

HDC

HARROGATE DISTRICT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business Review

Promoting Harrogate business —The latest news from your chamber

December 2017

A great way to finish 2017!

Our final meeting of the year was our ever-popular Business Safari. Offering speed networking exclusively for chamber members, the December event was held for the first time at Harrogate College's new Bistro on the Park.

The food—provided by catering and hospitality students—was fantastic, as was the atmosphere around the tables. It was great to see so many new faces trying out their first Safari, guided by others who are old hands these days!

Many thanks to Debra Forsythe-Conroy and the catering managers for hosting us so well. There were four additional attendees from member businesses, at



£15 each, and the £60 raised was given straight to the catering department for their funds. Thanks to everyone who joined us on the night.

Looking ahead to 2018

Our January meeting will again focus on the BID (Business Improvement District). Mosaic, the consultants appointed for the Harrogate BID, will explain the benefits of the scheme for local businesses and answer questions.

It's an ideal opportunity to be involved in planning the future of Harrogate, especially at a time of change for the town centre. We hope to see lots of you at the Old Swan Hotel on Monday 8th January from 5.30pm. Visitors are welcome to join us so please invite anyone who would benefit from hearing about this topic. Please book via the website.

The full 2018 meeting calendar is now on

the website. As well as our three popular networking events—two Business Safaris and one Team Games night—we will be focusing on a number of topics next year to meet all your business needs.

Meeting topics will include employment and apprenticeships, protecting yourself from cyber crime, using corporate social responsibility to increase employee engagement, and financial planning. We will also have our annual Traffic & Transport update, hearing from leading figures in the local and regional transport sector, as well as a Meet the Councillor event when you can put your concerns to relevant cabinet members and executive members from HBC and NYCC.

Harrogate District Chamber of Commerce

www.harrogatechamber.co.uk — 01423 501988

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Ian Wood

We were very sad to hear of the death of Ian Wood, a long-standing member of many organisations in the Harrogate community.

Ian had been a member of Harrogate Lions for 50 years, serving two terms as president. He was also a committed supporter of Harrogate at Christmas and put a great deal of effort into his role each year. Members of the chamber were fortunate to work alongside him on the committee and see his passion for making Christmas special for the whole community in Harrogate.

He also gave up his Christmas Day every year for 27 years to visit the children's ward at Harrogate Hospital in his red suit, bringing a lot of happiness to

youngsters and families who were unable to be at home. As his obituary in the Advertiser said, he must be in many family albums after posing for Christmas pictures over the years!

Ian sadly passed away on 24th November, just a week after fulfilling his duties at the Big Switch-On of the Christmas lights in Harrogate once again.

His funeral is on Friday 8th December at 3.40pm at Stonefall Crematorium. Guests are invited to include something red in their clothing in tribute to him.

Our thoughts are with his wife Beryl, their two sons, and their three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Chamber news

As ever, the blog is full of the latest news from members including:

Expansion and award wins for **Synergy Automotive**.

After three years of fundraising, the congregation at **St Wilfrid's Church** is enjoying a new heating system, which will also benefit everyone holding events in its rooms.

Harrogate Homeless Project has introduced a new corporate patrons scheme as part of a series of new fundraising opportunities.

Harrogate International Festivals'

Salon North series will include an event exploring the theme of Constitution on Thursday 25th January.

A move to new offices at 55 Grove Road has helped **Cicada Communications** end their 30th anniversary year in style.

And finally, our chief executive Sandra Doherty has summed up her recent activities in a new blog post, covering everything from council meetings to a beautiful festive event at **RHS Harlow Carr**.

Visit the website and click through to the blog to read more about all the above.

New chamber members

The following organisations have joined us in the last month. Full details can be found on the directory page of our website.

Prosperus Ltd
Steve Ratcliffe
www.prosperis.co.uk
01423 223653

Veeno Harrogate Ltd
Andrea Zecchino
Www.theveenocompany.com
0161 9321413