



January 2008 diary

Happy New Year - welcome 2008

The New Year sees Lee Moor in good heart; wildlife diverse and maturing, business park full and off-farm projects beginning to mature.

Nothing without your health!

The North Locality office of the Care Trust has been at Lee Moor Business Park for over five years. They arrived as a small team and grew, they are now moved into a new building in Alnwick and we wish them well, particularly Karen and Barbara who received a basket of roses, to grow in their office, which may remind them of our time together.



Wagons roll for the NHS at Lee Moor

The Half Moon - Stakeford

Lee Moor will be re-launching the café in 2008 but in the meantime we have forged links with a public house in Wansbeck through the same partnership that runs Fresh Element (www.freshelement.co.uk).

Here's a link to more information about the Half Moon Inn:

<http://www.travelpublishing.co.uk/HiddenPlacesEngland/Northumberland/ENG31941.htm>.

Oxford Blues

I have already decided to go to next year's Oxford Farming Conference because I believe that I need to look at the bigger picture once a year - and next year it starts on the 5th January so I can go and not miss Caitlin's birthday, as I had to this year. I feel that everybody should be taking up training in their own area of expertise and indeed in areas which are new and emerging. The work by Northumberland College (www.northland.ac.uk) on renewables - focused at Kirkley Hall College - is a good example; I take my hat off to the team at the college as they feed new skills into pioneer industries.

Green awards

Although I have blogged on this subject (see http://blog.nebusiness.co.uk/ian_brown/) I am keen to think what more we can do as a business community at Lee Moor Business Park. The Greenwash Code (<http://thegreenwashcode.com/>) is a fantastic example of a green business which has come to the business park to take advantage of the green energy available. The diversification into table linen is welcomed by several local businesses.

London and Alnwick

Congratulations to the Commission for Rural Communities (CRC) (www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk) for hosting a conference on rural democracy which was electronically webcast and linked by satellite so that both audiences could see and hear each other; well done to David Stewart for chairing the up-north half as the chair of the North East Rural affairs Forum.

Bong... And finally... Swan delays take-off due to de-icing issue

It surprised me to see a swan stuck in the ice (see photo). They are an interesting design concept and the swan - female staff from NHS assured me it was a stupid male!! - was caught in freezing water and was half in/half out of the frozen pond here at Lee Moor Business Park. We watched painfully as it hauled itself to the bank and on into moving water... phew; tired just watching.



Don't you ever wander off again when it's icy!

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