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\*\*\* Welcome to the Thanet & East Kent Insider \*\*\*

Your Weekly Business Bulletin from Thanet & East Kent Chamber

## **Thanet & East Kent Insider**

18 March 2008

### **1. Chamber IT Forum**

The Chamber is hosting an IT Forum on 4 April at Kent Innovation Centre. Billed as "a quarterly informal gathering of like-minded professionals interested in sharing best practice and promoting business-to-business exchanges", the forum will bring together software developers and computer professionals. For details, email [admin@tekco.uk](mailto:admin@tekco.uk) with the subject line "Chamber IT Forum".

### **2. Mach Associates Flying High**

Jet pilots know that Mach 1 is the speed of sound, or to be more precise, 761.2 mph at 15 degrees Celsius at sea level. Mach Associates, on the other hand, is a member of the Chamber that specialises in Internet and browser based reservation technology. Located in Broadstairs, the company has just been awarded ISO 9001 status, or to be more precise still, BS EN ISO 9001:2000 certification. Many congratulations to Mach Associates. For details of their tour operator software and other products, contact Bruce Hodge on [enquiries@machassociates.com](mailto:enquiries@machassociates.com) or telephone 0870 321 9986.

### **3. Corporate Manslaughter**

Later this week, Chamber member, Brachers Solicitors, is organising a workshop on the obligations of employers under the new Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007, see last week's Insider of 11 March 2008. Featuring case studies and a legal briefing, the workshop is free of charge to Chamber members. If you are able to attend on the afternoon of Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March, email Brachers on [judiunderdown@brachers.co.uk](mailto:judiunderdown@brachers.co.uk) or telephone 01622 690691 extension 3020 and mention Thanet & East Kent Chamber.

### **4. Facts About Thanet**

At a meeting this morning to discuss the Local Development Framework for Thanet, Thanet District Council issued some key statistics. Of all the districts in Kent, Thanet has the highest percentage of households with children and no adult in employment. Thanet also heads the list of persons with a long term illness and residents in communal accommodation. In addition, Thanet has the highest proportion in Kent of adults with no qualifications. The government sets the target for the number of new homes to be built in Thanet. Currently, this is expected to be 7,500 in the period to 2026. The population is expected to grow by 700 people and households increase by 7,100. Most of the projected growth is in one person households. In the last few years, new homes have been built at the rate of 429 p.a.

### **5. Training and Education**

The Leitch Report of December 2006 concluded that one in six UK school leavers is unable to read, write or add up properly. If the full potential for regeneration is to be reached in Thanet, we need the skills base to satisfy the demands of employers. This Chamber believes in supporting initiatives which promote a closer relationship between employers and state education. The Chamber has accepted an invitation to join the Thanet College Employment Engagement Steering Group. If any Chamber member has a comment on the direction of Further Education in Thanet, please let me know by email and I will represent your views to Thanet College. Direct email: [davidfoley@tekco.uk](mailto:davidfoley@tekco.uk)

## 6. CoD & Chips for free

If you have a vehicle with too many dents and too many chips, then it might need to be scrapped. Reclamet will collect and dispose of your scrap car free of charge providing it has all wheels in place, an engine and is located in South East Kent. Reclamet will also issue a CoD, (you were wondering where the cod was, weren't you?) otherwise known as a Certificate of Destruction. Chamber member Reclamet can be contacted by email to [enquiries@reclamet.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@reclamet.co.uk) or telephone 01843 822587.

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### Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited

Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited (TEKC) is a company registered in England and Wales with company number 4518138. Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited, Kent Innovation Centre, Thanet Reach Business Park, Millennium Way, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2QQ. Tel: 01843 609289 Fax: 01843 609291 TEKC is not VAT Registered. Important: This e-mail may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient it may be unlawful for you to read, copy, distribute, disclose or otherwise use the information used in this e-mail. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please telephone, fax or e-mail us immediately. Errors and omissions may occur in the contents of this e-mail arising out of or in connection with data transmission, network malfunction or failure, machine or software error or malfunction, or operator error. TEKC accepts no responsibility for any such errors or omissions and you are advised to confirm the accuracy of the contents of this e-mail before relying on it for any purpose.