.uk](mailto:kevinb@businessdoctors.co.uk)

#### 5 Rings Telecom

*Independent Telecoms Provider*  
129 Watford Road

St Albans

Herts

AL2 3JY

Tel: 07890 295747

Web: [www.5ringstelecom.co.uk](http://www.5ringstelecom.co.uk)

Contact: Steve Maton

Position: Sales Director

Email: [steve.maton@5ringstelecom.co.uk](mailto:steve.maton@5ringstelecom.co.uk)

#### Bang & Olufsen of Harpenden

*Audio Visual Retailer/ Home Entertainment*  
82 High Street

Harpenden

Herts

AL5 2SP

Tel: 01582 764246

Web: [www.bang-olufsen.com/harpenden](http://www.bang-olufsen.com/harpenden)

Contact: Aarti Parmar

Position: Marketing & Communications

Email: [ap.harpenden@bang-olufsen.co.uk](mailto:ap.harpenden@bang-olufsen.co.uk)

**BANG & OLUFSEN OF HARPENDEN**

Surrounding customers for 38 years with home entertainment, Video, Audio, Loudspeakers, Telephones, Remote Controls, Digital Media and Accessories that enhances their lifestyle with innovative design, technology and integration. Combined with award-winning customer care and service.

**SERVICES INCLUDE:**

**Free Home Survey:** We can see with customers home and carry out a full survey on what they would like to achieve with their home integration and entertainment system.

**Free Home Demonstrations:** We can demonstrate our product range in customers own living space.

**Installation & Operation:** The purchased system will be fitted by our fully trained inhouse installers and demonstrate how to get the most from the purchase.

**Afters Care:** We aim to develop a long lasting relationship and provide back-up for the life of your system supported by our inhouse authorized service and repair engineers.

We are in the midst of preparing our 'Exclusive Viewing Room' showcasing the best from B&O. Corporate companies will be able to host their events from May 2012. Ask us for details.

The team of Bang & Olufsen of Harpenden are offering a exciting job in our showroom.

**Bang & Olufsen of Harpenden:**  
82 High Street, Harpenden,  
Hertfordshire, AL5 2SP  
Phone: 01582 764246  
[harpenden@bang-olufsen.co.uk](mailto:harpenden@bang-olufsen.co.uk)

**Bang Olufsen of Harpenden**  
BangOlufsenUK

[bangolufsen.com/harpenden](http://bangolufsen.com/harpenden) BANG & OLUFSEN WHAT MOVES YOU

### **Official launch of Ozone Cafe Restaurant**

**Sami Ozone welcomes many Chamber members to the official opening of Ozone Cafe-Restaurant in the Maltings Shopping centre last week. Graham Lane formally opened the Restaurant at midday**



**The venue is open at 8am every day for Coffees & breakfast followed by a Lebanese a la carte menu for lunch and dinner**

[www.ozonecaferestaurant.com](http://www.ozonecaferestaurant.com)