

The Connected Business Network is 1!

Thank you and well done to all Connected Network businesses! This newsletter marks the end of the Connected Network's first year! As well as celebrating what we have achieved so far we are pleased to announce some exciting new initiatives for Connected businesses.



What is Connected and the Connected Network?

Connected is all about helping commuters in Derby make more sustainable travel choices so that they become a way of life. Actively promoting walking, cycling, car sharing and public transport options to your employees delivers numerous benefits to both individuals and your business. The Travel Advice Service (TAS) is here to support businesses with the delivery of successful sustainable travel initiatives, and events, in your workplace.

Our Travel Advisor's initial aim is to help you develop a concise Travel Action Plan for your business. This provides a basic set of objectives, and actions, that we can help you deliver in order to promote smarter ways of getting to work. A Travel Advisor will then be assigned to help relevant HR teams, facilities managers and senior management teams within your organisation who are looking to encourage these positive changes.

All businesses that are working with the TAS become part of the Connected Network. Being a member of the network means you'll be kept up to date with the latest Connected schemes and benefits.

Connected Business Awards 2014

The inaugural Connected Business Awards were held at Derby College's Roundhouse on Tuesday 8th April. The event recognised the achievements of individuals and businesses in encouraging their employees to travel more sustainably.

D2N2's Peter Richardson compered the event with Councillor Asaf Afzal presenting Connected accreditation certificates to businesses.

Congratulations to all the individuals and businesses for their hard work over the past year and in particular to the winners of this year's five overall achievement awards:

- Connected Small Employment Site of the Year
– Tracsis
- Connected Large Employment Site of the Year
- Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- Connected Travel Champion of the Year
- Sian Page - Interfleet Technology
- Connected Initiative of the Year
- Severn Trent Water - Green Day Initiative
- Connected Special Achievement
– The Enthusiasm Trust

**Connected
Business Awards**



What else have we been up to this last quarter?

Other recent successes include:

- **Love Your Journey roadshow** – on Valentine's Day the Connected bus was touring Pride Park giving car drivers the chance to try the bus for free for a week. Around 100 employees took up the offer!
- **Bus Showcase Event** - On the 14th March we celebrated all things 'bus' at the Derby Market Place. Thanks to everyone who came and supported the event and to the sun for shining for us!
- **Adult cycle training** – In the last nine months 120 people have gained the confidence and knowledge to cycle through Cycle Derby's free 1-2-1 cycle training and personalised route planning session!

Have you heard about Connected Grants?

If you'd like to improve the facilities at your workplace, you can apply for a grant up to £250,000 from Connected to make sustainable travel easier for your staff and customers. Here are some of the organisations who have already successfully applied for grant funding:

- Seven Trent - £25,000 for a new pedestrian entrance onto the site, refurbishment of shower facilities and installation of a changing room. A 20 space cycle shelter with lighting and CCTV has also been installed.
- Derbyshire Enterprise Agency - £15,000 for changing disabled toilets to shower facility and installation of cycle storage.

To find out more about the Connected grant scheme, email info@derbyconnected.com

Who's signed up to the Connected Network this quarter?

This quarter has been busy for the TAS. Look at all the new businesses who have signed up.



Connected Network members can take advantage of a great package of products and services that will make a positive difference to an organisation and its employees. If you would like to 'Get Connected' call the Travel Advice Service on 01332 347575 or email info@derbyconnected.com

Spotlight on Synergy Health:

Synergy Health is a provider of outsourced services to health related industries who have recently relocated from Ascot Drive to the Wyvern Business Park.

Synergy are keen to promote and enable healthy lifestyles. A staff travel survey indicated that shower and changing facilities and secure cycle parking would encourage more staff to cycle to work. Synergy has since upgraded shower facilities, installed a secure cycle shelter and create a rear entrance to the building for cyclists as part of their relocation plans.

A travel clinic was held prior to the move to the new site and Synergy staff member received one-to-one personalised travel planning sessions.



What's next in 2014?

Cycle Maintenance

Cycle Derby are offering three steps to help get employees cycling to work:

- Basic health check on employee's bikes including a free £10* voucher which can be redeemed at a local independent bike store carried out at your workplace. (*if extra work is required).
- Maintenance training - a one hour lesson that will enable participants to carry out the basic maintenance required to keep a bike on the road, including bike checking, puncture repairs, and brake adjustments.
- Advanced maintenance training held at The Park Bikeworks.

Contact Mark Gray at Cycle Derby on 01332 641747 or email mark.gray@derby.gov.uk for more information.

Commuter Challenge

The Connected Commuter Challenge will be running throughout June 2014. Both workplaces and individuals can compete by logging the number of sustainable journeys (walk, cycle, bus, rail, car share or work from home).



There will be weekly prize draws and overall winners prizes for individuals and workplaces, including a months free advertising on outdoor boards across the city. Look out for further details on how to register!

The Park Bikeworks

The Park Bikeworks is a dedicated city centre cycle hub opening in June 2014. The centre will offer free bike parking, showers and lockers, a café deli, repair centre and shop to buy accessories and suitable clothing.

A physiotherapy team are located at the centre to help resolve any problem you have as quickly as possible.

Resources about bike training, coaching, activities, route planning will also be available. More information can be found at www.parkbikeworks.co.uk



PARK BIKEWORKS

Other dates for your diary

The Big Cycle Day Out 2014: Cycle Derby will be holding the Big Cycle Day Out event in the Market Place on Saturday 24th May. There will be seven world record attempts from extreme mount biker and Britain's Got Talent star Joe Oakley, together with a mountain bike track for people to have a go, and much much more. More details will be available soon, so follow us on twitter, or like us on Facebook to find out more.

National Events: There are a number of national sustainable travel weeks coming up in the next few months which you can use to help promote sustainable travel within your workplace:

- Catch the Bus week: 28th April - 4th May 2014
- Walk to Work Week: 12th - 16th May 2014
- Bike to Work Week: 14th - 22nd June 2014