Gwynedd Business Network 10th Anniversary Newsletter

GBN Celebrates Ten!

Gwynedd Business Network is celebrating its tenth anniversary in 2015 and this milestone will be marked with a series of extra special events for members. **Gwynedd Business Week**, held every May, has become a firmly established event on the Network's business calendar, saluting the achievements of local companies and their contribution to the economy of Gwynedd. Throughout the week there are informative workshops, seminars and networking events taking place across the county, and the week culminates in the Gwynedd Business Week Gala Dinner.

Gwynedd Business Network was founded in 2005 as a forum for businesses operating in the county. Via a series of regular formal and informal events, its primary aim is to provide opportunities for networking and inter-trading. It also enables members to promote their goods and services and to source local suppliers. Acting as a platform for participants to voice opinions and concerns, it provides a crucial resource for influencing economic policy and change. Frequent e-bulletins carry details of business events, new legislation, and training opportunities. Part of the ethos of GBN is to share instances of best practice and experiences of running a business.

Much progress has been made by the Network during 2014 with 72 new members registering, bringing the membership total to over 700. Support has been given to local campaigns including Small Business Saturday and fairer parking charges. Three Newsletters were printed and circulated and an e-version distributed. A new website will be launched soon.

The Network is supported financially and administratively by Gwynedd Council and works in partnership with the FSB. It is a company limited by guarantee managed by eight volunteer Board members. Membership is free. To register visit: www.gwyneddbusnes.net

Hall of Fame

Each year **Gwynedd Business Network** celebrates having some of the most talented people in Wales amongst its members. The Network's **Gwynedd Business Person of the Year** award recognises the significant contribution made by an individual to the region's business sector. The illustrious list of past winners includes captains of industry, influential marketing experts and inspirational entrepreneurs:

2014 Sean Taylor (left)
Proprietor of TreeTop Adventure, Sean's latest projects are Zip World attractions at Bethesda and Blaenau Ffestiniog.

2013 Gwion Llwyd (right)
Proprietor of rapidly growing Dioni Holiday Cottages, an online letting agency for premier self-catering properties, breaking new ground with use of digital media.

2012 Mark Woolfenden
Mark Woolfenden is Managing Director of Afonwen Laundry, winner of many prestigious awards and one of the UK's largest private sector laundry companies.

2011 Richard Gloster
Richard took up the reins of Cadwaladers Ice Cream as MD in 1984, overseeing the company's rapid expansion across North Wales, into Cardiff and then England.

2010 Elfed Roberts
Elfed's outstanding entrepreneurial success at Siop-y-Madryn in Nefyn also led to the Londis chain judging it Best Londis Store in Wales 2009.

2009 Stephen and Andrea Bristow
Starting as a nature and wildlife education centre in 1993, GreenWood Forest Park is now a multi award-winning eco-themed family visitor attraction.

2008 Robin Llewelyn (centre left)
The managing director of Portmeirion Ltd which runs the Italianate village of Portmerion, built by his grandfather Sir Clough Williams-Ellis.

2007 Lord Dafydd Wigley
Dafydd served as Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon from 1974 to 2001, and was AM from 1999 to 2003. He took his seat in the House of Lords in 2011.

2006 Fred Foskett
Fred founded Harlech Frozen Foods, an independent, family owned company. Together with Richard Shepherd, Fred was a founder member of GBN in 2005.