

# Business matters in association with... A step in the right direction

By Jennifer Black

**ARE you a business who wants to move forward but need a push in the right direction?**

Well then the Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce has got just the programme for you.

The Business Mentoring Programme could make a major difference to your business.

Delivered in partnership with Scottish Chambers and Scottish Enterprise and supported by European funding the programme is FREE to any company (chamber member or not) as long as you satisfy the right criteria.

This includes having a turnover of more than £100k, having been in business for at least a year, having an ambition to grow and the company is not or has not been involved in the programme in the last 12 months.

If you tick all these boxes then what do you have to lose?

The chamber delivers the Business Mentoring programme for companies across Renfrewshire, Dumfriesshire, East Renfrewshire, Helensburgh and Inverclyde via 1-2-1 and group sessions.

From their database of 700 mentors there is a small selection on the Business Mentoring part of their website [www.renfrewshirechamber.com](http://www.renfrewshirechamber.com).

There you can read about the mentors, what they do and how they can help you.

There is also a short video introducing themselves to interested companies.

There are mentors from blue chips, SMEs and entrepreneurs – all of whom are skilled to talk to you in areas such as customer service, sales and marketing, HR and legal, strategy, finance, hospitality and resource management.

Chief executive of the chamber, Bob Davidson, is encouraging everyone to take advantage of this service. He said: "The Business Mentoring Programme is a



fantastic product that I urge all businesses to seriously look at. Eligible businesses can benefit from experienced business people with great advice they are willing to share with you.

"Time and money is precious - Business Mentoring is free and delivered locally across Renfrewshire.

"Get in touch, it could be the best call or email you make all year."

Please visit the website for more information or contact Ima Gibson, the Business Mentoring executive on 0141 847 5458 or email [igibson@renfrewshirechamber.com](mailto:igibson@renfrewshirechamber.com).



## ROCCO awards

The chamber are delighted to announce the sixth annual ROCCO Business Awards website is now live.

There are eight categories open for entries with two more to be announced very soon.

This is an opportunity to demonstrate excellence and gain recognition for the exceptional achievements of your business.

The ROCCO Awards will take place on Friday, November 12, 2010 at the Cosmopolitan Normandy Hotel, in Renfrew.

A spokesperson for the chamber said: "We encourage the business community of Renfrewshire to enter the ROCCO Business Awards, demonstrating that your business has successfully achieved its objectives and created wealth and prosperity for our area."

Submit your nomination for one or more of the award categories. Visit [www.roccoawards.com](http://www.roccoawards.com) for more information.

## Former graduates

OVER 10,000 graduates have joined the University of the West of Scotland's Alumni Association since its launch seven months ago.

The university is keen to keep in touch with all its former graduates and in particular to hear from graduates from the former University of Paisley, Paisley

College or Paisley College of Technology. UWOS was formed in August 2007 with the merger of the former University of Paisley and Bell College.

To qualify for membership of the Association members of the chamber must have graduated from the University of Paisley or any of its former institutions.

Crawford Wilson, marketing manager for Alumni and Development at the university, said: "We are keen to hear from all of our former graduates."

Members of the new Association can benefit from a range of UWOS University services, benefits and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) study opportunities, as well as become part of a worldwide community offering networking opportunities to keep in touch with former colleagues.

Bob Davidson, chief executive of Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce said: "The Chamber has a very close working relationship with the University, and as a former graduate from the University of Paisley, I am very willing to support the ongoing development of the Alumni Association and to help in growing its membership."

Register online at [www.uwos.ac.uk/alumni](http://www.uwos.ac.uk/alumni) or contact Crawford Wilson, marketing manager on 0141 848 3283.

The University currently has around 20,000 students and 2,000 staff based at four campuses located in Ayr, Dumfries, Hamilton and Paisley.

## Dates for your diary

The next Manufacturing and Engineering Forum will be held on Tuesday June 22.

Hosting this free event is Rolls Royce in their purpose built factory in Inchinnan.

The forum will run from 1pm until 4pm and there will be a presentation, plant tour and question and answer session. Please note that companies attending must be directly involved in manufacturing and/or engineering.

Please confirm your attendance by replying to [bdavidson@renfrewshirechamber.com](mailto:bdavidson@renfrewshirechamber.com)

The June networking lunch has moved from its usual Thursday slot to a Wednesday as the chamber welcomes Renfrewshire Council leader Derek Mackay and chief executive David Martin.

The duo will be speaking at the event which is being held in India of Inchinnan

from 12noon on Wednesday June 23.

Members can attend this event for £25 (plus VAT) while non members, interesting in coming along will be charged £35 (plus VAT). To book please visit the chamber's website at [www.renfrewshirechamber.com](http://www.renfrewshirechamber.com)

**WOULD you like to improve your business performance? Reduce costs? Increase capacity? Improve quality? Improve profits?**

Well this is the event for you.

Coming to the chamber's offices in Glasgow Airport Business Centre on Wednesday June 30 Lean Six Sigma is designed for owners, directors, accountants and other major decision makers in SMEs. They will show how Lean Six Sigma techniques apply to your business and work through the types of gains you can achieve.

For more information and to book visit the website at [www.renfrewshirechamber.com](http://www.renfrewshirechamber.com)

The next event won't be until the end of July but it is worth booking early to avoid disappointment.

There are only 20 spaces available for an HR Forum with Macoberts LLP on Tuesday July 27.

The forum will an update on family friendly issues including flexible working, maternity leave, adoption leave and the radical introduction of the right for fathers and adoptive parents to share leave.

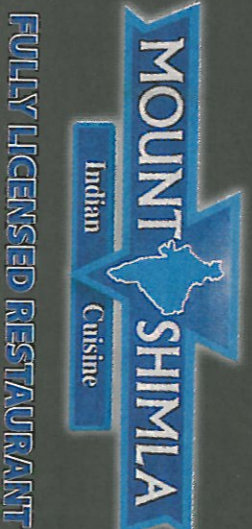
It provides HR professionals with the opportunity to listen to up-to-date legal commentary and thereafter take part in an open discussion about employment practice where questions can be posed to the speakers.

The event will take place at the chamber offices at Glasgow Airport Business Park from 12.30pm until 2pm.

This free event includes lunch. For more information and to book visit the website at [www.renfrewshirechamber.com](http://www.renfrewshirechamber.com)

Renfrewshire Chamber are on the following social media sites. Please visit [www.renfrewshirechamber.com](http://www.renfrewshirechamber.com) for more info

**LinkedIn**
**Facebook**
**YouTube**
**Twitter**



FULLY LICENCED RESTAURANT

Celebrate

**FATHERS DAY**

Sunday 20th June

BUFFET

Lunch £4.95 Dinner £9.95

2.00pm - 4.00pm 5.00pm - 9.30pm

Call reservations on 0141 881 3870

**ALL SIZED PARTIES CATERED FOR**



Opening Hours

Monday - Thursday 12noon - 2.00pm, 5.00pm - 11.00pm

Friday & Saturday 12noon - 12midnight

Sunday 2.00pm - 11.00pm

**All sized parties catered for  
HOME DELIVERY 7 DAYS**

**0141 881 3870**

232a Main Street, Bathhead