



11.04.08

Hi there readers, I am now writing to you from my new office in Littlehampton, where the natives are friendly and I have been made very welcome! A mixed bag for you this week, with plenty of networking opportunities and chances to contribute to local organisations. As ever, if you have any exciting news about how close your business is to World Domination, please send it through!

## Lancing Business Park Votes For BID

This week, Lancing Business Park Ltd secured a mandate from Lancing Business Park businesses to deliver their BID proposal! The figures read as 65% Positive by number, 83% positive by rateable value, and 50% turnout. This will mean at least £120K per year being collected and put back into making the Business Park an even better place to do business. This will be spent on projects identified by the businesses themselves, including recycling, signage and access. This is a massive achievement at Coastal West Sussex's largest Business Park.

A huge well done must go to all involved, especially Mike Botting the BID Co-ordinator, and to the businesses leading the way especially Parafix Tapes & Conversions & Fine Cut Graphic Imaging.

## Arun Business Partnership

Robert Warham - Proprietor of the Beachcroft Hotel, has kindly agreed to host another meeting after the last was postponed due to huge waves crashing onto the promenade! So the next Arun Business Partnership meeting will be on Monday 14th April, 5.00 - 7.00 p.m. This will also be your chance to see the newly refurbished Hotel which re-opened fully to the public on 1st April.

A few interesting facts about the refurbishment:

- The Hotel was refurbished over a six week period, whilst remaining open without any customer complaints
- 6,000 sq ft of carpets were laid by a Bognor Regis Business Park resident company Sargeant Carpets!
- 500 litres of paint used!
- 1,220 separate items were purchased!

So come along to the meeting and have a good look as well as meeting up with your local business colleagues. It's a great opportunity to network, meet new businesses and have a bit of fun!

If you are coming along please email [miriam.nicholls@arun.gov.uk](mailto:miriam.nicholls@arun.gov.uk) to let us know. If you haven't already you might also like to make a note of the meeting dates for the rest of the year.

16th June at The White Swan, Chichester Road, Arundel  
15th September at Fontwell Park Racecourse  
8th December at Ford Prison.

## Arun Business Partnership Demo Site

Most of you now will be well aware of the existence of the Partnership's website - [www.arunbusinesspartnership.co.uk](http://www.arunbusinesspartnership.co.uk) - and more companies are signing up each month, making it even more vibrant and relevant to the growth of your business.

CAM have now developed a demo site to give you the opportunity to 'try before you buy'. All of the functionality of the main site is there, but the content is wiped every few days. You can use it to check out just how easy it is to get your information up on the main site. The url is: <http://demo.arunbusinesspartnership.co.uk/> (You will be asked to register, but without paying)

## Sussex Enterprise Training & Networking Breakfasts

Michelle Harding our local Sussex Enterprise representative has contacted me to let you know about their forthcoming networking meetings. They also offer training courses which cover a multitude of areas, which are available for members & non-members. A [list](#) and [calendar](#) are attached. If you'd like to go to any of these, please contact Sussex Enterprise on 01444 259230 or visit [www.sussexenterprise.co.uk](http://www.sussexenterprise.co.uk)

## Fire After Theft

Colin Welburn at Littlehampton Welding reported a useful but little known fact after a recent meeting with West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service. Duncan Bennett, Fire Safety Officer with Arun District, informed him that thieves may set a fire once they have burgled somewhere. This can be used to cover their tracks. Consequently, not only do businesses experience the terrible feeling of being burgled, but might also have fire damage to their premises. This is another good reason not to leave anything outside your premises which might be used for malicious firesetting or as a missile. For more information or assistance with your fire prevention please contact Duncan on 01243 752534.

## Water Theft From Stand Pipe

This week on one of our Industrial Estates, a tanker firm had been spotted filling up their tankers with water directly from the stand pipe. The problem with this is that the water they are using isn't metered, so it's not chargeable. Obviously this isn't a serious crime but it does show how people try all sorts of ways to get something for nothing. As well as this, in this particular case, the tankers had ruined a piece of land by flooding it whilst filling their tankers, and then driving over it.

As usual, being vigilant and asking the question as to why these drivers are on the estate will at least make them feel that they shouldn't be there.

## Riverside Industrial Estate Successful In Funding Application

It is with great pleasure that I can report that Riverside Industrial Estate has been successful in their application for funding from Arun District Council's Local Area Agreement funding, for the provision of a defibrillator and training of volunteers to be First Responders.

This has been a great partnership effort between a number of businesses and St Johns Ambulance, The Ambulance Service & Littlehampton & District First Responders, which will make a difference to the lives of employees and the visiting public to Riverside Industrial Estate.

The project in brief was to reduce years of life lost, by purchasing a defibrillator for the site, and by training volunteers to become First Responders. If a person has a heart attack or electric shock, there is 8 minutes before the brain is starved of oxygen because the heart has stopped working. Therefore if a trained First Responder can get to the injured within that time and administer effective first aid, there is a greater chance of survival.

By becoming members of Littlehampton & District First Responders network, volunteers will be fully trained and insured to use the defibrillator and associated equipment such as oxygen. First Responders do exactly what it says on the tin - they respond first, before the ambulance service, as they are on or near the scene of an accident with the training and equipment to assist the injured party. First Responders sign on with the 999 switchboard when they are at work, and if there is a relevant call they will receive a text message. If they are able to respond, they reply by text and then go to the scene.

There are 9 volunteers from 4 different businesses located on Riverside Industrial Estate. These volunteers will take part in a training programme over the next few months which is organised through St Johns Ambulance.

It is hoped that they will be officially active from July this year.

## Wheels-4-Africa Appeal

Last year this newsletter featured an appeal on behalf of Wheels-4-Africa, to help bring some wheelchairs from Scotland to the South Coast, in order for them to be sent to help disabled people in Africa. Adrian Mills from the charity has been in touch to ask if businesses can help with another collection. The charity has had some wheelchairs donated to them from Oldham and from an area just north of Birmingham. If your business has deliveries or connections to that part of the UK where a van might be going up fully loaded and coming back empty, perhaps you'd like to help Adrian and his charity by picking up the chairs. If this is something that you can help with, please contact Adrian on 01243 672473 or email on [info@wheels-4-africa.org.uk](mailto:info@wheels-4-africa.org.uk).

## Local School Help

As regular readers will know, requests for assistance at local schools are often in this newsletter. Here is another one which might be useful for businesses looking to develop their Corporate Social Responsibility or for staff members looking to develop extra skills in a new area.

The request is this: David Brixey, Head at Angmering School has asked for help in finding a business person or two to help on a governing committee. This role will be as part of a team, who will have a big impact in delivering a new plan. The Management Committee for 'Out of School Learning' is its Governing Body. It currently consists of 4 head-teachers, a parent, a councillor and a representative of the Youth Service. The Management Committee would like to widen the membership to include some individuals from the wider community including the business community.

OSL provides education for over 300 students in Key stages 1 to 4, who are out of school because they are excluded or cannot attend for medical or related reasons. It has 3 Pupil Referral Units, College links, online learning and a home tuition service.

OSL works well with all of the schools from Shoreham to Littlehampton - especially the secondary schools. But recently, OSL has gone into Special Measures and a strong action plan is being developed by the management team, our committee and West Sussex to change this.

A business representative would bring much needed experience in budget management and business planning, which in turn will help turn round a valuable learning service.

Anyone interested in taking up this opportunity should contact David Brixey at Angmering School on 01903 772351 or [dbrixey@wsgfl.org.uk](mailto:dbrixey@wsgfl.org.uk).

## Company Profile - Stevens & Billington

Through the East Sussex Enterprise Hub, I heard about a fantastic family business who are making quality hand-made Preamplifiers. Stevens & Billington have taken this opportunity to shout about their excellence and to investigate any further business opportunities with businesses in Coastal West Sussex.

### **The company**

Stevens & Billington is based in Hastings, East Sussex on the south coast of England. All our products are made entirely by hand here in our workshop using only the very finest components. Stevens & Billington Limited (and Music First Audio) comprises a small but highly skilled and dedicated team who share a passion for music and a devotion to excellence. [READ MORE...](#)

Stevens & Billington Limited was formed in 1963 By Mr Stevens & Mr Billington. The company produced transformers and other wire wound components for the professional audio, broadcast and Hi Fi industries. Mr Billington sadly passed away in 1978 but his wife and Mr Stevens continued to produce transformers albeit not in quite such high volume.

Jonathan Billington took over the family business in 1986 having finished university with a degree in electronics (specialising in acoustics) and a deep rooted love of music. He set about improving the quality of the product and Stevens & Billington Limited was soon able to count The BBC, Soundcraft, The Royal Opera House, The House of Commons and countless other highly respected organisations amongst it's customers.

In early 2003 Stevens & Billington set about producing the ultimate transformer and it quickly became apparent that this transformer could work as a Hi Fi product in it's own right. Christened Music First Audio this off-shoot brand produced the highly regarded and multiple-award winning Music First Audio Passive Preamplifier.

## *Press release*

Music First Audio announces Munich 08

Music First Audio will mark their debut at the Munich High End Show this year with a new product. Following the success and critical acclaim of our multiple award winning pre-amplifier we proudly present the Reference Preamplifier.

The original Music First Audio Passive magnetic Preamplifier offered a previously unheard level of sonic transparency. It was launched in 2003 and received glowing reviews across the international Hi Fi press. The Music First Preamplifier holds the following prestigious awards:

- Hi Fi News Awards 2004 'Editors Choice' January 2005
- Hi Fi News Awards 2005 'Preamplifier of the year' November 2005
- Positive Feedback Online 'Writers Choice' Award 2005
- Six Moons 'Best of 2005' Award
- Hi Fi News Awards 2006 'Preamplifier of the year' November 2006 (the first time in the magazine's fifty year history that any product has won twice)
- Hi Fi World Awards 2006 'Preamplifier of the year' January 2007.

Our reference model builds on this success. The result of three years of research and development, coupled with thirty plus years of world class transformer design, no aspect has been left to chance. Every component and each material has been chosen specifically for its properties and performance in this application.

The Munich High End Show is the place to experience the finest music reproduction systems and Music First Audio's new Reference Preamplifier is without doubt the ultimate component.

"There was a time when British hi-fi equipment was the envy of the world, that's not always been the case over the last thirty years or so but, as far as we're concerned, the new Music First Reference Preamplifier regains that crown, it's probably the finest music reproduction component we've heard, ever!"

(more - [http://www.audiolincs.com/wtsnew.php?cat\\_id=1&prd\\_id=231](http://www.audiolincs.com/wtsnew.php?cat_id=1&prd_id=231))

And finally have a great weekend!

To unsubscribe please e-mail: [chris.shephard@wsep.org.uk](mailto:chris.shephard@wsep.org.uk)

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