

## INSIDER INFORMATION

# Firm goes the Extra Mile

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**C**HAUFFEUR company Extra Mile has invested in a new fleet of vehicles as the company goes from strength to strength.

The vehicles include a new luxury six-seat multi-purpose vehicle, new 5 series BMW saloon and executive top of the range 7 series BMW.

Director Mick Coles said "There is nothing we enjoy more than seeing our customers content and relaxed at the end of a journey.

"Our regular customers know all our drivers by name and trust us with all their travel requirements."

All the new vehicles have luxurious interiors, air conditioning, leather seats, and satellite navigation systems.

The six-seat multi-purpose vehicle also has individual leather armchairs and a DVD entertainment system. During the past 18 months Extra Mile has gone from strength to strength, introducing new services and vehicles for its business customers.

They include a six-seat Chrysler Grand Voyager with leather armchairs, DVD entertainment and climate control. Mr Coles said that it was perfect for business meetings, airport transfers, conference travel and hospitality events.

The company also has launched chauffeur-driven Jurassic Coast



□ Chauffeur company Extra Mile has invested in a new fleet of vehicles



tours with bubbly and picnic hamper for 'the business visitor who you want to impress'.

Extra Mile is also capitalising on Dorset's growing popularity as a wedding venue.

Mr Coles said that Extra Mile can offer chauffeur-driven travel solutions for not only the bride and groom, bridesmaids, best man and parents but also group transfers by mini-bus or coach.

He added: "The professional chauffeurs at Extra Mile really do go that extra mile to ensure that their customers have a stress free travel experience.

"The confidentiality and discretion of all passengers is respected at all times and reservations can be made 24/7 using the online booking system."



THE annual Dorset Business Awards are being launched at the Brownsword Hall in Poundbury.

Dorset Business, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is holding the event in May along with another in east Dorset to announce details of this year's extravaganza.

The Poundbury launch will be at the hall on May 23 from noon

onwards and is free to all businesses

Details of the award categories will be revealed and businesses of every size operating in all industry sectors will be encouraged to put themselves forward for one or more of the accolades.

Dorset Business chief executive Peter Scott said: "The awards recognise local businesses which have led the way in terms of enterprise, innovation and success.

"Each year we see more and more new and established businesses, both large and small, making their mark in all areas of the county.

"As a result, we decided that this year it would be important to make information about entering the awards more accessible to a range of businesses throughout the county via two launch events.

"We look forward to launching this year's Dorset Business Awards and hope we can build on last year's success of the new-look awards."

Judging will take place in October, when three finalists will be chosen per category and invited to an awards dinner on November 29.

Submit an entry online at [www.dorsetbusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.dorsetbusinessawards.co.uk)

Winners last year included Olives Et Al of Sturminster Newton in the Spirit of Dorset category and Weymouth's Hart Marketing International Ltd in the UK Trade & Investment 'International Business' section.



A TRADE exhibition for arts and crafts businesses will feature exhibitors from Dorset.

Select British 2006 is being held at the Westpoint centre in Exeter on June 11 to 13. It is being organised by Somerset-based Hale Events.

Dorset exhibitors include Jumping Frog Toys of Winterbourne Abbas and Chapel Yard Pottery of Weymouth.

Lyme Regis firms going include Kathrens knitted designs, Lymewash Soaps and Pop Goes The Weasel hats company.

## CHANGING FACES

## Journalist Jenna joins consultancy

JOURNALIST Jenna Weekes has joined Deep South Media as a PR account director for Dorset.

Her arrival marks the third public relations recruitment in just 19 months for the fast-growing media communications consultancy.

Miss Weekes, 27, trained as a journalist with Trinity Mirror in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

She worked as a reporter for the Bournemouth Daily Echo between 2001 and 2007, where she became chief reporter responsible for news in East and North Dorset.

Miss Weekes recently returned from six months travelling around the world and is looking forward to working with her father, former Daily Echo editor Gareth Weekes.

Andrew Diprose, who handled PR and staff communications for Newsquest and was formerly business editor of the Bournemouth Daily Echo, set up Deep South's PR division in 2005.

Heading the PR team's expansion into Hampshire is former business editor of the Southern Daily Echo Ron Wain.



LAW firm Porter Dodson has welcomed Russell Reeves back to its Dorchester office.

For two years Mr Reeves has split his time between Porter Dodson's Dorchester and Yeovil offices.

He specialises in dispute resolution cases for private and commercial clients and handles matters ranging from property disputes to employment law.

He said: "This is an exciting time and I look forward to being able to help the local business community.

"Porter Dodson has a varied mix of commercial clients and it's great to work with individuals, young, expanding businesses, and well-established local companies."

He added: "It's really exciting to be working as part of a team which is going from strength to strength."



□ Above: Jenna Weekes. Below: Simon West and Nigel Hunt



TWO new appointments have been made at printers Blackmore Ltd.

The role of commercial director has gone to Simon West and Nigel Hunt has been promoted to production manager.



□ Daniel Barnett



□ Russell Reeves in the foreground with partners Ian Sankey, Tony Rose, David Gillam, Chris Springford and Richard Baker

Mr West, a Blackmore Ltd employee for more than 13 years, will oversee the estimating and customer service teams as part of his role as commercial director.

Mr Hunt, who started working for Blackmore Ltd as an apprentice in 1988, will be taking over control of the entire

production function of the organisation. Blackmore Ltd is based in Shaftesbury.



DANIEL Barnett has been promoted to the Southernprint board as customer services director.

He will be responsible for all aspects of customer services including estimating, scheduling and Southernprint's nine account executives.

His promotion comes nine months after he joined the Dorset-based printer in the new role of customer services manager.

Mr Barnett said: "I look forward to playing an even greater role in continuing the development of Southernprint."

Southernprint is one of the UK's leading heatset web-offset printers with many of the country's magazine publishers as clients.

The company, based at Poole, employs 350 staff and has a turnover of £36 million.



AYLESWORTH Fleming Public Relations, part of the £42 million turnover Aylesworth Fleming Group, has promoted Val King to account director.

She joins the senior management team after four years with the company. Francesca Llewellyn, who originally joined the company as a placement student from Bournemouth University, has returned to the team on a part-time basis until she finishes her studies in June. Francesca will join the agency full-time when her studies are complete.



GRADUATE Dan Pickering has joined design and marketing agency Clockworx as a junior graphic designer.

He joins with a national diploma in technical illustration from the Bournemouth Arts Institute and a higher national diploma in graphics illustration from the Southampton Institute.