



Salisbury Branch Newsletter

From the UK's Largest Small Business Lobby Group

2007 – A New Year, a New Chairman for FSB Salisbury.



Following her recent election as Chairman of FSB Salisbury, Mary Webb has quickly established an inclusive approach to her new role. She has also recently become a non-executive director of South West Tourism, the Regional Tourist Board for the South West of England and has been Chairman of the Salisbury and Stonehenge Tourism Partnership for the past 4 years. Her Salisbury Apartment Company business is providing much needed short and long term accommodation for both business and leisure purposes.

Mary will be representing the 500+ FSB Salisbury Branch members at the FSB National Conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on 22-25th March 2007.

With over 200,000 members generating revenue in excess of £25m annually, the National Federation of Self Employed and Small Businesses Ltd has a Voice that Politicians and Commentators listen to and take notice of, both nationally and locally as well as in Europe.

The photo above shows Mary being interviewed by Vision News Ltd. See www.vision-news.tv where the full interview is published. FSB Salisbury anticipates making optimum use of online methods of electronic communication.

29th March – Speed Networking and Buffet Supper at the White Hart Hotel, Salisbury.

A date not to be missed and where FSB members can maximise the benefits of their membership. Come and meet the FSB Salisbury Branch Committee and the newly in post FSB Western Regional Organiser, Mary Mallia.

19th April is the launch of the 2007 FSB South Wiltshire Business of the Year Awards.

Those preparing to participate in these awards will have the opportunity to meet previous years' winners. Register your interest in the Awards and download an entry form from the Spire FM Website at www.spirefm.co.uk

4th May at the De Vere Hotel in Swindon – the FSB Olympic Celebration Event.

London will be hosting the Olympic Games in 2012 and it is anticipated that this will create opportunities for some small businesses in the FSB Western Region, including those in Amesbury, Avebury, Bath, Bradford-on-Avon, Bruton, Calne, Castle Cary, Castle Coombe, Chard, Chippenham, Chiseldon, Corsham, Devizes, Frome, Glastonbury, Ilminster, Keynsham, Lacock, Langport, Malmesbury, Marlborough, Melksham, Salisbury, Shepton Mallet, Swindon, Taunton, Tisbury, Trowbridge, Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Wilton, Wincanton, Wootton Bassett, Yeovil, etc.



On behalf of the FSB, Mrs Marion Mortimer, the FSB Western Regional Chairman, is organising an extravaganza event at the De Vere Hotel in Swindon to provide the owners of small businesses throughout the region with an opportunity to network and build relationships that might lead to the successful submission of tenders for contracts to supply goods and services in connection with the Games 2012. Contact the Western Regional Chairman, Mrs Marion Mortimer on 01225-760002 for details of how you can take advantage of this event. For email, see the FSB Website.

30th May – 2nd June: The Royal Bath and West Show at Shepton Mallet.

The Royal Bath and West Agricultural Show is the annual opportunity to see aspects of farming and rural life that are prevalent throughout the FSB Western Region. As usual, the FSB show stand will be available to welcome the self-employed and the owners of small businesses who are either visiting or taking part in the event. Advanced ticket bookings can be made online at www.bathandwest.co.uk.

5th July at the Salisbury Arts Centre – 2007 FSB Business of the Year Awards Ceremony.

Spire FM and **Business Link** are both major sponsors of the **FSB** South Wiltshire Business of the Year Awards.

Whilst this FSB publication has been carefully prepared, errors and/or omission that may be present are not the responsibility of the publishers and opinions expressed are not necessarily FSB policy.

SALISBURY BRANCH COMMITTEE

At the FSB Salisbury Branch AGM on 28th November 2006 the following Branch Officers were elected:

Chairman: Mary Webb 01722-340892
Vice-Chairman: Richard Parsons 01794-341405
Secretary: Richard Mistlin 01722-335965
Treasurer: Hugh Davies 01722-336647

Richard Mistlin and Richard Parsons will continue to represent the Salisbury Branch as members of the FSB Western Regional Committee that currently meets each month in Bradford-on-Avon.

Other active Committee members include: Peter Beck Tel: 01722-326033, Darren Gray Tel: 0845-6344581 and Sue Handley-Merrick Tel: 01722-339134.

Committee meetings are open to all Salisbury branch members and are held bi-monthly or as necessary. The objective of the branch is primarily to add a local dimension to the lobbying activities of the FSB. The Committee also believes that it should use its powers to facilitate Social and Networking events that will encourage business between FSB members and with other local businesses.

Whilst the Regional Newsletter, Western Voice, provides members with important and timely information relevant to their businesses, individual FSB branches are empowered to produce their own newsletters, as necessary rather than on a regular basis. Sponsorship from members or non-members is permitted, to cover any costs incurred in the production and distribution of said newsletters.

Members are encouraged to use the FSB website to keep themselves informed of all FSB events and initiatives, whether Local or National and to keep their membership details up-to-date.

The relevant Webpage can easily be found by searching for 'fsb salisbury' in the popular online search engines. From the FSB Salisbury Branch Webpage, the online database is just one click away! For access, type in your membership number and v-code as currently printed on your membership card:



Professional support is available to all FSB members who volunteer to help. Direct all FSB queries to either a committee member or the Regional Organiser:

The Western Regional Organiser is Mary Mallia
Tel: 01249-449120 :: Fax: 01249-661285
Web: www.fsb.org.uk/western

LOCAL ISSUES

FSB Support for New Unitary Authority

The FSB is supporting the Wiltshire County Council bid to replace the existing local government structure with a single unitary authority covering the whole of Wiltshire excluding Swindon. Swindon is already a unitary authority in its own right.

The National FSB position is that removing one tier of local government should have the potential for reducing Council Tax. Local Councillors are divided over the practicality of applying this justification in Wiltshire.

Since three of the four District Councils in Wiltshire objected to adopting a 'pathfinder' approach to unitary status, the County Council has been obliged to prepare a bid for the introduction of a Unitary Authority in the whole of Wiltshire, excluding Swindon.

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP, must reach a decision by 23rd March on whether the Wiltshire County Council bid has been successful or not. If successful, there will follow a consultation period before a final decision is made in July 2007.

Local Government Elections on 3rd May

Candidates' Nomination papers for election to Salisbury District Council and to Town and Parish Councils must be delivered to Salisbury District Council Offices by noon on Wednesday, 4th April.

FUTURE LOCAL EVENTS

22-23rd April – St George's Day Celebration

Focus will be on the Guildhall and the Market Square.

Friday, 13th July – FSB Summer Barbeque

The FSB Salisbury Branch Committee will invite members of both Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry and City Centre Management to share this popular networking event to be held at the Grasmere Hotel on Friday, 13th July.

21st September – FSB Celebration of South Wiltshire Food & Drink Dinner in the Guildhall

Book now for this popular annual event that coincides with Salisbury's Food and Drink Festival.

END NOTE

This Newsletter has cost £450 to print and post to the 500+ FSB Salisbury Branch members. If you would like to share the cost of future editions, please contact a Salisbury Branch Committee member. There is no date set as yet for a follow-up newsletter but if you're interested, you'll be kept informed. The FSB reserves its right to refuse any sponsorship request.