

NEWS BULLETIN

Adding a touch of spice to Link Business Centre...

Asiri Foods began in the kitchen of Asiri Hall's home in 2010. It was there that she created Brinjal Pickle from her mother's recipe that soon became the companies' best selling chutney.

Asiri went from concept to having products on the shop shelves in only five weeks, gathering numerous product and business awards before her first year of trading had ended.

Initially, the products were sold in local delicatessens and farm shops. It soon became so popular that she approached her local Waitrose and Co-operative stores where the company's products are still being sold to this day.

At the end of last year, Asiri, Managing
Partner of Asiri Foods, decided that she
needed to expand her operations to cater for increasing
demand. After having looked into several options, Asiri
decided that Link Business Centre would be the ideal location
for her new production unit.

There were no units suitable for food production at the Centre, but Martin Wilesmith, Site Manager and Owner saw the potential in Asiri's business future, and provided the considerable amount of support and advice to make it possible to construct a manufacturing unit that was suitable for the production of Asiri's chutney and curry sauce products.

In order to comply with the various guidelines required for Asiri to supply her produce to supermarkets, plans for the design and layout of the new production unit went through numerous revisions to ensure that the facilities would abide by all of the manufacturing, hygiene standards, and most importantly, would make Asiri's food eligible for SALSA (Safe and Local Supplier Approval) and BRC (British Retail Consortium) accreditation.

Once the final design was approved and agreed, Martin provided Asiri with the financial support needed to fund the construction. The production unit was built, following all of



the necessary compliances, which involved incorporating a separate changing room, preparation room, production kitchen and bottling area. A steel framed mezzanine floor was also fitted, providing vital space for storage.

There was far more work involved than first anticipated, but, after several inspections by various authorities, Unit 18 was finally ready for Asiri to start production at the beginning of this year.

"The whole process was very complex, and at times, complicated, due to the many different parties involved. Martin put his construction knowledge to good use, without which, I couldn't have completed the project. He was very patient and understanding throughout, and even used his own gas account to get my gas supply connected. He used his own contacts to keep the costs down, once again, utilising his inside building knowledge.

"I wanted to go for the highest SALSA and BRC standards to ensure consumer confidence in my food safety, and, with thanks to Martin, I have achieved it."

I am extremely grateful and pleased with the support Martin has given me to build my new factory".

Asiri Hall, owner of Asiri Foods

Continued overleaf...

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The expansion has enabled Asiri to increase her turnover and output whilst catering to increased demand in existing and future markets. It has also enabled her to create three new jobs whilst keeping a tight control on expenditure. Asiri is now able to bring all parts of the production operation under one roof, making the whole process more efficient and consistent throughout. Without the need for a third party manufacturer, all processes can operate with ease, making it much easier to fulfil contract on a 'just in time' (JIT) basis. One such contract lies with the Co-operative supermarket, which involves the shipment of curry sauces by the pallet load, and on a frequent basis, which would never have been

possible before the move to Link Business Centre.

Asiri's products can now be found in more and more outlets, further and further afield... in fact, the company have just shipped their new range of Sri Lankan curry sauces to China, and are about to supply to Thailand!

All of the company's products are created by Asiri, who is a Sri Lankan born cook, combining a vast selection of spices with locally grown ingredients from Hereford & Worcestershire... and made in Malvern – with the help of Link Business Centre!

For more information about Asiri Foods: www.asirifoods.co.uk

Asiri Foods

Another tasty addition to Link Business Centre!

School dinners have never been so good – thanks to Black Pepper School Lunches!

Although business was steady at David Mabey's restaurant, the Blue Orchid in Ledbury, he decided that it was time to look into other ways to utilise the kitchen facilities, whilst still keeping the restaurant open.

He came up with the idea of supplying cooked lunches to local schools, many of which have, over the years, lost their kitchens to create more classroom space.

For four years, David managed to prepare and cook the dinners at the restaurant, but when he began to supply to more schools, he decided he needed a dedicated kitchen unit solely for the production the lunches. He spent a year looking for a suitable location, and found that Link Business Centre (Unit 3) ticked all of the boxes (lunch boxes!).

There were no units suitable for food production at the Centre at the time, but David still felt that it was the right location, it was convenient for his staff, had plenty of parking (no yellow lines!), and easy access – which is important, particularly in bad weather. He organised the conversion himself, and now has a fully compliant food processing unit.

"We provide school meals in the 3 Counties, mainly to primary schools. Our aim is to feed and educate our children to eat a well balanced diet. Our food is prepared by our chefs using the best locally sourced seasonal ingredients. Additives and processed food are avoided, and fried foods, high quantity sugar products and confectionery in puddings are strictly restricted. Lunches are delivered in thermal boxes, so there is no need for re-heating."

"We have grown from supplying only one local school, Castlemoreton, to, at present, 14 schools, as far afield as Gloucestershire. This growth has been achieved without advertising, but just on the back of it's own success and recommendations. Now that we have expanded, we have the capacity to supply to more schools, thus giving more children the benefit of healthy, cooked lunches. 10 out of 10 to Link Business Centre!"

David Mabey, Owner of Black Pepper School Lunches

For more information about Black Pepper School Lunches: http://www.blackpepperlunches.com

Preparing for another nutritious school lunch...







David 'Unlocks' Link Business Centre's potential!



One of the many benefits of Link Business Centre offers it's tenants is that it has it's own gateman.

Every morning at 7am, David Nesbit opens the gates to the Centre, ready for the early starters...

and every evening at 7pm, he closes them – but don't worry, tenants don't run the risk of getting locked in, because they all have their own keys. This gives people the flexibility of their working hours and the reassurance that the Centre is a secure location for their business. Tenants are also safe in the

knowledge that if they need access in an emergency, David only lives within walking distance of the Centre.

As a young man, David was a woodworker for Malvern-based organ makers, Nicholson and Co, until being made redundant. He then joined the Royal Mail where he spent the next 35 years as a postman, delivering around the Birtsmoreton and Castlemoreton areas.

Having retired from the Royal Mail a few years ago, David still wanted to keep himself busy, and, took the opportunity to become the gateman for Link Business Centre, a role that he enjoys, and which, in between his duties, gives him the opportunity to enjoy getting back to his original woodworking hobby – spending many hours in his shed workshop where he is currently in the process of building new doors for his house.

'Working together to secure your business'

LINK & UPTON BUSINESS CENTRES DIRECTORY OF OCCUPIERS

Link Business Centre:

Units 1 & 2

Tulip (TMB) Ltd

Commercial Cleaning Services

Tony & Melanie Baker

01684 577617

www.tulipmalvern.co.uk

Unit 3

Black Pepper (Ledbury) Ltd

School Lunch Caterers

David Mabey

01684 594572

www.blackpepperlunches.com

Units 5 & 22

Mid West Automation

Aluminium Fabricators

Andy Haigh

01684 899103

www.midwestautomationltd.co.uk

Unit 6

Meigh Mansbridge & Company

Accountants

Roger Meigh, Kevin Mansbridge

01684 565486

www.meigh-mansbridge.co.uk

Unit 7

Stockall Electronics Ltd

Electronic Design House

Kate Stockall

01684 574977

www.stockallelectronics.com

Unit 7A

Estate Office

Kim Riding, Administrator

01684 561238

www.linkbusinesscentre.co.uk

Unit 7B

Wyvern Homes Ltd

Residential Developers

Mark Wilesmith

01684 561238

www.wyvernhomes.co.uk

Unit 7C

Worcester Solar Heating Ltd

Installers of Renewable Energy Systems

Darren Stockall

01684 575892

www.worcester-solar.co.uk

Unit 7D

Crown Taxis

Khurshid Baig

01905 357788

Unit 7E

Executive Land Travel

Pete Wood

07787 188720

www.executivelandtravel.co.uk

Unit 8

Cash for Clothes

Clothes Recycling

Kevin Styles

01684 562583

www.cash4clothes.co.uk

Unit 9

Fire Industry Solutions Ltd

Installers of Sprinkling Systems

Ken Newman 01684 892981

Unit 10

Malvern Engineering Ltd

Chris Smedley

01684 574471

Unit 11A

Smart Car Care Valeting Centre

Patrick

07872 991286

Unit 11B & 25

G Webb Automation Ltd

Packaging Equipment Manufacturer

Paul Webb MD

01684 892929

www.webbautomation.co.uk

Unit 12

Surplex UK Ltd

Recycling Computer Hardware

Mark Willis

01684 568789

www.surplex.co.uk

Unit 13

Malvern Theatres Trust Ltd

01684 580936

Units 14 & 15

Link Tools

Tools & Fixing Supplies

Steve Metcalfe, Gary Looker

01684 578866

Unit 16

Fixings & Industrial Supplies

Plumbing, Heating & Industrial Supplier

Steve Mrvic

01684 892981

Unit 17

Alto Flooring Ltd

Contract Flooring

Russell Simon

01684 573222

www.altoflooring.co.uk

Unit 18

Asiri Foods Ltd

Food Production

Asiri Hall

01684 572310

www.asirifoods.co.uk

Unit 19

Beacon Sports & Trybike

Commercial Embroidery

& Bicycle Sales

Jon Wootten

01684 892439

www.beaconsports.co.uk www.trybikestore.co.uk

Units 20 & 21

The Friday Beer Company Ltd

Micro Brewery

Andrew Keir, Perry Jackson,

Gerald Williams

www.thefridaybeer.com

Units 23 & 24

HD Connectivity Ltd

HD TV Distribution Systems

Chris Pinder

01684 438141

www.hdconnectivity.com

Units 26 & 27

RPM Car Repairs

Katie & Paul Bird

01684 565555

www.rpm-malvern.co.uk

Upton Business Centre:

Unit 1

Upton Farm Services

Farm Machinery Repairs and Parts

Garry Thackeray

01684 593600

Unit 2

Forest Traffic Services Ltd

Traffic Management

Terry Thomas

07824 371440

www.forestsupportservices.co.uk

Unit 3

Chris Ball

Construction Machinery Sales

Chris Ball

01684 311777

www.jcbdiggers.com

Unit 4

Go For Granite Ltd

Bespoke Granite Products

bespoke Gi

Matt Walker

01684 592777 www.goforgranite.co.uk

Unit 5B

Central Machinery Ltd

Plant Dealer to the Trade

John Blackmore 01905 340377

www.centralmachinery.co.uk

New occupiers

A warm welcome to our new tenants at both Centres:

Unit 3 (LBC)

Black Pepper School Lunches Ltd

Unit 18 (LBC)

Asiri Foods Ltd Unit 2 (UBC)

Forest Traffic Services Ltd

Developed in the UK... designed in Malvern ... in High Definition!

One of Link Business Centre's tenants, HD Connectivity (Unit 23) recently exhibited at the third-fastest growing tradeshow in the world, 2013 Integrated Systems in Amsterdam. The exhibition proved to be so successful for the company, that they have since taken on another unit (Unit 24) to support new business growth.



HD Connectivity are a British technology company, that designs or co-develops High Definition Multimedia Interface connectivity and signal distribution products for both the home and commercial environments.

They were at the exhibition to unveil their biggest product launch to date: HDanywhere™, which has been developed in the UK and designed here, in Malvern. This product enables customers to select, watch and control all their media devices on every High Definition TV throughout their home, not just the main set, and regardless of distance from the box.

"Exhibitions are where companies get the opportunity to present not just their products, but also their personality. It's perhaps the biggest vehicle for highlighting the dividing line between their products and their rivals'."

"Keeping the project in the UK has meant that from conception, design, right through to production we have been able to keep an acute focus on quality and attention to detail, that generally gets severely diluted when working with the Far-East."

"HD Connectivity has grown on the strength of our sales, not on outside investment. Our different approach to High Definition distribution solutions and particularly our different sales model sets us apart from the competition. We're here to challenge. We're like the red bull F1 team of this category, keep your eye on us!"

Chris Pinder, MD of HD Connectivity Ltd.

For more information about HD Connectivity: www.hdconnectivity.com

John Goodwin are the locally based Chartered Surveyors and Agents providing assistance to both Link and Upton Business Centres and are delighted with the continuing demand for good quality commercial units.





JOHN GOODWIN

CHARTERED SURVEYOR AUCTIONEER VALUER ESTATE AGENT

FRICS

Ledbury Office t: 01531 634648 • e: ledbury@johngoodwin.co.uk Malvern Office t: 01684 892809 • e: malvern@johngoodwin.co.uk

Upton Business Centre is expanding!



Work is about to start on the construction of two new units at Upton Business Centre. The units will be ready for occupancy later on this year, and they will bring many benefits to prospective tenants:

- High insulation will mean lower heating costs and a comfortable working environment.
- The extended height to the eaves will allow for mezzanine floors to be added, providing economical working space.
- There will be no restrictions on working hours, with unlimited access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Access to the Centre is directly off a class A road (A4104), close to both the M5 (junction 6) and M50 interchange (junction 1), giving easy access to the North, South and West.
- The Centre is a secure, gated estate with 24 hour CCTV situated in a quiet but convenient location.

For more information about the new units:

www.uptonbusinesscentre.co.uk or telephone 01684 561238