



Helping businesses do business

COMMERCE COMMENT



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We can all learn from the past and from other people's experiences.

On that basis I recommend you visit Expressions Arts and Entertainment Centre to check out the new exhibition in the Mount Marua Gallery.

Seventy years of the *Upper Hutt Leader* – a Rosy View –

lets you see how Upper Hutt has developed since 1939.

There is a special publication from the *Leader* as a catalogue for the event, which includes a narrative piece "Helping businesses do businesses". This has always been part of the paper's philosophy and a reason for this column.

One of the original owners was motivated to start the paper so he could promote local cinemas he also owned.

How many of us try and do as much of our business locally as we can?

We are all encouraged to shop locally but we should also think about our business suppliers as well.

Can you buy all the services you need nearby? Price, quality, standards of follow-up service and delivery times are all important to you as a buyer.

Local businesses reading this may be able to "sharpen their pencil" on some of these

factors and gain advantages.

Many of our local businesses have and will be celebrated at the 2009 Upper Hutt Excellence in Business Awards next Wednesday, July 22, at Expressions. Be quick to purchase your tickets at Expressions on 527 2168.

There is so much information out there to help business owners make the right decisions and I would like to point out a few sources.

■ The Bizzone Business Expo, Wednesday, July 22, to Friday, July 24, looks like a very effective way to get input for doing better business.

There are free seminars to bring you up-to-date. Check out bizzone.com

■ The relatively new business magazine on in-business.co.nz offers good opportunities for the Wellington region.

■ Also government sites business.govt.nz and nzte.govt.nz.

■ Call me on 527 2141 or 0274 446 545 if I can help