



Building
Better
Business for
Brentwood

Brentwood Chamber of Commerce

Newsletter

Bringing you the latest business
news from Brentwood.

June
2018

Nominations for the 2018 Brentwood Business Awards close on 30 June

The Brentwood Chamber of Commerce has launched the Brentwood Business Awards, which will recognise the best of businesses, sole traders, charities, employers, and apprentices at a black tie dinner on 9 November.

Anyone based in – or doing business in – the Borough of Brentwood can enter. You do not need to be a member of Brentwood Chamber of Commerce to participate.

Overall Awards Partner, Pinney Talfourd Solicitors, will select the **Brentwood Business of the Year** from the finalists of each category.

Applications will be open until 30 June for the following categories:

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

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EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

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GROWING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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BRENTWOOD BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

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BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

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NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

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SALES AND MARKETING AWARD

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SMALL TO MEDIUM BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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Fundraising news from your June Business Breakfast sponsors – Pinney Talfourd Solicitors



Pinney Talfourd raise over £11,000 for SNAP

Pinney Talfourd have announced that they have raised over £11,200 for their Charity of the Year 2017, SNAP (Special Needs and Parents).

In 2017, they chose to support Brentwood charity SNAP, who work tirelessly in the community to help 0-25 year-olds with special needs and their parents in a variety of ways, providing a respite lifeline for many of these families.

The firm's fundraising plans for the year were a mixture of internal events, running challenges and slightly more out of the box activities. Monthly dress down days raised £600, and this figure was matched by their client satisfaction questionnaires, which sees the firm donate £1 for every completed form returned from their clients.

'Pinney Pacers' Alex Pearce, Stephen Eccles, Lexie Jacobs, Keeley Miller and Suzanne Figgins took on the challenge of various running events throughout the year, including the Brighton Marathon, raising a further £1,100.

October saw their most challenging task, when solicitors Sue Nash, Catherine Loadman and Lucy Birch undertook a 24-hour Danceathon, which was also streamed live on Facebook. The local community and corporate friends rallied around them and their endeavours raised a massive £5,000.

Christmas is always a charitable time of year and their annual 'Christmas at the Queen's' event raised over £2,700, with 50% going to SNAP (the remaining 50% is donated to Queen's Theatre Hornchurch).

In addition to these major events throughout the year, the firm has held bake sales, sweepstakes, holiday raffles and quiz nights.

Twelve months and a total of £11,226.02 later, chair of the charity committee Catherine Loadman and some of her team were delighted to present a cheque to SNAP on behalf of the firm to help the charity continue their fantastic work.

Jos Hollington, SNAP's Statutory & Trusts Fundraiser, said: "We were delighted to be chosen as your 2017/18 charity of the year and the incredible amount that you raised for us reflects the passion and collegiate spirit of all your staff to get behind each other to support us." He continued: "Your donation will help us make a real difference to the families we help and we are immensely grateful."

Throughout the year more than 900 children and young people use the SNAP Centre to take part in therapies, play sessions and clubs and over 1,400 parents and carers receive hands-on help at the centre. In total, over 2,200 families across Essex benefit from the information and advice services, delivered by the team of friendly staff and 100 dedicated volunteers.



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www.jddesigns.co.uk

Newsletter editor: Philippa Barr
www.sunsigncommunications.co.uk

A message from your Chairman

As part of our strategy to go out and meet the members, we decided to hold our AGM last month at Sawyers Church. It proved to be an excellent choice, with us being made to feel very welcome by Pastor Peter Jordan and several of his colleagues. Many members who attended said that they had not visited the church before, so it was an ideal opportunity for Peter to tell us all more about the wide variety of services which they provide to the community of Brentwood. In addition to achieving our objective of going to meet the members, it also emphasised the role which the Chamber plays in being a conduit between local businesses and community organisations, which is reflected by our wide-ranging membership.

A reminder that the closing date for the Brentwood Business Awards is 30th June. If you have not entered yet, please do so, because the success of the Awards in their inaugural year depends on us having a good selection of entries to choose from. Also if you know of another business or organisation who you think should enter, then please do encourage them.

Reinventing the concept of home care in Brentwood

In 2005, a radical approach to home care for older people was introduced to the UK by Home Instead Senior Care. The company's innovative care is based around companionship and allows people to remain in their own homes for longer than would otherwise be possible.

Home Instead is a franchise business and, in 2009, I was ready to start my own business. Drawn to the company's ethos, I was fortunate to acquire the local franchise territory and launched the Brentwood office as I, too, wanted to help people lead independent, fulfilling lives.

At Home Instead, we provide non-medical services that our clients want and need. These include housekeeping and personal care but also companionship and a friendly person to accompany them as they take part in hobbies and pursue interests. There is a great demand for our services and we simply won't compromise on quality. In fact it is our priority.

We are making a difference in the local community by giving our clients and their families our time and respect. By staying in close contact with the community we are able to develop new innovative approaches in accordance with local demands.

One example of meeting demand comes in the form of dementia training. Having identified an increase in the

Some of you may be familiar with Town Link Radio, which has been run by the Chamber on behalf of local retailers for several years. We are in the process of updating the service to keep up with modern trends and technology. If you have a business in the Brentwood area and think this may be of interest to you, then do let us know

Our summer Netwalking series commenced in May with a walk around Childerditch and through Thorndon Country Park, followed by drinks at The Greyhound. This month's walk is from The Viper in Mill Green, on Monday 25th June.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to invite you all to our first ever Chamber Afternoon Tea Party on Friday 15th June to support Chamber member, Aching Arms. Weather permitting, tea will be served outside in the garden of Childerditch Village Hall, with the hall available should the weather not be kind.

Colin Barber, Chairman

number of clients living with dementia, Home Instead introduced specialist training on the topic for its caregivers. Our team now deliver a modified version of this training, free-of-charge, to the family members of people living with dementia and to members of the local community.

At Home Instead we go to great lengths to match caregivers and clients based on shared interests. This allows for bonds and friendships to develop. Our care visits are of a minimum one hour in duration. This ensures that we have time to care – for us it's a basic requirement but is so often not the case in our sector.

I am extremely proud that in 2016, Home Instead Senior Care was awarded a Queen's Award for Enterprise for Innovation. The company has been granted the award, the UK's highest accolade for business success, for the innovation their service has brought to the home care sector.

While the care sector at large has, at times, garnered a somewhat unfavourable reputation, Home Instead has consistently broken the mould by taking a holistic approach to caring for older people, whilst also supporting their families and community.

Steve Willoughby

Owner of Home Instead Senior Care Brentwood,
Billericay and Upminster
www.homeinstead.co.uk/brentwood-billericay-and-upminster
T: 01277 822 858

Chamber Events Calendar 2018

June

Friday 8th - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Pinney Talfourd

Monday 25th - Netwalking

July

Wednesday 4th - Barbecue at Orsett Hall

Friday 13th - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Howe Chartered Surveyors

Tuesday 24th - Netwalking

August

Friday 10th - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Medical Skin Clinic

Thursday 23rd - Netwalking

September

Friday 14th - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Ashwells Timber

October

Friday 12th - Business Breakfast

November

Thursday 1st - Brentwood Business Showcase

Friday 9th - Business Awards Ceremony;

Hutton Banqueting Suite

www.brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards

Friday 16th - Business Breakfast

Saturday 24th - Christmas Lighting up in Brentwood;

See website <http://www.brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=417>

December

Friday 14th - Business Breakfast

Letters to the editor

Like all good newsletters, the aim of this one is to involve its readers. One great way of doing that is to have a 'Letters to the Editor' slot and we'd like to start one up. We'd welcome contributions on any business-related topics, whether it's issues you're experiencing, a question you'd like to put to the readership or just some good old-fashioned opinions you want to air in order to kick off a debate! Once we receive sufficient letters, we'll start running the 'Letters to the Editor' slot in the next available issue. We can't guarantee to publish all letters and publication will be at the discretion of the Editor.

Send your letters to Neil.Hornsby@BrentwoodChambers.co.uk

Networking Groups in the Brentwood Area

The Chamber is pleased to bring details of other networking groups to your attention:

Brentwood Professionals Networking Group (BPNG):

last Friday of the month 1pm – 3pm; O'Neill's, Brentwood High Street; contact Paul Gulley, Handelsbanken, 01245 347906

The Phoenix Family: 2nd Thursday of each month; 12 – 2pm; Shenfield Cricket Club, 22a Chelmsford Road, Shenfield CM15 8RQ; contact Steve Roach, Phoenix FM. sr@phoenixfm.com; £15 per person, will include chilli & rice or curry & rice, or a vegan curry, plus hot drinks; payment in advance for catering purposes

The Circle: third Thursday of the month; 4pm – 6pm; The Sugar Hut, Brentwood High Street; contact Dan Sayers, M J Bushell, 01277 245300, info@circle-net.co.uk

ebn Brentwood: every other Thursday (next meeting 14th June); 8am – 10am; George & Dragon, Mountnessing; contact Hayley Taylor, Taylor Made Promotions, 01621 856504; membership and meeting charges apply

ebn Shenfield: next meetings, Tuesdays 5th and 19th June, 8am – 10am; George & Dragon, Mountnessing; contact Mandy Baker, Insight Coaching, 07946 377970; membership and meeting charges apply

Word of Mouth, Brentwood: Free networking event on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Phone 07533 988177

Round Robin Networking: Brentwood and Stock; The Robin pub, Ongar Road, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am start, Harvard Inn, Stock, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am start. Contact Paul Alexander 07557 797319

Brentwood Business Network: next meetings, Thursdays 7th and 21st June, 8am – 9.30am – booking via Eventbrite, cost £15 to include choice of breakfast; www.brentwoodbusiness.network

The Chamber of Commerce cannot be held responsible for the validity of the above information. Please confirm before attending. Details of other groups or any updates can be sent to Neil.Hornsby@BrentwoodChambers.co.uk

Chamber focus on...the Retail sector

In certain future issues of this newsletter we'd like to including an article focusing on a particular business sector. The first sector we've chosen to put under the spotlight is Retail – but we need your input. Let us have your news (expansions, new products/staff/premises) and views (how well the Retail sector is thriving in the Borough, any challenges you're facing), letting us know whether or not we may include your name and business details alongside anything we print. Please send any contributions to Neil.Hornsby@BrentwoodChambers.co.uk

Brentwood Chamber of Commerce

Pepperell House

44 High Street

Brentwood, Essex

CM14 4AJ

info@brentwoodchambers.co.uk

www.brentwoodchambers.co.uk

01277 214814

Twitter: @BwdChamber

Facebook: @BrentwoodChambers