

# Chamber keeps on growing despite recession

**A VITAL show of solidarity against the economic recession has led to a town's chamber of commerce acquiring its 100th member this week.**

The Dunmow and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, a group that allows businesses to combine and interact to achieve greater success and goals, welcomed High Street solicitors GoodyBurrett to the fold on Tuesday afternoon.

To mark the occasion, chamber chairman Mike Perry and membership secretary Terry Laplain presented a bottle of champagne to senior solicitor Catherine Ashton.

Mrs Ashton said: "We joined the chamber after being sent a leaflet. It is a great way to get involved with other business and the community as a whole."

There has been an influx of new members over recent months as businesses look to unite in the town and swap ideas and promotions to help strengthen the local economy. The chamber also allows free



Terry Laplain, left, presents the champagne to Catherine Ashton, as Mike Perry looks on

Picture: MEB\_040510\_DCC

advertising on its website which is ever-growing in popularity.

Mrs Laplain is delighted that businesses are taking the opportunity to join and has urged more to follow suit.

"In the last two years membership has rose by 75 per cent," she said. "The chamber

really is going from strength to strength. The website is getting more and more hits and local businesses are benefiting from advertising opportunities included in the join-up fee."

It is £50 to join the chamber for 12 months and meetings take place on the second Monday of every month at the

Arts Centre on Haslers Lane – the next is on Monday May 10 at 6pm.

Mrs Laplain added that if business-owners wanted to come along before they join up they can, "just to have a look at what we do", she said.

The website can be found at [dunmowchamber.org.uk](http://dunmowchamber.org.uk)

**● GIVE us your comments on shopping in Dunmow. What do you like? What do you dislike? E-mail us, editor@[dunmow-broadcast.co.uk](mailto:dunmow-broadcast.co.uk) or write to us at Dunmow Broadcast, 54 High Street, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1EE.**

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