

# New Life and Fresh Starts

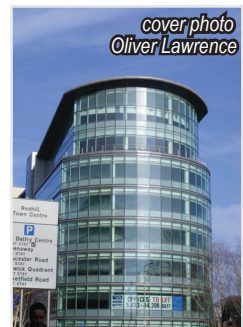
*and time to get positive!*

Without getting all corny about lambs and bunnies and suchlike, it is the time of year for new beginnings. There is little doubt it's been a terrible time for people the world over, and that the economy won't recover soon, but Spring and Easter are here again, and daffodils are everywhere, and its a clichéd but timely reminder that seasons change, and there are cycles in everything. Things will get better. As sure as eggs are eggs. It seems however, that the national press is intent on compounding the problems being faced by local business by engendering a culture of pessimism and making it 'en vogue' to be permanently negative about everything. Since confidence is key to restoring our national fortunes, wouldn't it be better to report at least some good news? Certainly local business people express this view to me on a regular basis. Consumer confidence is being strangled at a national level, and we can't do much about that, but we can make a start at a local level. Local businesses are still fighting our corner, every day, contributing to the community, providing employment opportunities, wheeling out the 'Dunkirk spirit' and setting a positive example. Just this past fortnight, enough local businesses have come forward offering sponsorship to ensure June's

Redhill and Reigate Carnival takes place, amongst them most of our local Landlords, as part of R+R Live. Well done and thank you to all of you, A Party it's just what we all need!! Let's all thank them by getting involved and making it great. It will be good for our towns, and good for all of us. Local community website RH123.com is 5 years old this month, and it's Trade Members are still doing their bit for the local area in spite of the recession. Support them by registering for FREE Membership. Redstone.fm is embarking upon its 6th temporary licence, hopefully its final bid for a permanent broadcasting licence. If your job has been a casualty of Corporate mismanagement, why not use the gift of the time you now have to make some changes. Learn a new skill, attend a course, enrol for some voluntary work. Take the opportunity to adjust the balance of your life have a rethink about what you'd like to do with it. There are still new businesses starting, and community groups achieving goals, and excellent projects being run by local people Why not join them!!

The editorial team: Collette Barber, Andrew Cressy, Jenny Lawrence, Gemma Counsell and credited RH123 Gold Members.

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