

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE FOR EAST CHESHIRE

East Cheshire
CHAMBER
of commerce & enterprise

September 2022 / Issue 67

Chamber



Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II
1926 - 2022



Welcome from the **Chief Executive**

Hello and a warm welcome to our September edition of Chamber magazine!

Just as this magazine was about to go to print the death of Queen Elizabeth II has been announced.

Throughout the years, the Queen and Royal Family have been steadfast supporters of British business, including some of our own members who have been honoured to receive prestigious Queens Awards. On behalf of all Chamber Members, I extend our thoughts and sympathies to His Majesty King Charles III and the Royal Family, upon the loss of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

This edition of the Chamber Magazine sees Liz Truss MP appointed as Prime Minister who arrives in exceptionally challenging times. We anxiously await to hear her policy decisions to alleviate the current energy and cost of living crisis and how additional support to those worst affected will be provided.

Steps also need to be taken to lessen business costs to ease the pressure on businesses in order that they can keep price rises in check, companies will

then have some breathing space to enable them to increase production and strengthen the economy.

We are pleased to announce that our very own Liz, has now passed all her training and exams and is now fully qualified in Export Certification procedures – well done Liz!

Once again, we were blessed with a dry sunny weather for the Golf Day on 15th June at Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club with 15 teams taking part and 70 guests for dinner. The winning team was Senior Aerospace – Bird Bellows, a full report and photographs can be found on pages 6 and 7.

We have many events planned to include our regular Thursday Thirty networking meetings, a Clay Shoot in October, and our famed Christmas lunch in December. Details of our 2023 Annual Business Awards can also be found in this issue.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Chamber; please remember we are here to help wherever we can. If you have any articles that you would like to be considered or you are interested in advertising space please contact jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk or call the office on 01260 540570.

Jackie Randles
Chief Executive



Credit to Congleton Chronicle



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Events Calendar

Thursday Thirty
29th September 2022
08.30am – 10.00am
Congleton Town Council
Congleton Town Hall
High Street, Congleton
Cheshire, CW12 1ET

Fire Warden Course
25th October 2022
9am until 1pm
Venue to be confirmed

Clay Shoot
19th October 2022
10.30am – 4.00pm
Cloudside Shooting Ground
Red Lane, Congleton, CW12 3QG

Thursday Thirty
10th November 2022
08.30am – 10.00am
SAS Daniels, Riverside
Mountbatten Way, Congleton,
Cheshire, CW12 1DY

Christmas Lunch
2nd December 2022
12 noon – 3.00pm
Pecks Restaurant
Newcastle Road
Congleton, CW12 4SB

Thursday Thirty
12th January 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
Prism UK, Alderley Park
Full details to be confirmed

Thursday Thirty
16th February 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
Available

Business Awards
17th March 2023
18.45pm - Late
De Vere Cranage Estate
Byley Lane, Cranage
Nr. Holmes Chapel
Cheshire, CW4 8EW

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

THE CHAMBER OF CHOICE

East Cheshire
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ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS

AWARDS 2023

FRIDAY 17TH MARCH

TO BE HELD AT

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FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY DECEMBER

Golf Day Report 2022

Our Annual Golf Day took place on Wednesday 15th June 2022 – and what a fabulous day it was. Out on the course, the sun shone all day, and all the golf teams enjoyed a wonderful round of golf.



The day started with registration, delicious bacon brioche rolls with some tea and coffee, shortly followed by our Putting Competition sponsored by Astbury Mere Care Home.

A fun but competitive opportunity to win one of our beautiful awards. Andy Hardie from Genesys (Green Rangers Team) was the lucky winner of this award.

The longest drive was out on Hole 7, Rachel Matthews from Heads Congleton (Congleton Chronicle) won this award alongside winning Individual Lady.

Jackie and Liz were sat at Hole 10 to see the teams through, offering a light refreshment, a team picture and appreciated watching each team take their shots to compete for the Nearest the Pin award. Nick Jones from Richborough Team C was the closest and took home this award.

Once all the teams were back, everyone enjoyed a lovely Beef Carvery dinner followed by Vanilla Cheesecake. The prize giving took place after dinner and a raffle for our Charity of the Year Smile Group – raising a fantastic £560 in total.

Thank you to our sponsors Prism UK who provided some wonderful prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd teams. In 3rd Place, we had Franklyn Financial Management, 2nd Place went to Richborough Team B and our winners were Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and to our sponsors, it was a superb day, and we are already looking forward to next year.



Senior Aerospace - Teams 1st Place



Green Rangers Team



Nearest the Pin Winner – Nick Jones, Richborough Estates



Strokes of Luck Team



Putting Competition Winner – Andy Hardie, Genesys International



Individual Lady Winner – Rachel Matthews, Heads (Congleton)



Richborough Team B - Teams 2nd Place



Fairway Team



Franklyn Financial - Teams 3rd Place

Welcome to our new members

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



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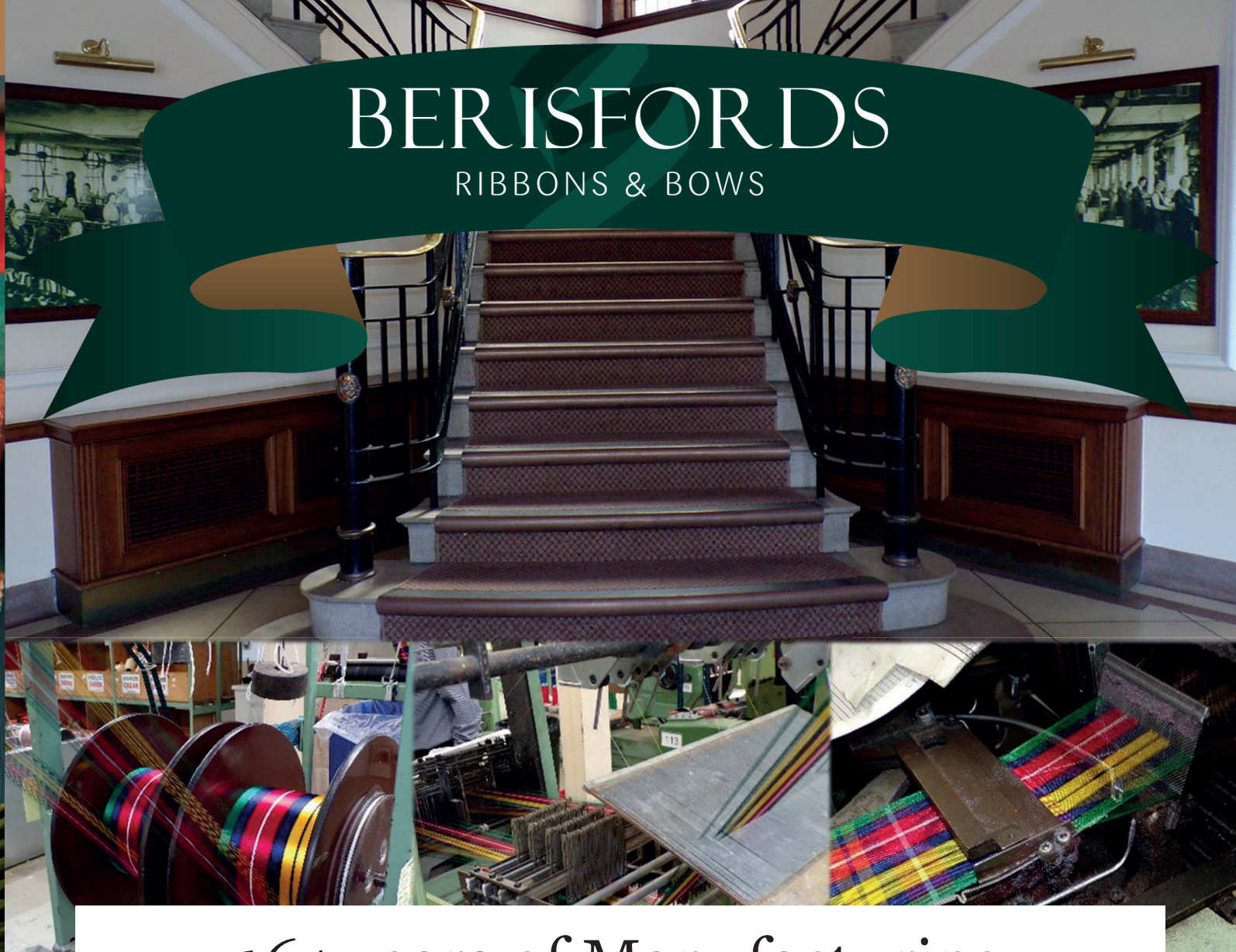
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RIBBONS & BOWS



164 years of Manufacturing

Producing up to 1 million metres of ribbon each week

Tucked away on the outskirts of the town, Berisfords is one of the oldest working manufacturing businesses in Congleton, Cheshire. Founded by Charles Berisford in 1858, the Berisfords that we know today harbour the same key principles in ribbon production.

Ribbon manufacturing at Berisfords is a complete in-house process, from the design, preparation of the warps to setting up each loom by hand – Berisfords have 137 looms in their factory, each running up to 24 hours a day.

Producing up to 1 million metres of ribbon each week, with approximately 5000 individual designs, Berisfords hold a stock of 6 million metres of ribbon, ready to be printed and shipped globally at any one time.

With the facilities for dyeing and finishing, Berisfords can colour match ribbons for client packaging and fabrics or dyes – providing a truly unique and bespoke product.

For ribbons that are used in contact with food, checks are carried out to ensure no wicking or colour transfer occurs, and that the ribbon will perform for the duration of the products shelf life.

Ensuring a variety of ever-changing designs, Berisfords in-house design team hand draw/paint and create each design ready to be printed, and hand tie bows to meet customer specification ensuring each bow is the same. This enables Berisfords to offer a substantial range of themed ribbons and bows, making them the largest Ribbon Manufacturer in the UK.

“The thing that I’m most proud of is the fact that after 164 years Berisfords is still manufacturing a textile product in the UK after most of the textile industry has moved away and this is only possible due to skills and the commitment of all the staff involved at Berisfords.”
Peter Bowers, Managing Director of Berisfords

Member Spotlight

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Ben Hyslop
H21 Safety Ltd

What motivates you?

My core motivation is grounded in success. Success for me is doing the right thing by our clients and working hard to keep making achievements. This is why the H21 Safety vision and values align closely to my own.

How many hours do you work a day on average?

Is there such a thing as average? If I'm in the office, I typically arrive between 7.30 and 8.00am and leave at around 5.00pm. I will often carry on working at home after having some family time. Work out of the office supporting our clients across the country can vary massively – which I believe is a reflection of our genuine commitment to providing bespoke solutions!

What have you found to be the most satisfying moment in your life?

This has to be the birth of my two beautiful children, who, alongside my partner are another great source of motivation. They continue to provide many satisfying moments and memories.

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

I wouldn't and consider myself to thrive off the unknown. Who knows what tomorrow brings?!

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

Without wanting to be stereotypical – most likely someone like Steve Jobs – to discuss how he started with just a vision from so little and ended up with such broad-ranging success, but also to discover whether he would do anything differently, given the sacrifices he made for the company before his untimely death.

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

I take inspiration from a variety of people in different contexts and circumstances, so it is difficult to define just one. Whilst I enjoy taking inspiration from others, I am also conscious to be genuine and live out my own journey – rather than just chasing someone else's successes.

What Are Today and Tomorrow's Challenges?

Today's challenges can't be talked about without reflecting the volatility of the wider world. Energy supplies, the cost of living and political changes both at home and abroad will undoubtedly contribute towards the challenges and opportunities of both today and tomorrow.



Tom Holmes
Bach95 Ltd

What motivates you?

To make the people I care about proud. Whether that's family, business partners or friends – as long they are proud of the hard work I put in, that will keep me going!

How many hours do you work on average?

This varies depending on the type of day we have. Given the industry, we do some late nights and long hours but that is the case for many of the members I am sure!

What have you found the most satisfying moment to be in your life?

As a recently new Father, the birth of our first little girl has to be up there. But as a business it was a huge success for us to taste the first beer out the tank after a lot of hard work!

If you started your career over, what would you do differently?

There are a few decisions within my rugby career I would do differently (transfers and injuries!). But for Bach 95, I believe every decision we have made has shaped us to what we are today!

How do you spend leisure time?

We don't get much of that being brand owners, but I play and coach Sandbach RUFC.

Other than that, it's just spending time with my new family.

If you could talk to anyone from history who would it be?

I would go back in time and talk to members of my family over generations. I'd love to know more about our background and history to help shape my future!

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

I don't think I really have one individual, but I listen to a lot of podcasts which give me some help with my mindset. The main one for this has been Jocko Wilkin and Steven Bartlett.

What are today's and tomorrow's challenges?

For us a business, this is a push towards sustainable growth and building a strong presence locally. As a society the energy prices and cost of living seems a topic which will affect so many at all levels. So even if its customers, suppliers or us directly, it's an issue we all face.



WELLNESS AT WORK

Following another hugely successful Wellness at Work seminar – in conjunction with Claire Dalton from Live for Work and Nicki Stewart-Juggins from Triad UK, East Cheshire Chamber are excited to announce that these sessions will be held twice a year going forward.



Mental Health – what is it?



Challenging the stigma around mental health



Biology of stress and how it presents



Top tips on managing stress in the workplace and at home



Duties as employers/managers



Useful resources and tools/other training

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Chamber Members Working Together

Beartown Brewery have ambitious growth plans and Jonathan from Sales Geek Cheshire East is working with them to help drive their sales and revenue. One of the areas they are working on is exposure in the local business community. Jonathan says, "As a member of East Cheshire Chamber myself, I know first-hand what a catalyst they are in introducing businesses to each other, so it was a no brainer to recommend them to Joe and the Beartown team."

Having had early access to 'The Den', the bar set on a mezzanine above the brewery, Jonathan felt it would be a popular venue for Thursday Thirty events, as well as being a great place for informal business meetings. "The rest, as they say, is history – Joe joined the Chamber and the recent Thursday Thirty held at 'The Den' has been one of the most well attended." – Jonathan Whitby, Sales Geek Cheshire East.

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With
Jon Whitby

Thursday Thirty



WR Partners

Hosts for our May Thursday Thirty were WR Partners, held at The Lion & Swan in Congleton. Guests enjoyed morning refreshments of tea, coffee and some delicious brioche bacon rolls. Fran Johnson from WR Partners gave a short presentation, followed by networking.

Members took advantage of this fantastic opportunity to come together with other local businesses, leaving with new connections.

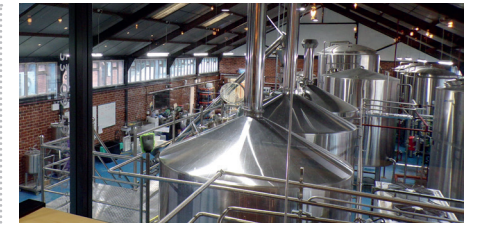


East Cheshire Chamber

We were the hosts of our own Thursday Thirty in June held at The Lion & Swan in Congleton. Another wonderful turnout, with brioche bacon rolls, tea and coffee for all of our delegates to enjoy. Jackie welcomed everyone to the event, and discussed our upcoming events.

Ruth Williams from Smile Group Charity who are our Charity of the Year 2022/23 gave a short presentation telling us all about the amazing work they do, their upcoming events and what the donations they receive mean to them.

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Beartown Brewery

Our August Thursday Thirty took place at Beartown Brewery on the 25th August 2022, with over 40 attendees, it is safe to say it was an excellent turnout. Guests were welcomed with freshly brewed coffee, juices, and pastries before a short introduction from Jackie.

Joe Manning, Managing Director of Beartown Brewery gave a great presentation leading us through the history of Beartown Brewery, the conversion of the Tap Room and what the future holds. We also enjoyed a brief tour and presentation from Rob in the brewhouse, walking us through the process for making their beers.



Carbon Footprint

Carbon neutrality means very different things to each business, there is a lot of advice available and businesses who will work with you to help you progress towards carbon neutrality. An article like this can only hope to challenge you to do something about your businesses carbon footprint.

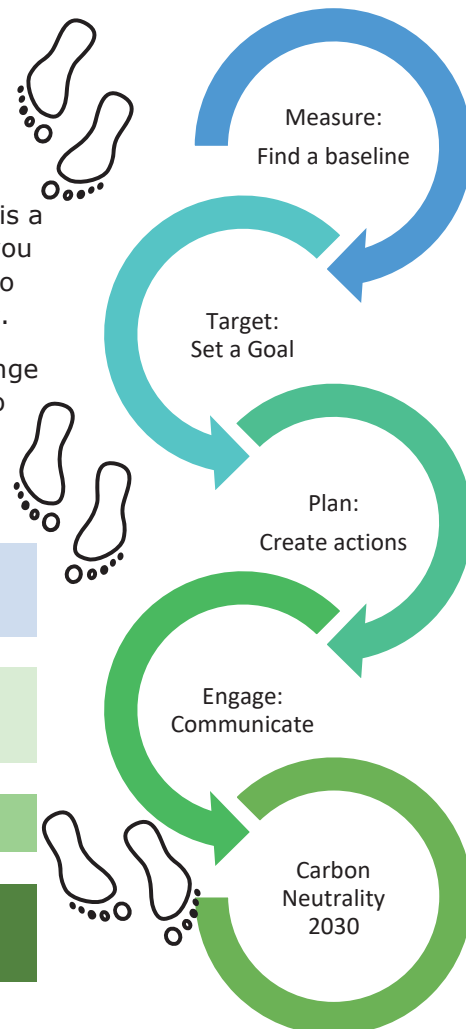
Stand back and consider the impact your business has on climate change and do something about it. A simple way of looking at the subject is to 'use no fossil fuels at any point of your business activities'. A tough challenge - a stretch target if ever there was one, but that's what we really must do.

Measure – Using a business carbon footprint calculator, you will be able to gain a baseline. This will highlight areas for improvement.

Target – Where would you like your business to be? Set a goal to give focus and a measure of success.

Plan – Create a step-by-step process for your carbon reduction journey.

Engage – Communication is key, allowing others to generate ideas and implement initiatives – this makes for better long-term results.



A GUIDE TO EXPANDING ABROAD...

Setting up an Office Abroad

Information and support for northern based companies looking to expand globally.

In an era of virtual meetings, online trading, and e-commerce, many ignore the significant opportunities that setting up an overseas subsidiary offers. Not without its challenges at set-up stage, a physical presence in a key market can speed-up brand awareness, build trust with key suppliers and partners and facilitate trade.

Join us for an interesting webinar addressing these issues from a legal, financial, and professional point of view.



Thursday 3rd November 2022



10.00am – 11.30am

Register: <https://bit.ly/settingupabroad>



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East Cheshire Young Professionals Network



Are you a young professional or apprentice looking to develop
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Are you in management and looking for an opportunity to grow
your younger members of staff into the leaders of the future?

Yes? Then join the East Cheshire Young Professionals Network today!

Each session will be 9am until 10:30am, with a venue to be confirmed shortly.
The ECYPN is free for Chamber members and each member is entitled to 2 places
each. Topics covered:

- What do businesses need?
- Teamwork
- Styles of Leadership
- How to progress your career with your employer
- LinkedIn
- How to network successfully

If you would like to book your place on the East Cheshire Young
Professionals Network, or find out more, please get in touch with:
Jackie Randles jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk



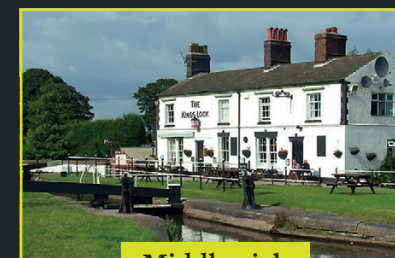
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East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Congleton, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich, Sandbach & Alsager, and all areas in between

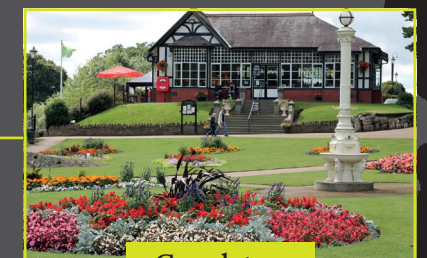
Welcome to the Ultimate Business Network



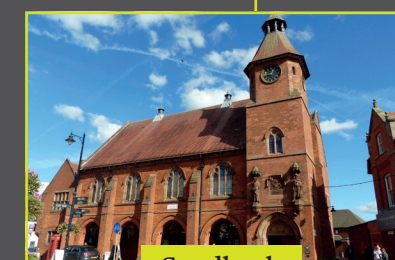
Holmes Chapel



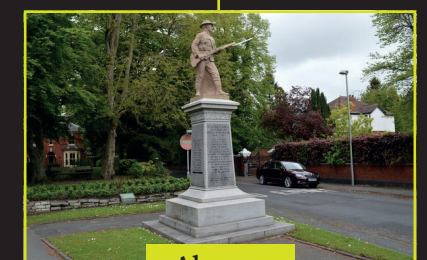
Middlewich



Congleton



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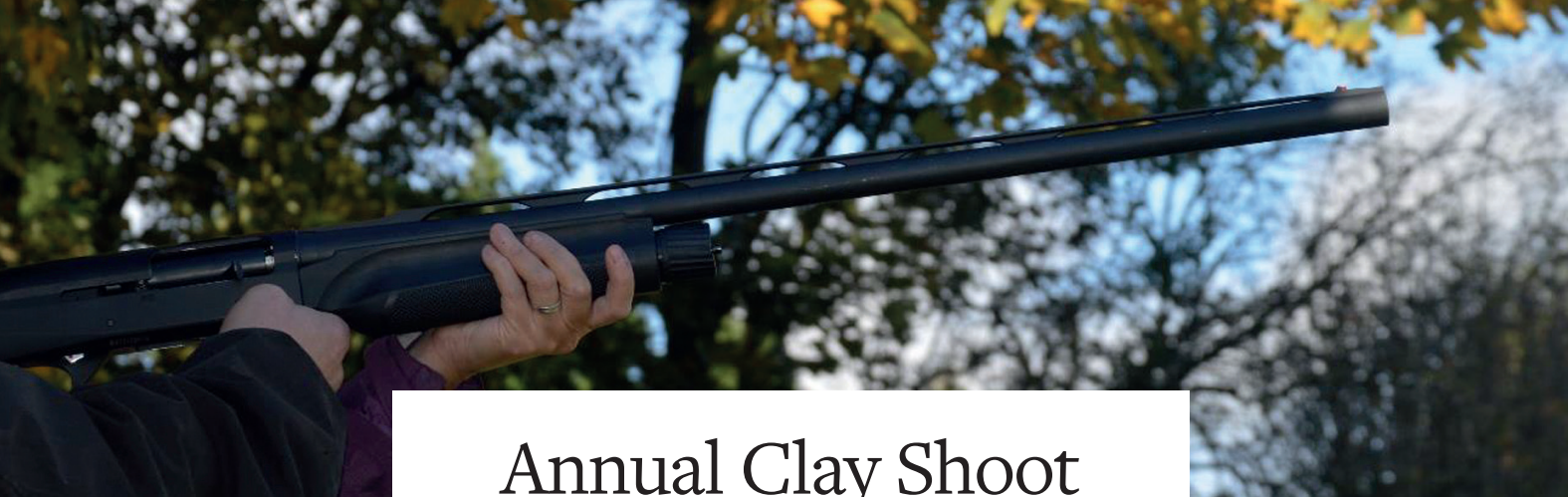
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Annual Clay Shoot

Cloudside Shooting Grounds

The annual Chamber Clay Shoot will take place on Wednesday 19th October 2022 from 10.30am onwards at Cloudside Shooting Grounds.

10.30 am - Breakfast

11.00 am - Clay practice followed by refreshments

13.00 pm - Clay Competition

15.00 pm - Meal & Presentation

Location:

Cloudside Shooting Grounds, Red Lane
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 3QG

Sponsored by Berisford Ribbons and Business Doctors



For more information

Please contact Jackie Randles on 01260 540570 or
jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk. Early booking is recommended.



Creating Positive Impact

TMC's relocation to Congleton High Street

Regenerating Congleton High Street with iconic building

There has been plenty of speculation about the future of the building that once housed B&M at 35-37 High Street in Congleton town centre. TMC are looking to transform the tired looking building into a multifunctional aspirational HQ for TMC Creative Ltd. Part of the plans will involve a relocation for the team at TMC, ultimately bringing over 50 jobs into the heart of the town centre. The vision will be brought to life by the award-winning local architect, David Wilcock from BAND Architects Ltd.

The vision for the building

The vision for the building is a vibrant mixed-use space, offering retail/restaurant and office spaces to let as well as TMC's head office on the upper levels. The design culminates in a new rooftop extension with amazing views over the roofscape of Congleton and beyond.

The aim is for the renovated building to become a beacon for talent within Congleton – working alongside the High Schools to inspire the next generation of creatives

“ We want to create an environment that is welcomed by the town, one that connects people, communities and creates a positive vibrant experience ”

Tim McCloud, CEO of TMC Creative Ltd

The development of the building will look to preserve some of the existing interior features, including the concrete floors and ceilings, celebrating the history of all those who have worked there in past years. The building has always been the centre of town for events and holidays throughout the year and this will continue with Santa being invited to wave to the crowds from the roof top after the traditional Christmas lights switch on.

Stay up to date with the progress on:
www.wearetmc.co.uk/future-office



The Chamber's Christmas Lunch

Friday, 2nd December 2022
12 noon until 3.30pm

Pecks Restaurant
Newcastle Road, Brownlow Heath
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Historic ‘NetWalking’ tour around Congleton

Earlier this year, Sarah Hunter from Handelsbanken in conjunction with East Cheshire Chamber held a ‘NetWalking’ event in Congleton – a historic tour of the town and a light lunch. Ian from Congleton Museum took us on the tour around the town.

Despite the rain, we all had a lovely morning and learnt a lot about Congleton Town and its buildings. We started at Congleton Town Hall, where Ian talked us through the different properties, what they once were and the modifications that went on through the centuries.

The tour finished up at The Old Saw Mill, where we were met by Peter Aston and his team, and we all enjoyed a light lunch.



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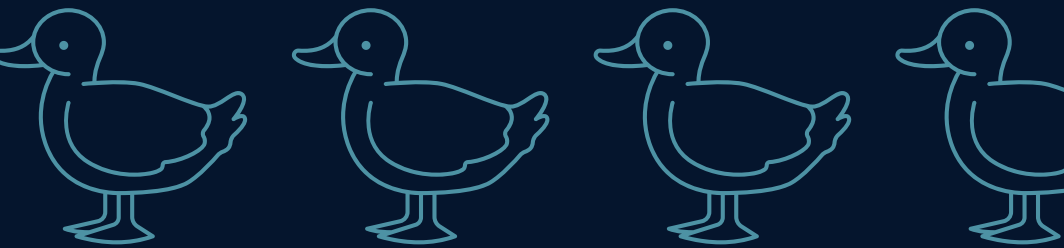
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