

MAY MFORUM NEWS



Bath - Swindon

Dear MForum Members,

Welcome to the **May** edition of MForum News **2011**.

We are back to normal now after all the holidays in April, and our next networking event will take place on 19th May at The Spot Bar in Swindon, sponsored by HSBC.

Don't forget to book your space for our wine tasting event in June, to be held at Great Western Wine in Bath. A booking form is attached.

If your company would like to sponsor a future MForum event, please let me know. We currently do not have sponsors for the following events in 2011:

21st July - Swindon
15th September - Bath
20th October - Swindon
17th November - Bath
15th December - Christmas Lunch, Bradford on Avon

Kind regards,

Clare Way

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E: clare.way@monahans.co.uk

2011 Networking Events

| Date | Event | Sponsor | Venue | Time |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|--------------------|--------|
| 19th May | Networking Drinks | HSBC | The Spot, Swindon | 6.00pm |
| 16th June | Wine Tasting | Monahans | Great Western Wine | 6.00pm |

To view back copies of the MForum newsletter, click on this link:
<http://www.monahans.co.uk/web/services-corpfinance-mforum.asp>



MULTI-MILLION POUND INITIATIVE NOW OPEN TO FIND UK'S TOP THINKING BUSINESSES

-Following the success of inaugural HSBC Business Thinking initiative, companies urged to sign up for this year's programme-

Thinking Businesses across the South West could be awarded a share in £108 million worth of funding, a financial reward of up to £120,000 each and be invited to take part in overseas Thought Exchange Trips for networking and business development, all courtesy of HSBC Commercial Banking. Now open for entries, the 'Business Thinking' initiative will help HSBC find and fund the UK's most innovative and forward thinking companies.

The initiative, which ran for the first time last year, will see up to 54 companies from across the UK take part in a 'Thought Exchange' trip to one of the world's most dynamic areas of economic growth – Hong Kong, Brazil, New York, United Arab Emirates or Continental Europe, allowing them to meet other businesses and investigate international trade opportunities. Thatchers Cider, one of the country's largest independent cider producers, was of HSBC's Business Thinking 2010 South West winners and used the funding provided by HSBC to upgrade its bottling facility, increasing its capacity by 50%.

Michael Papadatos, HSBC's Regional Commercial Director in the South West, said: "We were blown away by the calibre of entrants of Business Thinking 2010 and we hope that Thatchers Cider's success will inspire other companies in the South West to consider entering the latest initiative.

"The real value of the initiative, beyond the winning entrants being awarded funding to achieve their business plans, is the insight and knowledge they will gain from business leaders, and from peers both in the UK and beyond."

Business Thinking has three phases of reward for successful entrants:

Phase one: Up to 54 companies across the UK shortlisted as Regional Finalists. Each company selected will have the opportunity to participate in an international Thought Exchange, as a guest of HSBC, to one of the world's most dynamic areas of economic growth to meet like minded business thinkers and enjoy networking and business development opportunities.

Phase two: Regional Finalists will be invited to refine their business case to secure funding and a financial reward including the insights gained on the Thought Exchange to be judged by HSBC's panel of experts. Two Winners per region will then receive up to £6 million in lending plus a financial reward of up to £120,000 each (2% of their borrowing paid back).

Phase three: One of the 18 Regional Winners will be crowned overall Business Thinking 2010 winner at an International Insights gala event in London in front of an international audience, and will see their financial reward doubled.

Businesses with turnovers in excess of £2million can log onto www.hsbc.co.uk/businessthinking to find out more and put forward their vision and ambitions for the company, how its management team intends to achieve them and how the prize would help them succeed.

Closing date for entries is 10 June 2011. Full terms and conditions are available on the website.

Monahans Assists Kennels Business

Alison Bradshaw of Monahans Corporate Finance recently completed the financial due diligence and advised on the process relating to the acquisition of a kennels and cattery business based in Wiltshire. The Vendor's accounting records were not sophisticated and the client needed to be protected from any unforeseen financial issues arising post completion. Stephen Bishop of BLB Solicitors gave legal advice in the transaction and George Davies of Lloyds TSB Commercial assisted with the required funding.

The new owner wanted to move back to Wiltshire after spending many years in Scotland and has plans to develop the potential of the business which currently provides 55 kennels and 26 cattery spaces for dogs and cats.

Also at Monahans..

Peter Lugg of Monahans Corporate Finance was lead advisor to Mike Hayward of Brewster FM in the sale of his business to Clearsprings Group for an undisclosed sum. Brewster FM is a long established facilities management company operating in the Swindon area for a number of mainly public sector clients. Mike Hayward commented "[I had never sold a business before but Peter showed me the way helping with the negotiations at every stage](#)". Legal advice was provided by Peter Winton of Winton Raynes.

www.monahans.co.uk

If you would like your company news included in the June edition of MForum News, please ensure all copy including your company logo and website address is sent to clare.way@monahans.co.uk by Tuesday 31st May.

Booking Form

If you would like to attend the wine tasting evening on Thursday 16th June 2011, sponsored by Monahans, please complete your details below and return to:

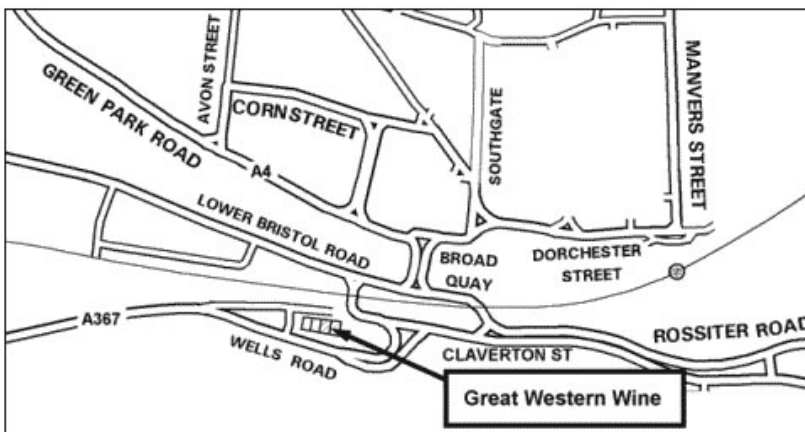
Clare Way
Monahans
Clarks Mill
Stallard Street
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8HH

Or email: clare.way@monahans.co.uk



Date: Thursday 16th June 2011

Venue: Great Western Wine, Wells Road, Bath. BA2 3AP



Name (s):

Company Name:

Email address:

Telephone Number: