



Welcome to the fourth edition of “Laois Enterprising Women”

A communiqué with news and views from the
Laois Enterprising Women’s Network

The next meeting of the Laois Enterprising Women’s Network will be held on Wednesday February 8th in Kavanagh’s Pub, Main Street, Portlaoise. Commencing with registration and coffee at 6.15pm, the talks will start at 6.40pm sharp.

To book your place email margaret@extensivepr.ie or call Margaret on 046-9245836 or text 087-2588918

Learn “How to look the part in business” at the LEWN workshop on Wednesday February 8th



This workshop will be presented by Maria Macklin, a personal stylist & image consultant at House of Colour.

Maria will talk about:-

- The impact of colour
 - Focusing on authority colours and the power of neutrals
- The importance of make-up and why it is necessary
- First impressions and what they can say about you
- Being authentic in your own style and how that can gain trust
- Dressing for impact – using accessories in a business situation

Present yourself & your business at the LEWN

One of the objectives of the Laois Enterprising Women’s Network is to network, develop business relationships and do business.

What is your business?

The other element of the meeting on Wednesday February 8th will be:

- Introducing your business
- Telling LEWN members what you have to offer
- Sharing with the members what services you currently require.

So get your ‘pitch’ ready

In this edition of ‘Laois Enterprising Women’

- Meet our February 8th speaker – Maria Macklin
- Learn what membership of the Laois Enterprising Women’s Network (LEWN) offers you
- Read a review of our latest meeting held on December 7th 2016
- See the event in pictures.

LEWN – 2017 Diary Dates

- Wednesday, February 8th
- Wednesday, March 29th

What Membership of the LEWN Offers

Opportunity to:-

- hear from inspirational speakers
- learn from informative workshops
- showcase your business to fellow members
- Network with business women from County Laois
- For Facebook Profiling of LEWN members

Annual Membership for all of the above is just €100. (Works out at just over €16 per meeting – 6 meetings per annum)

For more information or for a membership form contact:

Email Honor Deevy LEO Laois, hdeevy@laoiscoco.ie or LEWN coordinator, Margaret McKeon-Boyle, margaret@extensivepr.ie

- **Note:** LEWN year runs from April – March
- You can join in February for just €35: There are two (2) meetings to go including February & March meetings

We are looking to welcome ‘New Members’

So please spread the word

Check out the Local Enterprise Office Laois Website for great value training courses coming up this spring - including:

- **Costing & Pricing a Product or Service**
 - February 23rd
 - Cost Just €40
- **Essential Marketing & Sales for New Business**
 - March 8th (Starting)
 - 6 evenings
 - Cost just €60
- **Simple Steps for SME’s**
 - March 8th
 - 1 day course on 8th March – 40th Euro

Click [here](#) for full course information and to Book online

Report from our last LEWN meeting on December 7th 2016



There was a great Christmas atmosphere at our LEWN networking event on Wednesday December 7th. The new venue of Kavanagh's Pub on Main Street, Portlaoise proved very popular with the members. Thank you to our LEWN member, Niamh Kavanagh, for the venue and hospitality.

A master class in growing a multi-million euro business

Helen Gee, (pictured left) of Award Winning "G's Gourmet Jams", Abbeyleix, Co. Laois was our keynote speaker. Helen told her business story of how, from a love of making traditional homemade food, she went on to build a multi-million euro business with her products being sold in Tesco, Dunnes Stores, Londis, Asda and Musgroves. The G's Gourmet products are also used in the prestigious Shelbourne Hotel, the K Club and the Trump International Hotel & Spa.

Another master class – this time on "How to choose wine"

Also contributing at the event was another Laois Enterprising Women's Network member, **Barbara Brown, Brown's Vineyard**, (pictured middle left), who also shared her business story of how she came to be importing and selling wine in Portlaoise.

Barbara also gave a master-class on how to choose the best wine and provided some delicious wine tasting.

Barbara and Brown's Vineyard offers good quality wine at great prices. And you get the added benefit of her expertise and advice when purchasing wine. Her store is located in Brown's Fruit & Veg, Coliseum Lane, just off Main St, Portlaoise. "Like" Brown's Vineyard on Facebook Page to hear of special offers and wine-tasting or call Barbara on (057) 862 1420



Christmas songs with Kyra Fingleton

Providing a fabulous Christmas atmosphere with her singing was another LEWN member, **Kyra Fingleton** who has two businesses; "Wedding Singer Laois" and "Glamping Under the Stars".

Kyra is pictured performing on the night. She showcased her wonderful vocal talents that would make any wedding or corporate event that bit more special with her repertoire.

Recommend Kyra to any of your friends or business acquaintances that might need her to sing. And like our other members businesses we ask you to also please "Like" Kyra's Facebook Page 'Wedding Singer Laois'.



About Laois Enterprising Women's Network (LEWN)

- Laois Enterprising Women is a forum created to help; support; guide; and motivate women through every stage and aspect of business development. We are supported by Local Enterprise Office Laois and are open to all women at various stages of entrepreneurship.
- We want to build further our wide network of like-minded women who will share their experiences and help support others through good times and bad.
- This network is by women and about women and aims to create a safe space for women to discuss any issue affecting them without fear of judgement or criticism.

The Laois Enterprising Women's Network (LEWN) EXPO

The LEWN Members that exhibited at the December 2016 event

We had a fabulous diverse range of LEWN businesses showcased at the December 7th meeting – they are profiled below.

A special thanks to the exhibitors for providing the wonderful prizes for our FREE raffle

Do you want to book an EXPO stand space at our next meeting?
FREE for LEWN Members

To book an Expo space or to book your seat at the LEWN on February 8th
Phone or text Margaret at 087-2588918 or email info@extensivepr.ie



Alena C Designs.

Pictured left is Alena Curkumiknova from Alena C Designs who showcased her business at the December LEWN networking event
An Interior Design Company based in Portlaoise, Alena specialises in Contemporary Interiors for all budgets.

Her service includes:

- Colour Consultation,
- Complete Design,
- Building & lighting plans,
- Project co-ordination and much more....

Contact Alena at: 087 1904313

alena@alenacdesign.com www.alenacdesign.com

And of course LIKE her company on Facebook.

G's Gourmet Jam's

Helen Gee, of Award Winning "G's Gourmet Jams", Abbeyleix, Co. Laois was busy on the night. As well as speaking she also showcased some of their wonderful product.

And because of the time of year Helen had examples of the Christmas Gift Hampers that G's Gourmet Jams had on offer.

G's Gourmet Jams would make the ideal client or family gift for that special occasion any time of the year.

Contact Helen on 057-8731058 or check out their website and LIKE their FB page.

www.gsgourmetjams.ie



Linda Sampey – Essential Oils

Linda showcased her 'Essential Oils' products and told of the huge trend towards medicinal grade essential oils.

Linda's mission is to spread the word about the power of high quality CPTG oils and how to use them in your daily life to improve your overall health and wellness.

Linda had us all sold on the idea of using essential oils as a form of natural medicine for the majority of health concerns

Contact Linda for more information or meet her at our LEWN Meetings
083 4483890

essentialoiladvice@gmail.com

www.mydoterra.com/essentialoiladvice

LIKE.... essential oil adviceon FB



Marzena Bogusz-Lenk – An Arts and Craft Business

Marzena is just starting out with her business and needs our support.

She showcased some of her beautiful hand-painted furniture at the LEWN meeting on December 7th.

Marzena offers many services including creating decorative plaster casts. She can also decorate your home with amazing detailed paintings on the walls with stencils.

You can contact her by phone or email or speak to Marzena at our LEWN networking Meetings

086 0748490
53megi@gmail.com



EmployAbility Midlands

Sandra Aherne – Employment Officer with EmployAbility Midlands was also showcasing at the LEWN and was there to answer any questions from the members

The goal of EmployAbility Midlands is to support People with Disabilities to get employment.

This is one business owner's story of how helpful he found the service that Sandra and her team provide:-

"We found EmployAbility Midlands support vital to the process. This is a really well run organisation who understand the challenges and have the right people in place to overcome these challenges. We found the experience to be very positive for our company."

Gerard Mulhall, Mulhall Supervalu, Portlaoise.

The Laois Enterprising Women's Network (LEWN) event December 7th 2016 in pictures

Photos by Kevin Byrne Photography



Honor Deevy, LEO Laois. Margaret McKeon-Boyle Coordinator LEWN and speaker Barbara Brown of Brown's Vineyard



LEWN members Mary Miller (Fifty Seven Boutique, Portarlinton), Helen Gee (keynote speaker at the event), Kasjana Jatowski (Maths Made Easy) and Jenny Miller (Fifty Seven Boutique)



It's a Girl



Pictured is Heidi Higgins enjoying the LEWN Networking event on December 7th.

Heidi was awaiting the arrival of her first baby and we are delighted to report that she gave birth to a baby girl on Christmas Eve.

Congratulations Heidi – we look forward to meeting the new perspective LEWN member!



Mary McWee, Ladybell Boutique; Caroline Coburn, Flynn's Medical Hall and Sandra Aherne, EmployAbility Midlands



Mary OSullivan Bara Bitters - Mary Byrne Navy and Hide



Amanda Houlahan, Wall Stickers for Kids and Zita Kelly, AIB



Mary Miller, Fifty Seven Bourique; Kasjana Jatoskw, Maths Made Easy; Jenny Miller, Fifty Seven Boutique; and Krya Fingleton, Wedding Singer Laois and Glamping Under the Stars.



Helen Gee, 'G's Gourmet Jams' addressing the LEWN Members at the December networking event.



The Wine Tasting Master Class with Barbara Brown, Brown's Vineyard, Portlaoise.



For more information on joining the LEWN contact Laois Enterprising Women's Network Coordinator – Margaret McKeon-Boyle at 087-2588918