

Business in the Parliament announces speakers

NOW in its 10th year, the Business in the Parliament conference brings together over 200 of Scotland's leading business people with politicians from all political parties.

The two-day event will be held on October 29 and 30 in the Scottish Parliament.

Scottish entrepreneurs Rosemary Eribé, managing director and founder of ERIBÉ Knitwear, and Lesley Eccles (pictured, with husband Nigel) founder and senior vice president of FanDuel, are delivering keynote speeches at this year's conference.

ERIBÉ Knitwear is one of Europe's largest hand-knitting



companies based in the Borders and FanDuel is a global leader in transatlantic sports entertainment founded in Edinburgh.

The conference will focus on the theme of 'opportunities for growth – Scottish business priorities for 2020'.

The programme for the event will also include a range of workshops led by a number of senior business leaders in Scotland.

Hosted jointly by the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government, the event is supported by CBI Scotland, the Federation of Small Businesses, the Scottish Council for Development and Industry, the Institute of Directors, Scottish Chambers of Commerce, Women's Enterprise Scotland, Young Enterprise Scotland and Scottish Financial Enterprise as well as the Scottish Trades Union Congress and the Scottish Parliament Business Exchange. ■

IN BRIEF

Private sector picks up

Scotland's private sector continued to show signs of improvement in August, with the manufacturing and service sectors reporting growth in new orders and output, though the rate of expansion "eased" on July figures.

The latest Bank of Scotland purchasing managers' index report shows while demand for manufactured products in the domestic market rose in August, new export orders dipped to a five-month low.

Management skills failure

Poor management skills were to blame for more than half of Scottish new business start-ups failing in the period 2011 to 2014, a report suggests.

Research compiled by the Chartered Management Institute and the Chartered Association of Business Schools suggests 44 per cent of Scottish start-up businesses set up in 2011 had failed by 2014.

Lecture by former HSBC chief

Former HSBC chief Lord Stephen Green will be looking at what China and Europe have in common and what sets them apart in a lecture at the University of Edinburgh business school on Thursday, October 15.

Lord Green will be fleshing out the tensions and misunderstandings between these two strikingly different cultures from Confucius to Aristotle to the present day.

New air service to Bucharest

Hungarian budget airline Wizz Air is to introduce a new direct flight between Glasgow and the Romanian capital of Bucharest.

The twice-weekly service will launch in May of next year, and takes Wizz Air's total number of destinations from Glasgow to eight.

Jobs New/Lost

Announced 17.8.15 to 15.9.15

Organisation	New Jobs
Ferguson Shipyard	Approx 1,300*
BioCity	180*
Parseq	150
Genpact	140
IFDS	100
Spark Energy	60
Spire Global	50+
Scottish Gas	30
Viridor	30
Premier Inn	25
Barrhead Travel	20

*over five years

Organisation	Jobs Lost
Maersk Oil	200
WL Gore & Associates	120
Airline Investments Ltd	80
Fontem Ventures	55
Havelock Europa	50
McClure Naismith	42
Malcolm Fraser Architects	15

Labour market survey findings

A SURVEY into the labour market conducted by the Scottish Parliament's Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee in advance of its inquiry into work, wages and wellbeing in the wake of the recent recession found a significant number of people believe their job had deteriorated over the past five years.

Just over 600 people took part in the survey with 74 per cent saying they thought their job was 'good' and 26 per cent answering 'bad'.

Of those saying their job was 'good' most highlighted decent pay and job security. Job satisfaction and feeling valued by

employers were also frequently mentioned.

The most common reasons people gave for their job being 'bad' were low pay, poor management, hours and job insecurity.

The four most popular factors which would improve their jobs were higher hourly pay, better managers, more opportunities for flexible working and more say over workplace changes.

Roughly 60 per cent of respondents work in the public sector, 30 per cent in the private sector and 10 per cent in the third sector, with five per cent of respondents self-employed. ■

QUOTE UNQUOTE

"Given the scale of local ICT innovation, flagship universities and STEM initiatives, we see Glasgow and central Scotland as the ideal location to increase our UK presence."

Sondra Barbour, executive vice president for Lockheed Martin Information Systems & Global Solutions (IS&GS), announcing plans to create up to 327 new jobs in Scotland.

Book Review

Title: *Inspirational Gamechangers*
Writer: Gerry Thompson & David W Mellor
Publisher: FT Publishing
Price: £14.99

Thompson and Mellor feature leading business 'innovators' including Sir Richard Branson and Sir James Dyson as well as lesser known figures like Darren Fell of Crunch Accounting in this book which looks at the challenges these gamechangers faced and how they made the key decisions which brought about their success.

It is ideal for busy executives who want to skim through the wide variety of approaches taken by their chosen few. While the conclusions are very familiar to those who read business management books – such as surrounding yourself with positive people – the selection of entrepreneurs is good and that makes the book worth reading. ■



Rating out of five: ★★★★★