

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE FOR EAST CHESHIRE

East Cheshire  
**CHAMBER**  
of commerce & enterprise

# Chamber

January 2018 / Issue 54



## Franklyn Financial Management New office opening



### Clay Shoot

Autumn event at Cloudside Shooting Ground



### Bloor Homes

The Chamber welcomes a new Patron Sponsor



### Christmas Lunch

Chamber members enjoyed festive fayre at Pecks



### Business Awards

Looking forward to another great celebration



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# Welcome from the Chief Executive

This is the time of year when we are all trying to keep to our New Year Resolutions and to those of you who have resolved to raise the profile of your business I would say take a look at the information on page 5 about our business awards, take the plunge and get involved. You could nominate a supplier, customer or any other business partner, and of course, nominate your own business for a category that you feel you could win. As in previous years we have introduced some new categories for you to consider entering. If however you do not want to compete but would enjoy an excellent evening out then join us on 23rd March at Cranage Hall for the Awards Ceremony.

If the business awards are not for you but you want to engage with other members of the Chamber then look at the events listed

for the first quarter of 2018 and I am sure that you will find something that fits the bill for you.

“ *Later on in the year, in September, we will be having our major event, the East Cheshire Chamber Business Expo at Cranage Hall.* ”

Details can be found on page 18 of this magazine. We have already had considerable interest in the event from our sponsors who want to help in making it something special!

The cover of this edition of CHAMBER shows the opening of Franklyn Financial Management Limited's office on John Bradshaw Court, Congleton. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their continued success and wish them well for the future.

Readers will also see on page 9 that East Cheshire Chamber has a new Patron Sponsor, Bloor Homes who are based in Holmes Chapel. Bloor Homes are a very important employer, not just in Cheshire East but all over the UK. We are absolutely delighted that they have decided to become Patron Sponsors and look forward to growing a longstanding relationship.

In closing, could I remind our readers that if they have any news stories for inclusion in the CHAMBER or wish to place an advert with us they should contact Jackie Randles on our office number 01260 540570 or by email at [Jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)

*David*

## Events Calendar

### Thursday Thirty

**18th January 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

Visyon

Fellowship House, Park Road,  
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1DP

### Thursday Thirty

**1st March 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

Franklyn Financial Management  
John Bradshaw Court  
Alexandria Way, Congleton,  
Cheshire, CW12 1LB

### Annual Business Awards

**23rd March 2018**

18.45 hrs – 00.30 hrs

Cranage Hall  
Byley Lane, Cranage,  
Cheshire, CW4 8EW

### Thursday Thirty

**12th April 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

East Cheshire Hospice  
Millbank Drive, Macclesfield,  
Cheshire, SK10 3DR

### Thursday Thirty

**24th May 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

Sandbach R.U.F.C  
Bradwall Road, Sandbach,  
Cheshire, CW11 1RA

### Annual Golf Day

**20th June 2018**

Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club  
Vale Royal Drive, Whitegate,  
Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2BA

### Thursday Thirty

**5th July 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

Burns Garages  
Canal Street, Congleton,  
Cheshire, CW12 3AA

### Thursday Thirty

**16th August 2018**

08:30 am – 10:00 am

Details to be confirmed

### East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Expo

**21st September 2018**

Cranage Hall  
Holmes Chapel,  
Cheshire,  
CW4 8EW

Events can be found on our website 'Events Page' [www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](http://www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)

Please email [Jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:Jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk) for further details and booking forms

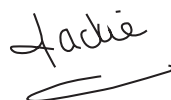
# A word from Jackie Randles

I would like to wish all our readers a very Happy New Year for 2018 and hope that you had a well-deserved break with your family and friends over the festive period.

This issue of CHAMBER is packed with reports of events that the Chamber has held and news of forthcoming events in 2018. It is inspiring to see how engaged our members are with the Chamber.

In addition to our regular annual events we are looking forward this year to holding the 'East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Expo Day' at Cranage Hall in September. If you would like any information with regards to exhibiting or attending, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.



## New Members

*The Chamber extends a very warm welcome to the following new members:*

### Bosworth Consultancy Limited

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[www.bosworthconsultancy.com](http://www.bosworthconsultancy.com)

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[www.pointblankdigital.co.uk](http://www.pointblankdigital.co.uk)

Tel: 01625 505904

Sunrise House, Hulley Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 2LP

### Crighton Marketing Limited

Crighton Marketing is run by Tim Crighton, who has over 20 years marketing experience.

The company helps businesses with limited resource in all aspects of their marketing, both digital and traditional. Our speciality is helping to attract and retain new customers.

[www.crightonmarketing.com](http://www.crightonmarketing.com)

Tel: 07920 468483



At Leek United's Congleton branch, we have served the financial needs of customer in the town and surrounding areas since 1977 – the Queen's Silver Jubilee year – and celebrated our 40th anniversary this year.

[www.leekunited.co.uk](http://www.leekunited.co.uk)

Tel: 01260 277965

68 High Street, Congleton,  
Cheshire, CW12 1BA

## Are you interested in joining East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce?

Please contact David Watson at [david.watson@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:david.watson@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)  
or Jackie Randles at [jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)

Riverside, Mountbatten Way, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1DY

Tel: 01260 540570 Fax: 0845 6766376 [www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](http://www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)





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CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY • START UP BUSINESS • EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR  
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR • BUSINESS AND EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT AWARD  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AWARD • CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AWARD

ENTRIES BY 28TH FEBRUARY 2018



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#### WE'RE ON THE MOVE

Continued investment in both the factory and machinery has always helped Berisfords to remain the market leader in ribbons, bows and trimmings here in the UK.

We've been at the current site in Congleton since 1978 and to secure the long term future of the business we've decided to relocate to a new purpose built factory, **remaining at the heart of this Cheshire town.**

This move will enable us to improve production and with the addition of even more weaving looms increase output.

Keeping us competitive within a tough global market.

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[www.berisfords-ribbons.co.uk](http://www.berisfords-ribbons.co.uk)





# Christmas Lunch Report 2017

Pecks Restaurant was once again the venue for the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Christmas lunch and network meeting. 70 members and guests sat down to a festive lunch served to Pecks usual high standard. A raffle and auction were held after lunch and this raised monies to further enhance the proceeds of the Chambers efforts in support of Kidneys For Life, this year's Chamber Charity.

The Chambers Chief Executive, David Watson, gave a report of the Chambers activities throughout 2017 and gave the attendees some details of the forthcoming events that will take place early in 2018. The major announcement was that the Annual Business Awards are to be held at Cranage Hall on 23rd March.

Those guests who decided to carry on their merry making into the afternoon were given the option of transport to their next venue in a Bentley, courtesy of Pecks Restaurant.





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Over the next 5 years, Bloor homes North West are planning to deliver over 1,000 new homes in Cheshire East. We are currently building superior 2,3 & 4 bedroom homes at Saxon Gate, Crewe and Alderley Gate, Congleton, with more new homes coming soon to Holmes Chapel and Wistaston.

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[bloorhomes.com](https://bloorhomes.com)



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# Bloor Homes, new Patron Sponsor of East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce are delighted to announce that Bloor Homes, based in Holmes Chapel, have decided to become Patron Sponsors.



Rhys Nicholson, Managing Director, Bloor Homes North West said:

“Bloor Homes continues to expand its operation of delivering quality homes in well-designed settings throughout the North-West. With our regional headquarters in Holmes Chapel, and our target of delivering around 1,000 new homes in Cheshire East over the next 5 years, we recognise the importance of developing successful partnerships”.

“ 1,000 new homes in Cheshire East over the next 5 years

Bloor Homes prides itself in its knowledge of local issues and its business links with the community.

Founded in 1969 and still an independent family-owned business, Bloor Homes operates from seven regional offices based in Newbury, Swindon, Tewkesbury, Tamworth, Bury St Edmunds, Northampton and Holmes Chapel. Bloor Homes has remained true to the founding principles of John Bloor and continues to build a variety of predominantly family homes on a mixture of greenfield, brownfield and reclaimed sites.

**BLOOR HOMES**

## TMC launch 3D Property Developer App

Congleton based TMC Strategic Communications has launched a walk through property app. Virtual Street View (VSV) allows property developers to visualize an entire estate, its visual impact in the existing environment and market every home, before any construction has begun.

VSV allows you to navigate an entire housing estate, including exploring the interior of show homes using your phone or tablet. Tim McCloud, Managing Director of TMC explained ‘VSV delivers detailed virtual environments that helps customers when buying off plan by enabling them to see the actual views from their new home before it has even been built.’

The app has a comprehensive analytics dashboard allowing developers to manage enquiries and gain insight into which plots and features are the most popular with customers.

You can download VSV now from the App Store. For more information contact Adrian at TMC on 01260 295700 or [adrian@wearetmc.co.uk](mailto:adrian@wearetmc.co.uk)



# Are you managing your board meetings correctly?

**Many business owners are unsure as to the requirements surrounding the convening and holding of board meetings and whether they comply with their obligations under the Companies Act. Paul Tyrer from SAS Daniels provides a quick guide.**



If you would like more guidance on how to manage a successful board meeting, please contact Paul Tyrer, Senior Associate at SAS Daniels on:

**01260 282300**  
**paul.tyrer@sasdaniels.co.uk**



## Frequency

There is no obligation to hold a specific number of board meetings in a year. The Directors should however hold the meetings with sufficient frequency to ensure that their Directors' duties are adequately met. Monthly or even quarterly meetings will usually be enough, but this may vary depending on the particular demands of the business.

## Notice

The articles of association of a company usually provide that any Director may call for a meeting to be convened. As a general rule, notice must then be served on all Directors who are entitled to attend the meeting; regardless of whether they are able to attend, for example, because they are abroad or ill.

The articles may specify a fixed period of notice, but more often this is left to the discretion of the Directors, in which case notice should be 'fair and reasonable'. This is likely to depend on the urgency of the matter to be discussed and the significance of what is being considered by the board. Only in exceptional circumstances should no notice be served. Business that has been passed at a meeting and has been convened with defective or insufficient notice has been held by the Courts to be invalid.

The notice should contain the proposed date and time of the meeting, location and an agenda of items to be discussed.

## Quorum

For a meeting to be validly convened, a quorum of Directors must be present. This is usually specified in the company's articles of association. Under the model articles the number may be fixed from time to time by the directors but must never be less than two.

## Chairperson's Role

Most articles normally provide for the appointment of a Chairperson. This role exercises procedural control over the meeting and ensures that the formalities are met. The chair is usually responsible for:

- Ensuring that a quorum is present;
- Keeping order;
- Ensuring that the business of the meeting is dealt with; and
- Dealing with any procedural issues.

## Voting

The articles will usually provide that a resolution will be passed by a majority of those directors present and who are entitled to vote. The articles may also go on to state that the chairperson has a casting vote; however, such right is not automatic unless the articles expressly provide for it.

Once a resolution has been properly passed it is the duty of all the Directors (not just those who voted in favour) to ensure that the resolution is properly implemented.

## Conflicts of Interest

The articles will normally provide that a Director may not vote on a matter on which they are materially interested and which may conflict with the interests of the company.

The model articles provide that a Director is not to be counted as part of the quorum for any meetings containing a resolution on which he or she is interested, although this provision can normally be disapplied by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders.

Regardless of whether or not directors are actually entitled to vote or not, all Directors must comply with section 177 and 182 of the Companies Act in relation to declaring their interests in any matter proposed at a board meeting.

## Minutes

Failure to take minutes is an offence punishable by a fine. Whilst it is not necessary to record every word verbatim, the minutes should include an accurate note of all decisions and resolutions and ideally the thought process that led to the decision being reached.

Records of the board minutes should be kept for a minimum of 10 years either in writing or electronically, although Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA) recommends that minutes are retained for the life of the organisation. It is also worth remembering that any Director has the right to inspect and take copies of minutes of meetings to enable him or her to discharge his duties as a director of the company.

**Following these key steps should ensure that meetings are both effective and comply with the Companies Act.**





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# Better for business, better for the environment

*By Dr Andy Pickard, Manager of the Centre for Global Eco-Innovation at Lancaster University*

## A changing world

We live in a world where change is constant and the pace of change is accelerating. The mantra is growth. So what is the key to growth at a time when resources are increasingly under demand? How do Cheshire and Warrington businesses grow and gain a share of new and emerging markets? The key is innovation but innovation which increases efficiency, uses less energy, works smarter, demands less water and maximises value from its waste. We are talking about Eco-Innovation.

This year the FTSE 100 had its 33rd birthday. Gone are 70 company names from the original 100, many of which were once considered part of the national furniture: ICI; General Electric; to be replaced by companies such as Vodafone, which were little more than a twinkling in the eye at the formation of the FTSE. So where will success come from in the next 33 years?

Analysis shows that 32% of UK growth is attributed to undertaking research and development in science and technology. So Lancaster University and the University of Chester have come together to enable Cheshire and Warrington businesses to access R&D resources to support innovation for a better environment.

## A business opportunity

In the Climate Change Act 2008 the UK legislated to reduce greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050. Progress towards this target has been aided by technological innovation and resulted in new high value jobs, industries and companies being created. We are starting to see results in the adoption of renewable energy, low carbon vehicles and power electronics. This represents enormous opportunity for economic growth for those who can respond. This October the government launched a new "clean growth strategy" promising £2.5bn of public investment.

At the launch, Climate Change Minister Claire Perry, predicted growth for businesses in low carbon technologies to be 11% per annum, which is 4 times faster than the general economy.

The focus now is to replicate success in the energy sector to develop low carbon initiatives across all sectors, to address emissions from transport, business and industrial processes and domestic heating which together account for 62% of all UK emissions.

## A helping hand

In 2012 Lancaster University launched the Centre for Global Eco-Innovation partnering with regional small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to support innovation. The aim was to open the resources of the universities to SMEs to undertake R&D and to provide access to people who can enable that work to take place. In 2015 the Centre was recognised as

“the outstanding knowledge exchange and commercialisation initiative, nationally.”

Today with the support of European Regional Development Funding, the opportunity for local SMEs has been expanded. Lancaster University is The Times University of the year 2018 and the Centre is now working alongside the University of Chester, and the newly created Energy Centre at Thornton Science Park. Working together the two universities offer local businesses support for a wide range of R&D projects from short projects to long-term, in depth research.

The ambition is to support a transition towards a low carbon economy in all sectors and to enable Cheshire and Warrington businesses to benefit from the growth that a new and developing way of doing business presents.



**Is your SME based in the Cheshire and Warrington area?**

**Have an idea for an innovative Low Carbon Technology game changer?**

**The University of Chester provides research support to transform your lightbulb moment into a business reality.**

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**For more information visit:**

[www1.chester.ac.uk/business-growth/projects/eco-innovation](http://www1.chester.ac.uk/business-growth/projects/eco-innovation)

**or contact:**

**Rhian Bowen • 01244 512493**  
[r.bowen@chester.ac.uk](mailto:r.bowen@chester.ac.uk)

**Heather Carroll • 01244 512497**  
[h.carroll@chester.ac.uk](mailto:h.carroll@chester.ac.uk)

This project is part funded by



**European Union**  
European Regional  
Development Fund



## Case Study

# Core Additive Technologies Limited

Acid tar pits contain the waste residue from oil refineries. Chemical additives company Core Additive Technologies Limited and the University of Chester at Thornton Science Park are working together to address the challenging problem of how to remedy and recover resources from those pits.

Typical pits can be vast, containing up to 100,000 tonnes of waste material and a clean-up can cost between £40m to over £100m. The waste is currently disposed by combustion, but researchers are now looking to develop a new process, which will allow for the extraction and reuse of material from

the acid tar pits. As well as reducing the amount destined for disposal by combustion, it will reduce the need for the extraction and refining of hydrocarbons or the synthesis of other chemicals.

“This work is extremely exciting. From day one, I have felt like I’m already part of a cutting edge research project...”

Lee O’Nions, Core Additive Technologies Limited Managing Director, said: “It’s fantastic for Core Additive Technologies Limited to undertake research with the

University of Chester’s Eco-Innovation project. As an SME, getting access to the know-how, knowledge and facilities offered by a Science and Engineering Faculty is a unique opportunity. It helps me to commercialise a new process for the remediation of acid tar pits, providing benefit to the environment and people’s lives.”

Amy Underhill, Graduate Researcher, added: “This work is extremely exciting. From day one, I have felt like I’m already part of a cutting edge research project that will have worldwide commercialisation and environmental benefit.”



ENERGY



WATER



NATURAL CAPITAL



FOOD



RESOURCE EFFICIENCY



WASTE

Lancaster  
University



Centre  
for Global  
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**We provide support for ambitious and innovative Cheshire SMEs to develop low carbon products and services.**

**On offer are funded and part funded research projects of up to 1 year duration.**

This project is part funded by:



**European Union**  
European Regional  
Development Fund

For more details visit our website [www.globalecoinnovation.org/business](http://www.globalecoinnovation.org/business) or contact Stephen on 01524 510745 / [s.king7@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:s.king7@lancaster.ac.uk)

## Case Study

# Poor air quality links to climate change

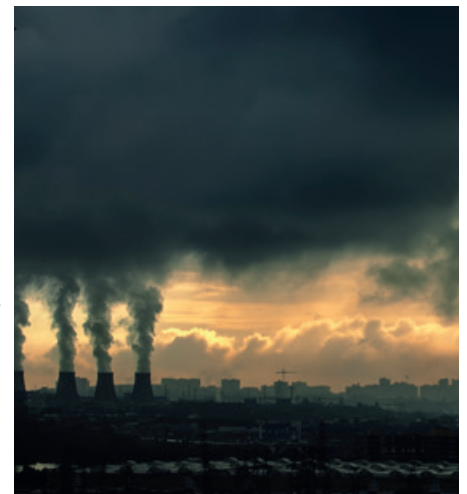
Poor air quality is a global threat to human and ecosystem health, with climate change projected to exacerbate air quality problems through meteorological changes. Many air quality pollutants may also contribute to climate change themselves, making this a perpetual problem. Air pollution is a national and international issue, with sources of air pollution ranging from road traffic and power stations to industrial and agricultural processes.

The JBA Trust is collaborating with Lancaster University to develop new methods and tools to communicate climate change and air quality risk to national and international stakeholders. The JBA Trust was created in

2011 as an independent charity that promotes the growth of knowledge and skills in environmental risk management.

Professor Rob Lamb, Director of JBA Trust said “We are supporting this research to help ensure that the latest scientific understanding of the relationship between climate change and air quality can be communicated to business and decision makers at municipal or national levels and NGOs. That understanding may have profound implications for multiple sectors including health, transport and urban planning.”

Suzanne Van Zuijlen, Graduate Researcher, said “Being able to work on this project



is truly exciting as poor air quality has an impact on both health and the environment. The overall aim of this PhD project is to use models and observations to bring new understanding around the links between air quality and climate change. The goal is to develop this understanding in a way that it can be readily used by decision makers in their risk planning processes.”



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# RIVERSIDE

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# Member Spotlight

*Bringing local businesses into focus*

## Eddie Roberts

*Associate Director,  
Approved Inspectors Ltd*



### *How important have your team members been to your success?*

Our Surveying staff and support team are an intrinsic part of our business and we are very fortunate to have a wealth of experienced chartered surveyors and industry professionals.

### *What motivates you?*

Having a positive impact and ensuring that the client and end user has a well-constructed and energy efficient building.

### *If you had the chance to start your career over again, what would you do differently?*

I have been in the industry since leaving school and have a strong connection with buildings and their design and construction. I have recently extended and altered my own property and would have liked to have had the opportunity to develop my own properties... although it is never too late!

### *How many hours do you work a day on average?*

My hours vary and we operate a flexible approach, working to the needs of our clients and staff. I really don't 'clock in' and 'clock out' of work like my former job in the Local Authority and try and make myself available to suit the needs of the company.

### *How do you spend your leisure time?*

I have a young family and like to get outdoors either walking or kayaking locally or in mid Wales. We have recently started to visit the Lake District and have plans to explore more of this area in the next few years.

### *What are today's and tomorrow's challenges?*

The Building Regulations are always changing and evolving to suit construction methods and innovations. We therefore like to build upon our knowledge and educate those around us. The Grenfell Tower fire in London will inevitably have an impact on our industry.

### *Who has been your greatest inspiration?*

I was given great encouragement a few years ago from a friend I met during my time as a School Governor. They gave me the confidence to leave my Local Authority employment and establish a Cheshire based Approved Inspector which has gone from strength to strength!



## Adele Cook

*Managing Director,  
Congleton Learning Centre*



### *How important have your team members been to your success?*

The team at CLP have been hugely instrumental in every part of my success. We are a likeminded group who share a passion to help and support others to succeed and make positive changes in their lives.

### *What motivates you?*

My students are most definitely my motivation. I am very lucky to be able to share their achievements every day as they gain hard earned qualifications or secure a new job.

### *If you had the chance to start your career over again, what would you do differently?*

I stumbled into this career after planning a very different path with a degree in Design Management. I have been lucky that as the MD, I have been able to develop my career and take it in a path that I find both challenging and rewarding but it also allows me that all important work life balance.

### *How many hours do you work a day on average?*

My days vary greatly, some days it can be a regular 9am – 5pm but others I can put the kids in bed and then burn the midnight oil writing funding bids and grant applications.

### *How do you spend your leisure time?*

I love exploring the UK with my family in our VW camper. I also play netball for a local team and I'm learning to tap dance!

### *What are today's and tomorrow's challenges?*

Predictably, funding our service is my daily challenge. For me, tomorrow's challenge is the mental health of our children and young adults. With good mental health, they can develop the resilience needed to cope with whatever life may throw at them and help them to grow into well-rounded, healthy adults.

### *Who has been your greatest inspiration?*

I once heard Dame Anita Roddick speak at a conference. I found her incredibly inspirational and she made me believe I too could really make a difference. My favourite of her quotes has to be "If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito."







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# New Office Opening

*Franklyn Financial Management*

On a bright sunny day in Congleton, Franklyn Financial Management Ltd took some time out to hold a 'Champagne and Mince Pie' open day to celebrate the completion of the redevelopment at St. James's House.

FFM's new office was officially opened by David Watson CEO of East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and the celebration was worthy of the many valued employees, clients, neighbours and guests from the local business community.

FFM were delighted to receive such support for the company as they embark on their next adventure.

Andrew gave a great welcome to the guests and expressed how these are exciting times for FFM and for Congleton. This was followed by David Watson's crowd pleasing welcome and thanks to Andy and the team at FFM.

“FFM have enjoyed continued growth and the office development has been driven by the quality and support of all the staff involved.

Andy thanked the staff for their continued effort and support. “We have a great team at FFM and this redevelopment has taken over 9 months to complete. “We are really pleased to have finished the project and can't wait for the next 12 months!”

Once the formalities were over, guests enjoyed a glass or two of champagne and had the opportunity to tour the state of the art facilities.

The final word goes to David Watson who says “Congleton is so fortunate to have companies like FFM based here. It has been a pleasure to witness their continued growth at their John Bradshaw Court headquarters and the East Cheshire Chamber wishes Andrew Chatterton and his team best wishes for the future.”





# Chamber Expo 2018

*The Ultimate Network Showcase*

**21st September 2018**

**Cranage Hall 10am – 3pm**



To be part of this amazing event, contact

David Watson or Jackie Randles

[david.watson@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:david.watson@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)

[jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk](mailto:jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk)

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# Clay Shoot Report

*Autumn 2017*



Once again, the sun shone for the Autumn Clay Pigeon Shoot which was held at Cloudside Shooting Ground on October 18th and sponsored by Business Doctors.

Kevin Cook, Rod Davies and Matt Levington from Business Doctors all put in some fine sharp shooting. Their efforts, however were not quite good enough to take away any of the trophies that were to be won.

First prize went to Richard Bayliss from the Playground Company Team who had a 100% score. Second and third places went to James Welsh and Glen Shah. The best ladies individual score was won by Suzanne Wykes and the Clay Conservation Award went to Vanessa Fuller. Phil Gallagher accepted the prize on behalf of the winning team.

Following the competition the shooters tucked into a hearty meal of steak pie.



1st place – Richard Bayliss



2nd place – James Welsh



3rd place – Glen Shah



Best Ladies Score – Suzanne Wykes



The Winning Team represented by Phil Gallagher



Clay Conservation Award – Vanessa Fuller



# Thursday Thirty Events



**The Thursday Thirty networking meeting on 5th October 2017 was hosted by Alderley Park Conference Centre & Deaville & Co Ltd.**

Guests were welcomed into the amazing venue by Verity and Wayne from Deaville & Co and Martin from the Alderley Park Conference Centre and treated to an assortment of breakfast baps.

Alderley Park Conference Centre is situated in 400 acres of beautiful Cheshire parkland. With an international reputation for hospitality, events and meetings, Alderley Park Conference Centre is ideally suited to keynote speeches and corporate events, as well as being a great venue for team meetings, workshops and training courses.



Kidneys For Life were presented with a cheque for £2,295 which is the money that has been raised by East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce since April this year.



Deaville & Co

Silk 106.9 hosted the Thursday Thirty at their new offices in Adelaide Street in Macclesfield on 16th November 2017.

Silk 106.9 is an Independent Local Radio serving Macclesfield and parts of East Cheshire, it broadcasts a mix of current and classic hits alongside local news and sport.

The meeting was a lively, very well attended networking meeting.



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**Kevin Cook**

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# London to Paris Cycle Challenge

Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the first kidney transplant in Manchester by taking part in the London to Paris Cycle Challenge, passing through Arras and Compiègne and finishing at the Eiffel Tower.



**Registration Fee:** £100

**Minimum Sponsorship:** £1600

**Dates:** 27 Aug to 1 Sep 2018

**Contact:**

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T: 0161 276 6671

**Visit our Website:**

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# In Focus: The Skills & Growth Company

*Bringing local businesses into focus*

**We're here to do everything we can to nurture the growth of people, businesses and the region. We believe everyone deserves the opportunity to succeed and every business the opportunity to thrive.**

We were established by Cheshire East Council as a new 'arms-length' company in April 2016, to bring together existing skills and growth services under one structure. Our objective is to ensure the council can deliver more for less, achieving greater innovation and benefits for businesses

and residents. We support businesses to maximise growth, funding and investment opportunities; increase the availability and take-up of apprenticeships, support people into work, help to create jobs and stimulate economic growth and innovation.

We deliver a programme of activity to support growth, increase productivity and encourage the creation of new high value jobs.

Our team of Business Growth Managers and Specialists work with over 500 businesses and strategic investors each year. We focus on face-to-face diagnostic analysis to understand your barriers to growth,

develop an effective growth plan tailored to the needs of your business and if appropriate, broker in specialist support. Our network of specialist advisors and partners include Growth Hubs, Government departments and the Local Enterprise Partnership.

Find out more at  
[www.skillsandgrowth.co.uk](http://www.skillsandgrowth.co.uk)



## Case Study

# New Jobs Created As Shelter Manufacturer Relocates To Congleton

**Autocross Euroshel started life as a family business back in 1973 and, since producing the first vandal resistant shelter in the 1980s, it has continually evolved to become a modern manufacturer of modular stainless shelters and associated street furniture. It now exports its products as far as Nigeria and provided shelters for the London 2012 Olympics.**



**Councillor George Hayes, Chairman of the Skills & Growth Company and Congleton MP Fiona Bruce join the Euroshel team at their new site in Congleton.**

Managing Director Will Cross is passionate about his products and developed the unique modular Euroshel System, which means that designs can be easily adapted to their clients' needs. This combined with the use of high-quality materials results in an end product which is both attractive and durable.

Will said: "The relocation will enable the business to develop new customer opportunities, new ventures and new partnerships. The infrastructure in Cheshire East enables easy access throughout the UK for our installation teams and the area provides a great quality of life for our staff."

Now based off Back Lane, in Congleton, Euroshel has taken on 5,000 sqft. of industrial space. Three staff transferred from its previous base in Lancashire and five new jobs

have been created at its new manufacturing facility. To find out more about Autocross Euroshel and their range of modular stainless steel products visit [www.euroshel.com](http://www.euroshel.com)

**“The infrastructure in Cheshire East enables easy access throughout the UK for our installation teams and the area provides a great quality of life for our staff.”**

The Skills & Growth Company has supported the company to relocate to Cheshire East and continues to support the company with a broad range of services to help the business continue to grow. These include one-to-one business support, procurement training, support with exporting, specialist manufacturing programmes and funding.

# Chamber News

*Bringing local businesses into focus*

## First Birthday Success for Sandbach Bar

DV8 Sandbach, the town's premier cocktail bar and part of the unique and award-winning Deviate Bar Group, celebrated their first birthday on Saturday 18th November with more than 500 people attending the event. The bar hosted live music and unveiled its new cocktail menu as well as a range of other activities during the evening.

Exactly one year after directors Chris & Charlotte Carsons, Stephanie Chaddock and Martin Holmes restored and re-opened the establishment in November 2016, the bar held a 're-birthday' party and welcomed hundreds of visitors throughout the evening.

DV8 also revealed an exclusive birthday cocktail called the 'Birthday Cake Collins', a creamy vanilla cocktail topped with cream, hundreds and thousands and a candle which was only available to customers during the

event and proved to be the most popular cocktail with over 100+ sales on the night.

Stephanie Chaddock, Owner and Director of DV8 in Sandbach, comments: "We are thrilled that DV8 has been such a roaring success in its first year and to have so many customers celebrating our birthday with us at the weekend. It was a really enjoyable evening for everyone and we even received birthday presents from regular customers and local businesses in attendance. We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us this past year and we look forward to celebrating many more birthdays with you all at DV8 Sandbach in the future."

For further information on DV8 Sandbach, please visit [www.dv8bar.co.uk](http://www.dv8bar.co.uk), or call 01270 368081.



Martin Holmes, Steph Chaddock and Chris Carsons outside DV8 Sandbach

## Fiona Bruce Welcomes Middlewich Bypass Funding



Fiona Bruce MP with Transport Minister Chris Grayling in Parliament as the announcement is made.

Middlewich MP Fiona Bruce, who has campaigned for years for funding for a bypass in Middlewich, was delighted to welcome the announcement by the Secretary of State for Transport on 19th October of £46.8m funding towards a total cost of £56.9m for the Middlewich Eastern Bypass. This will reduce congestion in the town centre and facilitate the opening up of employment land with the potential to provide over 2,000 jobs. The funding is one of only two new large local major road schemes receiving approval

at the present time, and has been achieved in the face of stiff competition from towns clamouring for bypasses across the country.

Speaking with Fiona Bruce MP on making the announcement this morning, Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling MP, said "As someone who used to live just outside Middlewich, I know well just how important this project is and the difference it will make."

Fiona Bruce MP said:

"This is a massive boost for Middlewich. It puts Middlewich firmly on the economic map of the North West and should act as a rocket launcher for further investment, such as the reopening of Middlewich Railway Station for passengers.

"Such a huge commitment by this Government will radically improve the quality of life for Middlewich people, both reducing chronic congestion and opening up many much needed local job opportunities .

"I want to express my appreciation, both to Cheshire East Council for working with

*"It puts Middlewich firmly on the economic map of the North West and should act as a rocket launcher for further investment*

me on a sustained basis over many years to make a clear business case to Government for this Bypass funding - in the face of severe competition from other towns across the country, - and to Government Ministers for listening to our representations in Westminster, and responding with this fantastic announcement today."



Fiona Bruce MP with Cheshire East Council Leader Cllr Rachel Bailey, celebrating the announcement





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501+	£490.00	£588.00

From January 2017

### CHAMBER MAGAZINE

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