

Press release

23 February 2006

Southampton entrepreneurs are raring to go

In the spirit of entrepreneurship a group of like minded local people have been working closely together in preparation for Business South 2006 which takes place on 1 & 2 March at St. Mary's Stadium.

Those involved are all exhibiting in the New Business Zone at the largest business to business networking event of its kind in the region. The individuals have all been running their own businesses for less than 2 years and have all received expert help and advice from local business support agencies. They have been given the chance to take part in the exhibition by Southampton City Council who is sponsoring the New Business Zone and the Business Advice Zone at the show.

The types of businesses involved include graphic design and printing; PR and marketing; ICT and Internet training and consultancy; and metalwork manufacturing. Exhibiting is fairly new to these new companies so they decided to start their own networking group to help support one another get ready for the event by sharing their individual business skills.

Emma Cosgrave of eStudios commented, "a group of us have been meeting up to discuss the exhibition; we've shared ideas and contacts, and also done some work for each other. We're ready for the show and are working well together as a group."

Those taking part are Emma Cosgrave (of eStudios, an Internet consultancy service), Josh Bingley (of Open Air Design, a design and marketing agency), Carl Amy (of ABC Metals), Sue Oliver (a professional textile designer), Naomi King-Li (who runs King-Li services providing counselling, business support and mediation), Claire Adam (of Substance PR), Angus Coull (representing the social enterprise RISE Computers) and Carole Allen (of Peachstone Ltd who specialise in business development and marketing support).

The business support agencies who nominated the new companies are Women's Wisdom, Prince's Trust, South Coast Money Line, RISE Community Developments, Southampton Enterprise Hub, The South Hampshire Enterprise Agency, and the Creative Industries Business

Mentor at Southampton Universities Centre for Enterprise and Innovation.

For further information visit Southampton City Council's local business website www.invest-in-southampton.co.uk.