



Will the business rates review affect you?

Welcome to the November 2009 edition of the BBA newsletter.

The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) has been undertaking a review of the rateable value of business properties. The draft list is currently available, and becomes 'final' on 1 April 2010. This will be the value used in business rate calculations for the next five years.

In general the valuations are based on market rents on 1 April 2008, and there may be scope for you to appeal the valuation if you believe the

calculation is incorrect. Note, however, the fact that markets rents may have fallen since that date is not in itself a reason for appeal, as any appeal must be based on conditions applying at 1 April 2008.

The following page on the VOA website allows you to check the draft valuation:

www.2010.voa.gov.uk/rli/en/basic/find

The above is just a quick review of our understanding of the situation, as such we would advise anyone to get more professional advice if they feel they may be affected.

Top award for Old Mill

Congratulations are due to one of our members, the Old Mill Holiday Park in St Helens, who picked up a silver in the Caravan/Holiday Park category of the prestigious Tourism ExSellece Awards.

Other IW successes included Seaview Wildlife Encounter (formerly Flamingo Park) and The Garlic Farm in Newchurch.

The awards are judged by Tourism South East.



BBA website gets revamp

The BBA website, www.bembridge.org, is to be revised, bringing it up to date and providing more information. The first step will be to update the members directory. In order that I don't place details onto the website which members do not wish to be into the public domain I will only include businesses on the website if they:

- i) are already on the online members directory
- ii) they have explicitly ticked the box on the application form which says details can be published on the website
- iii) they have explicitly told me they wish to be included.

BBA Christmas social

The BBA Christmas social will take place on Monday 7 December at the Bembridge Coast Hotel. Come along and make some valuable new business contacts – or just catch up with old friends! A free two-course buffet will be provided.

Retailers extend their offer

It is great to see that several of the retailers in Bembridge have committed to late-night opening every Thursday. According to Ruth Curtis, of fishmongers Captain Stan, the idea is to extend the late-night opening beyond Christmas to really target the post-work crowd. Also, four of the High St food retailers – Captain Stan, Woodford's, Lottie's and The Farm Shop – are joining forces to provide a delivery service in Bembridge.

Lights of Love

This year's Bembridge Lights of Love, co-ordinated by the BBA, will take place on Saturday 12 December. Starting at 5pm by the Lane End shops, it is expected that the festive throng will reach the war memorial by around 5.45pm. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the Cloisters.



BEMBRIDGE AND ST HELENS GUIDE 2010
Planning for next year's guide is underway, so if you're not already an advertiser, why not get in touch with Carol Pearce on 872285 to see how you can benefit from the guide.

Meet the members: introducing recent BBA recruits

KISS Financial Services

KISS Financial Services, based in Weavers Yard, was set up 10 years ago by David and Jacquie Tarry. They focus on mortgages and also provide help and advice on all the insurances that sit alongside your loan such as life assurance, mortgage protection insurance, income protection and buildings and contents insurance.

Jacquie and David have expanded their business this year and can now look to offer clients savings on their household and business bills too. On average, they reckon to be able to show residential customers in the Bembridge and St Helens area how to save over £800 per annum.

KISS Financial Services: tel 875875

Tim Woodcock

Educated at Ryde School, Tim served for 18 years with Lloyds Bank at branches on the Island. Upon leaving the bank in March 1997, he controlled the accounts relating to the refurbishment of the Priory Bay Hotel under its new ownership of Peartime Limited and also set up the accounts when trading commenced in 1998. Following on from this and for over ten years, he has been preparing management accounts to trial balance, VAT and payroll for a number of local small businesses using Sage accounts and payroll packages.

He has been connected with a number of organisations on the Island since leaving school in 1978 and was the honorary treasurer for the IOW Symphony Orchestra Society for 12 years, together with a significant involvement as a founding director of the IOW International Oboe Competition (now held on the Isle of Man). He is and has been the lifeboat treasurer for the station at Bembridge since the early 1990s, as well as treasurer for the Guild and recently, treasurer for the RNLI Bembridge Station Appeal. He looks forward to being a member of the Bembridge Business Association.

Tim Woodcock: tel 872519

The Sign Lady

One year on from taking over from Chris 'The Sign Man' on Embankment Road, Hayley Walker is still

enjoying the challenge of serving the local trades, pubs, restaurants, shops, residential homes and charities, producing all types of signs, boat names, house names, banners, vehicle graphics, vehicle magnets, site boards, shop fascias and window frosting.

New this month, says Hayley, is a 'rent a banner' scheme – if you have a special promotion or occasion coming up you can rent a banner for the weekend, week or month.

**The Sign Lady: tel: 875501 mob: 07896 861187
www.thesignlady.co.uk**

Will Squibb Boatbuilders

With over 30 years experience, Will Squibb Boatbuilders look after boats from a number of local fleets including Seaview Mermaids, Bembridge Redwings, Bembridge Scows, Seaview Dinghies and Bembridge One Designs (BODs). They provide a wide range of services under one roof through their multi-skilled team, including slipping and storage of boats up to 42 feet, wood and GRP laminate work, RIB tube repair, marine electrical work, marine engineering and signwriting. In addition to the rigging services that they have offered for over 10 years, they now have the facilities to manufacture the majority of their rigging products and systems in-house.

Will Squibb Boatbuilders: tel 874629

Spyder UK

Spyder UK supply equipment and personnel for a variety of event and entertainment markets. With a range of sound, lighting, staging and power distribution equipment, they say they have the technology to stage events of almost any size on the Island. Spyder's engineers work with some of the largest touring names in the world and are also trained by leading equipment manufacturers to get the best from their products. Other services that have proven popular on the Island include Spyder's professional, short term two-way radio hire for organisers of events both large and small, and their pyrotechnic services – guaranteed to make your event sparkle and go with a bang!

Spyder UK: tel 779337