

Contact your business team

We want your stories.

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Teaming up to offer advice

An accountancy firm with offices in Lowestoft and Mulbarton has announced a tie-up to bolster its offer to small businesses.

Aldous & Saunders Accountants and Business Advisors will work with The Business Growth Club to offer enhanced business advice.

Glenn Saunders of Aldous & Saunders said of the course, led by Neil Foley: "We sat Neil's classroom courses and felt that the content was of such high calibre that we should offer this as a stand-alone service to all our clients."

"The programme delivers informative fresh material that

helps you focus on the key areas of your business, with easy-to-understand and interesting bitesize modules."

The course is aimed at small business owners, and substitutes face-to-face business advice with an online programme of monthly videos and workbooks, with guaranteed email support.

Mr Foley said: "We know that clients who implement the Business Growth Club will improve their sales, have healthier cashflow and at the same time work fewer hours - three things all small business owners want."

Recruitment firm's new office

The chairman of Reed Global, James Reed, will open the recruitment company's newly-refurbished office in Norwich next Tuesday, between 3pm and 6pm.

The Queen Street office will employ more than 30 people, and deliver specialist temporary and permanent recruitment services in accountancy, HR, finance, marketing and creative, business

support, hospitality and leisure.

It also includes workshops, testing suites and interview rooms.

Melanie Marjoram, business director at REED Norwich, said: "Norwich has an exciting and varied jobs market which is why it needs a recruitment centre that can offer a variety of bespoke options for all recruitment needs."

To attend, call 01603 616190.

Getting under the surface of mole catching



■ Louise Chapman, the Lady Mole Catcher, with her dog Buddy. Picture: ANTONY KELLY

It may sound like she is making a mountain out of a molehill - but mole catcher Louise Chapman says the creatures' population is growing so fast she has had to scale up her operation, and fast.

The former Norwich school teacher took up the ancient countryside trade in 2014, and

over the last few months has trained up three franchisees - carving the county up between them. Mrs Chapman, who calls herself the Lady Mole Catcher, said she had had interest from home owners, farmers and golf club bosses.

"Moles traumatised people in a way," she said. "They really

upset them as they're so destructive."


In addition to her franchise operation - called Country Mole Catcher - she now teaches mole catching courses, having become one of fewer than a dozen female mole catchers in the country after taking a course at Easton College.



Spring 2016 Briefing: Protecting Your Business Assets

Tuesday 19th April 2016
 The Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich, NR2 1RQ
 8:15am to 9:30am (breakfast from 7:45am)

A look at the legal and practical ways to protect yourself and your business from the unexpected events that occur which put a business at risk



Speakers:
 Lin Whitehead, Partner & Head of Private Client Department
 Mark Kermez, Partner & Head of Litigation
 Neale Grearson, Head of Family Department

www.clapham-collinge.co.uk
 For more information, or to book your place, contact us on:

Tourism firms fear living wage will affect business

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Tourism businesses fear they will feel the cost of the new national living wage, an annual industry survey has found.

The Larking Gowen 2016 Tourism Business Survey has found that 30pc of those surveyed fear the wage, which came into force on April 1 and affects workers aged 25 and above, would have a significantly negative impact on business.

Speaking ahead of the full survey results release next week, Chris Scargill, tourism and leisure partner at the chartered accountants, said: "The tourism and leisure sector is driven by the amount of spare cash we all have and is by its nature a luxury item."

"After the recession, and through-

“Staff costs are a significant proportion of the business costs... The national minimum wage and national living wage is still a common feature

Chris Scargill

out the period of austerity, while businesses have seen growth in turnover this has been due to the growth in numbers rather than simply increased spend.

"Staff costs are a significant proportion of the business costs and while there are many well-paid jobs in the sector the national minimum wage and the national living wage is still a common feature."

He said the enforced pay rises were "quite substantial", and businesses would have to cut costs elsewhere.

The full results will be discussed at two seminars held in conjunction with Adnams next week.

The survey also shows that 64pc of businesses saw their turnover grow last year, while 13pc saw a decrease.

Confidence in the sector is high, with 64pc of businesses hopeful for a further increase in turnover in 2016.

One seminar will be held on Wednesday, April 20 at Octagon Barn in Great Plumstead, with another the following day at Copdock Hall in Copdock.

To book a place, visit www.larking-gowen.co.uk/events

■ If you have a tourism story, email reporter Lauren Cope at lauren.cope@archant.co.uk