

April 2018

A new Chamber year ahead

As we reach the end of our membership year and the start of a new one, there are a few pieces of housekeeping to share with members.

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has attended meetings, invited contacts and otherwise supported the Chamber over the last year. It has been a very interesting 12 months and your input has been invaluable in so many ways.

Your **membership renewal notices** and invoices went out at the end of March. Please do pay up, to save us the embarrassment of having to chase you!

The year ahead is once again looking very interesting and we have a number of excellent speakers lined up for our meetings. We also have a few debates on topical issues, including housing development and the UCI World Cycling event in September 2019 (including the impact on our town centre). Please look at the Diary page on our website for full details and put the dates in your diary.

Of course, we will continue to include three focused networking events in our calendar: two traditional 'Safari' meetings for speed networking, and one interactive Team Games and Puzzles night. This has been running for the past couple of years and has proved very popular with attendees, so consider signing up if you haven't tried it yet—it takes place in August.

On the subject of the Safaris, thank you to Harrogate Ladies' College for hosting our April meeting. The food was excellent and we were all impressed with our hosts. We're still finding that people are



signing up to attend, then not showing up. This means other people miss out, we have empty seats, and the buffet food goes to waste. Please do let us know if you sign up and then can't attend so we can reallocate your place.

Our Management Group will be making some improvements to the way the Chamber works, ensuring members can get the most from being part of our organisation. If you have any ideas that would benefit you and other businesses, we're always happy to hear them and implement them if we can. Just ask any Management Group member—you'll find their details on the website.

There are numerous ways in which you can benefit from your membership, adding even more value than the information, learning and networking opportunities available at monthly meetings. Why not make the most of your Chamber membership this year? The details are on the website under the Membership tab.

May meeting: Enhancing employee engagement

Our May meeting will look at practical ways to enhance employee engagement using corporate social responsibility. Guests are welcome to join us, so please invite anyone who might find this topic useful and encourage them to book via the website.

It takes place at the Cedar Court Hotel, Park Parade, Harrogate, on Monday 14th

May. As usual, open networking begins at 5.30pm, with the business from 6.15pm.

This meeting will also include a short AGM to elect officers and members of the Management Group—but we promise, no long speeches!

Book your place via the website, at www.harrogatechamber.co.uk.

Business news

Meetings planner

We are always looking for new and interesting speakers to lead our monthly meetings. Is there a topic you would benefit from hearing about, or an issue facing your business that may also affect others? If so, we'd love to hear about it.

The three key functions of the Chamber are Networking, Learning and Lobbying, so meetings can cover anything which falls into one of these areas. In the case of lobbying, we may work with you to resolve the problem you face by liaising with the relevant authority or, for larger issues we may dedicate a whole meeting or even a campaign to it.

Membership

Leeds Bradford Airport has unveiled an updated brand following the appointment of a new Chief Executive, new ownership and a number of changes to the terminal

over recent months.

With an ambition to create an airport that matches the needs and requirements of the region it serves and the surrounding area, Leeds Bradford: *Yorkshire's Airport* will now be displayed throughout the terminal.

As part of the celebrations, the region's largest airport also showcased the first part of its terminal redevelopments, including brand new purpose-built lounges. Featuring stunning floor to ceiling runway views, The Yorkshire Lounge, The White Rose Suite and 1432 Club will replace the current Yorkshire Premier Lounge.

Designed to offer a leisure, business or first-class experience, passengers have a number of entry methods, including pre-book, airline access, loyalty card schemes and on the day access.

See our website for full details.

Yorkshire Business Market

Harrogate District Chamber has a stand at this year's **Yorkshire Business Market**. As well as promoting the work of the Chamber, we're keen to spread the word about the brilliant local businesses in our membership.

If you have offers or promotional flyers you would like us to include on our display, please contact us to arrange delivery.

Yorkshire Business Market takes place on Monday 30th April, 10am-4pm, at Pavilions of Harrogate. Around 100

exhibitors will welcome more than 1,000 business visitors throughout the day, with a series of seminars also running at the venue. There are still a handful of stands available to book, but be quick to avoid missing out!

Entry is free for visitors but pre-registration is recommended via the website. Don't forget to keep an eye out for your fellow Chamber members' stands around the rooms.

www.yorkshirebusinessmarket.co.uk