



An evening of fashion for charity...

Client **Voni Blu**, of Castilian Street, Northampton, ladies contemporary fashion boutique stocking Spring/Summer designs from leading labels: mais il est ou le soleil? - Lino factory - Lauren Vidal - Isabel de Pedro - Bandolera is supporting local charities with forthcoming Fashion Show Evenings:

March 4th - The Dunstone Bennett Suite (Cancer Support) at the Cripps Centre, Northampton General Hospital starting at 7.30pm Fashion by Voni Blu and tips from Northampton Image Consultant Jane Sumner
Tickets £15.00 (incl. refreshments) from Voni Blu, 20 Castilian Street or call 07734 816297

March 15th - Fashion for Freedom in aid of Northampton's Women's Refuge at Greens, Collingtree Park starting 7.30pm Also featuring Butterflies Dress Agency and Alicia's of Finedon (underwear & Lingerie) & hints and tips from Northampton Image Consultant Jane Sumner
Tickets £15.00 (incl. refreshments) Call Voni Blu 07734 816297 or Jane Sumner 01604 705234. email jane@imagematters.uk.net

Support for these very worthwhile local charities would be most welcome and appreciated, plus an evening to be enjoyed by all and a chance to catch up with friends!!

Are you concerned about your health?

Richard Mawby of family concern "Northampton Water Company" can install a special water filter tap, next to your sink, which gives you an unlimited supply of filtered, non-contaminated water.

For those of us who live in lime-scale areas, the tap is great way of ensuring that the water we drink, is as healthy as possible. Having a personal history of multiple kidney stones, Richard recently installed a tap in our kitchen and I am convinced of the benefits already.

Contact Richard on 01604 858928 / 07564 036199 for details.

Baby news... Ben is a daddy

Congratulations to Jo and Ben. Jo gave birth to HAYDN on Thursday 25th February 2010. Haydn weighed a healthy 7lbs and 13oz.

Haydn arrived home yesterday and according to mum and dad, is doing very well.

We wish the new family all the very best and look forward to seeing the wee man very soon.



TESTING TESTING PAT are a family run business which deals with Portable Appliance Testing of electrical items (PAT Testing).

Rachael and Melvin are able to accommodate all business regardless of how large or small, and offer their services at a very affordable price.

They are currently offering a New Year promotion, which means any business' with over 100 tests can gain 10% off the unit price. **Voucher valid for 6 months to all Elsby and Co clients.** Please visit their website for more information on the services they offer and a price list.

www.testingtestingpatltd.co.uk

Tel Rachael / Melvin on 01536 791802 / 07933 617389



Are you "mile ready?"

I'm honestly not sure if we are, but we are going to get together for a team challenge on Sunday 21st March at Stanwick Lakes to raise money for Sport Relief.

The "Wii Unfit" team will be setting off at 11am, having registered to do either 3 or 6 miles. (I didn't let anyone register for just 1 mile—it is supposed to be a challenge after all!).

There are varying degrees of enthusiasm—Julie shocked the staff at Club Diana in Wellingborough and has engaged the services of their personal trainer! Whilst Ben, Steve and Carl are leaving their training until the very last minute (though I have seen Carl jogging round the island on the Wii fit).

If you would like to support us, log on to www.mysportrelief.com/elsby

And help us meet our target for Sport Relief.

Exam success...

Congratulations to Sharon Jessop who has passed her CTA tax exams. After many years of studying, Sharon can now devote her time to much more exciting things!

WELL DONE from all of us.



Federation of Small Business....

I have attended a number of FSB events in recent months and have been very impressed with their package of services for small businesses. Mike Stratton, our local business advisor for the FSB has provided the following piece for the newsletter:

"When I asked if I could write a few words on the benefits of membership of the **Federation of Small Businesses**, I could have taken the route of least resistance and simply bullet pointed how we help business owners people, however....

.....my trusty Vauxhall let me down last week when the engine warning light glowed brighter than David Cameron's eyes when he thinks about the coming election and the engine ran rougher than Gordon Brown's current cabinet.

Time to contact the vehicle rehabilitation and repair centre, known to one and all as 'The Garage'. My local garage has an excellent reputation and upon leaving the car; they instigated diagnostic research to establish the cause of the problem. The engineering technician (mechanic) contacted me to say he had solved the problem but there was a further issue that could cause a breakdown in the future, which I asked him to remedy. I was back on the road the next day after being shown the faulty parts and a full explanation of the problems and how they rectified them.

To summarise: I had a problem; the garage diagnosed it and helped avoid a further potential problem. They responded in a courteous, timely, professional, and friendly manner and had the knowledge and tools to get me back on the road. As a bonus, they were cost effective and local (thereby complying with the FSB Shop Local ethos!).

Back to the start and my few words regarding the benefits of membership to the **Federation of Small Businesses**, and I think you know where this is going.

Business can be a very lonely place and when the warning lights flash up on the office dashboard, you need to know who to turn to fast. An organisation that has the knowledge and tools to help you. An organisation that is helpful, informative and professional, and is above all, **cost effective**.

The **Federation of Small Businesses** was set up 35 years ago as a non political and not for profit organisation to help small businesses be heard at government level and offer help and advice when you need it most, when those warning lights come on! With over 213,000 members nationwide, we are constantly being engaged by the media and government as to the challenges being faced by small businesses and what help can be forthcoming.

Do what I did when I needed help, find a professional organisation to prevent problems in the future. To learn more about the activities of the FSB, please contact Mike Stratton, on **07801 633787** or mikestratton56@yahoo.co.uk."



The East Northants FSB organises networking events, dates for your diary:

17/3/10	Buffet & guided tour round Morrisons distribution depot in Burton Latimer	£ 5.00
12/5/10	Meal at Pizzeria Venezia in Rushden	£15.00
24/7/10	SUMMER EVENT—meal and live entertainment at Mawsley Village Centre	£20.00
29/9/10	Meal & speaker at Knuston Hall in Irchester	TBA
26/11/10	Meal at Mazza in Kettering	£15.00

If you are interested in finding out more about the FSB or attending any of the above events, please give Mike Stratton a call.

Clare