



## Rewarding excellence - Derbyshire Business Awards



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## Private equity scheme launched to help firms during credit crunch



Launching their innovative private equity initiative, Peter Gadsby (left) and Colin Garrett

Derby-based entrepreneur and recent winner of Business Insider Personality of the Year, Peter Gadsby, is spearheading a new private equity initiative which is aimed at supporting businesses seeking growth finance. Through his Ark Capital company, Mr Gadsby and fellow director Colin Garrett, are looking for successful Midlands-based businesses which, in the current economic climate, might be finding it difficult to raise funds through traditional avenues.

Mr Gadsby explained: "Despite the challenging economic conditions, there are plenty of solid, well-performing businesses out there who are still looking to make progress. We are looking to support successful and expanding businesses, managed by strong and energetic management teams who need finance to help them develop and grow."

Mr Garret said: "We are not seeking to take controlling interests in businesses - we want to develop open and mutually dependable relationships with management teams and add value as we take their business forward. We're keen to look at a range of investment options - either on our own or alongside others - to the tune of between £2 million and £5 million each."

For further information, please contact Colin Garrett on 01332 226680

## Westfield Derby hits top ten



Westfield Derby is now rated as one of the top ten shopping centres in the UK according to respected Property Week magazine.

This represents a massive leap from a 51<sup>st</sup> in 2006 and means that Westfield is now classified as a 'super-centre' by Trevor Wood associates. The rankings measure attractiveness to shoppers, retailers and investors. The list is headed up by the MetroCentre in Gateshead and Bluewater in Kent. Nearby Bullring in Birmingham ranks as 11<sup>th</sup>. Interestingly Westfield Derby scores as 3<sup>rd</sup> best city centre scheme, after Manchester's Arndale and The Centre in Milton Keynes.

Last month Westfield announced that 25 million people had visited the centre in its first year and 3,000 new jobs are being sustained in Derby.

## Derbyshire commits to remaining local



Last Thursday a packed Bondholder Breakfast session heard Graham Picken, Derbyshire Building Society Chief Executive, give an open and honest account of how the credit crunch impacted on the Derbyshire, resulting in its imminent merger with the Nationwide.

Graham said that the last few months had seen the 'near disintegration of the world's banking system' but felt we were now past its epicentre. The flow-through to the real economy had yet to be fully felt but he was optimistic that the second half of 2009 would see the beginning of recovery. In the meantime, all businesses had to keep control of cash and costs. In a vibrant Q&A session Graham reassured the audience that the Derbyshire will remain a 'differentiated proposition based on its local roots' and indeed next year is the Derbyshire's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## Derby bites back



Marketing Derby has joined a campaign to help Derby battle through the economic crisis. Led by the Derby Evening Telegraph, Credit Crunch: Derby Bites Back, brings together a powerful group of organisations to provide support for firms and individuals suffering from the financial downturn, attract and retain trade in the city and help people find jobs.

Over the next three months the Evening Telegraph will showcase the products and services offered by scores of local businesses, work with retailers to promote exclusive offers to attract custom into the city and highlight efforts to ensure that Derby is still the place to do business. Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, has already praised the campaign as being a 'fantastic initiative' as well as praising Derby's 'world leading' hi-tech economy.

## Derby at the heart of Children in Need



Marketing Derby bondholders Westfield Derby and Egg are gearing up for a day of charity events this Friday as the BBC Children in Need event comes to town.

Westfield is hosting the BBC Children in Need East Midlands broadcast with an exciting day of fundraising, live stage events, music and giveaways. The host is Anne Davies from BBC East Midlands Today. BBC presenters will be doing a Pudsey version of Stars in their Eyes, including Des the weatherman!

Go to Westfield after 6pm and park for just £1 - all going to Children in Need.

Pride Park-based internet bank, Egg, have donated the use of their contact centre as one of the many nationwide locations for taking donations and expect a busy and long evening.

## Are you the business?



The Business Awards Derbyshire 2009 will be the showcase for the county's most talented entrepreneurs and executives, demonstrating their achievements before an audience of peers and prospective customers.

Free to enter and open to any private or public sector organisation in Derbyshire, regardless of size, they provide a widely recognized mark of quality and, for some, a very definite boost to the bottom line.

The Process will culminate in a sensational black tie gala dinner on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2009 hosted by Brian Blessed with pre-dinner drinks sponsored by Marketing Derby.

Last chance to enter online at:  
[www.business-awards.org.uk](http://www.business-awards.org.uk)

## Marketing Derby Bondholder - Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce



- Company Name: Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber
- Web Address: [www.dncc.co.uk](http://www.dncc.co.uk)
- Telephone number: 0845 601 1038
- E-mail address: [info@dncc.co.uk](mailto:info@dncc.co.uk)
- Locations: Derby, Chesterfield, Nottingham, Glossop, Shirebrook, Bolsover and Swadlincote - We cover Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.
- What do you do/ what is your mission statement? We are a membership organization offering a wide range of business services and support to our members - our mission is really to serve our members.
- When did you start? In all our different forms well over 100 years ago!
- How many employees do you have? 120
- Why have you become a Bondholder? To network with businesses in Derby, help influence the vision for the City and contextualize this for the county.
- What do you hope to get out of it? Relationships, information and support - both from us and to us.
- How did you hear about the Bondholder scheme? From Marketing Derby's Director, John Forkin.
- What do you think of the scheme We are relatively new to the scheme but from what we have experienced it seems to provide the service it sets out to the business community of the City.
- What are your favourite things about Derby? It's people, it's vibrancy and it's potential.

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To request a Bondholder Scheme Information Pack please e-mail [andrew.lowe@marketingderby.co.uk](mailto:andrew.lowe@marketingderby.co.uk).

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