

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE FOR EAST CHESHIRE

East Cheshire
CHAMBER
of commerce & enterprise

May 2019 / Issue 58

Chamber



AWARDS | **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**
2019 WINNER | UNDER 20 EMPLOYEES

AWARD WINNERS 2019



AWARDS | **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**
2019 WINNER | OVER 20 EMPLOYEES



Contents

- 04 New Chamber Members
The Chamber welcomes 9 new members from across the region.
- 05 Chamber Golf Day
The annual Chamber Golf Day will take place on Wednesday 19th June 2019.
- 06 Thursday Thirty Events
Catching up on the latest Chamber networking events.
- 08 Member Spotlight
Bringing local businesses into focus.
- 09 TMC Win 7 Awards
Including the coveted Grand Prix Award for best agency under 40 staff.
- 11 Could you be an enterprise adviser?
Cheshire East Council's Skills and Growth Company is looking to recruit more 'enterprise advisers'.

- 13 Paid internship opportunities
A number of five and ten week internships are being offered through the University of Chester.
- 14 Annual Chamber Awards 2019
Over 200 nominees, chamber members and guests attended what was once again a spectacular evening.
- 19 Careers Fair
Congleton High School students enjoy biggest ever careers fair.
- 20 Chamber News
Congleton Cenotaph Regeneration Project and Total success for Total People!
- 23 Chamber Expo 2019
Calling all Chamber Members to be part of the Ultimate Network Showcase.
- 24 Siemens Roller-Coaster Challenge
Engaging students in a regional competition to increase interest in STEM subjects.



Welcome from the Chief Executive

When I started to write my report for this edition of CHAMBER magazine I decided to write about good news only. I am pleased to say there is quite a lot.

Work on the Congleton Link has now started. The ceremony to cut the first piece of turf from the ground was held on 25th February and already there is visible evidence of progress on this very important project. Work is due to be completed by late 2020 and this can't come soon enough for those drivers who are continually stuck in traffic jams around the town.

Some other local good news is that Riverside, where the East Cheshire Chamber has its office, is now under new ownership. Our new Landlords are already making an impact on this wonderful building carrying out refurbishment work and attracting new tenants.

The East Cheshire Chamber's Business Awards were held De Vere Cranage Estate on 5th April, and once again were a roaring success. This year there were some new categories attracting new faces to the event. A full report can be read on pages 14 to 17 along with photographs from the evening.

Our next big event will be the Chamber Golf Day on 19th June, to be held at the regular venue of Vale Royal Abbey. Details of the event and information on booking teams in can be found on page 5. This is always a popular event and this year there will be a Porsche Driving Experience prize for "Nearest the Pin" on the 10th green. As they say, book early to avoid disappointment!

The events calendar on page 3 gives details of upcoming events and one for attention is the CHAMBER EXPO planned to take place on 18th October at De Vere Cranage Estate. Last year we attracted a lot of businesses to this event and

created some very good business opportunities for the attendees. We are hoping for a bigger and better event this year.

Of course, the "Thursday Thirty" network meetings will continue on a regular basis and we have some interesting venues coming up.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of CHAMBER and if you have any articles that you wish to be considered for future editions, please submit them to Jackie Randles on: Jackie.Randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

David

Events Calendar

Fire Safety Training 12th June 2019

08.30 am – 14.00 pm

The Boardroom, Riverside
Mountbatten Way, Congleton
Cheshire, CW12 1DY

Please see our website for full details

Annual Golf Day 19th June 2019

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

Thursday Thirty 11th July 2019

08.30 am – 10.00 am

Inspiration Matters
Details to be advised

Thursday Thirty 22nd August 2019

08.30 am – 10.00 am

Clonter Opera Theatre
Swettenham Heath, Congleton
Cheshire, CW12 2LR

Internationalise your Business! September 18th 2019

10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Riverside, Mountbatten Way
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1DY

Thursday Thirty 3rd October 2019

08.30 am – 10.00 am

HMP Styal, Styal Road
Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 4HR

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Expo 18th October 2019

De Vere Cranage Estate
Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 8EW

Thursday Thirty 14th November 2019

08.30 am – 10.00 am

1 Millennium Gate
Westmere Drive, Crewe
Cheshire, CW1 6AY

Christmas Lunch 6th December 2019

Pecks Restaurant, Newcastle Road,
Congleton, CW12 4SB
Booking forms will be emailed out
4 weeks before the event

Events can be found on our website 'Events Page' www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk/events

New Members

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



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Armada Engineering Ltd are a team of engineers, with a collective experience of more than 50 years, catering technical requirements of our clients around the globe in various engineering disciplines. We specialise in exports and are willing to share our knowledge of global market to help British companies with export requirements.

www.armadengineering.co.uk

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Isotopx Limited

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Eaton Bank Academy is a successful and growing secondary Academy, serving the community of Congleton and surrounding areas. Our GCSE results show that we are one of the leading schools in Cheshire East, with our students achieving well above national averages, something which we are rightfully proud of.

www.eatonbankacademy.org

Tel: 01260 273000

Jackson Road
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1NT



Project PA

Owner of Project PA, Pam Cox, offers a PA and business support service. With over 25 years of experience working in a wide range of businesses and sectors Pam has excellent people, planning, facilitation, communication and organisation skills. Pam understands how precious your time is and can help with a broad range of tasks. Consider the next big project you'll need support with and give her a call for a free initial consultation.

Tel: 07970 918242

Congleton, Cheshire,



Inspiration Matters

Richard's passion as a trainer and facilitator is rooted in his military leadership experience. His focus is on working with good people, operate in challenging circumstances, to help them and their teams achieve and sustain high performance.

[linkedin.com/in/richardburkard](https://www.linkedin.com/in/richardburkard)

Tel: 07710 506296

6 Peel Drive, Astbury, Nr Congleton
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Cheshire View Home Improvements Ltd

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www.sbhradiators.co.uk

Tel: 01476 572202

Unit 2B Road Three
Winsford Industrial Estate, Winsford
Cheshire, CW7 3GE

Are you interested in joining East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce?

Please contact David Watson at david.watson@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk or Jackie Randles at jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

Riverside, Mountbatten Way, Congleton,
Cheshire, CW12 1DY

Tel: 01260 540570 | Fax: 08456766376
www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk



Join us on our Chamber Golf Day 2019

Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club

The annual Chamber Golf Day will take place on Wednesday 19th June 2019 from 11.15 am onwards at the prestigious Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club.

11:15 - Registration and breakfast

11:30 - 12.30 Putting Competition

13:00 - Shotgun start

19:30 - Dinner and Prize giving

Chamber Members

£67.50 + VAT per person

Non Chamber Members

£72.50 + VAT per person

For more information

Please contact Jackie Randles on
01260 540570 or
jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

Early booking is recommended

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PORSCHE

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Image provided by www.porsche.com/silverstone/



Thursday Thirty Events



Depart from the
established course

DV8 in Congleton hosted the Thursday Thirty on a very cold morning in January.

Kevin Cook from Business Doctors welcomed the guests in the absence of David Watson and everyone was treated to a fabulous English breakfast cooked by the chefs of DV8 using locally sourced food where possible.

DV8 is a hidden gem tucked away from the bustle of Congleton town centre.



The February Thursday Thirty was kindly hosted by Prism Solutions at the Technology Barn in Congleton.

Breakfast baps, Danish pastries and fruit were served for breakfast.

Included at this meeting was a presentation by Tim McCloud from TMC Strategic Communications who, as a past winner of many awards, gave advice and guidance on how to produce a presentation for companies who planned to enter this year's business awards.



TATTON GROUP

Tatton Group were the host for the May event. The meeting was held in the wedding barn at Stock Farm, Ashley.

A short presentation about all the facilities available was delivered following breakfast and guests were treated to a venue tour.

Stock Farm has been lovingly restored from a working livery into a quirky, fun and magical wedding venue in the heart of Cheshire's own Tatton estate.



If you are interested in becoming a member of East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce, you are welcome to join us at one of our Thursday Thirty events to meet other members and the Chamber team!!

Please see the events list on page 3 and visit our website www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk





12TH ANNIVERSARY • 11TH JULY 2019
THE MERE GOLF & SPA RESORT

Over the past 11 years, we have continuously been amazed by the generous support of everyone involved in our annual Summer Swing event, helping us to raise an incredible £827,500 for the St. James's Place Charitable Foundation. This year we are looking to make 'One Moment in Time' a year to remember, delivering an event which is bigger and better than ever before, aiming to break through the £1,000,000 raised mark!

This incredible day will be hosted at The Mere Golf and Spa Resort in Knutsford. The day will start with a picturesque round of golf before an unforgettable gala dinner followed by an evening of fundraising, entertainment and music.

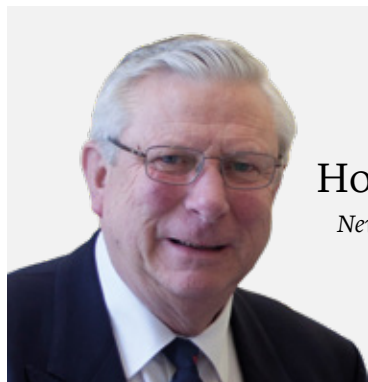
TICKETS AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE NOW

We look forward to seeing you and there and thank you for your support.

WWW.FFMSUMMERSWING.CO.UK

Member Spotlight

Bringing local businesses into focus



**Steve
Hodgkinson MBE**

New Life Church, Congleton

What motivates you?

Being part of a vibrant Christian community, working alongside a dedicated team of staff and volunteers.

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

I have many 'Hero's of Faith', past and present, but my greatest inspiration for New Life Church came from Nehemiah from the Old Testament, who undertook the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls back in 445/446 BC.

What has been your most satisfying moment?

I would have to say moments which are numerous. Helping people in desperate situations through the church's Storehouse foodbank, Counselling Service, Jubilee and Job Clubs, to name a few, and seeing lives transformed. The one outstanding moment was receiving the MBE at Buckingham Palace for Services to the Community of Congleton on behalf of all the New Life Team.

How do you spend your leisure time?

Enjoying time with family and friends, especially holidays with my grandchildren in Pembrokeshire.

What are Today and Tomorrow's Challenges?

Finding more spaces for car parking and ensuring the church continues to be 'salt and light' in the community.

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

My paid career was in branch banking from age 16 to 50 and I wouldn't want to change it, provided it returned to the old style of bank managers and staff who believed in and supported their customers.

If you could talk to one person from history, who would it be and why?

John Wesley, the evangelist, who inspired a great spiritual awakening and revival in this country which I believe is much needed again today.



Chloe Tatton

Franklyn Financial Management

What motivates you?

Making a positive difference to people's lives. Whether it be a small difference or a big difference, there's nothing more rewarding than seeing someone smile and be grateful for how you have helped them.

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

It is very cliché, but it has to be my Mum. From the moment I can remember, she has instilled in me to always work hard, treat others how you want to be treated yourself, be resilient and persevere through hard times. In my eyes, she is the definition of what a truly, strong woman is who has overcome many obstacles in her life.

What has been your most satisfying moment in business?

Winning Apprentice of The Year in April was a big moment for me. It felt amazing to be recognised for my work and I really hope that it has encouraged more individuals my age to realise that hard work pays off.

How do you spend your Leisure time?

I enjoy taking my three dogs, Sybil, Fifi and Rosie, on walks in the countryside and I have just started Cross Fit which I thoroughly enjoy. Of course, like any other 19-year-old, I also love spending time with my friends and going out with them.

What Are Today and Tomorrow's Challenges?

To not worry about what I don't know and to focus on the present. So many people spend time over thinking things, often things that haven't happened, and it's important to focus on what you can change, rather than what you can't.

If you were to give advice to Year 12 and Year 13 school students, what would you say?

I would say "Enjoy yourselves, don't let anyone tell you that you can't achieve something you want to and take every opportunity you can." I would also say don't sweat the small stuff, everything happens for a reason and you are in control of your own future so if you work hard, it will pay off.

If you could talk to one person from history, who would it be and why?

Emmeline Pankhurst – a key figure of the women's suffrage movement. I think she is a real inspiration to women in today's society and I would love to know how she felt whilst being faced with so much adversity.





TMC Win 7 Awards

TMC Strategic Communications have received 7 Awards at this year's The Drum Recommends Awards - Including the coveted Grand Prix Award for best agency under 40 staff.

The Grand Prix has now been awarded to TMC for four consecutive years. Based on a combination of metrics such as client ratings, testimonials and overall performance, it is one of the most sought-after awards of the evening.

TMC also won awards in the following categories: B2B Marketing, Service Delivery, Corporate Communications, Creativity and Innovation, Print and Design.

Tim McCloud, MD of TMC said:

“*Winning these awards reflects the quality of our relationships with our clients and we thank all of them for supporting us on this journey.*”

TMC Strategic Communications have been members of The Drum Network since 2014 and look forward to continuing their success with them.

For more information visit:
www.wearetmc.co.uk

tmc

**The Drum
Recommends
Awards**

**Department for International
Trade – North West**

Internationalise your Business!
Drop in and chat to Sara Pomfret
International Trade Adviser
DIT North West

September 18th
10am – 12pm

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise
Riverside, Congleton, CW12 1DY





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- ✓ **New Business Emails**
- ✓ **New Client Meetings**
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Could you be an enterprise adviser?

Cheshire East Council's Skills and Growth Company is looking to recruit more 'enterprise advisers' to help schools and colleges inspire young people and prepare them for the world of work.

Enterprise advisers are volunteers with business experience, who are passionate about helping young people make informed career choices.

The enterprise adviser network across Cheshire East is delivered in partnership with the Careers and Enterprise Company – an established and successful initiative made up of advisers from all types of businesses, the public sector and self-employed.



Ian Cottrill, Business Relations Director at Franklyn Financial Management, in Congleton, has been an enterprise adviser since

February 2018 and is passionate about helping schools and colleges learn more about a career in financial services.

He said: "I have found being an enterprise adviser very rewarding and inspiring, running events such as our stock market challenge for schools helped students understand more about how stocks and investments underpin our global economy, and how they can find a rewarding career in finance.

Julian Cobley, Managing Director of the council's arms-length Skills and Growth

Company, said: "We are immensely grateful for the time and effort our volunteer enterprise advisers commit to their roles on behalf of our schools and colleges. If anyone would like to join the network, please get in touch and help us develop a stronger partnership between education and business."

For more information on joining the enterprise adviser network please contact: Sam.Norfolk@skillsandgrowth.co.uk



Digital+ programme helps companies find their voice online and secure new business

The Connecting Cheshire Digital+ business support programme has already helped over 200 small firms since its launch in 2018.

Based around an intensive one-day seminar, The Digital+ programme provides small to medium-sized businesses with **FREE** expert support on how to demystify digital marketing and technology including social media, cloud computing as well as how to optimise their website.

The Digital+ programme is managed by The Skills & Growth Company and is available to eligible small and medium-sized businesses in Cheshire and Warrington, and is part of the Digital 2020 programme supported by the 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme. **Forthcoming seminars:**

6 June

Content Creation for Digital Marketing & Social Media
Willington Hall Hotel, Tarporley

10 July

Digital Marketing & Social Media
Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa, Chester



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

DIGITAL+ is part of the Digital 2020 programme supported by the 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme

To register for a seminar please visit: www.digitalpluscheshire.co.uk

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Wealth



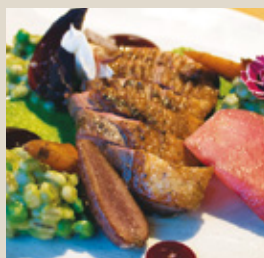
BUSINESS

Situated in the heart of the historic market town of Sandbach in Cheshire, The Wheatsheaf, a former coaching inn built in 1890, has undergone an extensive refurbishment and restoration and has now become 'A Quintessentially British Gastropub with Boutique Rooms', under ownership of the Pecks Group of Restaurants.

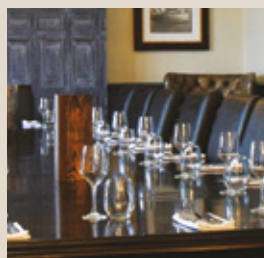
The Private Dining Room is ideal for business functions, having the ambiance of an exclusive boardroom, it is the perfect place to enthuse and motivate your team or clients. In addition to free superfast fiber WiFi, a projector, screen and wipe-board are available. Staffed by dedicated servers during food service, and has a telephone to summon service during private meetings.



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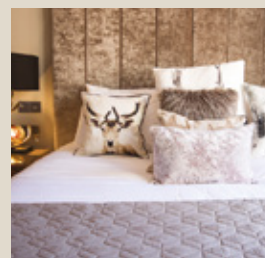
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Paid internship opportunities available for local businesses

A number of five and ten week internships are being offered through the University of Chester, as part of the Eco-Innovation Cheshire and Warrington project, which is part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs), based in Cheshire and Warrington, have the opportunity to find potential future employees and to benefit from the latest knowledge in techniques and technology from recent graduates.

The project's aim is to increase and strengthen the low carbon, renewables and environmental goods and services sector. However, internships will be tailored to the business's needs and sector.

Tinna Arnardottir, Project Manager of Eco-Innovation, said: "The internships are a great way for businesses to work with the University of Chester and to make changes to their work environment for a sustainable future."

The eco internships are part of the Chester Internship Programme which is run by the University of Chester.

A number of local businesses have already benefited from the programme, including Laurie Wills, Director of Element Sustainability Ltd. She said: "Recruitment has proven to be a costly, difficult part of our business and this internship programme provides an excellent introduction to talented graduates.

"Our hope was that we'd find someone suitable for permanent employment - which we did - but if this wasn't the case, then both the intern and employer would have still benefited from the experience."

It is a win-win situation. We received good support from the University of Chester Careers and Employability team which made the whole process simple to understand and progress."

Businesses looking for a researcher to carry out a project or even a graduate to assess the company business plan, to include a low carbon aspect, can visit the Eco-Innovation website www.chester.ac.uk/ecoinnovation for more information. Or get in touch with our Business Development Manager to discuss your needs. Call: 01244 567 370 or email: ecoinnovation@chester.ac.uk.



University of
Chester



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund



ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS AWARDS

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2019

The East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards evening took place on 5th April at De Vere Cranage Estate, Holmes Chapel. Over 200 nominees, chamber members and guests attended what was once again a spectacular evening.

Following a sparkling drinks reception and welcome by the Chamber Chief Executive, David Watson, a three course fine dining dinner was served in the Stephenson Suite of the venue.

Dinner was followed by the awards presentation and this year winners not only received a trophy and certificate stating their success, but also a presentation case of wine donated by the major sponsors Prism IT.

As always there were new categories in this year's awards, including: The Health and Well Being Award, A Corporate & Social Responsibility Award and an Apprentice of the Year Award.

The first of those new awards, The Health and Wellbeing Award, went to Acorn Occupational Health Ltd, and the Corporate and Social Responsibility Award was won by Franklyn Financial Management Ltd. Anthony Ashworth of Franklyn Financial Management also presented the award for the Business Start Up of The Year to DC Assist of Congleton. DC Assist were winners from a shortlist of 3 that also included Think Beyond and Crighton Marketing. The third of the new categories, Apprentice of the Year, went to Chloe Tatton who is employed at Franklyn Financial Management Ltd. Julian Copley, Managing Director of the Skills and Growth Company, presented Chloe with her award.

The Excellence in Customer Service Award was won by Furnells Chartered Surveyors and they were presented with their award by David Taylor of Harts Ltd, who were sponsors of the category.

David Taylor of Harts Ltd was back at the stage later when Harts Ltd won the coveted Professional Services Provider award. Anthony Flynn of Handelsbanken was on hand to present David and his Colleagues with their trophy.

The International Trade Award went to Neon Freight, who are a very well-known freight forwarder and who work with a number of East Cheshire Chamber members who export around the world. Andy Pear of Reliance Medical, one of Neon Freight's customers, presented the award.

The Technology Award was won by a company at the top of their game in the automotive industry. Alan Controls and Automation were presented with their award by Fiona Hampton from Chamber sponsors, Berisfords Ltd.

This year saw a lot of interest in the Business & Education Engagement Award from businesses and education establishments.





Foden's Brass Band

Foden's Band as the reigning National Champions of Great Britain were privileged to feature at the Chamber of Commerce Awards evening

It was pleasing that 2 schools and one college were present on the evening. The Business & Education Award was won by Macclesfield College, who engage with over 100 businesses in their work to place apprentices with companies from all sectors. The award was presented by Christine Gaskell, who is Chair of the Cheshire and Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership who sponsored this award.

Last year was the first time that there had been a "Special Achievement Award" and the criteria set for this category was "Surprise the Judges". Well, one nomination did and that was "The Clink". For those of you who do not know the Clink, it is the restaurant that is operated at Styal Prison. Peter McNulty of Hammond McNulty accountants presented the award.

The Construction Industry Award attracted companies from all areas of the world of building and was won by Picea Design, a specialist design and planning company.

Roy Spruce of Picea Design was presented with his trophy and certificate by Jonathan Marshall of Roman Lodge Developments.

The penultimate award to be presented was for Business of The Year with under 20 employees. There was a tremendous round of applause when Triad UK were announced the winners. Triad UK have been in business for 35 years and one of only 10 independent companies of their type in their sector. Helen Gowin of sponsors SAS Daniels presented Barbara P'Anson and her team with their trophy.

The last award to be presented was the Business of The Year with over twenty employees and this went to Rossendale Trust. The team from Rossendale, led by Moira Beswick, Chair of Trustees, received the award from Shaun Morton of Prism IT. It was pointed out that The Rossendale Trust employ over 200 people across the area and are listed in the Sunday Times Best Employers list at number 35.

After the awards presentation there was an auction and raffle in aid of Ruby's Fund, The Chambers Charity Of The Year, which raised £3000.00.

Rubys Fund were the beneficiaries as this their second year as East Cheshire Chamber's Charity.

Celebrations and dancing went on into the small hours.





AWARDS | **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**
2019 WINNER | UNDER 20 EMPLOYEES
Triad UK



Macclesfield College
Business & Education Award



Acorn Occupational Health
Health & Wellbeing Award



Franklyn Financial Management
Corporate & Social Responsibility Award



Neon Freight
International Trade Award



Allan Controls & Automation
Technology Award

“ Just a quick note to thank you for a great evening on Friday. I very much appreciate your support which must have been key to our success. My guests had a very good time and were very impressed with the whole set up.

Roy Spruce
Picea Design



Picea Design
Construction Award



AWARDS | BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2019 WINNER | OVER 20 EMPLOYEES

The Rossendale Trust

“ A big thanks for all your efforts on organising such a great event on Friday.

Jane Reynard
Managing Director,
Creative Art Products Ltd



Chloe Tatton
Apprentice of the Year



Furnells Chartered Surveyors
Excellence in Customer Service Award



The Clink
Special Achievement Award



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Kenny Stephens



Careers Fair

Congleton High Students enjoy biggest ever careers fair



In March, Congleton High School held its biggest ever Careers Fair, with over 30 exhibiting employers, training and apprenticeship providers and educators arriving on the day to inform and inspire young people.

Throughout the event, all students, from the eleven year olds in Year 7 up to the eighteen year olds in Sixth Form, had the opportunity to visit the Fair to learn more about the many roles within the wide range of sectors exhibiting. Some students were already sure of their future pathway and

spent time delving deeper into their chosen career. Others used the event to see what was on offer, be inspired and find where their studies could take them as school leavers.

There really was something for everyone at the Fair, with employers spanning a wide variety of sectors including engineering, public and armed services, finance, hospitality, retail, manufacturing, travel and tourism, insurance and legal. Students were able to find out more about the different roles within each of the businesses, make useful contacts and even start to plan and secure work placement opportunities.

Amongst the many Congleton High alumni exhibiting at the Fair were former Head Girl, Chloe Tatton, now Business Relations Coordinator at Franklyn Financial Management, Dan Mongillo, Sales and Marketing Manager at ALPS, Emma

Vaughan, Community Engagement Officer at young people's emotional health charity, Visyon and Louis Cameron and Joe Taylor, both currently undertaking Apprenticeships with Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows.

The feedback from exhibitors was extremely positive, with everyone saying how impressed they had been with students' confidence, manners and level of engagement.

The school is always keen to hear from any employers interested in providing opportunities for students to learn more about their business and help them develop work skills, whether that is through work placements, visiting speaker seminars, activity days or other initiatives. Please contact Mrs Jill Sadat-Shafai at Congleton High School on 01260 730123 or by email at jsadatshafai@congletonhigh.com

Chamber News

Congleton Cenotaph Regeneration Project

In 2013 under the guidance of Margaret Williamson the Congleton Partnership pulled together a working group to develop a plan for the regeneration of the Cenotaph in Lawton St, Congleton.

The site at that time had issues with the surrounding wall on Cole Hill Bank falling down and being undermined by tree roots, in addition to deceased trees raising safety issues, the cenotaph itself being both tired looking and again being undermined by tree activity. Above all, circa 250 names are missing from the plaques themselves, a situation that could not be allowed to go on.

Planning permission was obtained late 2017 and a fundraising campaign and development programme drawn up. The overall cost now stands at circa £150,000 of which close to £50,000 has been raised from local trusts, organisations and some public donations.

The Town Council has pledged to underwrite the balance with the understanding that we carry on fundraising to reduce the cost to the public purse as much as possible.

This allowed us to start work on the project with a view to complete by November 2019 in time for the next Armistice Day Parade

If you could support us in any way to meet this obligation, to put right the wrong of all those missing names and develop a site that the whole of Congleton could be proud of we would be most grateful.

For more information please contact Mike Smith (Congleton Partnership at ms@congletontowncouncil.co.uk or ring 01260 270350 ext 7) or you can donate directly to "Congleton Town Council" (Congleton Partnership).



**Congleton
Town Council**

Total success for Total People!

Total People has fired up the region's workforce after tripling its apprenticeship campaign target and securing more than 150 apprenticeships in just 10 days.

As one of the North West's largest providers, Total People worked with businesses across Manchester and the wider region during National Apprenticeship Week (March 4th-8th) to place 75 new apprentices over a five day period, beating their original target of 50.

Following this phenomenal success, the campaign was extended to #100in10, 100 apprenticeships in 10 days. This target was reached by day seven, and smashed by day 10, with an amazing 153 new apprenticeship roles created.

Over 50 North West employers working across a diverse range of sectors, including transport, childcare, catering, marketing

and business, have so far signed up to the successful campaign, which will remain open for new organisations to join.

Linda Dean, Managing Director at Total People, said: "The amazing success of both our 50 in 5, and 100 in 10 campaign shows that there is a real appetite among employers to build a brighter and better business with an apprentice.

A huge thank you must go to the companies who have provided 153 workplace learning opportunities as part of our campaign. Anyone wanting to join can visit our dedicated Employers web page www.totalpeople.co.uk/50in5 or call 0333 920 2713."

Spencer Clarkson, CEO at UD Group, said: "We are an ambitious and dynamic company with high growth plans. Apprenticeships are key to our talent development strategy in

terms of recruiting new skills and further developing our in-house team."

Catherine Kempton, Financial Controller at Cheshire based Skelair, which supplies engineering and drilling equipment, said:

"The programme has been extremely beneficial for both our company and the individuals themselves. Both parties have had gained a lot from the process."

Total People provide apprenticeships in more than 30 different industries and match people with employers to provide amazing apprenticeship opportunities. Apprentices can be anyone aged 16+ (new recruits or existing staff) and there are more than 100 apprenticeship vacancies currently available.



THANK YOU!

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE HELPED TO TRIPLE OUR 50 APPRENTICESHIPS IN 5 DAYS TARGET TOGETHER WE HAVE CREATED 153 APPRENTICESHIPS IN 10 DAYS



You can build a better business with apprenticeships, find out more at totalpeople.co.uk/50in5



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Siemens Roller Coaster Challenge continues its success

Engaging students in a regional competition to increase interest in STEM subjects.

Siemens Roller Coaster Challenge continues to engage and enthuse school students in 2019. Over 150 students from 10 local schools took part in this year's challenge to work as teams developing their own rollercoaster for the competition.

With the aim of making engineering careers more attractive to younger audiences, Siemens facilitate the Roller Coaster Challenge each year. By sparking this interest, they increase an active interest in STEM subjects that ultimately increases the number of future skilled workers within the area.

The concept of the Roller Coaster Challenge originates from Siemens experience in designing and building components for a range of nationally renowned rollercoasters at theme parks such as Alton Towers. The challenge was devised in 2011 in partnership with Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Specialists TMC Strategic Communications,

who continue to support and develop the programme with them each year.

Tim McCloud, Managing Director of TMC said: "Each year we have seen increased enthusiasm from both pupils and teachers for the Roller Coaster Challenge. By gathering feedback after each challenge, we are able to improve and grow the programme each year to enhance participation.

Rob Matthews 2019 Roller Coaster Challenge Awards Host said:

“*The Roller Coaster Challenge is a brilliant way for young people to work on a STEM challenge, learning about teamwork, deadlines and how engineering is a great option for their future. This year 152 students from 10 local schools took part in the awards evening at Congleton Town Hall with Students, Teachers, Siemens coaches and parents.*

The Roller Coaster Challenge is a fantastic way to get young people thinking about engineering and working together to develop team building skills for the future. Building practical skills, the challenge encourages pupils to apply creative thinking across a range of subjects.

As a result of the Roller Coaster Challenge 2019 55% of pupils and 64% of teachers felt that the pupil's ability/grades in STEM subjects had increased and 83% of pupils are now interested in selecting non-compulsory STEM subjects at GCSE.

SIEMENS

In partnership with

tmc





"The Siemens Roller Coaster Challenge is a brilliant way of showing school children why what they learn in the classroom is important in the outside world.

It is absolutely vital that more school children do STEM subjects at school to ensure that at least they have the opportunity to choose a scientific career when they have to make that choice.

I congratulate Siemens on this excellent initiative which really does make children understand why what they do in science and maths at school really does matter."

David Briggs
Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire

92%

of pupils felt engineering was suitable for both boys and girls

83%

of pupils are now interested in selecting non-compulsory STEM subjects at GCSE

80%

of pupils and 100% of teachers felt that the pupils confidence in STEM subjects had increased

83%

positive feedback on Siemens engagement with the community

78%

positive feedback of the Roller-coaster challenge volunteering experience



James Bateman Junior High
Creativity and Roller Coaster Theme Award



Macclesfield Academy
Design and Engineering Award

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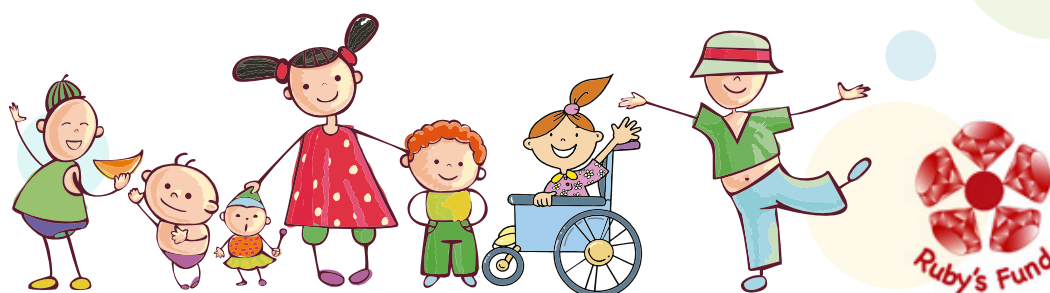
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31-50	£310.00	£372.00
51-100	£340.00	£408.00
101-200	£370.00	£444.00
201-500	£450.00	£540.00
500+	£500.00	£600.00

CHAMBER MAGAZINE

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