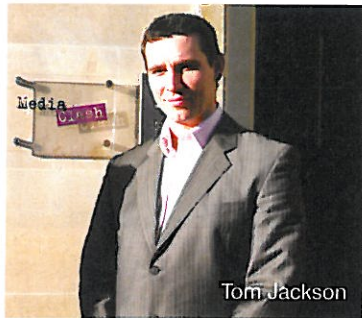


BusinessNews

Keeping you up to date with issues that affect the Cardiff business community

In brief



Tom Jackson

Cardiff Life would like to introduce its new advertising manager, Tom Jackson. Tom has worked in media and marketing since 2002 and is hugely excited to be working on one of MediaClash's most vibrant titles.

"I love the ever-changing face of Cardiff, its friendly people, sporting prestige and great independent businesses and I'm thrilled to be working on *Cardiff Life*. I can't wait to begin meeting everyone across the city."

If you would like to speak to Tom call 01225 475800 or email tom.jackson@mediaclash.co.uk

Award-winning independent retailer Leekes, which has a store in Llantrisant, has announced its intention to expand its business with a number of new retail opportunities. The first phase of its growth strategy is a deal with garden centre chain, Wyevale. Leekes will open a conservatory, glazing and kitchen concession at three of Wyevale's garden centres in Bristol, Somerset and Swindon by Easter. Emma Leeke, commercial director, said of the proposed expansion:

"We believe the trend for people improving their homes instead of moving house will continue into 2009. In the current climate it is important to reassure existing and new customers of the stability of our business and there's no better way to do this than via growth and expansion. It's likely to be a challenging but exciting few years ahead."

• www.leekes.co.uk



Inspire's Admiral Choir Group

Sing for your supper

Two Welsh songstresses have launched a unique new business that will give a whole new meaning to the phrase 'sing for your supper'.

Singers and vocal coaches Georgina Jones and Andrea Beardshaw have just launched Inspire, a business aimed at the corporate market, offering vocal health sessions, corporate teambuilding and even a complete choir package for staff.

The pair, who have a combined experience of 29 years in the industry teaching clients including X-Factor finalists, have already begun working with Admiral Group at its Cardiff headquarters.

The duo are developing a choir of more than 40 Admiral staff, who will eventually perform in front of thousands of colleagues at the Admiral SGMs at St David's Hall this spring, as well providing vocal

health training sessions at inductions for all new call centre employees at Admiral. They now plan to target other major UK call centres and organisations.

Andrea said: "Our choir package and team building days also work on staff's 'soft' business skills - a two-hour session every month can improve confidence and self esteem levels, motivation and communication skills."

• www.singandinspire.com



The new team: Neil Jaundrell, Donna Louise Myatt and Phil Hurley

MANAGING YOUR WEALTH

One of Wales's leading accountancy firms, **ktsowenstomas**, is entering into a new joint venture with **SD Asset Management** to provide clients with wealth-management advice at a time when investment decisions are unclear, particularly within the housing, equities and pension markets.

ktsowenstomas Wealth Management has been formed to provide clients of the accountancy practice and the wider business community with combined access to financial planning expertise and the existing services

of the firm to ensure that informed and appropriate financial choices are made.

Offering a consolidated team of experts under the helm of financial planner Neil Jaundrell, the new venture, which is regulated by the FSA will offer independent advice on pensions, investments, inheritance tax and protection. Neil explains:

"The new wealth management arm will provide bespoke advice with the goal of sustaining and growing the long term wealth of our clients."

• www.ktsowenstomas.com