

October 2014

Volunteers smash records!

Employee volunteers from our member businesses have broken records in the last quarter by taking part in more Challenge Calendars than ever in just one quarter. Since August groups have taken part in over **50 challenges** contributing their time, skills and resources to support the local community! Thank you to all the business that have taken part over the Summer and beginning of Autumn. We hope that this trend continues over the Winter and look forward to helping engage your business in community activities.

A warm welcome to our New President

We would like to extend a warm welcome our new President - John Holland-Kaye, Chief Executive Officer, Heathrow. John was recently appointed as SBCP's new president by the Board who are delighted to have him involved. John was appointed CEO, Heathrow in July 2014. He joined the company as Commercial Director in May 2009. From November 2012, John was Development Director and was responsible for delivering the £1 billion annual investment in transforming Heathrow. He said "Slough is important to Heathrow for its business and for its residents. We want to ensure the community in Slough benefits from its proximity to the airport and we are working on a number of initiatives to deliver this. I believe the objectives of Slough Business Community Partnership are strongly aligned to those of Heathrow".



Greetings new members!



We would like to warmly welcome four new companies to our Membership. A big welcome to British Airways, Fresh Track Consulting, Holiday Inn Slough - Windsor and Metro Bank.

We look forward to working with you to support the local community .

SBCP Annual Conference - CSR, it's just good business...

The Slough Business Community Partnership Annual Conference is due to be held on the 20th November 2014 from 5.30pm at the Hilton Hotel, London Heathrow Airport Terminal 5. Fiona McTaggart will open the event followed with a keynote speech from our new President, John Holland-Kaye, CEO, Heathrow - who will update delegates on their current work in the communities around Heathrow Airport. Awards will be given to key contributing individuals and businesses recognising their support to the community. Rafiq Chohan, SBCP's Chair, will close the event ahead of a networking buffet and said "As we emerge from a long and deep recession the support of our business community continues to be very important. The needs of our communities are multiple and complex. The fact that our business partners and their employees have participated in more activities than ever before in the last year highlights their continued commitment to the Slough community."

We would be delighted if you could join us for what promises to be an inspiring event. Contact us for more information: 01753 696958.

Slough - a thriving town in the midst of significant change

At the SBCP Business meeting held on the 25th September delegates heard from Sarah Richards, Strategic Director, Regeneration, Housing and Resources at Slough Borough Council about the regeneration of the Town centre and significant changes that will improve the offer of Slough. She spoke about the Slough Regeneration Partnership (SRP), a joint venture company in partnership with Morgan Sindall, that was changing the look for the Town centre to make it a modern and vibrant place where people will come to shop and enjoy its leisure facilities. Sarah mentioned that the building of the Learning Curve was progressing well and that it will be a focal point for the town.

Duncan Trench, Head of Delivery for Development Securities spoke about how they were selected by Slough Borough Council to be their lead development partner on a major regeneration of the Heart of Slough Town centre. Planning permission has been granted for Brunel Place, a 385,000 sq ft prime office development to be built in three separate buildings, which forms the commercial element of the Heart of Slough Town centre regeneration scheme. The 2.5-acre site fronts Wellington Street and is immediately adjacent to the train station and new bus station.



Sarah Richards speaking at the Business Meeting

The last speaker was Graham Tomlin from M 4 Money who talked about the credit union that had recently been established in Slough for people on low incomes. He covered how a credit union worked including details about deposits and loans that were available to their customers.

If you would like any further information relating to the event or speakers then please get in touch.

Business to Community Skills – Amazon lead the way...

 made a take over of the last Business to Community Skills event held on the 14th October. The event provided another opportunity for local charities and community groups to hear from business representatives on key topics that they found very helpful for their groups.

Three enthusiastic Amazon employees delivered a two hour session on Business planning, including a presentation on Budgeting and Social Media where they imparted their key skills in each of these areas from a business perspective to give Charities and community groups key nuggets of information that they could take back to their organisations and implement. The event received some fantastic feedback from delegates who were very positive commenting that the topics were informative and that it provided a great opportunity to hear about a broad mix of topics. We would like to thank our speakers for their time and support and also thank the attendees for taking part in another great event.



An enthusiastic Amazon employee taking questions

Slough Working Well - Work Life Balance

It is a fact that people are working for longer and also that work/life pressures are increasing. There have also been recent legislative changes that will have an impact on businesses with the widening of flexible working rights that came into effect on 30th June 2014. The last Slough Working Well event held on 8th October looked into some of these issues and how businesses may need to face these future challenges in order to create a sustainable and productive workforce.

Lesley Baker of Lambda Mediation opened the event with an interactive session looking into what practices attendees had in their business to help promote work life balance and what issues they may face. Groups responses to practices included delegation of work and higher level buy in, but issues included large workloads, expectations and technology (like having access to emails on your mobile!)

Guest speaker, Dr Rosemary Anderson, Anderson Peak Performance - spoke about psychological health issues in a changing workforce. She looked at the Human Function Curve which shows that the right amount of pressure can lead to great performance by staff but without monitoring through good management it can ultimately lead to reduced performance and possibly a negative impact on an employees health. She talked about how flexible working could help and the benefits for the employees and the employer.

Helen Wray, Mars Chocolate UK talked about how work life balance has benefitted their business and how the Mars model highlights the need for collaboration where the employers create an environment where an employee can make healthy lifestyles decisions and that they take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing.

Our last speaker, Rajiv Joshi, Blake Morgan LLP highlighted the legal considerations of developing a work life balance strategy looking into the new rules on flexible working, the introduction of shared parental leave and discrimination law. Thanks you to all of our speakers and those who attended.

Challenge Calendar Updates

The new challenge calendar for November 2014 to January 2015 is now available! If you or your colleagues wish to take part in a challenge - big or small - get in touch now by contacting Noreen Mian on noreen@sbcpc.co.uk.

Our members took part in a huge **50 challenges** during the last quarter - one of the **biggest** number of completed challenges we've had in a quarter! Thank you to all who took part to benefit the Slough community. Here are just some of the fantastic projects employee volunteers took part in:

 Supported the local YMCA by updating their common room, garden and front entrance area - even fixing their sign! The YMCA said "The work carried out was an invaluable help. We are very appreciative of the Mars volunteers' efforts – and happy spirit!"

Several employees from  IRIS Software Group supported Slough Senior Citizens with providing Tea and Technology sessions for them.

 have been committed to supporting the Animal sanctuary for the last few months - with several groups helping with grounds maintenance, animal grooming and painting. The Sanctuary supports neglected animals and provides family days out.

 and  teams also gave their time to support the Animal Sanctuary

 helped a local school with some much needed maintenance work - inside and outside!

A wonderful team from  helped to rejuvenate a garden area for the Salvation Army

 supported the Our Lady of Peace Infant School with some painting to brighten up a learning area

 and  both donated much needed toiletries to Slough Hostel which will be given to clients

A local Community Centre benefitted from a new lick of paint thanks to 

 donated toys and a helping hand to paint at The Life Charity

 received raving reviews from the New Langley Community Association after they provided all sorts of DIY support to help fix up the Centre that is used by the community.

E. SARGEANT & SON donated foldable tables to PWA

Age Concern clients enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea at  who put on a tasty spread for them

This quarter alone SBCP has help business engage with 518 employee volunteers who have donated over 2,800 hours and through their efforts have supported the Slough community.
Can you help to make a difference in the next quarter?

What's next?

- **SBCP Annual Conference: 20th November 14 - Hilton T5** - 'CSR - It's just good business...'
- **Business 2 Community Skills event:** 10am on the 4th December 2014 - TBC
- **Business Breakfast:** 8am on the 18th December 2014 - TBC