



NEWS UPDATE

Minimum Wage

New hourly rates came into force on 1st October as follows:

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| For those aged 22 and over | £5.35 |
| For those aged between 18 and 21 | £4.45 |
| For those aged between 16 and 18 | £3.30 |

Too much Cider?

One of the more interesting side-effects of the merger of the Inland Revenue and Customs & Excise is that their press releases now appear together on the same part of the web-site. Take their early October releases for instance. Having delved into the newly signed double tax treaty between the UK and Botswana you can then read about the discovery of live sea-horses in water tanks arriving at Heathrow. An interesting tail (sorry, tale) this one, as if you were going to import some drugs into the country, surely the last thing you would do is stash them at the bottom of a tank carrying an endangered species of sea-life that might draw attention. Needless to say two gentlemen from Somerset are assisting PC Plod with his enquiries. A contribution from Richard.

Team changes

We are really sorry to say that Sheila has decided to hang up her mouse and has decided to “retire” to spend more time with her family. Sheila has been with us since October 2003 and has made a major contribution to the growth of the firm – she will be missed by us all and she leaves with our very best wishes.

We are delighted to announce that Yvonne Dyer will be starting with us on 7th November. Yvonne will take over Sheila’s role but in a full time capacity. Yvonne has been working within the profession locally and so is well used to all the little tricks that our customers sometimes get up to! We look forward to welcoming Yvonne in November and we are sure that she will be speaking with many of our customers and contacts within her first few weeks (especially as Peter is away for a week at the end of November!).

Michael Gerber

Many of you will be aware of Michael Gerber, especially because of his book “The E-Myth re-visited”. Michael is a world renowned advisor to small business entrepreneurs and was the first person to encourage business owners to work ON their businesses. Those of you who have attended our “Making Your Business Really Fly” workshop will be very familiar with Michael’s philosophies. He was recently in the UK so Peter took the opportunity to attend a two day workshop to hear his latest ideas. It was a really enjoyable but mind stretching two days so if you see Peter in more of a “dream” than usual, then you will understand why. Watch this space!

And finally, a contribution from Linda (who is nearly an accountant but not quite.....!)

Why don’t accountants read novels...?

Because the only numbers in them are page numbers.

What’s the definition of an accountant...?

Someone who solves a problem you didn’t know you had in a way you don’t understand (not applicable to Thomas Cox!!).

Peter

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