

Speaker Biography: Andrew Isaac Thornton



His life purpose is to put the Heart back into Business and encourage the shift from an obsession with profit, towards a business world where the focus is on 'growing people, growing business to full potential for a better society'. He has applied these principles to his North London Supermarket, Thornton's Budgens - see what the [Huffington Post](#) had to say about his approach.

His aim is to build a network of heartfelt businesses, where people can authentically be themselves and focus on being in flow – doing what they love and are good at. He has spearheaded Thornton's Budgens becoming the first UK supermarket (and the second in the world) to launch Plastic Free Zones.

Andrew started his career at Mars, was a founder director of social enterprises "The People's Supermarket" and "Food from the Sky", founded and ran the retail consultancy SRCG and is a fellow of the [Royal Society for Arts, Commerce and Industry](#). He splits his time between London and South Germany where he lives with his partner and daughter, and has two grown up sons. Andrew grew up in Dublin and is a graduate of University College Dublin, doing both a B.Comm and an MBS.

SPEAKING

Andrew Thornton speaks passionately about how he runs Thornton's Budgens and his journey from profit focused entrepreneur to heartfelt business leader. He talks about running a business with a Purpose and how this approach can allow businesses be a force for good and more profitable at the same time. His story is insightful and entertaining, a real life practical example of how a leader and a business can change.

Andrew has over 25 years experience speaking in Europe and the US on Food Retailing, and has now turned his attention to the broader topic of the role of business in society. He has formed Heart in Business Limited to share his personal experience with others.

TESTIMONIALS

"Andrew is an inspiring speaker. He has a natural authority grounded in his experience from running a wide range of businesses and he combines this with passion and a rare sense of vision."

Adam Leyland, Editor, The Grocer www.thegrocer.co.uk

"Andrew's personal journey from international consultancy advising the retail sector to putting his own money behind his beliefs through owning and running two Budgens supermarket franchises is inspiring. With a relaxed style he speaks authentically about how he has learned to manage and succeed with heart in business."

Oonagh Harpur www.LoveIntegrityBusiness.com

"Thank you so much for a great workshop this evening. I didn't really have a sense of how powerful it would be. The work in pairs at the start which got everyone focused on the depths of our beingness, followed by the exploration of the two diagrams and the excellent questions were truly mind-expanding and very valuable for everyone. I think we all went away having discovered new ideas about aspects of our work and of course the three intentions arriving in the post will be hugely valuable in a few weeks time."

Judy Piatkus, Conscious Café <http://www.judypiatkus.com>

"All too often speakers live in their heads and so their talks lack grounding in pragmatic realities. This is definitely not the case with Andrew Thornton. Andrew brings a wealth of hard earned, real world, commercially viable human experience to his speaking. But like Oscar Wilde laying in the gutter, he encourages us to look up at the stars with his uplifting stories of positive transformation in the workplace overflowing into his employees personal lives. Inspirational stuff!"

Chris Paradox <http://www.yourunstoppableyou.com>

'Andrew is one of those rare speakers who combines warmth and wit with practical and pioneering insight. He is at the vanguard of a paradigmic transformation in business and beyond, and his profound work helps catalyse a shift afoot from fearful separateness towards courageous love.'

Giles Hutchins, author of The Illusion of Separation www.gileshutchins.com

If you would like Andrew to speak at an event or conference, please e-mail rob@chartwellspeakers.com.