

CIPFA North West Society

Presidents Blog - August



August, really? Did I sleep through it? Well they say time flies when you're having fun ☺

Well we've had a relatively quiet August CIPFA wise after the excitement of the national conference being in Manchester in July. We've been busy behind the scenes though planning events and plotting for the North West to take over the world.

It's not long now until our National Conference and Dinner in November and I'm really pleased to say that we have a final full line up of speakers as follows:

- Jim McMahon, MP for Oldham West and Royton – Making Place investment success in the face of austerity
- Jo Hutchby, Chartered Institute of Management with a live demo of the free leadership and development tools available for CIPFA members and students
- Sharon Senior, North West Employers – Abracadabra, The magic of Coaching
- John Wroe, Grant Thornton – Risks and benefits of joint funding arrangements
- Andy Burns, Staffordshire County Council – Leading for Better Outcomes
- Becky Hellard, Liverpool Council and Tom Jackson, Liverpool CCG – Health and Social Care Integration: the Liverpool Case Study
- John Hotowka – Achievement Thinking (with a difference)



Mercure Dunkenhalgh Hotel

We have the Annual Dinner and awards ceremony in the evening also where regional prize winners and new members are presented with their awards and certificates by national CIPFA President, Brian Roberts. This black tie event is always a great social evening and an opportunity to relax and unwind with friends and colleagues. This year as well as a disco we're also having a casino with roulette and cards tables. There won't be any cash gambling though, it's just for fun!

Both events are being held in the Mercure Dunkenhalgh Hotel and Spa. As usual students go free to the Conference and Retired Members are half price. If you'd like to book a place, click the links below:

Click here for the **Conference**: <http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-north-west-events-20161111>

Click here for the **Dinner**: <http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-north-west-society-annual-dinner-and-awards-ceremony-20161111>

We also have two further events planned before the end of the year in our Northern (full day) and Southern (half day) groups. These short cheap CPD sessions are a great way to keep up to date with current issues impacting on the public sector, rather than having to trawl through websites or pages of updates. Click on the following links for further information:

Northern Event in Kendal - <http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-northern-section-autumn-seminar-20160923>

Southern Event in Manchester - <http://www.cipfa.org/training/r/regions-north-west-events-20161209-manchester>

And finally.....Oh my word, what a month

It's been for Team GB. I've loved every minute of the Olympics and have watched everything I could. My eyes have been on matchsticks for 2 weeks! I even changed my lightbox in support of Team GB. What a fantastic result for them all, I was so proud.



Socially it's been hectic this month with a bit of craziness at Bongo's Bingo at the Albert Hall in Manchester (if you've not been to this, it's worth a visit) to a bit of culture with 'As You Like it' at the Grosvenor open air theatre in Chester. I also finally booked my 2015 birthday present from my husband – a go on the longest Zipwire in the UK near Snowdon in Wales. I tried my hardest not to scream but to no avail, it was brilliant though, such a thrill and I'd definitely do it again. And finally a superb weekend was spent watching the parade at Gay Pride in Manchester over the bank holiday weekend. No wonder I hardly did any CIPFA stuff this month!



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