

## Now We Are Three

### Published on Blog – 22 September 2010

Earlier this week, we published the eighth



Global Financial Centres Index (GFCI 8). This index is sponsored by the Qatar Financial Centre Authority and features ranks and ratings of 75 financial centres. GFCI 8 is part of the Financial Centre Futures which is itself a theme of the **Long Finance** initiative.

The big change from GFCI 7 in March 2010 is that Hong Kong has clearly joined London and New York as one of the 'Big Three' Global Financial Centres. Key points from GFCI 8 include:

- ◆ Hong Kong (760) has steadily closed the gap with London and New York over three years - now just 10 points behind New York compared with 76 in March 2007;
- ◆ there has been no significant difference between London (772) and New York (770) in the GFCI ratings since GFCI was first published in 2007;
- ◆ Singapore (728) is currently the most likely contender to become the fourth global financial centre.

GFCI 8 uses 33,023 financial centre assessments completed by 1,876 financial services professionals. To view GFCI 8 or to participate in GFCI 9 by rating the financial centres with which you are familiar, please click [here](#). If you would like a hard copy of the report please [email](#) Z/Yen to request one.

## Silly Season Events Roundup

### Published on Blog – 2 September 2010

If it's summer that means there must be some sort of Z/Yen cricket match and 2010 was no exception. We decided to play a pairs tournament this year, which made sure that everyone got a go. Indeed, Xenia Mainelli was drafted in as a last minute replacement for her mother and came a close second – and who are we to judge whether her contribution or that of Louwrens was the key to that partnership's success. Chiara von Gunten, fresh over from Switzerland and experiencing

cricket for the first time managed to take two wickets, which is quite an achievement.

Congratulations to the winners, Jacques Malan & Simon McMullen. Rumours of match fixing at Z/Yen cricket matches are most certainly untrue, but we can confirm that the 2011 cricket match will be won by Ian Harris in partnership with Linda Cook.

Actually, both Ian and Linda showed more aptitude for the wine tasting a couple of weeks later. Organised for us by Linda's brother, Gordon, the event (or at least the excuse for the event) was to celebrate Jez Horne's imminent wedding. And indeed congratulations to Jez and Sarah on their nuptials.



To round off that evening, most of the gathering decamped for a round of crazy golf (actually a mixture of crazy golf and crazy pool) in Devonshire Square. That fierce competition was won jointly by Mary O'Callaghan and Michael Mainelli. In Michael's case, at least, the victory confirms some folklore about mis-spent youth, plus the prevailing view that if the activity is crazy, Michael will be good at it.

Back in July, the Z/Yen team and associates did tennis the Z/Yen way. About 30 of us descended upon **Boston Manor**, with a view to 16 of us competing for the heralded Z/Yen ChampionZ trophy. It was Chiara's first working day, so we hope she doesn't get into the habit of knocking off work every day at 15:30 and spending the rest of the afternoon enjoying sport and revelry.

Chiara and Ian Harris ended up defeated semi-finalists, as did Simon Strez (pictured, modelling designer shades from the pound shop) and Stephanie Rochford, the latter showing a competitive spirit perhaps modelled on that of **John McEnroe**. Meanwhile **Maury Shenk** won the **John McEnroe** lookalike contest and went on, together with his partner Ben Morris, to the final. But they in turn were defeated by Joey



Crouse and Leonor Fishman, despite the unfeasibly maritime sound to the partnership "Crouse and Fishman". Well done them. But with the barbeque sizzling and the refreshments flowing, the tennis competition soon became secondary.

## Financing Sustainability: A Z/Yen Recipe

### Published on Blog – 10 August 2010

How do you ensure freshwater and forest resources aren't depleted further? Here's a recipe: a handful of Z/Yen staff, a dozen scientists, a roomful of private sector professionals, mix thoroughly but don't stir. On the afternoon of Wednesday 21 June forty



professionals gathered in the City Marketing Suite at the City of London Corporation to participate in the Finance, Water & Forestry symposium.

Z/Yen, as a delivery partner of the Financial Services Knowledge Transfer Network, hosted two workshops in June on Finance & Water and Finance & Forestry. These workshops were held on behalf of Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to do an initial scoping for water and forestry data and the modelling needs of investment decision-makers. The aim of the symposium was to present initial findings from both workshops, driven by the central question "Where's the Data?"

Scientists from the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) came from across the UK to engage with the curious audience. Leonor Fishman and Stephanie Rochford, authors of the water and forestry papers respectively, each gave a short presentation outlining the findings of their enquiries to date. A lively and thought-provoking debate followed both presentations.



The final reports was launched separately at the Long Finance & Forestry Roundtable on 20 September and further discussion held at the London Accord Autumn Conference on 12 October.