

## Z/Yen Drums Up the Business

Published on Blog – 13 May 2010

11 May - the Z/Yen team demonstrated its own ability to “march to the same drum beat”, as the latest Z/Yen Symposium comprised a **Samba** Drums lesson. Clients might be a little concerned that Z/Yen people are a pretty uncoordinated lot (at least once Samba drums are involved) but will probably be unsurprised to learn that Z/Yen folk used enthusiasm and volume to make up for any shortcomings in talent. Ian, for example, should never be trusted with a huge **Surdo** drum; indeed, once he was relegated to one of the **Ganzas** he covered up his rhythmic inadequacies with an ear-drum-splitting solo vocal rendition of **The Peanut Vendor** which is, suitably enough, a similar but subtly different rhythm.



It was the last of those heady, post-election, inter-regnum days - the neighbours might have been forgiven for thinking that an ungoverned mob had started the revolution in St Helen's Place. Indeed, rumour has it that the distant sound of unruly drums hurried the Westminster politicians into forming a government pronto. In any case, there was no UK government when we started drumming and there was a UK government once we finished. As for the neighbours, they had in fact been invited to join us. None turned up for the drumming itself (surprise surprise), but we did have some neighbourly help with the very welcome celebratory refreshments afterwards. Most Z/Yen people are more naturally gifted at synchronized imbibing than drumming, but after just a few minutes no-one seemed to mind.



## Global Financial Centres Index 7 – Just Published

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Z/Yen's Global Financial Centres Index continues to go from strength

to strength. GFCI 7 has just been published and has received more international media coverage than ever including articles in the Financial Times, the Times and the Wall Street Journal. London has lost ground against its competitors and now shares first place with New York. Hong Kong is in third place only 36 points behind London and New York having been over 80 points behind a year ago. We have used the data collected over three years to profile centres by their strengths. Full results are available [here](#).



We are beginning to enhance the web presence of GFCI and intend to create a community site for people to add their own thoughts on the competitiveness of financial centres. One of the early enhancements we have made is the introduction of an interactive graph that allows you to track the progress of financial centres throughout the history of the GFCI and compare centres to each other. Have a go <http://www.globalfinancialcentre.s.net> GFCI 8 is due out in September 2010 and we are currently inviting people involved in financial services to complete a short <http://www.zyen.info/gfci/> Please spare us a few minutes.

## City 4 a Day - a morning workshop with Z/Yen

Published on Blog – 3 March 2010

This morning the Z/Yen team hosted 15 students from Bacon's College in our offices at St Helen's Place, as part of an initiative run by The Brokerage to introduce young people to professional activities being carried out in the City of London.

This was the second workshop in which Z/Yen took part (the first was back in October 2009) and, as before, we were really pleased to welcome such an interesting group of bright and inquisitive students. Michael, Ben, Leo, Mark and Jez all presented on different aspects of Z/Yen's work including **ExtZy**, The

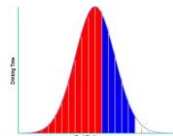


**London Accord**, **PropheZy** and the **Global Financial Centres Index**. The interactive presentations had the students learning about a range of topics, from investing in research to predicting football scores, not to mention giving them the opportunity to win literally millions of dollars... albeit Zimbabwean ones. The morning was a great success and we hope to carry on our collaboration with The Brokerage and the City of London on this excellent programme.

## Well Behind the “One-Over-The-Eight” Ball

Published on Blog – 24 February 2010

Late February 2010: The Z/Yen Team took some welcome time out after work at a local City pool hall and bar. Jez “Stats” Horne cunningly divided the team into well-matched pairs for a round robin challenge. As an experienced pool shark and “PropheZy stato”, Jez had also predicted that pool performance over the evening would comply with a bell-curve pattern, measuring **Pool Performance** on the “Y” axis and **Drinking Time** on the “X” axis. Jez was spot on with that prediction.



However, the tournament was won, against all the odds, by Mark “The Hustler” Yeandle and Ian “Cue Laughter” Harris. Their success seemed to hinge on a fair smattering of luck (two of their four victories came through opposition players fouling what would have been their own winning shot). Yeandle maintains that his own steady pool skills ultimately won the day. Harris, however, insists that he cleverly induced the opposition errors, both of which emanated from the Kiwi contingent, by making such original wind-up cracks as “by all means go up to the baaaa and sheepishly ask for another drink” and “all this 1980's music must be making you feel at home”. Minnesota Fats himself would have been impressed by this hustle had he witnessed it. More importantly, though, a great deal of fun was had by all throughout the evening.