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**Welcome** to the Antrobus newsletter.

I find it hard to believe but I am about to start my third year since acquiring Antrobus. We have expanded our service and product offerings and two of these areas, **Financial Planning** and the **MYOB** accounting systems business, are introduced overleaf by **Keith Thomas** and **Mick Gent**.

We now have 15 staff and 3 consultants and, with one eye on the turbulent prospects facing the world's economies, we are still recruiting. We are enclosing a **staff listing** to help you understand who's who and what they do.

We also find that we use email with increasing regularity and would urge you to ensure that we have the most appropriate **email addresses** for you.

For all the latest updates please visit our website  
[www.antrobus.biz](http://www.antrobus.biz)

Mike Kirby  
Director

## New Staff

We have great pleasure in introducing our more recent additions to our ever growing and enthusiastic accounting team.

**Sarah Redfern** and **Julia Turpin** have joined our dedicated accountancy department since our last newsletter last year, while **Amanda Tansley** has proven to be an invaluable asset as Mike's Executive Assistant, as indeed has **Jenny Heather**, our Project Manager.

Furthermore, we all warmly welcome **Michael Gent** this month, our new in-house MYOB certified consultant (see overleaf for more on his offered services) and well-known local character.

## Sponsored Charity

This year we are sponsoring the **King's Arms Youth Project**, based locally in Petersfield. The King's Arms has been set up so young people can meet together in a secure and safe environment.

The project provides after-school clubs or youth evenings where educational talks and competitions take place. Mentoring/ befriending is also offered to pupils at local schools, and work and life experience given at the King's Arms.

The youth workers will always promote Christian values by encouraging our young people to help those worse off than themselves, with the youngsters themselves being involved in fundraising and the raising of awareness.

For further information please call **Bill Pearce** on **01730 233965** or visit [www.thekingsarmsonline.co.uk](http://www.thekingsarmsonline.co.uk).

**The Budget** The recent Budget's contents had been either pre-announced or, like the delay in increasing the duty of petrol, had been rumoured for some time. Another item that was delayed was the introduction of new rules on "Income Shifting", which will now only come into force in 2009.

**Capital Gains Tax** The changes announced in the PBR in October 2007 (a single rate of CGT at 18%, elimination of taper relief and indexation) have been confirmed, with the added concession of the "Entrepreneurs Lifetime Relief" on the first £1,000,000 of gains from the sale of business assets (re-introducing an effective rate of 10%). All the other changes were previewed in my letter to clients dated 11<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

**Capital Allowances** There are sweeping changes to Capital Allowances being introduced from April 2008. A new Annual Investment Allowance replaces First Year Allowances. All companies qualify for this, which means that the first £50,000 of expenditure on all capital items, other than property and cars, can be written off for tax purposes in the year of acquisition. There are also changes to Writing Down Allowances (WDAs) and the creation of two separate pools, with WDAs of 10% for "long-lived" assets and 20% for other assets. Industrial Buildings Allowances (IBAs) and Agricultural Buildings Allowances (ABAs) are being phased out over a 3 year period. There are some complicated transitional arrangements, and a more detailed note is being sent to business clients - we would encourage you to get in touch if you would like to discuss any implications for you or your business.

**Tax Cards** As usual at this time of year, we are enclosing a Tax Card, which contains all the major tax rates and allowances for the coming year. While this is a useful guide, which we refer to ourselves on a regular basis, a summary like this can never tell the full story of all the rules and nuances which accompany tax laws. Please consult us if you are planning any major changes in your financial arrangements.



**MYOB** As mentioned overleaf, we can now offer in-depth support for all MYOB accounting software. **Michael Gent** has recently joined us with 12 years experience as an MYOB Certified Consultant and his comprehensive knowledge of MYOB will be an asset to Antrobus. He tells us, "I particularly enjoy setting up small businesses and enjoy watching them grow. It gives me a lot of job satisfaction" If you need his help, or just wish to discuss some aspect of MYOB, please contact him on **01730 234500** or **07721 627372** or alternatively by email at **michaelgent@antrobus.biz**.

**Financial Planning** Antrobus are regularly asked by our clients to recommend a Financial Planner and we are pleased to announce that we have teamed up with **Keith Thomas** of **Positive Solutions** to offer an ongoing, comprehensive financial planning service. Keith has over 16 years experience in Financial Services and is qualified as a Certified Financial Planner.

Financial Planning is a comprehensive overview of finances and life goals. It considers the two areas as one and aligns finances with personal goals, putting clients needs first. Keith can be contacted through Antrobus House on **01730 234500** or **07932 140673**. He offers a no-cost, no obligation first meeting.

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Ruth Pearse (Secretarial Services) - [ruthpearse@antrobus.biz](mailto:ruthpearse@antrobus.biz)

## New Staff

**Ruth Pearse** has been a valued part of the Antrobus House Business Centre since November and will be with us until May. She has been helping Jenny with our business projects and continues to offer comprehensive and diverse secretarial services to our broad range of clients.

If you have any secretarial services needs, no matter how big or small, please don't hesitate to call Ruth on **01730 234500** or email her at [ruthpearse@antrobus.biz](mailto:ruthpearse@antrobus.biz).

## Services

We provide full office, admin and full secretarial services to outside clients. We can offer mail accommodation, telephone answering, photocopying, fax, email, scanning, laminating, and confidential shredding facilities. Full secretarial services are available including audio-transcription, PowerPoint presentations, mail merges, spreadsheet and database compilation.

We also have a Conference Room available for hire by the hour, half day or daily, and facilities including flipchart, projector, wireless internet access, light refreshments and full reception services for your delegates.

## First Friday

Antrobus Chartered Accountants & Antrobus House Business Centre are happy to be partners in the First Friday venture, run jointly on a not-for-profit basis with Navigate Design, Petersfield. First Friday is a networking group for local businesses who meet on the first Friday of every month at the Folly Wine Bar & Restaurant, Petersfield.

The group has been running successfully for five years now, and attracts guest speakers from all walks of life. For £15 per head, local business people can meet up, network, enjoy a two course meal, a glass of wine and listen to interesting speakers.

For more details on First Friday please call **Amanda Gale** on **01730 234500** or email her at [info@first-friday.org](mailto:info@first-friday.org).

We look forward to seeing you there!



Photo: Mike Kirby, Mick Gent, and Mark Jarrett