



Connect St Albans Community Edition

November 2009



Connect St Albans, bringing local businesses and community groups together

Local businesses receive a monthly e-bulletin with requests from member groups. We are keen to ensure that we are providing an up-to-date and interesting list.

Please make sure you continue to send us your requests and make them as specific as possible. When we hear from a business that can meet your needs we will get in touch with you. They may take a little while to respond in the current economic climate.

We operate on a first come first served basis.

What's in it for you?

- Free professional advice, skills and resources for your organisation
- Positive relationships with local businesses
- Teams of employees to help with bigger projects

Case Study

Serena Software gives their employees the opportunity to spend one working day per quarter volunteering in their local community. Recent 'Give Back' days have been dedicated to helping the homeless, the elderly, the environment, cancer patients, veterans and the disabled.

CEO, Jeremy Burton, says: *We want to give our employees the chance to get out there and engage with local organisations and spend time making a positive impact on their local community.*

Serena UK are also involved in the Connect St Albans Dragon's Apprentice project with students at St. Columba's College in St Albans. They will be working with 6th formers

New Social Enterprise Unit at University of Herts — Launch Event

3 December 2009, 6:30 PM
Social Enterprise Unit, University of Hertfordshire Business School
De Havilland Campus, Hatfield, AL10 9EU

Keynote speaker: Laura Cronshaw, CEO, St Albans CVS
Case Studies in Social Enterprise from Hertfordshire and Beyond

The Social Enterprise Unit has been created to promote and facilitate the engagement of Business School students and staff with the local voluntary sector. We can help your organisation with strategic and practical issues and help you to be more enterprising in generating income. The Unit will also promote opportunities for those who are already engaged in social enterprise to develop your skills.

The launch event will introduce the Unit and look at how engaging with the University can benefit your organisation. There will also be an opportunity to discuss your ideas for enterprise and the support needed for success.

To register email: business.school@herts.ac.uk

Dragons Apprentice

3 teams of boys (the apprentices) from St Columba's College have been challenged to "turn £100 into £1,000" for a charity of their choice. With initial funding and support from 3 business mentors (the dragons) and 3 charities they have between now and the end of the year to get their plans in place and stage their events. All profits will go directly to their

Students at St Albans College in St Albans. They will be working with 6th formers supporting their challenge to turn their £100 stakes into £1000s for charity.



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Support and “start up” capital for the teams comes from their dragons (Deloitte, Serena Software and Premier Foods) + their chosen charities (The Volunteer Centre (CVS), Homestart and Herts. Young Homeless Group). It’s hoped that, following this year’s pilot, Dragons’ Apprentice will roll out across the district involving more and more schools, businesses and local charities.

Key Note Presentations

The CVS have recently been invited to speak to both The Institute of Directors and the local Chamber of Commerce about the work of connect. As a result we have been approached by individuals interested in trusteeship and exploring how their businesses can get more involved.

For more information on either of these presentations contact laura@cvsstalbands.org.uk

FREE executive coaching

Karen from Cranston Cognition is offering a series of 3 coaching sessions for a charity. The sessions will be suitable for the charities senior executives who would benefit from increasing charitable donations and support in a shorter time period. Executive coaching can help with planning and time management, focusing on what is important and taking the right decisions, enhancing productivity, performance, customer service, branding yourself, staff retention and ultimately donations and support.

Help with fundraising

A tiara designer, based in St. Albans who makes bridal and occasions jewellery, would like to help out with some fundraising events by selling her jewellery and donating the profit to the fundraiser.

Clean up day

We are looking for organisations to be involved with Clean Up Day during Volunteers Week, June 2010.

Click [here](#) to register

Please distribute this widely and consider displaying it on your notice board.

Do we have the right contact person? Let us know if there is anyone else we should be talking to.



Contact Carol Stevens or Laura Cronshaw on **01727 852 657**

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laura@cvsstalbands.co.uk



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