

# Businessnews

Where your membership counts



First Floor, 12F Fore Street, The Old Market Centre, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3TP.  
Telephone/ Fax 01823 353353 Email office@taunton-chamber.co.uk

MARCH 2008

## Taunton Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting

All Members are cordially invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of Taunton Chamber of Commerce which, this year, is to be held on Wednesday 30th April at The Castle Hotel and will take the format of a business meeting followed by one of the Hotel's impressive two course Dinners. The Chamber is also pleased to announce that their After Dinner Speaker on this occasion is Mr Geoff Harding, the Bank of England Deputy Agent for the South West of England.

As is usual on these occasions, there are likely to be a number of vacancies on our Executive Committee which we will be seeking to fill. If you would like the opportunity to influence the shape of future Chamber policy and activity, we invite any Member, affiliated Member or prospective Member who feels they could make a contribution, either as a prospective Member of the Executive Committee or part of a focus group, to express their interest by emailing Jane at the office on: info@taunton-chamber.co.uk.

More detailed information regarding the AGM will follow in the April edition of Business News.



## Project Taunton Open Day

Project Taunton is holding a Public Open Day on Thursday 3rd April at the Brewhouse Theatre. On display will be details of all the latest developments with members of the Project Taunton delivery team and partner organisations on hand to answer questions.



The event begins at 10.30am and is open until 9.00pm ensuring as many people as possible can attend. In addition to the staffed display stands, members of the team will present the regeneration plans and answer questions on three occasions during the day: 12.30-1.30, 5.30-6.30, 7.30-8.30. For further information please contact the Project Taunton Delivery Team on 01823 250809 or info@project-taunton.co.uk.

## £41k gym refit helps shake off xmas excesses



Taunton residents have one less reason for breaking New Year resolutions after the Holiday Inn's Spirit Gym completed a £41K upgrade.

At the end of December, the club received the Christmas present it wanted, replacing all the cardio vascular equipment with top of the range equipment from Lifefitness.

Members can now enjoy keeping fit on a full range of equipment including the latest cross trainers, bikes, treadmills and rowers. In addition, a new strength area has been created which includes an up to date range of free weights.

Members can also take advantage of the new Spirit Shapers nutrition and weight management programme which is a new free service available this year. Through this programme, members can learn about healthy eating as well as the benefits of regular exercise.

To make an appointment to come and see the new equipment, or for information on membership, please call the Club on 01823 350999.

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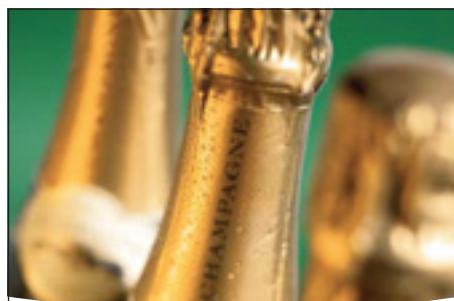
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## Something to celebrate!

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# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday 30th April**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**At The Castle Hotel**

Members and Guests Welcome

Guest Speaker: Mr Geoff Harding,  
Bank of England Deputy Agent for  
South West of England

**Wednesday 28th May**  
**Business Networking Lunch**  
**at Exchange House,**  
**The Crescent, Taunton**

Guest Speaker: Dawn Gallie, Stones  
Solicitors - "Employment Law Update"  
£12.50

Members and Guests Welcome

*Further details and  
Booking Form with April Newsletter*

## De-commissioning of Hinkley "A" Power Station

As highlighted in the February Business News, Taunton Chamber of Commerce is planning a business visit to Magnox South at Hinkley Point, Bridgwater to learn more about the de-commissioning of Hinkley "A" Power Station. The team at Magnox South have put together a very comprehensive itinerary for the Chamber of Commerce, as follows:-

12.15 - Meet Maggie Poole at Hinkley Point A Site Security Lodge.

Welcome and buffet lunch with John Vieth, Commercial Manager and Tim Watkins, Deputy Site Director (Lecture Room 1)

Brief History and Photographic update of the Site - "Where we are Now"

Issuing of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

Site Tour to view progress made to date - including Control Room and deplanted Turbine Hall.

15.45 Return to Lecture Room 1 - Feedback and Question and Answer Session.

16.15 Close of visit.

Please find the Booking Form enclosed, but places are limited to 16, so first come first served.

## TAUNTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Paul Cole Associates, Taunton and  
North Devon  
D B Law, Bishops Lydeard  
Invest SW Limited, East Street,  
Taunton

### TAUNTON

For Membership, General Information  
& Administration: **call 01823 353353**  
For Promotion & Event Hosting:  
Email [office@taunton-chamber.co.uk](mailto:office@taunton-chamber.co.uk)  
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For Web Information or Amendments  
Email: [webmaster@taunton-chamber.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@taunton-chamber.co.uk)

### WELLINGTON

For further information about Wellington  
Chamber, contact: The Secretary - Toni-Anne  
Blight Email: [toni-anne@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:toni-anne@tiscali.co.uk)

### SOMERSET

For further details of Somerset Chamber  
Events, contact: Katie Baines, Somerset  
Chamber Co-ordinator on 01823 444924  
Email: [manager@somerset-chamber.co.uk](mailto:manager@somerset-chamber.co.uk)



## From Business West Update Series

- The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) has called on the Government to introduce tax relief for employers who are prepared to take on an apprentice. This follows the Government's announced plans to expand and improve apprenticeship schemes, which aim to ensure by 2013 that all qualified young people, have access to an apprenticeship place. The CIPD said it welcomed the Government's proposals but was concerned that small and medium-sized businesses would struggle to find the finance required to support an apprentice. There is more on this story at:

[http://www.cipd.co.uk/pressoffice/\\_articles/\\_traintogain280108PR.htm](http://www.cipd.co.uk/pressoffice/_articles/_traintogain280108PR.htm)

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## MEMBER of the MONTH

### Paul Cole Associates

Paul Cole Associates provides a professional building design and project management service which can be tailored to suit any type or size of property.

With offices in North Devon and Taunton, the company operates throughout Devon and Somerset working for a variety of private and commercial clients.

Projects range from small extensions, new houses, conversion of various buildings to apartments and the refurbishment and fitting out of retail and office premises.

Services provided include feasibility studies and conceptual design through to obtaining planning and building control approvals.

When final designs have been approved by the client, detailed working drawings and specifications are prepared prior to obtaining tenders for site construction work.

Finally a full project management and cost control service is available to ensure that construction work is carried out to the required quality and within the agreed budget and timescales.

A free initial site visit and consultation is offered to prospective clients who have a potential building project in mind.

When specific requirements have been established, a fixed fee quotation will be provided for an agreed scope of work prior to the client making a commitment to proceed.

As a new member of the Taunton Chamber of Commerce the company is keen to expand its business in the local area by developing relationships with the individuals and companies who have a requirement for the services we offer.

All enquiries to Paul Cole  
tel 01271 890234 mobile 07971651514  
email: [info@paulcoleassociates.co.uk](mailto:info@paulcoleassociates.co.uk)

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