



## A BIT OF FEBRUARY '19 BIZ NEWS...

If you come across anyone who you think should be involved with the Business Group, please pass on our contact details [info@np4nb.online](mailto:info@np4nb.online)

### I WAS THERE... WHERE WERE YOU?!

**BOY! DID YOU MISS A GREAT GIG! BUT ALL IS NOT LOST.....WE CAN DO IT IN NB!**

Last month Biz Buzz told you about a fab deal offered by NWES, the-not-for-profit enterprise company that gathers funding to supply business training & support of all kinds. They were doing a 2-day seminar in Norwich for start-ups. I'm not a start-up, but I went anyway.



I have been self-employed for my entire life but was fascinated to know how it SHOULD be done and how I could improve..... So back to basics. There's never been a more crucial time to use every bit of help you can get..TIMES ARE HARD. So I turned up as an under-cover agent, spying on their seminar!

Amongst the 13 eager Biz Bods : a couple of young Mums setting up a De-Clutter & Clean business, a pair of IT geeks about to do an on-line HR service, a care worker fed-up with the County services & determined to do it better, a couple setting up a health and wellness centre, and young lad writing a book and selling fashion on-line.

The Biz Boffin was Richard Voisey with years of experience in the business of business.



By Day 2 we were all studying profit & loss, doing SWOT analyses (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats), writing business plans, survival budgets and considering touchpoint marketing.

**We now know that "Turnover is vanity. Profit is sanity!"**

Almost everyone in the room had *years of experience* in work, but when it comes to going it alone there's a different set of rules... and how *complicated* they are and how *many* there are! You could end up doing business rather than the talent you started out to promote. Do you recognise that concept? Have you felt like that?

**There's not a person who couldn't learn something from this.**

**SO...I've asked Richard if he'll do it all over again for our Biz Buzz group. AND HE SAYS YES! AND he will tailor it to what we want.**

**We need to know if you want to get on board this time. It's your last chance.** Spread the word. Tell your youngsters, apprentices, trainees...and what's more, since this is partly European Funding we need to hit the ground running! If you're interested you must get in touch asap [info@np4nb.online](mailto:info@np4nb.online) and we'll arrange a time and a place...probably NB Village Hall.

**waldon:** **PHONE MAST LATEST...** Here's the map showing O2 reception around the village. Red is weak. Green is strong. The only green on this map is the village green (Don't be confused!). This month's hurry-up letter to Waldon reminded them of a very serious issue. "The regulations concerning Strong Customer Authentication are due to be introduced across Europe from September 2019. Brexit or no Brexit, we will all have to be dealing with the extra 6 digit code number that will be sent to a mobile phone as a second method of verification for all online purchases over £30. My bank already demands this and I have only been able to comply by asking them to use a landline which can be more than a little inconvenient in a busy business world." **Guess what? Still waiting for a reply...**





**IT'S NOBODY'S FAULT. IT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS. BUT IS THERE ANOTHER WAY?... LITERALLY!**

Traffic is inevitable. In an ancient village like ours, with increasing numbers of people doing business at a distance and requiring deliveries, what do you expect? But does it damage business here? Does it affect tourism? Dissuade walkers and cyclists? Does it make deliveries even harder for the businesses in the village? Could some HGVs, simply *travelling through*, get to their destination by another route? It's a big ask. But maybe it's time to ask that question...

The Neighbourhood Planning Team now has the County Highways maps and is gathering information on the subject. NP4NB needs views and, more importantly, evidence about the effects, if any, of HGVs on the narrow streets. Do you have any pictures or reports? Cracks in your walls? Scratches on your parked car? Injuries? Scary manoeuvring to avoid HGVs? Loss of parking? Loss of business? Noise...you know the type of thing.



If there are to be any changes the County Council needs the facts. It would be good if you Biz Bods got on the case. Tell us your thoughts and send us your pics. [info@np4nb.online](mailto:info@np4nb.online)



**NEW BUCKENHAM - STREETS AHEAD OF THE BBC!**

For an entire week BBC Radio Five Live have been featuring their "Cool Planet" concept, promoting issues that save energy & reduce waste. BUT when it comes to electric cars they were still explaining how to drive a plug-in type of vehicle. HOWEVER, as we in New



Buckenham all know, (Biz Buzz Jan '19) the next generation of electric cars that *don't need charging* (FCV), is already on the road, thanks to **Riversimple**. Villager, Robert St. John Cooper, is a consultant for the company & reports great news since last month.

**TECHY BACKGROUNDER:** With a Fuel Cell Vehicle (FCV) you fill the car with hydrogen gas from a pump. It mixes with oxygen from the air in a fuel cell & produces electricity on demand in the car! No emissions. No charging. Range approx 300 miles. Check it out here: <https://reut.rs/2zvTQOM> The RASA is not yet in full production.



**LATEST FCV NEWS:** 5Live might not know much about FCVs but the Government does. Their Office for Low Emission Vehicles (Yes! There really is such a thing!) has just granted the project £1.25 million. Riversimple will soon be starting up a crowd-funding effort to get a further £1.2m and they're also looking for punters to help perfect the design. [www.riversimple.com](http://www.riversimple.com)

**Diesel and petrol lorry floats banned from Lord Mayor's parade over pollution fears**



And, here's another reason to take FCVs seriously. It's just been announced that diesel and petrol vehicles will be banned from the Norwich Lord Mayor's Procession. Alan Waters, leader of Norwich City Council, said: "We want to make sure all of our events, which are enjoyed by thousands of people each year, are run as sustainably as possible, and this is an important step in this journey. I am looking forward to seeing lots of innovative and exciting entries in this year's Procession. The

theme is about celebrating our wonderful world, as well as highlighting the small changes we can all make to look after it." **Looks like Riversimple has got until July 6th 2019 to get a fully operational FCV carnival lorry on track!**

Business news, info, views? Get in touch. Please pass Biz Buzz on. [info@np4nb.online](mailto:info@np4nb.online)

