



Selected Highlights from WIBF 2008 Annual Report

- Corporate sponsorship in 2008 increased by 35% and membership increased by 14%.
- WIBF Bristol successfully launched in January 2008 and since has attracted an impressive 100 plus members.
- WIBF developed strategic partnerships with The Chartered Institute of Bankers, Scottish Financial Enterprise and CitiPanel. In addition, Bristol engaged support from The Institute of Management, The Chartered Institute of Bankers and The Institute of Insurers.
- Annual Awards Achievement Luncheon was held in June 2008 at the Dorchester Hotel. It was sponsored by Ernst & Young and 230 financial professionals attended. The keynote speaker was Susan Kilsby.
- In recognition of the high standards of our WIBF Speakers clubs in the City and Canary Wharf, Toastmasters International has presented each club with the prestigious President's Distinguished Club award.
- Relationship managers have been engaged to act as WIBF ambassadors in their organisations and to effectively communicate details of upcoming WIBF events.
- The Chartered Institute of Bankers has accredited WIBF development events as CPD.
- In London ten Personal Excellence Programme workshops were successfully delivered. The number of participants at the events ranged from 22 to 75. They were generously hosted by Citi, RBS, Credit Suisse, Barclays Capital, HSBC, Wedlake Bell, Lloyds TSB, and BDO Stoy Hayward.
- In Scotland 17 events were held and covered Personal Development, Networking and Role Models.
- In Bristol eight events were held with an average attendance of 45. The events were generously hosted by AXA, RBS, HSBC, TLT, Barclays and Clydesdale.
- In Ireland 11 events were held, including their 1st hill-walking networking event in the Wicklow Mountains and a "Diamonds and Champagne" social event.
- Held two high profile Women on Board's Forums:
 - April 2008 the forum was hosted by Ernst & Young and attended by 80. It addressed **Perception V Reality - Are men the barrier to women's success on Boards or are women their own worst enemy?** The keynote speaker was Sir David Bell, Chairman of the Financial Times.
 - October 2008 was hosted by Royal Bank of Canada and attended by 50. It was a joint event with the Appointments Commission entitled '**Are you ready to make a change in the Health Sector – The NHS awaits you!**' Keynote speakers were Anne Watts CBE and Jim Pringle.

Objectives for 2009

- Increase public awareness of WIBF in London, Bristol, Ireland and Scotland.
- Establish a presence in Glasgow.
- Build membership diversity and size.
- Attract and retain members by implementing a number of membership initiatives.
- Encourage our corporate sponsors to leverage the work of WIBF, and become more actively involved with the programmes offered by all branches of WIBF.
- Personal Excellence Programme to continue to focus on Leadership, Transition and Personal Profile, with emphasis on how to succeed in these challenging financial times.
- Revise the categories for the Annual Awards Achievement Luncheon by introducing two new categories, namely WIBF Young Professional and WIBF Champion for Women.
- Introduce 'Bitesize' Mentoring Evening Dinner. An accomplished role model will be invited to share some insightful career strategies with members.