

Monthly Newsletter: April 2011

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EC London is the London Chapter of [Entrepreneur Commons](http://www.entrepreneurcommons.com), a global not for profit peer support for startups. We support local organisations in London to help provide free peer to peer support for London based startups. We also encourage startups to benefit from freely available support.

### News:

- Entrepreneur Commons is in the process of setting up a mutual guarantee fund to help members gain access to much needed funding. <http://www.indiegogo.com/Guarantee-Fund-for-Entrepreneur-Commons-2>
- The mutual guarantee fund was discussed at the TEDxEarthquake9.0 in Japan <http://www.tedxearthquake90.com>
- The Athens Chapter has built close working relationships with local banks to provide their members with funding.
- Here in London we have been meeting banks and companies who have an interest in working with startups to help startups gain access to support.
- Entrepreneur Commons is being represented at the Young Entrepreneurs Confederation YES EXECOM event in Athens on 14/04/11, where our Paris head of chapter Jean-Xtophe Ordonneau will highlight the brand new Entrepreneur Commons Mutual Guarantee Fund.
- Start Cause ( a collaborative effort where Entrepreneur Commons plays an active role ) has a number of video's of interest to anyone with a passion for entrepreneurship. <http://video.startupcause.org/>
- UCL have offered free space to the Business Mentoring meetup group to allow them to offer their mentoring sessions in the evenings (Thank you!). This was arranged via EC London.

**Free Events for Startups:**

1. **Fast Track: The Club for Entrepreneurs and Small Businesses:** Informally meets to discuss various business concerns. <http://www.meetup.com/startup-fasttrack>
2. **Flagon's Den:** This group organises events ranging from how to apply for grant funding to pitching events to help startups and entrepreneurs. <http://www.meetup.com/FlagonsDen/>
3. **London Silicon Roundabout:** This is a good free networking event where investments and new technologies in the pipe line are highlighted. <http://www.techmeetups.com/>
4. **Open Coffee** is a meet up group with a good offline/online mix and meets at UCL. <http://www.meetup.com/londonocc/>
5. **Startup Clinic: newly formed businesses:** Organised by an accountant, helps startups with financial matters for free. <http://www.meetup.com/Startups-Clinic-Newly-formed-businesses>
6. **Key Stone Talks:** Keystone, the law firm, gives free talks to help startups and small businesses. Pls email Will, Partner at Key Stone: [william.robins@keystonelaw.co.uk](mailto:william.robins@keystonelaw.co.uk)
7. **Dreamstake.** They organise free events regularly for startups, entrepreneurs and small businesses. <http://www.dreamstake.net/>
8. **Business Mentoring.** This meet up group offers free business mentoring at least once a week. <http://www.meetup.com/BusinessMentoring>
9. **Prestart.** This is a new meetup group organising events to help entrepreneurs. The events are usually based at tech hub. <http://meetup.prestart.org>
10. **Talking Business Leadership talk at the TalkTalk Business Hub by Deborah Huisken on 21<sup>st</sup> April.** For free entry please email: [Deborah@DancingStar.com](mailto:Deborah@DancingStar.com)
11. **Internet World.** Is a free exhibition/ event **10-12<sup>th</sup> of May** where you can network with other companies and service providers. <http://www.internetworld.co.uk/inviteacolleague>
12. **Virtual Inbound Marketing Conference Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> of June.** Free registration with no obligation. <https://presentations.inxpo.com/Shows/HubSpot/4-11/Registration/registration.html>

### Free Support for Startups:

1. **Brand Regard** is offering 60 days free access to their brand asset management software. Please use "ECLondonMarch" when signing up <http://www.brandregard.com/>
2. **Bloomberg** has a free radio service online: <http://www.bloomberg.com/radio/> it's like listening to the FT without having to read it or pay for it!
3. **Prototype Funding** is available from Abertay University for businesses across the UK. They are offering £25k to develop original IP <http://prototypefund.abertay.ac.uk/>
4. **Speed Ups** allows entrepreneurs to list their projects for free. They charge a success fee once the funding required has been raised. <http://www.seedups.com/>
5. **eFactor** are the one of the largest online/ offline entrepreneurship groups. They are free to join. They allow you attend all their events for a small annual fee. <http://www.efactor.com/>
6. **Technology Strategy Board** helps to facilitate growth. They have various funding schemes where startups do not have to hand over equity for funding. <http://www.innovateuk.org/competitions.ashx>
7. **Template Zone** has released the beta version of High Impact designer for Facebook pages. <http://www.templatezone.com/mar2010/secret/HID/HID-mailer.html>
8. **Soft and GUI** have a free trail at [www.softandgui.co.uk](http://www.softandgui.co.uk) for software prototyping.
9. **Ofuz**. Offer a full business cycle application in one space. This beta version should help startups and small business manage contacts, networks. Email, projects, invoices, etc. in one space. <http://www.ofuz.com/index.php>
10. **MBA for Startups** is a free **iapp** to help entrepreneurs understand how to build their businesses on the go. <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/mba-for-startups/id428226713?mt=8&ls=1>

There is 50% discount for Entrepreneur Commons members at a Paris Hotel. [www.hotel-lalouisiane.com](http://www.hotel-lalouisiane.com) Membership of [Entrepreneur Commons, London, Facebook Group](#) is required.

Please drop Zufi a note if you would like to highlight any areas your feel need greater attention or would like to highlight a beta version in the next newsletter at [zufi@bizstuff.co](mailto:zufi@bizstuff.co)