

Welcome to our July Enewsletter! READ ON.....

Contents

1. Would you like to influence economic development in Lochaber?
2. Congratulations!
3. Last call for funding for community projects.
4. Top up your Jack Black Mindstore training
5. Start up awards 2006
6. New awards for Scottish retailers
7. Migrant workers update
8. Awe inspiring 50+ Lochaber women
9. Lochaber Larder
10. What's on?
11. About the E-newsletter

1. WOULD YOU LIKE TO INFLUENCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN LOCHABER?

Lochaber Enterprise now has vacancies for Directors. We are seeking applications from interested members of the Lochaber Community who, by virtue of their personal or business/community experience, can add value to our activities. The Board plays an important role in developing policy and strategic guidance for Lochaber Enterprise.

The post of director is not remunerated, although actual travel and subsistence costs associated with carrying out the work of the Board are reimbursable.

Individuals who would like to be considered as potential directors should send their CVs to Chief Executive, Lochaber Enterprise, St Mary's House, Gordon Square, Fort William PH33 6DY or [visit our website for further information](#).

Closing date for receipt of applications is Wednesday 12th July 2006.

2. CONGRATULATIONS!

The 2005 Fort William World Cup Finals received another award during the IMTTO (International Mountain Bike Trade Teams Organisation) meeting.

IMTTO Vice President Martin Whiteley surprised Mike Jardine and Lesley Beck of Rare Management, when they were awarded a huge crystal trophy for their 2005 World Cup Event, voted by 62 IMTTO Members as the event of the year.

3. LAST CALL FOR FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Community Economic Development (CED) Fund has been used by many community groups over the last few years as a source of match funding to carry out various projects from small scale environmental improvements to running training courses. There is an opportunity for eligible groups to apply for funding, providing that the project is completed before December 2006. Funds are currently limited so to avoid disappointment please contact [Angus McNicholl](#) on 01397 708257.

4. TOP UP YOUR JACK BLACK MINDSTORE TRAINING

Did you attend the Jack Black Mindstore for Business Course at the end of March and felt the need to get more from the event after it was all over..? Well, you're not alone. Many people have been interested in meeting up perhaps once a month to discuss issues with like minded people utilising the learning from this inspiring & exciting course. The first meeting has been planned for Friday 30th August on board Soutar's Lass at 6.30 pm.

If you're interested in coming along to join in and be inspiring, please contact [Tina Davenport](#) and we'll email you back with confirmed details.

5. START UPS AWARDS 2006

The 'must enter awards for new businesses' present the perfect opportunity to show your friends, family, competitors and customers that you're recognised as being a cut above the rest.

This year has seen the introduction of a new category for businesses who are not yet trading - Business Plan of the Year. In addition the Startups Awards have introduced a second new category - International Business of the Year open to businesses who have generated a significant proportion of their revenue through overseas activity.

For more information about this year's awards and how to enter visit the [Startups Awards website](#). To request an entry pack click on 'enter the awards' and complete your details. An entry pack will then be emailed to you.

6. NEW AWARDS FOR SCOTTISH RETAILERS

A new awards scheme has been launched to recognise Scotland's best retailers. There are 11 categories - including Newcomer of the Year and Independent Retailer of the Year - in the Scottish Retail Excellence Awards. The competition is open to everyone involved in Scotland's retail industry. It has been put together by the Scottish Retail Consortium (SRC), Business Insider magazine and the Daily Record newspaper.

To find out more, [visit the British Retail Consortium website](#).

7. MIGRANT WORKERS – REGISTRATION FORMS & SURVEY

Employers who take on new employees from the EU Accession states and outwith Europe should be aware that revised Worker Registration forms should be used for new registrations from 19th June. Please note that the address of the office to send them to has also changed. The fee remains at £70. Any application sent in on the old form will be returned to the applicant. The new forms and postal address can be [accessed here](#).

A survey is being carried out by People in Focus for Lochaber Enterprise to obtain feedback on Welcome Packs and English classes and to establish numbers employed in the area. The need for interpretation and translation services will also be investigated. We would really appreciate if you could give 10 minutes of your time to respond and provide valuable information for future policies.

8. AWE INSPIRING 50+ LOCHABER WOMEN

Lochaber has been chosen as one of only three areas in the country to pilot a project aimed at helping women aged 50+ improve their employment options.

Developed by the University of Strathclyde Senior Studies Institute and funded through the European Social Fund Equal Programme, The Advancing Women's Employability Initiative (AWE) will work with both employed and unemployed women in the 50+ age bracket enabling them to realise their own potential and develop their own skills, aptitudes interests and enhance their careers. Both advice and funding is available through this initiative for training.

The second 12 Session Learning Programme is due to start soon covering topics such as Confidence, Motivation and Personal Planning, Time Management, CV & Interviews, IT, and Business Start-up.

For more information on how you can get involved call Mary McCulloch on 01967 431 460.

9. LOCHABER LARDER

There are two exciting opportunities coming up for local food producers to display their wares: -

Lochaber Highland Games, Saturday 29th July, 2006.

For the first time this year the Highland Games will have a local food tent and all producers will be able to book space and provide food to the thousands of visitors to this very popular event. For more details or to book your table contact [Julie Green](#), the event organiser on 01397 705005.

Lochaber Agricultural Show, Saturday 26th August, 2006

The Lochaber Larder food tent has been a very welcome addition to the show for the last two years and this year it is hoped to be bigger and better than ever. There will be hot and cold ready to eat food available and also plenty of products to take away. To book a table to sell your products please contact [Alan Boulton](#) on 01397 712075.

Both the above events are a must for local producers and offer the chance to showcase and sell products to a large number of people. Costs to have a space are very reasonable and tables can be shared – Can you afford not to be there?

10. WHAT'S ON?

Adult Literacies – Awareness Raising Training

Monday 10th July 10:00am – 1:30pm ~ Caol Youth Centre

This course is aimed at staff/volunteers who come into contact with adults who may have difficulty with reading, writing, spelling, numeracy etc

To book a place or for further information please contact [Ann Marie Donoghue](#), Adult Basic Education Co-ordinator on 01397 707371.

Thinking of starting up your own business?

Lochaber Enterprise is running a free Business Start Up Course at Nevis Bank Hotel on 18, 19 & 20th July, 7:00 – 9:00 pm.

For more information [visit our website](#) or [contact Ina](#) on 01599 534 999.

11. About this eNewsletter

Please, please send us your comments about our eNewsletter. Our aim is to keep you up-to-date with the support and assistance that we provide, and to inform you about any forthcoming events. Is it interesting? Is it boring? Is it too long? Is it too short? How could it be better? Do you bin it immediately? Did you not receive it??? Or is it absolutely perfect? We don't think so, and are patiently waiting for your feedback.... Please e-mail [Donna](#).

Please feel free to forward our eNEWSLETTER to anyone else who may be interested. If you wish to be added to, or removed from this distribution list, please e-mail [Donna](#).

Lochaber Enterprise
St Mary's House, Gordon Square, Fort William, PH33 6DY
Tel: 01397 704326 Fax: 01397 705309
Email: lochaber@hient.co.uk
Website: www.hie.co.uk/lochaber
www.lochaberjobs.co.uk ~ work in the perfect location!

DISCLAIMER

Our newsletters are produced to keep our customers and contacts informed on issues affecting the HIE Network and the Lochaber area. Whilst Lochaber Enterprise has taken all reasonable steps to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, the articles are of a general descriptive nature, and are not therefore intended to be exhaustive treatments of the relevant topics and should not be relied upon as such. Please contact Lochaber Enterprise if you require further assistance or information.