

Welcome to our latest update of Partnership activities, news & events.

If you've any questions or feedback, please ring us, call in (normal office opening hours are Tuesday-Thursday 9am-noon) or e-mail. Our contact details are at the end of this bulletin.

Membership

Welcome to the following new members:

- Compton House Bed & Breakfast
- Casey Kaye Communications
- Poole & sons (Arts & Antiques)
- Bradley & Jefferies Solicitors
- XRO Chemical Services Ltd
- Moy Park

For existing members, renewal is now due. We've had a good level of response so far with over 60% of renewal confirmation received. Thank you for that ...your support is appreciated.

For those who haven't yet responded, we hope you'll show your support for the work by renewing your membership.

A full list of members will be published in the next bulletin.

Ashbourne & villages - New Tourism Group – Event

Are you a "tourism" business? Do you have tourists as customers? Then don't miss this free event!

Our launch meeting will take place on **Wednesday 7 March 2007 – 11.30am – 2pm** at the Green Man Royal Hotel in Ashbourne.

As well as opportunities to speak to other "like minded" businesses & discuss ways forward, we will have guest speakers from the Derbyshire & Peak District Tourism team.

We can use this meeting to make sure "Ashbourne & village" tourism plans align with the overall Peak District & Derbyshire strategy. Light refreshments will also be provided.

For catering purposes, please contact the Partnership to confirm your booking.

Promoting events in and around Ashbourne

We've now updated our Events page on the web-site – have a look and let us know what you think.

We're sure there are lots more going onplease do keep us informed on what's happening.

We will put details on the web-site and promote the events in other ways if possible.

Ashbourne Partnership Retail & Hospitality Group

The group's 1st open meeting took place on **31 January 2007**.

It was a lively meeting, where we discussed a number of important projects and issues. One of the main agenda items was an Ashbourne Loyalty-Rewards card. Following a presentation on a successful scheme in Haslemere, attendees on the night confirmed their interest & asked the Partnership to pull together further details. Brief notes from the meeting are available on the web-site.

We intend to put an information pack together over the next 2 weeks which we'll distribute to all relevant organisations.

If you want to receive information on this, please contact Andrea Cross or a member of the steering team (see below)

St John St: Barbara Leyland – Wigleys Shoes - 342884

Market / Victoria Street: Emma Rosewarne – Chocolate Box - 346424

Church Street: Vicky Brookes – Brookes Bridal - 347713

Dig Street / Compton: David Hidgcock – David Neil Mica - 346082

Horse & Jockey Yard: John Harrison – Acorn Country Stores (chair) - 300712

Antiques: Richard Gregory - 345965

Hospitality: Glen Armstrong – St John St Gallery & Café – 07808 850279

New for 2007! – Ashbourne Business Breakfast Meetings

1st meeting 13 February 2007 – Quality Inn Ashbourne

These informal meetings are being arranged by local business people for local businesses.

Future meeting dates are: 13 March and 17 April.

All meetings start at 7am for 7.30am – when breakfast will be served

Cost is £10 per event (includes breakfast) payable on the day.

Tim Polkinghorne, an Ashbourne resident & principal of local business Nirvana, has taken the lead on arranging these 1st events.

Ashbourne Partnership, 5 Town Hall Yard, Market Place, Ashbourne, DE6 1EW
Tel / Fax: 01335 301145 / Email: ashbournepartnership@visitashbourne.co.uk

Contact Tim on 01335 348444 or e-mail tim@reachnirvana.co.uk for further details and to confirm attendance.

Derbyshire Food & Drink Festival

Last year several Ashbourne based organisations took part in this event. Let's work together to make sure 2007 is even more successful and we showcase our great food & drink suppliers.

The 2 day fair takes place on 19th & 20th May at Bolsover Castle, followed by a week of culinary events taking place at over 40 venues across the County.

If you're a food & drink supplier visit www.derbyshirefoodfestival.co.uk for further information.

If you do intend to participate in this year's festival, please let us know so we can discuss possible ways of working together and making the most of the event.

Projects

i) Town signage is often mentioned as a key improvement area. As part of this project, we've consulted with residents and business to make sure our current slogan "Gateway to Dovedale" is still appropriate. We've had lots of feedback & publicity on this and are now in the process of reviewing all comments. We're also in negotiation with several organisations to look at best ways of funding improved signage. Updates will be provided in the next bulletin.

ii) Ashbourne 750th Charter Anniversary - 2007

We'd like to celebrate this anniversary with a number of events. These might include: period markets; displays; entertainment; historical talks etc. We'll be holding meetings later this month to progress this. If you have any suggestions on how we might mark this occasion, please let us know.

ANDREA CROSS
ASHBOURNE PARTNERSHIP MANAGER
5 February 2007