

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE FOR EAST CHESHIRE

East Cheshire
CHAMBER
of commerce & enterprise

May 2023


Chamber



Congratulations to the Winners of our 2023 Business Awards

The East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards took place on Friday the 17th March 2023. With over 230 guests including chamber members, sponsors and nominees attending this highly regarded event, it was, once again, a magnificent evening.

Full report on page 14

Affiliated to:
 West Cheshire & North Wales
Chamber of Commerce
Together, We're Well Connected.

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Events Calendar

<p>Annual Golf Day 21st June 2023 10.00am – 9.00pm Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club, Whitegate, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2BA</p>	<p>Afternoon Tea Networking Event 23rd August 2023 2.00pm – 4.45pm Pecks Restaurant, Newcastle Road, Moreton, Nr. Congleton, CW12 4SB</p>	<p>Sales Club with Sales Geek 19th October 2023 3.00pm – 5.00pm The Den at Beartown Brewery, Bromley House, Spindle Street, Congleton, CW12 1QN</p>
<p>Thursday Thirty 6th July 2023 8.30am – 10.00am Neon Freight, Suite 8, Hurstwood House, Parkgate Industrial Estate, Haig Road, Knutsford, WA16 8DX</p>	<p>Thursday Thirty 14th September 2023 8.30am – 10.00am SAS Daniels, Details to be confirmed</p>	<p>Thursday Thirty 2nd November 2023 08.30am – 10.00am Synergy Recruitment, Lion & Swan, Swan Bank, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1AH</p>
<p>Sales Club with Sales Geek 13th July 2023 3.00pm – 5.00pm The Den at Beartown Brewery, Bromley House, Spindle Street, Congleton, CW12 1QN</p>	<p>Business Fair 2023 20th September 2023 10.00am – 3.00pm Congleton Leisure Centre, Worrall Street, Congleton, CW12 1DT</p>	<p>Christmas Lunch 1st December 2023 12 noon – 3.00pm Pecks Restaurant, Newcastle Road, Moreton, Nr. Congleton, CW12 4SB</p>
<p>Thursday Thirty 10th August 2023 8.30am – 10.00am H21 Safety Ltd, The Den at Beartown Brewery, Bromley House, Spindle Street, Congleton, CW12 1QN</p>	<p>Autumn Clay Shoot 18th October 2023 10.30am – 4.00pm Cloudside Shooting Ground, Red Lane, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 3QG</p>	<p>Christmas Thursday Thirty 14th December 2023 8.30am – 10.00am Macclesfield College, Park Lane, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 8LF</p>

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



Welcome from the Chief Executive

I am delighted to hear the announcement that Chamber members, TMC Strategic Communications, have been honoured with the King's Award for International Trade - what a phenomenal achievement and I would like to offer my congratulations to the whole team at TMC!

The Annual East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards in March were once again a huge success with 235 nominees, sponsors, and guests. The evening attracted many businesses from all sectors of industry who enjoyed a delicious meal provided by our regular hosts, De Vere Cranage Estate. The awards are a clear indicator of the local economies standing and as such there was clear evidence that more and more of our local businesses have something to celebrate. Full details can be found on pages 14 to 17.

The evening was a great fundraiser for our Charity of the Year 2022/23, Smile Group who benefited from a total of £5,300 for the year. The new charity for 2023-2024 is Visyon who supports the emotional health of children, young people, and their families in Cheshire East.

The next big event in the Chamber calendar is the Annual Golf Day which will be held at Vale Royal Abbey, on 21st June, details of the event and information on booking can be found on page 7 of this magazine.

We continue to forge ahead with a varied programme of events which this year will include a Business Fair in September and the Annual Clay Shoot in October.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Chamber; please remember we are here to help wherever we can.

If you require any information with regards to any events, have any articles that you would like to be considered, or you are interested in advertising space in the magazine please contact: liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk or call the office on 01260 540570.

Jackie Randles
Chief Executive

Are you interested in becoming a **Patron Sponsor** of:

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce?

We have different sponsorship packages available.

For further details,

Please contact Jackie Randles:

Tel: 01260 540570

Email: jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

East Cheshire
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Welcome to our new members

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



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Birch Road, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4NN



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Our mission is to bridge the gap faced by those trying and failing to access support for their mental health. We are the next influential force in reducing the mental health crisis and associated deaths by suicide in the UK. The Respite Program we deliver combines physical therapy, along with talking therapy to individuals experiencing hardship.

www.btg-mindmatters.org

Tel: 01260 217122
Unit 5B, Thomas Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1QU



The Joshua Tree

The Joshua Tree provide bespoke programmes of support to improve the emotional well-being and mental health of all immediate and extended family members who are affected by childhood cancers, for as long as they need it.

www.thejoshuatree.org.uk

Tel: 01606 331858
The Joshua Tree, Dalefords Lane, Sandiway, Cheshire, CW9 8AD

Astbury Mere Care Home in Congleton Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary

Porthaven Care Home Group, Astbury Mere Care Home in Congleton hosted a 10th anniversary celebration attended by the Congleton Town Mayor, Cllr Margaret Gartside, residents, relatives, staff members and friends in our local community.

After being postponed due to lockdown, we celebrated opening our doors in April 2010 with a champagne afternoon tea and entertainment by the fantastic Claire, a local cellist.

Staff who have worked in the home since 2010 were presented with gifts to mark the occasion to thank them for their continued dedication to providing outstanding person-centred care.

Home Manager Emma Hackett explained *“I started working in the home as a nurse when we opened back in April 2010 and was promoted to Deputy Manager and then Home Manager in 2015. It makes me so proud to see how far we have come not only as a home, but as a community. I would like to say a big thank you to our staff, our residents and their families and friends and to everyone in the wider community that contributes to life here at Astbury Mere. As a home we really do feel part of the local community and it was wonderful to see everyone come together and celebrate. It is such a special place to live and work and I am extremely grateful to everyone that has been involved in making Astbury Mere Care Home the amazing place it is today.”*

For more information, contact the Porthaven Press Office by email: marketing@porthaven.co.uk

Porthaven is an award-winning care home group. Porthaven's story began on 29th April 2010 when they opened their first care home in Cheshire.

Porthaven has established itself as one of the leading care providers in the country, with beautifully designed homes run professionally, responsibly, and most importantly, with integrity and care.

Every one of our homes offers residential, nursing and dementia care provided by a large team of well-trained and qualified people profoundly concerned with every single resident's welfare and happiness.



Emma Hackett (Home Manager at Astbury Mere), Mayor Cllr Margaret Gartside and CEO of Porthaven Care Homes, John Storey

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Rebecca Medcalf
Managing Director

Specialising in Commercial Property Transactions



Helen Jaidy
Senior Associate

Specialising in Residential Property



Paul Woolliscroft
Legal & Commercial Director

Specialising in Civil & Commercial Litigation and Personal Injury & Medical Negligence



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01270 762013



info@lionandswan.co.uk
lionandswan.co.uk
01260 211211

Members of the Pear Hospitality and Retail Group.



Join us on our Chamber Golf Day 2023

Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club

The annual Chamber Golf Day will take place on **Wednesday, 21st June from 10.00am onwards at Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club, Whitegate, Northwich, Cheshire, CW8 2BA.**

- 10.00am – Registration and Breakfast
- 11.00am – 12.00pm - Putting Competition
- 12.30pm – 16.30pm - Golf Competition
- 16.30pm – 17.30pm - Drinks Reception
- 17.30pm – Two course Buffet Dinner and Prizegiving

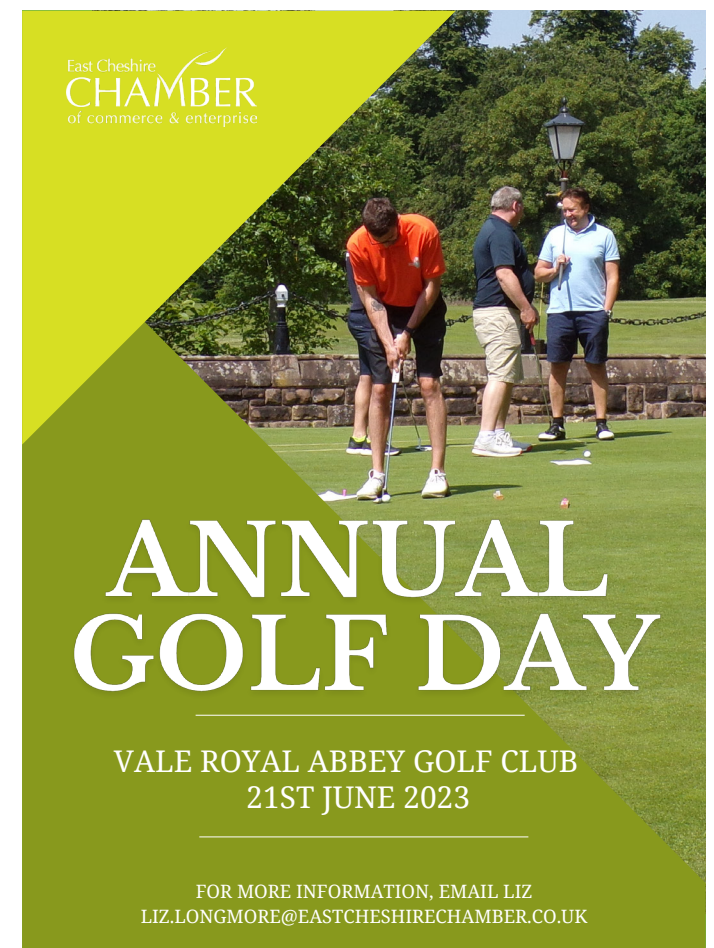
Sponsor: **Prism** 

For more information

Please contact Liz Longmore on
01260 540570 or liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

Early booking is recommended

www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk





King Charles III Coronation

On Saturday 6th May 2023 we saw the Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

Millions of people across the UK and beyond have celebrated the coronation of King Charles III - a symbolic ceremony combining a religious service and pageantry.

The ceremony was held at Westminster Abbey, with the King becoming the 40th reigning monarch to be crowned there since 1066. Queen Camilla was crowned alongside him before a huge parade back to Buckingham Palace.

The official portraits (left and right) from The Coronation of Their Majesties The King and Queen, taken by Hugo Burnand in the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace following the Coronation Service.

Photos sourced from royal.uk



East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Business Fair

To be held at

Congleton Leisure Centre

Wednesday 20th September 2023

10.00am – 3.00pm

Worrall St, Congleton, CW12 1DT

Book your space to exhibit

For further details, and to book
please contact Liz Longmore

Tel: 01260 540570

liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

East Cheshire
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THE FIRST RULE ABOUT SALES CLUB IS...

EVERYONE

TALKS ABOUT SALES CLUB!

A free quarterly event exclusively for **East Cheshire Chamber Members**, designed to help you get some **structure and stability** into your **sales pipeline for 2023!**



'The Den' at Beartown Brewery in Congleton is the home of Sales Club. The first two sessions on **'Selling With Stories'** and **'Goal Setting'** have been a fantastic success, so make sure you book early for the next one on **Thursday 13th July from 3pm to 5pm**. You will be more than welcome to stay on to continue networking and enjoy their amazing beer!

Session three is **'Developing Your Sales Pipeline'**. How your business turns leads into sales opportunities and works them through to orders is crucial to sales success. This session will give you practical takeaways that will increase your conversion ratios.

The final session will be on Thursday 19th October and will be on **'Sales Acceleration in a Slowing Economy'**. When times are tough, sell more stuff.....this session will give you tips and advice on how you can maximise every one of your sales opportunities.

Jonathan Whitby



07775624534
jonathan.whitby@salesgeek.co.uk

Member Spotlight

Bringing local businesses into focus



Jane Bibbey

Eze Talk

What motivates you?

My main motivator is to continue to grow our business alongside my brother, to make all of our hard work over the past 21 years worthwhile, to provide a secure and comfortable future for my family who mean the world to me.

How many hours do you work a day on average?

I don't necessarily count how many hours I do in a typical week but as I'm sure most business owners would agree you never really switch off and will find yourself responding to the needs of the business anytime of the day! I am lucky that I can be flexible with the hours I work so I can be there for my 2 daughters and get to do the school run and attend events that they may be taking part in.

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

Back in 2019 when Mike (Brother) and I became directors of the business, we had both worked so hard to build and get the business to where it is today and continue to do so. I think this is why we work so well together (I hope he would agree!)

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

I don't think I would change anything really, I started out as an office junior for my dad as summer job after completing my degree, I have worked in various departments over the years. I see this as a real positive as it has allowed me to work hands on in various roles so I really do understand how everything works. I have worked in and seen changes in the technology and how this has moved on over the years this I feel gives be a good understanding about how things need to work to succeed in such a competitive industry.

How do you spend your leisure time?

My evenings and weekends consist of being 'Mum taxi' for my eldest teen daughter or watching my youngest perform on the stage at a local performing arts school,



Yasmin Bentley

Synergy Recruitment

What motivates you?

I like to set clear goals for myself to work towards, and once I've achieved one, think about the next. For example, I wanted to run a marathon before I turned 30 which is looming scarily closer (October). I just ran the Manchester Marathon in April, so that's a huge goal achieved. Now I'm planning my next one! In recruitment and running my own business I'm always motivated by the next achievement, whether it's the next client we take on or the next member of staff we hire.

How many hours do you work a day on average?

I try my best to work a standard working day and to leave my laptop in the office when I go – ideally 9 hours. That's not always the case of course, and I do work evenings and weekends too, but I try as much as possible to keep everything balanced.

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

The most satisfying thing for me has been taking on staff and training them to do recruitment in the right way. I love seeing them grow in their roles; listening to the buzz in the office and the excitement they feel over placing the right candidate in the right role, it is immensely satisfying!

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

I'm not sure I would do anything differently to be honest! I'm doing a job I love, I laugh with my colleagues every day, and we're growing a business that we're proud of. Everything that's happened in my career so far has led to this, so I wouldn't change it. I'm a big believer in learning from your mistakes so I have no regrets.

How do you spend your leisure time?

I love nothing more than a walk in the countryside with my partner and our gorgeous dog Peppa. Apart from that, I love eating out, reading and binge watching a good Netflix series (Bridgerton is my current obsession!)

I really love to have quality family time with my husband and daughters, this often consists of nice walks along the beach when we visit our family holiday home in Anglesey.

I enjoy going to the gym and doing my hiit classes, it helps me to wind down after a busy day in the office.

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

My husband and my parents. My husband has always supported and encouraged me to keep going over the years, even when times get difficult trying to juggle the work life balance, he is there for me. My mum and dad who have both worked very hard to get to where they are in their lives, for teaching me and my brother that if you want to succeed you have to work hard for it and finally for giving me and our family the opportunity to continue to make our business thrive whilst being there wherever possible to help and support.

What are today and tomorrow's challenges?

Today's challenges are about getting our name out there in what is an extremely competitive industry, we want people to know that we're not like the 'other' telecoms companies who promise the world and under deliver, we are not a faceless organisation, we care.

Tomorrow's challenges are the most enjoyable, they will be finding those new customers and creating that solution that then goes on to enhance their business communications, this is the most rewarding part of what we do.



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

I'm sure I'm supposed to say a well-known person from history, but really, I'd love to talk to my grandma Anne. She died when my mum was 13, so I've never met her. It would be great to get to know her for a day.

Who has been your greatest inspiration?

This is exceptionally cheesy but I'm going to have to say my dad. He's probably the most determined and resilient person you'll ever meet. He's taught me my work ethic and essentially that I can do anything I want if I work hard enough. He's also the person that suggested I go into recruitment in the first place – a fact he's very happy to be responsible for!

What are today and tomorrow's challenges?

Today's challenge is probably the same as what anybody would say at the minute, the rising costs of running the business! Tomorrow's challenge is figuring out how to scale the business, without moving away from our values and the reason we set up in the first place – that's a challenge we're ready to take on!



HMRC letter SCAM

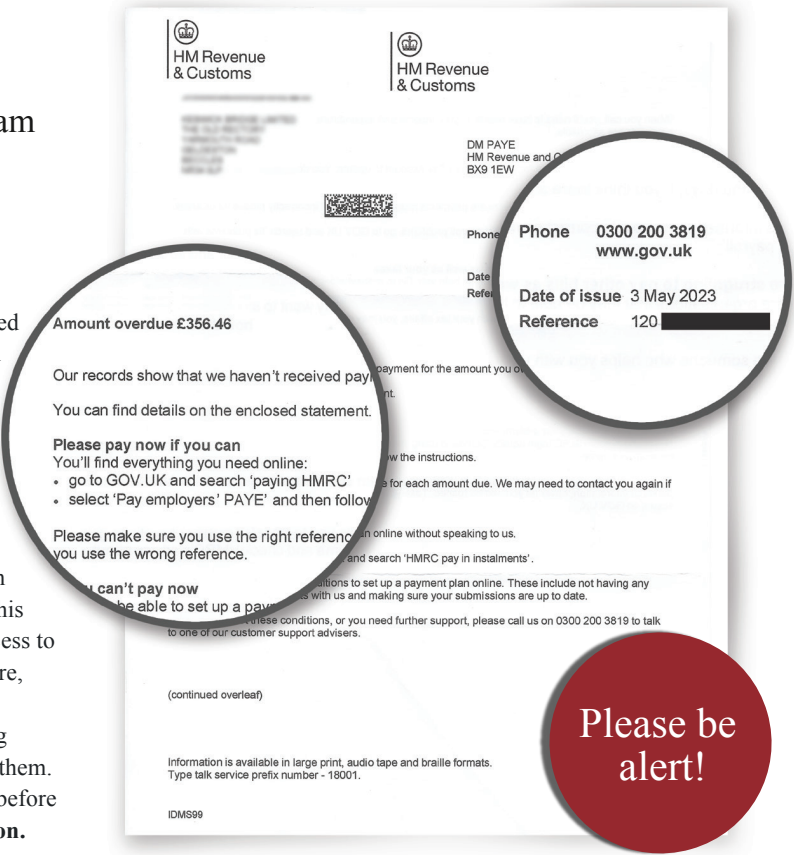
We have come across a very sophisticated scam letter which is supposedly from HMRC requesting amounts outstanding for PAYE. Unusually this one comes in the post.

What does the scam look like?

We have reprinted a copy in this article on which we have removed the name and reference. It looks very genuine and authentic, with the right typeset and layout we would expect. In fact, the only thing that makes this stand out is the phone number, which has proven to be fake. In this case, even the collection reference was correct.

What to look for

The phone number shown is 0300 200 3819 and if you see this on any letters from HMRC then please ignore them. If you Google this number, it will show warnings of it being a scam. If you have access to your PAYE account then, please check this first. If you are not sure, then please get in touch with your accountant who will be able to verify if any amounts are due. These types of scams are becoming more and more sophisticated, so please be on your guard against them. Always check the number on any unexpected request for money before you make a payment. **Contact Harts below for more information.**



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Upcoming Thursday Thirties 2023

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6th July 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
Neon Freight

10th August 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
H21 Safety Ltd

14th September 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
SAS Daniels LLP

14th December 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
Macclesfield College

2nd November 2023
08.30am – 10.00am
Synergy Recruitment

Afternoon Tea Reports

A new event for our calendar this year is the Afternoon Tea Networking Event, held at Peck Restaurant, Congleton.

With the first event taking place in February, Executive Head Chef, Les Wassall put together a winter style Afternoon Tea for our attendees to enjoy. The winter Afternoon Tea had a fabulous selection of foods including a hearty cottage pie, sandwiches, salmon mousse bruschetta, sausage rolls, Bakewell tarts, scones, and many more delightful treats.

The second of our Afternoon Tea Networking Events took place on the 24th May. Les and his team put together a lighter, summer-style Afternoon Tea for this event. Offering a variety of foods from sandwiches, tartlets, pork bon bons, sweet treats and teas from The Manor, this was a perfect treat for a sunny Wednesday afternoon.

This has been a lovely, well-received addition to our calendar, with great feedback from those who have attended. Another opportunity to network and a chance to meet many of our new members that have recently joined the Chamber.

We are looking forward to adding more dates to the calendar for the Afternoon Tea Networking events, with the next date set for Wednesday 23rd August.

Details for the next event can be found on our website or you can email liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk for further information.



ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS AWARDS 2023

Business Awards 2023

The East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Annual Business Awards took place on Friday 17th March 2023 at De Vere Cranage Estate, Holmes Chapel. With over 230 guests including chamber members, sponsors and nominees attending this highly regarded event, it was, once again a magnificent evening.

On arrival, guests were welcomed by Verity Deaville and Wayne Linaker from Deaville & Co, photographs by Adam Schofield of Cheshire Photography Co. and a Champagne Reception, kindly sponsored by hosts for the evening, De Vere Cranage Estate. East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive, Jackie Randles welcomed all the guests and made a special acknowledgement to all the sponsors. Tim McCloud from TMC Strategic Communications and Peter Bowers from Berisfords Ribbons, alongside Jackie Randles, were the Compères for the evening.

Following an amazing three-course dinner, the highly anticipated Awards Ceremony commenced. All award winners received a glass trophy, certificate and a 4-pack of Beartown Beer kindly donated by Joe Manning from Beartown Brewery.

Prism UK extended a kind invitation to the winners of each award to a winner's dinner which will be held later this Spring.

The first Award of the evening was Start-up Business of the Year. Ben Hyslop from H21 Safety Limited was presented his award by Kevin Cook from Business Doctors Cheshire. Progress towards Carbon Neutrality was the next Award to be presented, Shaun Morton from Prism UK awarded this to Lisa Ball, April Green, and Claire Duncan from East Cheshire Hospice for their astounding work towards becoming net zero.

Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows took the Award for Innovation, Jon Stewart and members of his team were presented this award by Matthew Roberts of Berisfords Ribbons. The Manufacturer of the Year Award was proudly received by Joe Manning and his team at Beartown Brewery, Congleton's local Brewery. Sarah Hunter from Handelsbanken presented this well-deserved award.

Andrew Chatterton of Franklyn presented the Employer of the Year Award, another strong category for 2023. This was awarded to Kanga Health, a Digital Agency based in Congleton. Charity of the Year was the next Award to be presented, another exceptionally tough category for the judges to decide.

Ultimately, there could only be one winner, and it was Visyon that were awarded the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Charity of the Year for 2023/24. Linda and Amy were overwhelmed when receiving their trophy, which was presented by Richard Morrell, General Manager at De Vere Cranage Estate.

Rebecca Medcalf from Tinsdills Solicitors presented the Excellence in Customer Service Award to IronMarket, a Wealth, Risk and Talent Management Agency based in Newcastle-under-Lyme. Stephen Burns was joined by the team on stage to receive their award. Middlewich based, Isotopx who manufacture, supply and export Mass Spectrometers were the worthy winners of the Export & International Trade Award, presented by Dr Jan McCloud of TMC Strategic Communications.

Chair Person of the Board of Directors for East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce, Marie Shenton from Hammond McNulty presented HR Download with the Small Business of the Year Award. Harts Accountants Limited, Melissa Bowers was next to present a new category for East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce this year. The Family Business of the Year Award was presented to Robert Burns of Burns Garages Ltd, 4th generation.

The final category to be awarded was the Business of the Year Award, the most anticipated category which receives an extremely large number in entries, making it the most difficult category to judge. Hayley Rhodes from Acorn Occupational Health Ltd presented this award to Andrew Chatterton, Managing Director of Franklyn, Charlotte Chatterton, and the team.

The evening concluded with an auction and raffle, raising money for 2022/23 Charity of the Year Smile Group. The generosity around the room was phenomenal, raising a staggering £3956.00 which makes a total of £5300.00 raised in 2022 to 2023. Celebrations and dancing went on into the small hours.

“Thank you so much for having us on Friday, it truly was a great evening and a lovely opportunity to celebrate some amazing local businesses! It was great to see so many people all back together again!”

Julia Teagle,
TMC Strategic Communications



Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows
Innovation Award



Visyon
Charity of the Year Award



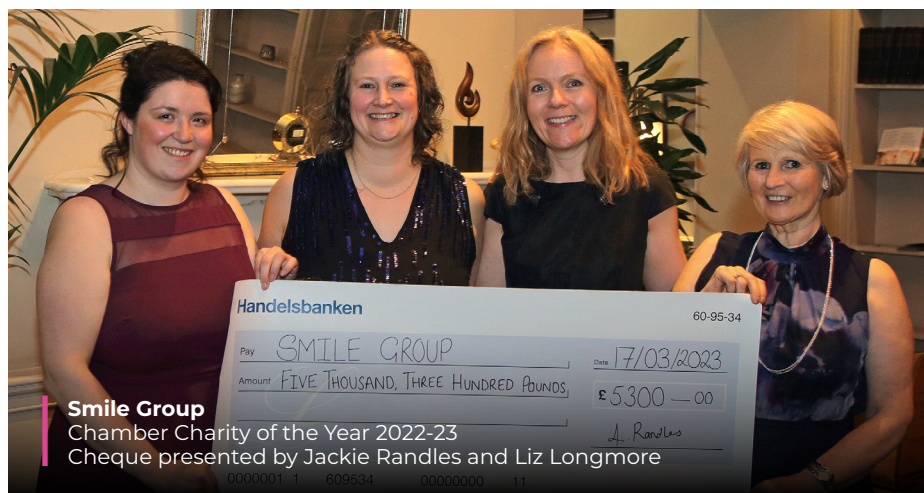
East Cheshire Hospice
Progress towards Carbon Neutrality Award



Ironmarket
Excellence in Customer Service Award

“Just a line to congratulate you and the Chamber on a very successful and most enjoyable Awards Evening at Cranage Hall on Friday evening. Keep up the good work!”

Steve Hodgkinson,
New Life Church



Smile Group
Chamber Charity of the Year 2022-23
Cheque presented by Jackie Randles and Liz Longmore



Beartown Brewery
Manufacturer of the Year Award



H21 Safety Ltd
Start Up Business of the Year Award

“A note of thanks for a great evening on Friday! All your hard work came into fruition and it was lovely to assist on the evening! Also, the Cranage Team delivered and the food was lovely - the room and the colours defo worked and Liz, the attention to detail was superb”

Verity Deaville,
Deaville & Co



Kanga Health
Employer of the Year Award



Isotopx
Export and International Trade Award



Burns Garages
Family Business of the Year Award



HR Download
Small Business of the Year award

“Thank you so very much Jackie, It has been such a wonderful and emotional experience. Having this validation from a group of such outstanding professionals, and also for us to have managed to win over some of the competition. Well words can't express the gratitude we have. Thank you all so very much!”

Meg Fenney,
HR Download



Franklyn
Business of the Year Award

Thank You to all our Suppliers and Sponsors



Daisy's Dream Cheshire East Hub

A bereavement charity supporting children, young people and families affected by the death or a life-threatening illness of someone they love.

Currently supporting 51 children and young people in Cheshire East, with parent/carers and healthcare professionals also needing advice and support.

Telephone, group-based sessions, home and/or school visits for the child or young person and access to online support resources.

Email: cheshire-east@daisysdream.org.uk
Tel: 0118 934 2604
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Daisy's Dream

The Charity Supporting Children through Bereavement



Thank you!

Friends for Leisure would like to thank all Chamber members for your past support. Get involved in 2023 and help us to help disabled children and young people across Cheshire East to flourish and live life to the full!

Because everyone needs a friend

Find out more at www.friendsforleisure.org.uk or contact Claire on 01260 275333 claire@friendsforleisure.org.uk



Friends for Leisure



What does Rotary-Congleton do?

To find out more about this active service organisation and see how you can contribute to the local community or to support Rotary's work throughout the world, go to www.congletonrotary.co.uk

Rotary
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Danesford Community Centre
tel: 01260 297 961
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Celebrating 40 years since we began in 1983 from small beginnings as a House Church to the ever expanding Danesford Community Centre in Congleton. We are a growing church of over 250 members, welcoming and reaching out to a wide section of people of all ages and backgrounds.

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- **Family Support Hub** parent and child support
- **Coffee Shop & Christian Bookshop** relax and enjoy our hospitality
- **Community Groups** social health and wellbeing





Cheshire Agency wins King's Awards Crowning Achievement

TMC Strategic Communications are recipients of the King's Award for Enterprise.

Considered to be the most prestigious accolade presented to a UK organisation, the King's Award for Enterprise is a globally recognised, royal seal of approval. Last month, the Palace released their highly anticipated list of 2023 recipients, with Congleton agency; TMC Strategic Communications, recognised within the International Trade category.

The journey so far

Having provided communication and creative services to their pioneering clients for over 17 years, TMC has been committed to developing international trade from the very beginning. Working with global leaders across the Healthcare, STEM, Energy and Infrastructure sectors, they have always recognised the value in delivering the very best strategic counsel, adapting their compelling campaigns for a wealth of culturally diverse audiences.

With 70% of their business linked to international trade, TMC's core clients are based in 19 of the 27 EU member states, with campaign content translated into a wealth of languages and viewed in over 158 countries worldwide.

Despite the dual challenges of COVID-19 and Brexit, TMC has skilfully been able to diversify their digital service provision to navigate the specialist needs of a growing portfolio of international clients. From developing innovative virtual environments that negate the need for corporate travel, to emotive, cross-continent marketing campaigns that have inspired audiences to take action, TMC's expertise, relevancy and desire to 'create positive impact' have proven the bedrock for sustainable, values-led growth.



Looking forward

Commenting on the significance of this milestone, CEO Tim McCloud said:

"We feel exceptionally honoured to have been recognised by an institution that is held in such high regard, but it can be entirely credited to the long-standing relationships we have built with our clients and the unwavering commitment of the whole TMC team who have helped us reach this point. Knowing that our application has progressed through strict due diligence, a recommendation from Downing Street and ultimately the Royal Household, fills us with immense pride."

Tim McCloud, CEO of TMC Strategic Communications

Exporting Great British talent across Europe and beyond

Success for TMC has been found within a balanced and blended approach to exporting communications and creative services, understanding that international trade provides critical business resilience and stability. Their role is to effectively communicate key messages in relation to specialist Healthcare, Science and Technology innovations, working to ensure that this content is strategically disseminated across borders on behalf of their clients. Reimagining 'big data' and decades of records into captivating visualisations, TMC has consistently been able to provide significant impact to organisations' brand reputation and visibility.

Aligning with their expertise in Social Impact and Corporate Social Responsibility, TMC has also seen significant opportunities in exporting best practice and content from UK community and education programmes. These initiatives, which can support and evidence an organisation's commitment to UN Sustainability Development Goals as well as Environmental, Social and Governance strategies are often transferable to a global audience, particularly where their curriculum is based on, or similar to that taught across the UK.

To find out more on TMC's strategic full-service approach, visit <https://wearetmc.com>





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SAS Daniels Skydive

Fourteen daring employees from leading North West-based law firm SAS Daniels leaped from dizzying heights for a charity skydive, raising funds for The Christie at Macclesfield Centre. The centre provides cancer treatment for patients from Cheshire, the High Peak area of Derbyshire, and parts of North Staffordshire.

A challenge not for the faint hearted, the fourteen employees jumped out of a plane from up to 15,000 ft at Black Knights Parachute Centre in Lancashire. For their courageous endeavour, the firm exceeded its fundraising target for The Christie charity, reaching a staggering total of over £11,000, which will go towards the funding of care and treatment, research, education, and extra patient services.

Seeking to have a positive impact on its surrounding areas and the people living and working within them, SAS Daniels nominates a local charity to support with fundraising efforts for the next 12 months. The charity selected by the business this year is a very personal choice, in recognition of the care and support provided The Christie's facility

in Macclesfield, to SAS Daniels' Partner Paul Tyrer's wife and family.

Jeremy Orrell, Chief Executive Officer of SAS Daniels commented: *"We are immensely proud of the team for pushing themselves so far out of their comfort zone and taking on this challenge for such a worthy cause; one which is very close to our hearts. Through the skydive an incredible amount of funds has been raised for The Christie, the amazing work of which is supporting Paul's family and many others through very difficult times."*

Lisa Clark, Corporate Fundraising Manager at The Christie charity, added, *"We've never had such a large turnout from one company before to do the skydive. The weather was amazing, and it was great to meet so many of the team and their supporters on the day. They smashed the target they'd set themselves. They should all be super proud of what they've achieved so far. I'm looking forward to supporting them all with their fundraising over the coming year."*

The firm have also taken part in office based fundraising activities including Easter raffles, name the bunny and numerous cake sales.

If you would like to make a donation, you can do so via their Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/team/sasskydivers

SAS Daniels LLP is a Cheshire-based law firm with offices in Stockport, Chester, Macclesfield and Congleton, servicing both businesses and individuals throughout the local area and nationwide.

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To find out more about SAS Daniels, visit: www.sasdaniels.co.uk

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Successful Government Bid to Open Two New SEND Schools in Congleton and Middlewich

Cheshire East Council has been successful in its bid to secure government backing for two new schools for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

The successful bid means the Department for Education will build two new special schools, located in Middlewich and Congleton. The schools will create 120 places for children and young people from five to 19 years old.

The new schools will support children and young people requiring an education, health and care plan (EHCP). This document assesses a child's special educational needs, the support they need and their aspirations for the future. These additional SEN school places will enable children and young people to remain within Cheshire East and avoid the need to travel a longer distance to go to school.

The first school will be located at Cledford House in Middlewich and will provide 60 places for children and young people with social, emotional and mental health needs. Currently around 25 percent of children with an EHCP have this need.

The second school will be located on the Giantswood housing development site in Congleton and will provide 60 places for children and young people with autism spectrum condition. Around 25 percent of children with an EHCP, also have this need.

Deborah Woodcock, executive director of children's services at Cheshire East Council, said:

"This is great news, as the two schools will provide much needed local places for children and young people with special educational needs."

"Our aim is for all schools to be more inclusive, offering the right support to meet the needs of all children and young people."

"By doing this, children can attend a local school, reducing the pressure on school transport costs and our high needs dedicated school grant. Both of these are currently overspent due to the increase in demand and lack of local provision."

"We know that having the right school for all children and young people is key to supporting them to achieve their potential and help them to develop the range of skills and experiences they need to equip them for adulthood."

"Alongside the Department for Education, we are now seeking proposals from organisations which are interested in establishing and running the new schools."

The next stage in the process is to advertise the opportunity for trusts to apply to establish the new schools. Government guidance states that the final decision to open any free school depends on the Secretary of State formally entering into a funding agreement with the chosen academy trust.

The council is reaching out to multi academy trusts who may be interested in running the schools. For further information, contact Create: Schools – the Department for Education's supplier of support to free school applicants – by visiting: www.createschools.co.uk



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Cyber Crime Seminar March 2023

On Tuesday 21st March, we held a Cyber Crime Seminar, presented by DI Dan Giannasi from the North West Cyber Resilience Centre. Dan and the team gave a great insight to the threats we face online, both personally and for our businesses. Talking us through how quickly these attacks business.

Niomie Haynes from the North West Cyber Resilience Centre spoke about what their team can do to support businesses of all sizes to ensure that you are Cyber Secure and the levels of support they can offer.

The team at NWCRC are looking forward to hosting another Cyber Crime Seminar with East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce for those who were unable to attend in March.

For further details please contact:

liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk



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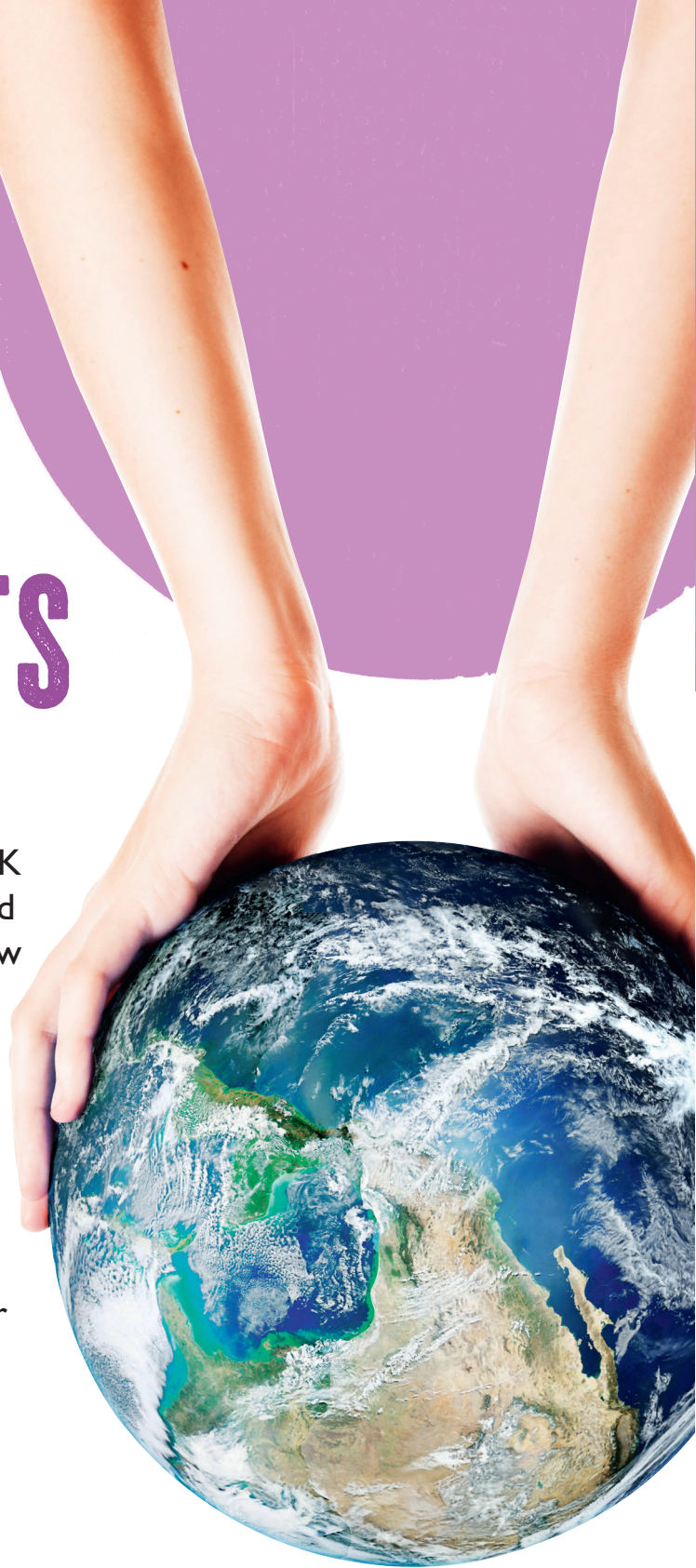
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**Visyon
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Charity of the
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Children, young people and their families are taking the first brave step to ask Visyon for support with their mental health. They wish to build resilience to lead happy and fulfilling independent futures as young adults.

Anxiety, low mood, anger, self-harm and thoughts of suicide are impacting on their day to day lives, relationships, behaviour and ability to achieve their potential. It can be caused by numerous factors - bereavement, abuse, illness, bullying, family issues or the effects of poverty.

Visyon provides a free safe space for vulnerable children to access the information and support they need to talk openly about their mental health. Our Therapeutic Team of over 30 practitioners empower young people, helping them develop practical strategies through individual counselling, mentoring, group activities and wellbeing workshops.

For more information or to book contact the Fundraising Team on:

- 01260 290000 (opt 2)
- Fundraising@visyon.org.uk

Registered Charity
Number 1107951



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Our service's annual costs are over £950,000 to support approximately 2,000 children, young people and their families each year.

Our one of a kind service means there is no need to go through a GP or school. Whether you're a parent or a young person, you can call us on 01260 290000 to self refer or ask for advice and support.

We're super grateful for the opportunity to raise awareness and funds through our Charity of the Year partnership with East Cheshire Chamber and Amy & Linda look forward to seeing you all at the events throughout the year.



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Thursday Thirty Reports

Our 2023 Thursday Thirty Networking Events have seen a lot of new members joining us, with our first Thursday Thirty of the year hosted by Prism Solutions at their offices 'The Technology Barn' on the 12th January.

After a wonderful Christmas and New Year break, it was lovely to see everyone back together in great spirits.

Jackie introduced the meeting, highlighting the forthcoming events for 2023 including the Annual Business Awards, before handing over to Jenny Evans who gave a short presentation about the amazing work Prism do, how they started, and how they have evolved and adapted 20 years later.

Attendees enjoyed a spread of breakfast refreshments whilst networking.

Our February hosts were Mendy & Watt, independent financial advisors based in

Holmes Chapel. Wendy Heyes gave a talk on all the services that Mendy & Watt offer, with an added testimonial from Kevin Cook.

Another fantastic event with fabulous hospitality and refreshments including some tasty bacon & sausage baps from the George & Dragon in Holmes Chapel. Martin, General Manager for the George & Dragon gave a brief talk about the amazing space and facilities available for events for Chamber Members.

In March, it was great to see so many in attendance at our Thursday Thirty hosted by WR Partners. Held at the Lion & Swan in Congleton, we had another fabulous turnout, with some new members joining us as well.

Attendees enjoyed freshly brewed tea and coffee, juices and bacon rolls whilst hearing from Fran Johnson at WR Partners, explaining what they can offer on a personal and professional level.

Cheshire's Silk 106.9 were our latest hosts for our May Thursday Thirty, celebrating 25 years live on air.

Following an introduction from Liz, attendees enjoyed a music quiz hosted by Daz Antrobus – winners of the quiz, Visyon and Sinclair Law won 60 seconds airtime to promote their company to Silk listeners. Attendees also enjoyed a large breakfast spread and fizz to celebrate Silk's birthday.



Franklyn's Gala Makes Meaningful Impact for The Joshua Tree Charity

Following the success of their charity Winter Waltz Gala Dinner that took place at the end of 2022, Franklyn is pleased to have presented a cheque of £126,000 to childhood cancer support charity, The Joshua Tree.

Patron sponsors of the chamber, Franklyn, were thrilled to host their charity Winter Waltz Gala Dinner on Friday 25th November 2022 at The Mere Golf Resort and Spa, which saw over 300 guests come together for a fabulous night of entertainment in the name of charity.

The event, which was headline sponsored by currency transfer experts TorFX, raised £215,000 for the St. James's Place Charitable Foundation; the charitable arm of St. James's Place Wealth Management who Franklyn are a Principal Partner of and who also matched all donations on the night of the event, pound for pound.

The 'pledge charity' part of the evening gives guests of the event the opportunity to pledge to donate a specific amount that will go directly to a specific cause; the chosen charity for the event on this occasion was childhood cancer support charity, The Joshua Tree.

After hearing the moving words from The Joshua Tree's CEO, Richard, and beneficiary of the charity, Katherine, more than 65 guests pledged their support to the Northwich based charity.

Of the £126,000 awarded to The Joshua Tree, £50,000 of this was pledged by premiership rugby side and official partners of Franklyn, Sale Sharks Rugby Club; the donation is the largest single amount pledged in the history of running the event.

Franklyn would like to thank once again all those who made the event and the donation possible.

FRANKLYN



Four ways to take the Uncertainty Out of Temp Hiring

Temporary employees can help your business to plug gaps and get urgent projects over the line. According to a McKinsey survey, 58% of businesses are expecting to use temporary staff this year, although there's often still a lack of knowledge about how to best use temps.

We're here to run you through the best ways to take the uncertainty out of the process, helping you to maximise their value.

Plan, Plan, Plan

The first step to ensuring you maximise a temp's value, is to decide what tasks they should complete. It is usually best to have a temp complete the simpler administrative tasks that swamp your team. That way you can get somebody in quickly and you don't have to train them in the more complex duties.

Talk to your team and find out what lower-level tasks take up their time, that could be done by a temp worker.

Getting someone in to deal with the administrative tasks can really take the load off your team and free them up, helping with overwhelm and burnout.

Talk With Your Existing Team!

Make sure everyone in your team knows that hiring a temp will benefit them. Whatever role can be filled by a temp will be made much easier if you know that they can slot right in with your existing team and that your team are on board with receiving the support.

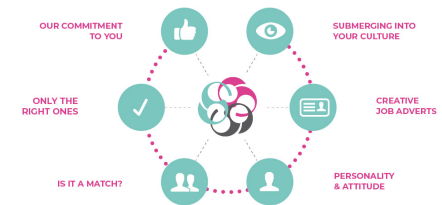
Be Flexible!

When it comes to finding the right fit, the great thing about temporary hiring is that you only need to find someone who can do the job, you don't need to worry about a permanent match for the team. The more flexible you are with your requirements, the bigger your pool of options will be, and the easier you'll find it to fill the position.

Move Quickly

Getting someone in quickly can be really beneficial to your business in times of need, rather than waiting for the ideal candidate on a permanent basis. But the temp market is fast moving. You need to make decisions quickly, so you don't miss out!

If you need any more advice or you have a role that you need to fill, get in touch with the team at Synergy Recruitment on 01625 509182 or info@synergyrecruit.co.uk.



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Liz's Skydive for Chamber Charity of the Year, Visyon

Sunday 8th October

Location: Black Knights Parachute Centre, Hillam Lane, Lancaster, LA2 0DY

Event: 11,000ft tandem skydive

Liz from East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce is taking part in an 11,000ft tandem Skydive in October 2023 to raise money for their Charity of the Year, Visyon. If you would like to sponsor Liz to help raise money for this fantastic charity, follow the QR code to submit your donation! Thank you.



Just Giving Page Link



Learn more about how our charity supports children, young people and their families with mental health & emotional wellbeing across Cheshire East.

Visit: www.visyon.org.uk, or call: 01260 290000



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