

PRESS RELEASE

BELLY DANCER SHIMMIES INTO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RECORD BOOK

When belly dancer Jenny Bent joined her local Chamber of Commerce she never thought she'd be the first in the North West.

And Greater Altrincham Chamber of Commerce – more used to business suits than sequined halter tops, split skirts and hip scarves – may even have signed up the country's first professional belly dancer member.

"Belly dancing may be a little different from the norm," says Jenny, "but I wanted to join the Chamber to introduce myself to the local business community and let people know about my dancing and painting."

The Chamber's Chief Executive, John Smith, admitted: "we have more lawyers, retailers and consultants than belly dancers ... but it's a very welcome change."

Jenny (31), based in Hale, began belly dancing as a hobby and trained in North African styles before turning professional six years ago - to finance her career as an artist.

Since then she has performed, nationally, at corporate events, restaurants, exhibitions, weddings, parties and charity functions. She has appeared in television commercials and danced on stage with legendary psychedelic rock band Hawkwind and the Crazy World of Arthur Brown.

"I love dancing," she says. "I like entertaining people and dressing up in all the gorgeous costumes. It makes me feel good ... and it's great exercise."

On the other side of her career - as a self-taught contemporary artist – Jenny has worked for interior designers, exhibited and sold to homes, businesses and commercial premises, hotels, bars and restaurants throughout the UK and overseas. Her work hangs in private collections from Spain to the USA - including The Inns Of Court in London.

And Jenny also runs the Parsley Pie Art Club at Hale – the only out-of-school children's art club in Cheshire.

ENDS

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Graham King - tel: 0161 976 2729 / 07850 280213
graham@pr-people.uk.com**