



**Next meeting:
Friday 31st August 2007**

August Newsletter...

Our July meeting was sponsored by Crucis Consultants, representing the **Young Enterprise Scheme**, whereby local schoolchildren get the chance to run their own mini-business within a school environment, mentored by local businesspeople. They require some additional advisors, as well as donations (financial or in kind) or help with publicity, in the Greater Lincoln area; anyone interested should contact Chris Trigg on 01522 698550.

The main business was the Club's AGM; the club was formed three years ago, and has grown in strength, purpose and membership, with well over 300 members now registered, comprising operations small and large, across the private and public sectors. We boast an eclectic mix of occupations, from Hungarian dental travel to a local undertaker; banking to bakery; publishing to catering; industrial chaplaincy to restoration of vintage motorcycles; design and websites to skip hire; floristry to financial services; legal services to employment agencies. Recent committee changes were ratified and, there being no additional nominations, the outgoing committee was re-elected for the year to June 2008.

Our annual charity donations, from surplus funds at year end, were made to two local charitable operations: donations of £250 each were made to the **Lincolnshire Centre for Grief and Loss**, which provides free bereavement support and counselling services to all ages from their Lincoln offices, and to **Lincs City Farm Bursary**, which assists city-living children to experience life on a farm.

Our speaker was Andrew Pearce, who recounted his fascinating exploits in making last year's 70-mile trek to the North Pole, which raised £29,000 for two local charities: Macmillan Cancer Support and the Air Ambulance. Various practical tips were passed on to members, including such life-saving knowledge as how to recognise an attacking polar bear. (The tail wags, but you are advised not to spend too long checking...)

Our August meeting, is sponsored by Dan James of the Lincoln branch of **printing.com**. We have a joint presentation from Shona Welberry (Business in the Community), Simon Jackson (Jackson Building Centres) and Robert Doe (Lincolnshire Co-operative) on '**Business for Breakfast**'. This initiative sponsors out-of-school-hours breakfast clubs at local primary schools.

Children can be left at school from 7.45, and enjoy a cooked meal - enabling parents to more readily attend training or employment opportunities. Funding and support is needed for the setting up, and/or the sustainability, of these clubs.

Emma Clement will provide a brief overview of the Club's **proposed constitution** and the winner of the July Business Card Draw was **Reverend Les Whitfield**, industrial chaplain, who will have a few minutes at the August meeting to explain the details and duties of his role. Operational duties permitting, **Sgt Pat Coates** will provide a City of Lincoln policing update.

Of course, our regular '**speed networking**' event will take place - so make sure you come equipped with plenty of business cards! A **business card draw** will take place as usual, to allow someone a brief promotional slot at our September meeting.

As always, our meetings are open to all – so if you have colleagues who have not been to us before, bring them along on Friday morning to the Trust Suite at Lincoln City Football Stadium at Sincil Bank.

Checkout out next Wednesday's Echo Business Club page to see our members' advertisements; and contact Stacey at the Echo stacey.murphy@lincolnshireecho.co.uk if you would like to book a space.

The Club is always interested to hear from current or potential members with ideas for presentations, offers to speak – or offers to sponsor a meeting. If you have any thoughts or contribution to make in any of these areas, do please speak to any committee member or make contact via the website. This is YOUR Club, and the presentations which are made should always reflect YOUR interests and needs, so if there is an aspect of business about which you would like more knowledge, and which you think others may benefit from, just drop us a line and we'll see what we can do. If you have specialist knowledge which may be of general interest to others, again, let us know. We are happy to consider presentations on any topic, so long as they aren't overtly commercial; but if you *did* want to make a commercial presentation, we'd be delighted to let you sponsor the meeting!

Recent meetings have ranged from last month's talk on the North Pole expedition, to the rationale behind identify checks at banks and financial institutions; updates on disability and age discrimination legislation; detailed presentations of the town centre roadworks and street furniture enhancements. Other presentations have been provided by, or on behalf of, Sainsbury's, the University's Business School, the Army Cadet Force, The Princes Trust, the Lincolnshire Business Awards, etc.

And if you've not been along recently, then you'll not know about our speed networking – everyone gets a minute to promote their own business to a table of around ten people.

Our next meeting is sponsored by Printing.com, to whom our thanks go.

www.linconbusinessclub.co.uk