



## MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017

### In This Issue

Your Chamber  
A New Member  
Chamber Networking Breakfast  
Seminar: Rise in Business Rates  
Dates for your Diary  
Come to the Market  
2017 Membership & Directory Entry  
Solve Your Recruitment Issues  
A First for Chamber Member

### YOUR CHAMBER CLICK BELOW TO GO STRAIGHT THERE

#### EVENTS DIARY

#### Your Member Benefits

#### Member-to-Member Offers

#### Membership Directory

#### Your Board of Directors

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER

#### Fidi Consulting Ltd

Asset protection and wealth maximisation, based in Guildford

**Mrs Caroline Whitaker**  
Director

[Email Caroline](#)

### BUSINESS EVENT

#### LEATHERHEAD CHAMBER NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Wednesday 15 February

7:30am to 9:30am

Beaverbrook, Leatherhead

KT22 8QX

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

### BUSINESS RATES SEMINAR

**DISCOVER HOW THE  
change in Business Rates  
MIGHT AFFECT YOU -  
especially if you have a retail  
premises or a pub!**

Tuesday 7 February  
8.30am to 12 noon

This Joint Chambers and Mole Valley District Council seminar is an excellent opportunity to learn more about the changes in Business rates.

Our speakers include experts from the Valuation Office Agency.

The expert panel will be able to answer any of your questions during the Q&A.

Questions should be submitted in advance via [email](#) by 1st February

**JUST £8.00 plus VAT  
FOR MEMBERS**

Please see the Events Listings below and click the link for full information, a downloadable Flyer and the Booking Link

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS  
VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY!**

### Other Events

#### Surrey Chambers Breakfast

Tuesday 2 February

7:45am to 9:30am

Doubletree by Hilton, Victoria Way, Woking GU21 8EW

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

**JOINT CHAMBERS SEMINAR**

Business Rates - Be Better Informed

Tuesday 7 February

8:30am to 12 noon

Dorking Halls, Martineau Hall, Dorking RH4 1SG

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

**Surrey Chambers Breakfast**

Monday 20 February

7:45am to 9:30am

Lythe Hill Hotel Ltd, Petworth Road, Haslemere GU27 3BQ

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

**Member Event: Surrey Hills Networking Breakfast**

Thursday 23 February

8:00am to 10:00am

The Cock Inn, Church Lane, Headley KT18 6LE

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

### DON'T FORGET

That the Leatherhead Chamber runs the Leatherhead Street Market



Every Thursday and Saturday between 9.00am and 5.00pm, come rain or shine, Leatherhead High Street becomes alive with a wide variety of market stalls selling all sorts - from vegetables and plants to handbags and pet food, there is something for everyone!

Please do pop along and see for yourself.

**Visit the [Market](#) page on the Chamber website for more information**

### Your Membership and Directory Entry

Our thanks to all Members who have already renewed their Membership for 2017 - your continued support is greatly appreciated.

If you have not yet renewed, reminders and copy invoices will soon be issued, in case you've missed our previous invitation.

Please do take a look at the Directory, which is available [online](#) along with an Index.

Both PDF documents can be viewed online, as well being available for print and download.

If you'd like your entry to be updated, please do send us an [email](#), and we'll be pleased to make the changes in your database record, which will be reflected in the Directory at the next online update.

Our thanks once again for your highly valued support, and we wish you every success throughout 2017.



Welcome to your January Newsletter - we hope you'll enjoy reading it.

Newsletters are circulated during the last week of each month - please do [let us know](#) if you have colleagues who would also like to receive a regular copy.

### Would You Like to Contribute or Be Featured in Your NEWSLETTER?

Please do let us know if you have a special offer, an announcement or an article you'd like to share with your fellow Members.

Perhaps you have recently won an award or can offer some business advice - or maybe you'd like to put your business in the \*Spotlight\*.

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO**  
[info@leatherheadchamber.co.uk](mailto:info@leatherheadchamber.co.uk)

### Sound Recruitment Advice From Chamber Member



*An invaluable resource to help Surrey's Small Businesses recruit better*

Is your New Year's Resolution to recruit a new member of staff for your business? Perhaps you're new to recruitment. Or perhaps you've taken on somebody in the past who promised a great deal and then did not deliver?

Recruitment isn't easy, but help is at hand in the form of a short and easy-to-read book which could help you save both time and money by approaching recruitment in the right way.

**Successful recruitment for small businesses** looks at typical mistakes that businesses often make when hiring new staff. It shows how these misjudgements can be damaging to their efforts, and discusses how business owners and managers can make better and more informed recruitment decisions.

The book has been written by Bookham-based Consultant and Author, Mara Thorne, a highly experienced HR professional whose wide-ranging career started in the late 1980s and has spanned a number of different industry sectors and types of organisations.

Mara worked her way up the corporate ladder to senior management and director level positions within international organisations before starting her own HR business, M Thorne Consulting Limited back in 2011. Her business provides practical support and advice to SMEs across Surrey and the surrounding areas.

The aim of the book is to provide a 'no-nonsense guide to finding the right people for your business' which is easily accessible to business people from every background and business sector.

"I do all this without bombarding readers with jargon or complicated models - I just use case studies based on my own real life experience (subtly changed to protect my sources) to illustrate the wrong approach. I also provide learning points which can be easily implemented in their own businesses", Mara adds.

### Successful recruitment for small businesses



**A no-nonsense guide to finding the right people  
for your business**

**Mara Thorne**

The book has already received an enthusiastic review from one of the biggest jigsaw puzzle manufacturers in the UK, Gibsons Games. Nick Wright, MD, said: "This is a brilliant little book and a 'must read' for those involved in the recruitment process, be they HR managers or business owners. Smaller businesses are generally not recruiting regularly, and therefore they tend not to have the specialised knowledge or support in house".

The book can be bought for just £6.00 in hard copy and £4.88 for Kindle via Amazon, and for a limited time only some of the chapters are available to download for FREE at: [www.mthornehr.shop](http://www.mthornehr.shop)

Also available in hard copy via Member [Barton's Bookshop](#)

**Mara Thorne**  
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### Chamber Member Becomes First To fly commercial drone in Heathrow air space

Leatherhead Chamber of Commerce Member, Eyeup Aerial Solutions, recently became the first company approved to complete a commercial drone flight within Heathrow airport.

Graham Degg, who runs Eyeup, carried out a survey of a large warehouse roof using a drone on 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Although the task itself was fairly routine, it was significant for being the first of its type to be permitted within the perimeter of Heathrow airport, the sixth busiest in the world, and at a particularly hectic time in the run-up to Christmas.

Graham said: "We were asked by one of the companies who has a big warehouse there to do a survey of their asbestos roof. Their lease is coming to an end and they needed to get the survey done. The roof is not safe to walk on so it's the only way they could do it really. We were flying 500m away from the south runway, and if anything had gone wrong the drone could have caused a shut-down of the air operations. It was nerve-wracking until we had tested all of the safety systems and confirmed they were working. There was a lot of steel around in the building structure which can cause compass errors, but the job went absolutely perfectly in the end".

Most drones on sale in the UK have an in-built mechanism that prevents them from entering no-fly areas. Graham explained that when drones are within a safety-critical no-fly-zone, such as Heathrow Airport, the motors will not start unless you have been through an exhaustive unlocking procedure with the manufacturer. Graham is confident that he is the first person to commercially fly a drone at Heathrow after being told in no uncertain terms by authorities that this was no ordinary job. He said, "When we were going through the process of getting it all signed off they told me I was one of three applications they were assessing. But when we got the permission, the safety officer concerned made it clear that 'The eyes of all the Heathrow authorities will be on you on this job', so I think I'm safe to assume that we were the first".

**If you'd like to learn more about how Graham can assist you and your business, please do get in touch - he'd be delighted to hear from you!**

**Graham Degg, Director  
Eyeup Aerial Solutions**

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(Credit Article Source: [Surrey Mirror](#))

