



1230 Seasonal News & Greetings

'tis the season to be jolly...

How organised are you? All the pressies wrapped? Or will Christmas Eve find you frantically wrapping those last few gifts in-between preparing the vegetables for Christmas Day lunch?

As Christmas gallops towards us at an alarming rate, we wonder if you have discovered our gift to you yet? More of that later.....

"It is this sort of help and personal touch which makes the 1230 networking groups so special to me"

After a hectic few weeks where my feet haven't seemed to touch the ground, I received an email today from 1230 TWC Member [Paola Bagnall](#) "Just wanted to say thank you for your help with my event and blog today.

It is this sort of help and personal touch which makes the 1230 networking group so special to me. I did not get this with another organisation and after 3 years I have not renewed my membership with them - thank you"

I just love 1230. It enables me to meet so many women at all stages of their business. Seeing start-ups gain confidence as they give their 1 minute talk, business growth, connecting businesses, the rewards are endless and I learn such a lot from everyone. And we know from your testimonials and emails that that you make good use of the opportunities at 1230 TWC meetings, events and on-line.

As with many businesses, this year has not been without its challenges—some planned, some not. The challenges of franchising the business this year have been exciting and I'm very much looking forward to meeting many more enterprising women from all over the UK who want to get started in a supported business quickly. 1230 TWC can help them do that because we have done all the groundwork.

We now have franchises in Kent and Wiltshire—Karen Wilkinson and Mandy Shepherd, and Alex Morgan, respectively.

One of the unplanned challenges we experienced this year was that of our web developer losing his business and our heartfelt thanks go out to all of you for your support during an extremely difficult and protracted period of time.

We heaved an enormous sigh of relief on finding our new Web Developer. He has turned all our problems around within an amazingly short period of time and is positively bursting with ideas.

In case you haven't looked lately... that is our gift to you—a new web site and greater opportunities for you to promote your business. Have you been a Featured Member yet? As always we welcome your feedback—please let us have your thoughts.

Over the past few months I've delivered workshops on networking at several NatWest branches and met many inspirational women at various stages of their business. So if your organisation would like some help in making the most of networking, please give me a call.

And there have been many interesting, informative and entertaining speakers at the 1230 TWC lunch-time meetings.

You'll know from archived e-newsletters of the many meetings and business exhibitions we've attended throughout the year, and it's also been a delight to attend many of the 1230 TWC Christmas meetings—meeting old friends and new.

Following Christmas, the next major date in the 1230 TWC diary is the annual conference, which is bigger and better than ever before—with a fantastic agenda, details further on. Please ensure you book in plenty of time to take advantage of the Early Bird discount.

We hope you enjoy this last e-newsletter of 2009.

Have a fabulous Christmas and here's to a Healthy & Prosperous New Year!



Courtesy of S.E.A. Photography

Co-founders Jackie Groundsell and Penny Denby



A Few Festive Facts

- ★ The chances of a white Christmas are just 1 in 10 for England and Wales, and 1 in 6 for Scotland and Northern Ireland.
- ★ The word Christmas comes from the Old English "Cristes maesse" meaning "Christ's Mass".
- ★ Many parts of the Christmas tree can actually be eaten, with the needles being a good source of Vitamin C.
- ★ Since 1947 Oslo has sent an Xmas tree to London to thank us for our help in the Second World War
- ★ US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
- ★ Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was created by American Robert May in 1939
- ★ The tradition of putting tangerines in stockings comes from 12th-century French nuns who left socks full of fruit, nuts and tangerines at the houses of the poor
- ★ Singing Carols began as an old English custom called wassailing, toasting neighbours to a long life
- ★ Hanging stockings out comes from the Dutch custom of leaving shoes packed with food for St Nicholas's donkeys. He would leave small gifts in return
- ★ Christmas puddings should be stirred from east to west

New Membership news...

February 2010 sees new business opportunities for businesses in the Bromley and Greenwich areas. If your business is 3+ years old and you would like your business to have exclusivity within a group, to be able to network early evening with serious focused discussion on specific topics for one hour, followed by a meal where discussion can continue, then please get in touch as quickly as possible to secure your business position within the group. For further details please email admin@1230.co.uk Other areas will be available



Why not give someone dear to you a gift?

Click [here](#) to give them a free 1230 TWC web entry

Must do event of the year

Tuesday 16 March 1230 Any Other Business?

Annual Conference—9.00 am—3.00 pm
We'd hate you to miss the Early Bird discount and a place at this essential event for all female entrepreneurs, so please be sure to book by 8 January and save £15 per place. Further details and booking can be found [here](#)

This exciting "must do" programme for women wanting to make new contacts, learn and have fun is conveniently situated in the Conference Suite, Bromley Library. 15 mins from London Victoria Station, 5 mins walk from Bromley North and Bromley South Stations, multi-storey and off-street parking and main bus routes—just click the links to find out more:

Guest Speaker—Claire Young runner up in The Apprentice 2008

Compelling **Workshops** from:-

Pauline Crawford – The Serious Business Of Being A Woman

Karen Skidmore – Is Twitter a whole load of Twaddle?

Networking over a delicious complimentary buffet lunch with a glass of something cool and bubbly

Our panel of **Amazing Women**

Maria Darling of Shoes Glorious Shoes

Melanie Eusebe of IBM

Lara Goodbody of YogaBugs

Ida Horner of Ethnic Supplies

Emma Jones of Enterprise Nation

Annabel Kaye of Irenicon

Find out how they "Did it", send your questions to events@1230.co.uk before 2 March. Email Subject:- "Questions for Amazing Women Panellists". There will of course be plenty of opportunity for questions from the floor

Speed it up – Speednetworking with **Cut to the Chase** – a different way for face2face networking

Beauty Spot – in a separate room, free mini-pampering sessions.

If you'd like to share your expertise by providing a pampering session, please email events@1230.co.uk email Subject "Beauty Spot". Spaces are limited (FREE to 1230 Members) and are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. Applicants need to book through the web site for the event.

A full list of Exhibitors can be found on www.1230.co.uk spaces going fast

You will leave this event inspired, pampered and with many useful, genuine contacts for your business

Special thanks to

All our
1230 Franchisees,
Managers, Members and Readers for
a hugely
successful and supportive year



Parking



Parking can sometimes be difficult particularly in the run up to Christmas.

So just a few words of caution before you set out, courtesy of the Money Saving Expert.

Under contract law, private firms can give you a ticket, clamp you or remove your vehicle when you break, in their eyes, a contract formed between yourself and the landowner to allow you to park on their property.

Typically, this is because you've parked in a reserved place, overstayed or not paid in a charge-able space, or incorrectly positioned your car.

Check what type of ticket you have

Parking tickets can be both from official public bodies, like local councils and the police, or private companies. This article is about unfair tickets issued when parking on private land (eg, a supermarket car park).

Don't fall for any disguises

Some private tickets do better impressions than Jon Culshaw. To add legitimacy, their phrasing and design is often carefully contrived to give the sense it is a police or council ticket. They often use chequered lines or call them PCNs, mimicking the *Penalty Charge Notice* acronym of official council tickets.

If it's from the police or council it will say so and it's a completely different process and set of rules. Of course, landowners have a right to charge for, and police proper parking. If you've broken those rules, and you think the ticket isn't exorbitant, we'd urge you to pay.

Yet many unscrupulous operatives try and catch people out for profit. So if you've had a ticket you believe is unjust, as is ridiculously common, don't worry you can fight it.

More details can be found by clicking [here](#)

Spread the word about 1230 meetings, new groups and events to all your contacts they'll thank you for it!

Let them know that their New Year resolution for their business is to network—effectively—with 1230 The Women's Company

Business Sponsorship and Stands 1230 Any Other Business? Annual Conference Day Tuesday 16 March 2009

* Generous sponsorship opportunities to suit your budget are available for this event

* A limited number of stands are also available

Applications for sponsorship or stand opportunities will be accepted on suitability and first come first served. Further details from admin@1230.co.uk

If you have a newsletter for your business please add us to your mailing list jgroundsell@1230.co.uk

some more good news...

If you are brilliant at organising events, are a true people-person, like helping others and want your own business—NOW! you'll want to consider a 1230 Franchise. Over the past 7 years we've worked hard at making this business work so that we can give you a "business in a box". If you'd like to know more, please contact us for a no commitment conversation on 020 8650 8015 or email franchise@1230.co.uk

and

1230 TWC Croydon sees a new Manager—Julia Thompson. Julia has recently returned to England after running her own jewellery and fashion shop in Northern Ireland. Julia will be relaunching Croydon in February, so watch this space for news of the date and if you would like to receive an invitation, please email meetings@1230.co.uk

We are delighted to support

ovacome..

the ovarian cancer support network

1230 is extremely proud to be supporting Ovacome for the 4th year. Thank you for supporting 1230 efforts www.ovacome.org.uk Please watch this space for news of the 2010 event



Jackie and Penny are Ambassadors for EWIF—please get in touch if you would like to know more franchise@1230.co.uk



We are delighted to continue working in partnership with Business Link in London

A question, with a prize!



How old is Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer?

The first correct answer received by midday Tuesday 22 December wins a free place at 1230 Any other Business? PLUS a free pamper session. Please email your answer to admin@1230.co.uk with "Rudolph" in the Subject

Last but not least... Which reindeer can jump higher than a house?

They all can!
Houses can't jump!

