

THE BUSINESS MAGAZINE FOR EAST CHESHIRE

East Cheshire
CHAMBER
of commerce & enterprise

January 2024

Chamber

ENTRIES NOW OPEN!

ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS

AWARDS 2024

FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

See the categories available for entry on **page 17**

Affiliated to:



West Cheshire & North Wales
Chamber of Commerce

Together, We're Well Connected.

Contents

- 03 **Events Calendar**
Find out about all the exciting events that East Cheshire Chamber will be hosting throughout 2024
- 04 **New Chamber Members**
The Chamber welcomes 8 new members from across the region
- 05 **The Business Support Initiative**
Announcing the new Cheshire East Business Support Initiative, helping to nurture the growth of local businesses
- 08 **Business Fair**
After 5 years, East Cheshire Chamber returned to the annual Business Fair
- 10 **Member Spotlight**
Bringing local businesses into focus
- 21 **Chamber Christmas Lunch Report 2023**
The annual East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lunch took place at Pecks Restaurant in Congleton on the 1st December
- 23 **TMC's New Chapter**
TMC celebrate the recent opening of their new office space, in the heart of Congleton's high-street
- 30 **Prism Solutions supports local Chamber Member**
Prism Solutions hosted a fundraising event helping to support fellow Chamber members New Life Church



Welcome From The Chief Executive

Welcome to 2024!

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we extend a warm welcome to you throughout the pages of this edition of the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce magazine. As we step into another exciting chapter, we find ourselves at the intersection of innovation, collaboration, and prosperity.

As a Chamber of Commerce, we are committed to fostering connections and providing resources that empower businesses to thrive. This magazine is not just a publication; it's a celebration of our collective achievements and a roadmap for the exciting journey ahead.

I am delighted to announce that the Chambers of Commerce within the Cheshire

East Area have been successful in their UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) bid. The funding will be used to promote, manage, and engage experts to deliver workshops/masterclasses to all Start-up, Micro, Small Businesses, and the Self-employed across the Cheshire East area. Further details can be found on page 5.

East Cheshire Chamber are working hard with the preparations for our Annual Business Awards on 22nd March, full details can be found on pages 16 and 17 in this magazine and on our website.

The team at East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you at forthcoming events.

Please remember we are here to help wherever we can. If you would like any information with regards to any events, have articles for the next edition, or you are interested in advertising space please contact liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk or call the office on 01260 540570.

Jackie Randles
Chief Executive

Events Calendar

UKSPF Workshop – Digital Marketing & Sales
17th January 2024
9.30am – 15.00pm
East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce
The_Space, 35-37 High Street
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1BG

Thursday Thirty
25th January 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
TMC
The_Space, 35-37 High Street
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1BG

UKSPF Workshop – HR & Health and Safety
8th February 2024
9.30am – 15.00pm
East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce
Holmes Chapel Community Centre
Station Road, Holmes Chapel
Cheshire, CW4 8AA

Thursday Thirty
7th March 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
Innov8 HR
The Bluebell at Smallwood
Spen Green, Smallwood
Sandbach, CW11 2XA

UKSPF Workshop – Business Coaching & Account Recording
14th March 2024
9.30am – 15.00pm
East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce
Sandbach Town Hall, High Street
Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 1AX

Annual Business Awards
22nd March 2024
18.45pm - Late
De Vere Cranage Estate
Byley Lane, Cranage
Nr. Holmes Chapel, CW4 8EW

Thursday Thirty
18th April 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
D2NA
Bar Twenty-Seven
Macclesfield Football Club
Moss Lane, Macclesfield
Cheshire, SK11 7SW

Thursday Thirty
9th May 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
Gazer Agency
Congleton Market Quarter
Princess Street, Congleton, Cheshire
CW12 1DB

Afternoon Tea Networking Event
15th May 2024
2.00pm – 16.45pm
Pecks Restaurant
Newcastle Road, Moreton
Nr. Congleton, CW12 4SB

Thursday Thirty
6th June 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
Astbury Mere Care Home
Newcastle Road, Astbury
Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4HP

Annual Golf Day
19th June 2024
10.00am – 21.00pm
Vale Royal Abbey
Vale Royal Drive
Whitegate, Cheshire
CW8 2BA

Thursday Thirty
18th July 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
Everybody Health & Leisure
Congleton Leisure Centre
Worrall Street
Congleton, Cheshire
CW12 1DT

Thursday Thirty
29th August 2024
8.30am – 10.00am
Ruby's Fund
Meridian House
Roe Street
Congleton, Cheshire
CW12 1PG

Chamber Business Fair
25th September 2024
10.00am – 15.00pm
Congleton Leisure Centre
Worrall Street
Congleton, Cheshire
CW12 1DT

Events we host throughout the year

Thursday Thirty
Afternoon Tea at Pecks
UKSPF Workshops

Annual Golf Day
Business Awards
Annual Clay Shoot

Chamber Business Fair
Wine Wednesday (NEW for 2024)
Annual Christmas Lunch

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



Welcome To Our New Members

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



Gazer Agency

Gazer is a strategic marketing agency based in Congleton, Cheshire. They specialise in supporting food, drink and hospitality brands see their business goals and reach for them.

www.gazer.agency

Tel: 01260 218948

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



Amiga Finance

Amiga Finance specialises in supporting local incorporated businesses with cashflow solutions. As a finance broker we have a range of facilities including asset and invoice finance as well as business, tax and working capital loans.

www.amigafinance.co.uk

Tel: 0161 956 2656

Stanley House, 15-17 Ladybridge Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheshire, SK8 5BL



Gawsworth Business Court

We provide high quality rural offices. Ranging from single offices through to complete units. A large car park and superfast internet coupled with flexible leases make this an ideal location.

www.gawsworthbusinesscourt.co.uk

Tel: 01260 223263

Shellow Farm, North Rode, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 2NX



Jenny's Blinds

Jennys Blinds is a local, family-owned window blinds company specialising in Made to Measure window blinds for both Commercial and domestic properties.

www.jennysblinds.co.uk

Tel: 01625 619084

Unit 12, Waterside Mill, Waterside, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 7HG



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www.currieyoung.com

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



Everybody Health & Leisure

Everybody Health and Leisure are a registered charity which aims to provide 'leisure for life' by improving the health and wellbeing of local communities. The charity operates 16 leisure facilities including 9 swimming pools and 7 Taste for Life cafes across the Cheshire East region and delivers a range of targeted health, sports and disability and inclusion programmes.

www.everybody.org.uk

Tel: 01477 689557

Manor House, Holmes Chapel Business Park,
Manor Lane, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire, CW4 8AF



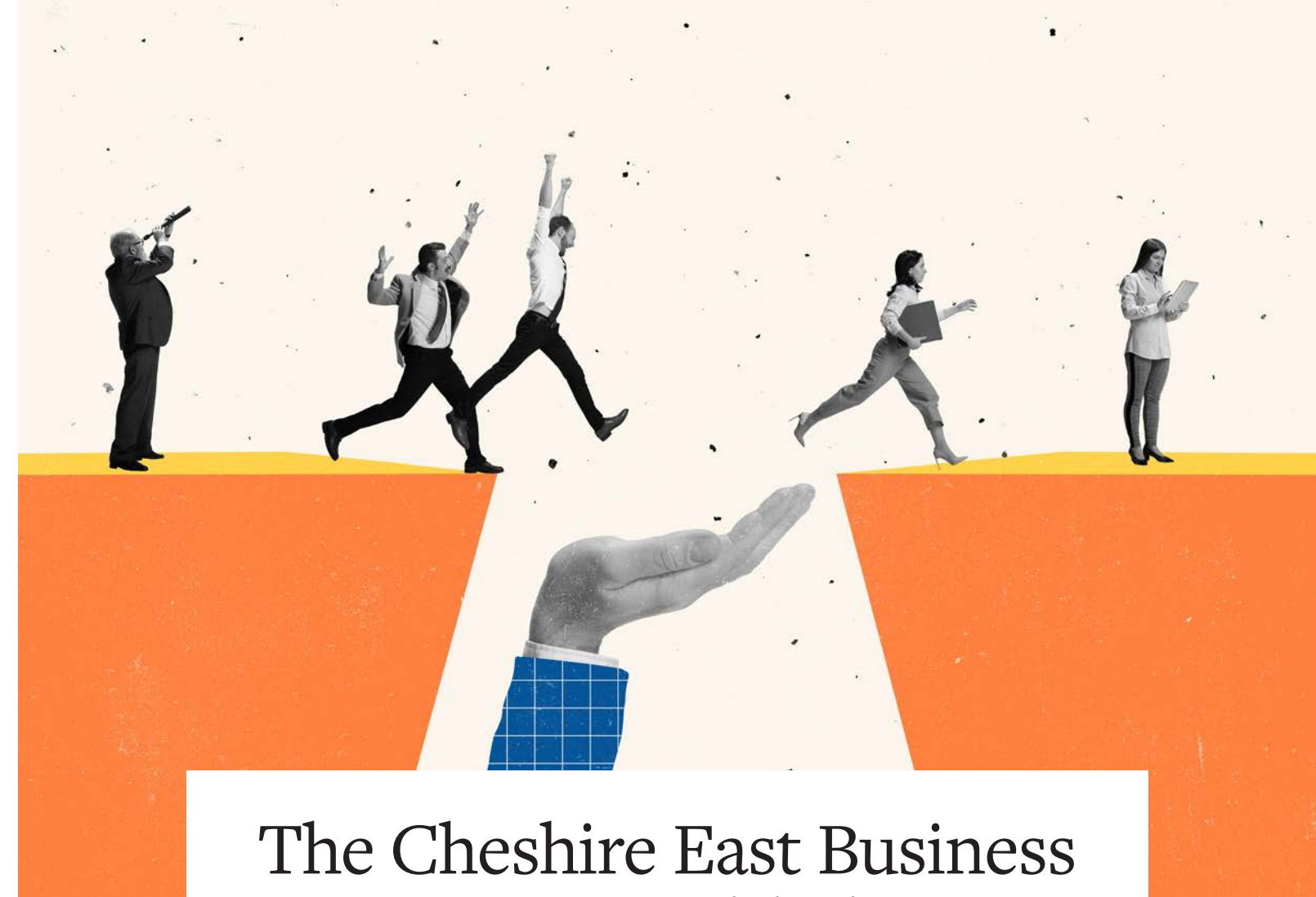
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www.parxfs.co.uk

Tel: 01260 228866

Unit 4, 2nd floor, Dane Mill Business Centre, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1LA



The Cheshire East Business Support Initiative

Start, Sustain and Succeed.

East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce are delighted to announce that they have been successful in their bid for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, working alongside North Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce.

The programme is designed to help businesses within the Cheshire East Area, the prime aim is to assist businesses from start-ups, micro, small/medium businesses and the self-employed to grow and innovate in a difficult economic climate.

All three Chambers within the Cheshire East area are working together to deliver Start Up and Scale Up support and mentoring programmes to nurture the growth of local businesses by means of a 'One Stop Shop Series of workshops/masterclasses and networking'.

What the funding will be used for:

The delivery of workshops/masterclasses will include but will not be limited to, Business Coaching, Health and Safety, HR, Sales Training, Legal, Business Management, Networking, Digital Marketing, Cyber Security, Introduction to Export, Accountancy, Reducing Carbon Footprint.

Please see the back cover for more information with regards to the workshops/masterclasses, booking information will be sent out by email and can be found on LinkedIn and Facebook.

These workshops/masterclasses are open to all businesses within the Cheshire East area for both members and non-members.

This project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.



Maxim Business Training Celebrates Record Apprenticeship Numbers

Maxim Business Training, the apprenticeship arm of Macclesfield College, are thrilled to announce a remarkable start to the academic year, with an unprecedented surge in apprenticeship enrolments.

This incredible achievement reflects the huge demand from employers for high-quality apprenticeship programmes in the North West.

In a single month alone, Maxim proudly confirmed over 100 new apprenticeships, a testament to their unwavering commitment to empowering individuals and organisations through skills development. Additionally, they have successfully placed over 70 apprenticeship vacancies, connecting enthusiastic learners with exciting opportunities for growth.

Maxim’s impressive employer partnerships continue to expand, with a notable inclusion of both esteemed and emerging employers, including industry giants Federal Mogul, Astra Zeneca, Sodexo and Swizzels.



Among the sectors experiencing unprecedented growth, engineering, accounting, and construction have taken the lead, shattering previous records for apprenticeship starts. These achievements not only reflect the dedication of Maxim, but also highlights the adaptability and resilience of apprenticeships in meeting the evolving needs of industries.

As Maxim continues to forge ahead, they remain steadfast in their mission to nurture

talent, strengthen businesses, and contribute to the long-term growth of the local economy. With their unwavering dedication to excellence, they are poised to set even higher benchmarks in the months and years to come.

Martin Hallows
Martin.Hallows@macclesfield.ac.uk






Exclusive January Offer for East Cheshire Chamber Members at De Vere Cranage Estate

2 miles from J18 M6

Day Meetings Package to include:

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Equipment i.e. LCD projector, screen and flipchart

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**Subject to availability*

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Tel: 01477 536666
cranage.events@devere.com
www.devere.co.uk/cranage-estate/
Byley Lane, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire CW4 8EW





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www.businessdoctors.co.uk/business_doctors/kevin-cook



The __ Space

25th January 2024
08.30am – 10.00am
East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce



7th March 2024
08.30am - 10.00am
Innov8 Human Resources



18th April 2024
08.30am – 10.00am
D2NA



9th May 2024
08.30am – 10.00am
Gazer Agency



18th July 2024
08.30am – 10.00am
Everybody Health & Leisure



6th June 2024
08.30am – 10.00am
Astbury Mere Care Home

Upcoming Thursday Thirty's 2024

For further details please contact
liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk





East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Celebrate Successful Business Fair

We had a remarkable day at the Business Fair back in September, marking a successful return of the event after five years.

The newly refurbished Congleton Leisure Centre were our hosts for this occasion. Jackie and Liz welcomed visitors throughout the day, adding to the vibrant atmosphere.

The event was a fantastic achievement, attracting 36 enthusiastic exhibitors and a collection of local schools eager to participate. The support from the local community was evident, bringing life to this long-awaited gathering of businesses, both small and large.

Circle Insurance were our sponsors for this event. Deborah Noonan, representing Circle Insurance, presented a bottle of champagne to the lucky winner of the

business card prize draw, Sarah Shilcock from Beartown Brewery based in Congleton. The prize for the best stand went to Natalie Coxon from De Vere Cranage Estate, located near Holmes Chapel.

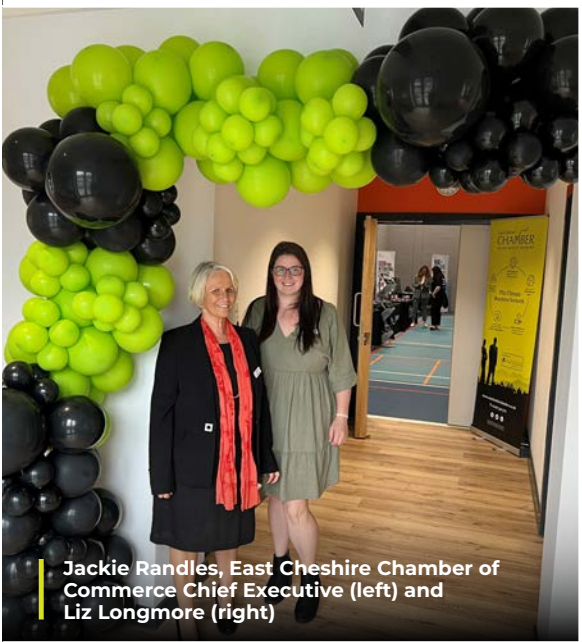
Cheshire's Silk 106.9 Radio were with us for the day, adding an extra prize of £500 towards advertising on their station. This was exclusively for our exhibitors on the day and the lucky winner was Jamie Riseley from Poole Alcock Solicitors.

Triad UK also had a strong presence throughout the day, further contributing to the event. Triad UK provided us with promotional materials to hand out to visitors and exhibitors.

With the success of the Business Fair in September 2023, we are already in the early stages of planning for this year's event. It is set to once again be held at Congleton Leisure Centre, promising another day filled with networking opportunities and a showcase of business excellence.

We would once again like to express our gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and the community for making this event achievable. The revitalised Business Fair promises a brighter future for businesses in East Cheshire and beyond.

For further information and updates on the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and their upcoming events, please visit their official website at www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk





D2NA Spotlight

We partner with organisations across every sector to ensure they are secure, maximise productivity and utilise their technology investment.

1. What services do D2NA offer their customers?

D2NA are a Cyber Security Company with a history of infrastructure support. We partner with organisations across any sector to help secure them against modern day cyber threats. Some of our key security services include Penetration Testing, Managed Detection & Response, and Cyber Essentials assessments. We also provide traditional Managed IT Services such as a 24/7 Service Desk, Microsoft 365, Azure licensing and Digital Transformation.

2. What are some of the smallest threats to businesses today that have the biggest impact?

Phishing can seem like a small threat as it can be as simple as receiving a legitimate looking email or call, but the impact can be limitless if there is a bite! The world has moved on from badly worded emails trying to catch out the vulnerable, to very sophisticated and targeted attacks to organisations and individuals. Our advice is to always check for legitimacy and always be suspicious, especially when it comes to financial or personal details.

3. What are today's and tomorrow's challenges in this industry?

The Cyber Security industry is a game of cat and mouse. The old saying goes that "if man made it, man can break it", and every day there are thousands of vulnerabilities being found. Security companies are always playing catch-up to keep hardware, software, and services secure and updated. This will always be a challenge and whilst people make money from cybercrime, this will always be the case. Fortunately, there are good guys around to help keep things under control!

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is new on the scene, and the industry is still getting to grips with how this may have an impact on the future. This is certainly a hot topic at the moment, and we don't think we are anywhere near the peak of this technology so far.

4. What is a typical day like at D2NA?

Every day is different at D2NA, which is what makes it such an exciting place to be. Within our industry, especially for the engineers, only a small percentage of the day is planned, and the rest is reactive to whatever the day might bring. We always have exciting projects on the go, whether that be penetration testing a FTSE company, implementing a new security service for a startup, or working with an organisation on their next technology project. We take learning and career development seriously, so every team member gets time each week to learn something new. We also have a lot of optional social events going on in the evenings and weekends, from meals out to yacht trips, so you never know what might be next!

5. If you could give any advice from your industry to our readers, what would it be?

We feel there is a general lack of awareness and education when it comes to Cyber Security. Most organisations know that cybercrime is a huge problem, but few understand how it happens. We often see organisations contact us after they have already become a victim when it is too late. Even the smallest of breaches can have a devastating impact which can include fines and reputational damage, so we would ask everyone reading this to take a serious look at their Cyber Security for their organisation. No matter how big or small, everyone is a target and can become a victim. The National Cyber Security Centre is a great place to start and has an online portal where you can read up on the basics (National Cyber Security Centre - NCSC.GOV.UK).

www.d2na.com

D2NA

Chamber Magazine

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Clay Shoot 2023 Report

We had a great time at our Annual Autumn Clay Shoot on Wednesday 18th October, with 60 people in attendance. It was a joy to see so many of our valued members and their guests joining us for the event. Despite the blustery but dry weather, the day was filled with excitement and some impressive scores in the Clay Shooting Competition.

Throughout the day, we received overwhelming positive feedback, especially from our first-time shooters who were delighted with the remarkable support provided by the Cloudside Shooting Grounds instructors.

After an exhilarating Clay Competition, our attendees gathered by the warm fire to enjoy a delicious hot meal featuring pie, chips, and vegetables. Amidst the cozy atmosphere

and networking, our dedicated instructors carefully calculated the scores.

Kevin Cook from Business Doctors presented the trophies to our winners. For the individual score awards, we celebrated Jack Cole from WR Partners in 3rd place, Mark Barnett from Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows in 2nd place, and Glynn Gibson from Larvin & Clegg Funeral Care in 1st place. The overall winning team comprised of shooters from Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows and Harts Accountants.

Recognising excellence among our female participants, Terri Evans from Pecks Restaurant won Best Ladies' Individual Score. The Clay Conservation Award was won by Lucy Chawner from Snowball Group. Peter Black, representing the Snowball Group, graciously accepted this award on Lucy's

behalf. Congratulations to all our exceptional winners and to all who participated.

Visyon, our Charity of the Year, were also with us on this day. Following the meal and the prize giving, we held a raffle, and we are thrilled to share that together, we raised an impressive £385 to support their important work.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our event sponsors, Peter Bowers from Berisfords Ribbons and Kevin Cook from Business Doctors. Our appreciation extends to the Cloudside team as well: the catering team for delighting us with delicious food throughout the day, and the instructors for their guidance.



Overall Winning Team



1st Place



Clay Conservation Award



3rd Place



Larvin & Clegg and Currie Young Team



Annual Clay Shoot



2nd Place



Annual Clay Shoot



Best Ladies Individual Score

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info@wheatsheafsandbach.co.uk
wheatsheafsandbach.co.uk
01270 762013

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

Members of the Pear Hospitality and Retail Group.



Thursday Thirty Reports

Throughout this remarkable year, we've celebrated numerous Thursday Thirty networking events, warmly embracing both new and familiar faces. Witnessing the remarkable turnout at our Thursday Thirty events fills us with pride, and the connections and collaborations formed are truly inspiring.

In September, the team at SAS Daniels graciously hosted our Thursday Thirty at the Visyon premises in Congleton. Attendees were treated to a delightful spread of breakfast rolls, tea, and coffee, setting the stage for a morning of productive networking. Senior Associate Warren Moores presented on the evolving landscape of employment law, offering valuable insights and updates.

Moving into November, Synergy Recruitment took the reins as hosts for our Thursday Thirty event. Once again, attendees were treated to a delightful assortment of breakfast rolls, pastries, and a selection of refreshing beverages. The event also featured an engaging presentation by the accomplished ladies at Synergy Recruitment, shedding light on their five-year journey



and their unwavering commitment to streamlining the recruitment process for both businesses and candidates.

Our final Thursday Thirty for 2023 took place on the 14th December and was hosted by Macclesfield College. Attendees enjoyed a breakfast spread put on by the on-site restaurant team whilst networking.

After some valuable networking, Martin Hallows, Employment Engagement Manager at the College gave a fantastic presentation all about apprenticeships.

Martin spoke about what employers should expect when looking to take on an apprentice and how Macclesfield College and Maxim Training can offer support, to both the employer and the apprentice.

This was yet another fabulously turned-out event with a lot of new members joining us, and a tremendous close to our events calendar for 2023. We're looking forward to 2024, where the Chamber calendar is continuing to fill with more fantastic opportunities for our members and potential new members.



East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Business Fair 2024

To be held at
Congleton Leisure Centre
Worrall St, Congleton, CW12 1DT

Wednesday 25th September 2024
10.00am - 3.00pm

For further details please contact Liz Longmore:
Tel: 01260 540570
liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk



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AWARDS
2024

FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

To be held at
**DE VERE CRANAGE ESTATE,
BYLEY LANE, HOLMES CHAPEL,
CW4 8EW**

6:45pm onwards

FIND OUT MORE



Visit our Business Awards page on our website
eastcheshirechamberofcommerce.co.uk/business-awards-2024



Download and complete the nomination form for your own or another company
you wish to nominate. Email this to liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

CATEGORIES FOR ENTRY

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

**EXCELLENCE IN
CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD**

**EXPORT & INTERNATIONAL
TRADE AWARD**

**EMPLOYER
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**TRAINING AND
DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

**PROGRESS TOWARDS
CARBON NEUTRALITY AWARD**

**YOUNG PERSON/APPRENTICE
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**START-UP BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES AWARD**

**SMALL BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**CHARITY
OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Franklyn 2023 Winter Waltz Gala Dinner Raises an Incredible £120,000

On Friday 17th November, Franklyn were joined by over 200 guests at Carden Park Hotel for their Winter Waltz Gala Dinner. The theme was 'What's Love Got To Do with It', and £120,000 was raised for Franklyn's chosen charities.

A portion of the funds raised during the event will also be allocated to the designated 'pledge charity.' This is a deserving local charity, which attendees are able to support through pledging a specific amount that will go directly to them.

This year it was East Cheshire Hospice, a warm and welcoming space for adults facing life-limiting illness. A spokesperson for The East Cheshire Hospice, commented that "East Cheshire Hospice are immensely grateful for the overwhelming support received at Franklyn's Winter Waltz. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this magical evening."

The evening itself was sponsored by foreign exchange experts, TorFX, as well as Franklyn's other fabulous sponsors, including Flagstone, Bach95 and Accept Cards.

Guests were treated to a delightful array of performances, beginning with the talent of Ian Lawton. Paula Randell took the stage for a fitting opening performance of 'What's Love Got to Do with It' and rightfully earning her title as a renowned Tina Turner Tribute. Closing the show with a bang, the audience enjoyed an exciting performance from HUGE, the ultimate party band.

Andrew Chatterton, Managing Director and Chartered Financial Planner at Franklyn, explained that, "Giving back is something that we pride ourselves on at Franklyn and each year I am blown away by the generosity of our guests and supporters. This year was no different. I would like to once again thank those that made the Winter Waltz possible, and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2024, for the next Winter Waltz and other key activities celebrating our 25th anniversary year".

COO of St. James's Place Wealth Management, Iain Rayner, expressed gratitude for the support received at the event. He acknowledged the significant difference the funds raised at this year's Winter Waltz will make for numerous charities. Iain commended Andrew, Charlotte, and the Franklyn team, highlighting their remarkable commitment and dedication to charitable giving.

For further information on the St. James's Place Charitable Foundation or East Cheshire Hospice visit:
www.eastcheshirehospice.org.uk/about-us
www.sjpfoundation.co.uk



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 W franklyn.co.uk



For more information contact Paul Howe at Franklyn on 01260 291825 or email paul.howe@sjpp.co.uk



GET IN TOUCH

FOR THE FUTURE

Please note, this necessitates the referral to a service that is separate and distinct to those offered by St. James's Place.

TorFX voted 'International Money Transfer Provider of the Year' at the Moneyfacts Consumer Awards 2016 – 2022.

Franklyn is a trading name of Franklyn Financial Management Ltd and is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the Group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the Group's website at www.sjpp.co.uk/products. Franklyn Financial Management Ltd is registered in England and Wales No. 6280392. Registered Office: St. James's House, 4-5 John Bradshaw Court, Alexandria Way, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1LB.

SJP Approved 7/12/2023



East Cheshire Hospice

500 Club

Funding Hospice care

As a valued member of the local business community, we invite you to become a member of the East Cheshire Hospice 500 Club – Funding Hospice Care.

You can do this by regularly donating £500 a year.

Business donations are crucial to East Cheshire Hospice, providing the vital support and services to our patients and their families when they need it the most.

How will your business benefit?

- Your logo/company name on the East Cheshire Hospice website
- Social media coverage about your fundraising story
- Exclusive use of the 500 Club logo
- Regular East Cheshire Hospice updates
- Your donation can be offset against your corporate tax
- Fundraising ideas and materials for staff
- 500 Club certificate and trophy

How to become a 500 Club member

- Simply donate online with a card by scanning the QR below or using www.eastcheshirehospice.org.uk/500-club. Alternatively, please get in touch to request an invoice or BACS payment details by emailing fundraising@echospice.org.uk.
- Our Corporate Fundraiser will then get in touch to invite you to the Hospice for a coffee and chat to find out more about you and your business.
- Our Corporate Fundraiser will then present you with a 500 Club trophy and certificate to proudly share in your office and on social media.

“When we ask families what the most impactful part of their time at the Hospice is, we often hear that it's the compassion, understanding and love our nurses show to them and their loved one.”





We are MyCWA

- a Cheshire-based charity

supporting people affected by domestic abuse.

Last year, we helped over 3,000 adults and children impacted by domestic abuse. We're only able to continue helping those in need thanks to our supporters who donate, fundraise, volunteer and spread the word about what we do.

If you'd like to support us, please reach out on supportus@mycwa.org.uk or call 01270 250390

Please scan the QR code and support us



Charity Number 1153273
Company Limited By Guarantee 8508288

We offer the following support:

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- Crisis accommodation
- Advice clinics
- Recovery programmes
- Behaviour change programmes



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Adele Cook, Managing Director, Springboard

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Funded by UK Government

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Chamber Christmas Lunch Report 2023

We began the Christmas festivities on Friday 1st December with the annual East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lunch at Pecks Restaurant in Congleton.

It was lovely to see everybody who attended and so wonderful to see the connections made on the day. Guests had an afternoon of delicious food and drink, with a choice of the menu on the day.

Peter Bowers, from Berisfords, kindly greeted all the guests and thanked Andy Pear and the Pecks staff for their hospitality and hard work to make it another festive occasion to commemorate.

Details for the Annual Business Awards 2024 and how to enter via the website were also announced. The awards evening will be held at De Vere Cranage Estate on Friday 22nd March 2024.

Following lunch, a raffle was held for the Chambers' current Charity of the Year, Visyon, which raised a fantastic £465.

Guests stayed on to enjoy drinks and petit fours into the early evening, while others took advantage of complementary transport into Congleton, thanks to Andy Pear.





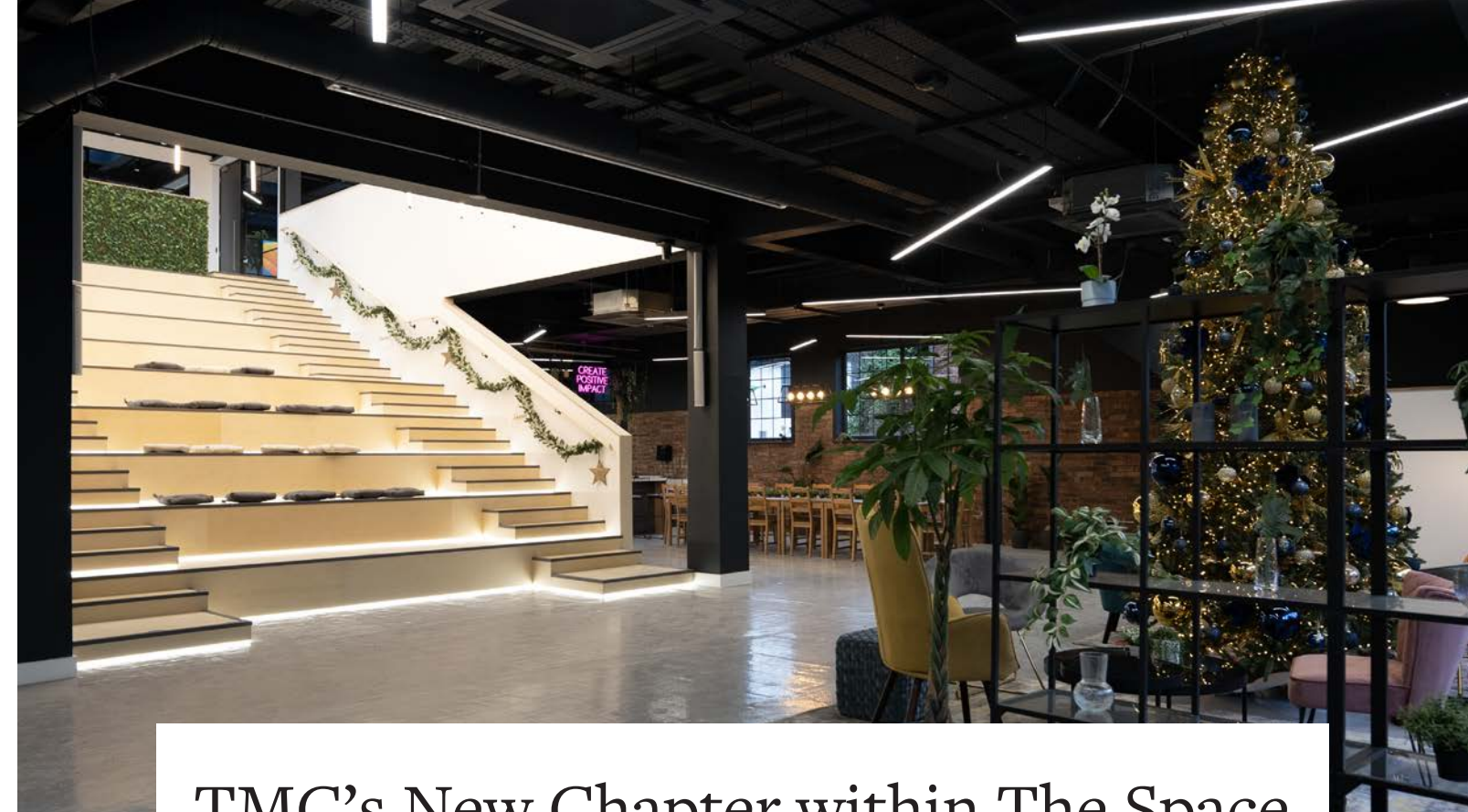
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TMC's New Chapter within The Space

As 2023 draws to a close, TMC are celebrating their first few weeks in their inspiring new offices, located within The Space Congleton.

The Move: TMC's New Chapter

The decision behind TMC's relocation isn't just a change of address; it's a conscious decision to be closer to the community. Bringing their team into the heart of Congleton, they're ready to nurture their existing network and develop a wealth of new relationships.

Whilst TMC Strategic Communications are lead tenants in the inspiring new building, TMC Property Ltd have been the guiding force behind the incredible renovation. As the ground-floor co-working space opens up to other professionals across Cheshire, 'The Space' is fast becoming the place to be for those looking to create their own business network.

The Journey: From Demolition to Design

It's certainly been an exciting journey: from reimagining the existing floor plan, to witnessing the large-scale building work and the project come to life. The Space has been designed around the requirements of TMC's unique team and diverse portfolio of clients.

Preserving the character of the building was of utmost importance, maintaining a balance between modernity and the building's historic charm that those local to Congleton have come to know over the years.

From keeping the original industrial touches such as the interior brick walls and cavernous ceilings, to preserving the memory of those who had worked in the building's previous iterations, by adding their handprints to the emotive gallery wall.

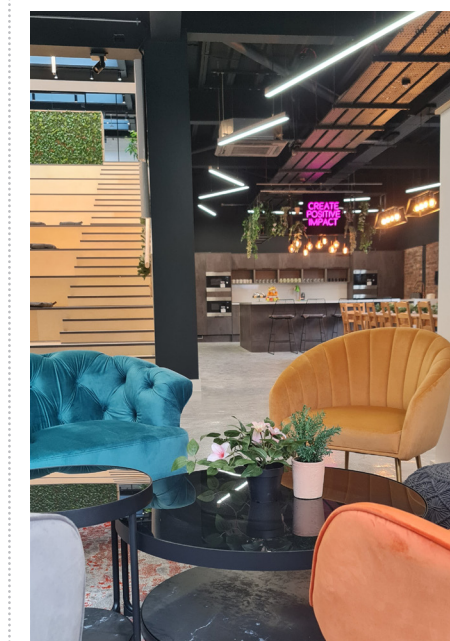
The Ambition: More Than Just Office Space

There's more to this building than just the contemporary design however. Co-working is at the forefront of this vision, where professionals

come together to collaborate and innovate under one roof. **This is The Space.**

If you are interested in learning more about The Space and the opportunities available, visit thespacecongleton.com for memberships, bookings and more.

tmc The __ Space



Friday 9th February 2024

Register your involvement



This Children's Mental Health Week join schools, colleges and workplaces across Cheshire and express your individuality.

Simply 'wear what you want', donate what you can and show young people we're here to support them with their mental health!



Visit www.vision.org.uk, or call 01260 290000, to learn more about how our charity supports children, young people and their families with mental health & emotional wellbeing across Cheshire East.



Registered Charity Number 1107951
Registered company number 5250758



Thank You to The Den

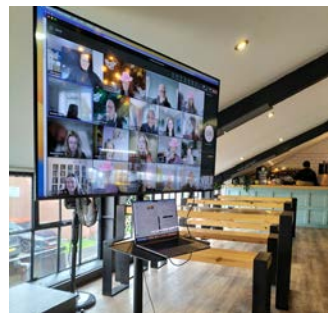
As with any renovation and office move, there comes a time when everyone has to make the transition from old to new. Earlier this winter, when TMC's new home on the High Street began to take on its final shape, their team embraced a temporary shift to remote working as they anticipated their first day in the new building.

Whilst this new way of working meant the team were split geographically, it was still important to maintain the social fabric that defines TMC's workplace culture. Acknowledging the importance of face-to-face interactions, it was essential that each team had the opportunity to meet during this time.

Enter The Den at the Beartown Brewery and their private bar space; what started as an impromptu spot for working sessions evolved to be far more than just a practical solution. It became a testament to the wonderful relationship that can be built between two chamber members.

TMC would like to thank members of The Den team for graciously hosting the team over a number of weeks. For some of the team, The Den almost become a second home!

From opening up early when needed (even on their days off) to keeping the team topped up with caffeine, The Den provided TMC with a place to gather and catch up. It was fantastic to have this as an option to meet up locally and TMC look forward to exploring ways to collaborate with them in the future in their new HQ.



BEARTOWN

tmc



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Majestical Ltd Become Congleton's First B Corp

The team at Majestical Ltd, a Congleton, Cheshire-based video production and animation studio, are proud to announce that they have achieved B Corp certification.

Along with thousands of UK SMEs, with a growing number of businesses from Cheshire, Majestical joins the likes of Innocent Drinks, The Body Shop and Ben & Jerry's, to become part of a global community of businesses committed to using their influence for positive social and environmental change.

The B Corp certification is a rigorous process that evaluates a company's performance in areas such as governance, workers, community, environment, and customers. It is awarded to businesses for meeting the highest standards of

accountability when it comes to their social and environmental impact.

"We are incredibly excited to become a certified B Corp," said Rachel Mellor, Head of Video Production, Purpose and Impact at Majestical. "This certification is something we have been working towards for a while and for us, validates our commitment to being a force for good in our community and beyond. It reinforces our belief that businesses can be a powerful catalyst for positive change, and we are excited to be part of a global movement working towards a more sustainable future."

Majestical are a small video production team operating out of Congleton, Cheshire, creating video and animation content for brands, with a focus on third sector and purpose driven organisations. Offering a 20 percent charity discount is in fact one of the initiatives that started the ambition and was born out of the idea that the team wanted to do things a bit differently and have a more positive impact.

Katie Nuttall, Founder and Chief Dreamer of the company said "Going through the B Corp assessment made perfect sense to

us. The more we understood the community, the more we recognised how well we were already aligned with the values and ethos of the movement: using business as a force for good. This recognition is something I'm incredibly proud to have achieved and we look forward to growing our impact locally."

By achieving B Corp certification, Majestical joins a diverse and influential network of businesses around the world dedicated to driving positive change. This community offers opportunities for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and mutual support, amplifying the impact of each member.

For more information about Majestical's B Corp certification and its commitment to social and environmental responsibility, please visit www.majestical.co.uk. To find out more about the B Corp movement, please visit www.bcorporation.uk.



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

Sunday 25th May 2024

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 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



Registered charity number 1107951
Registered company number 5250758




Department for
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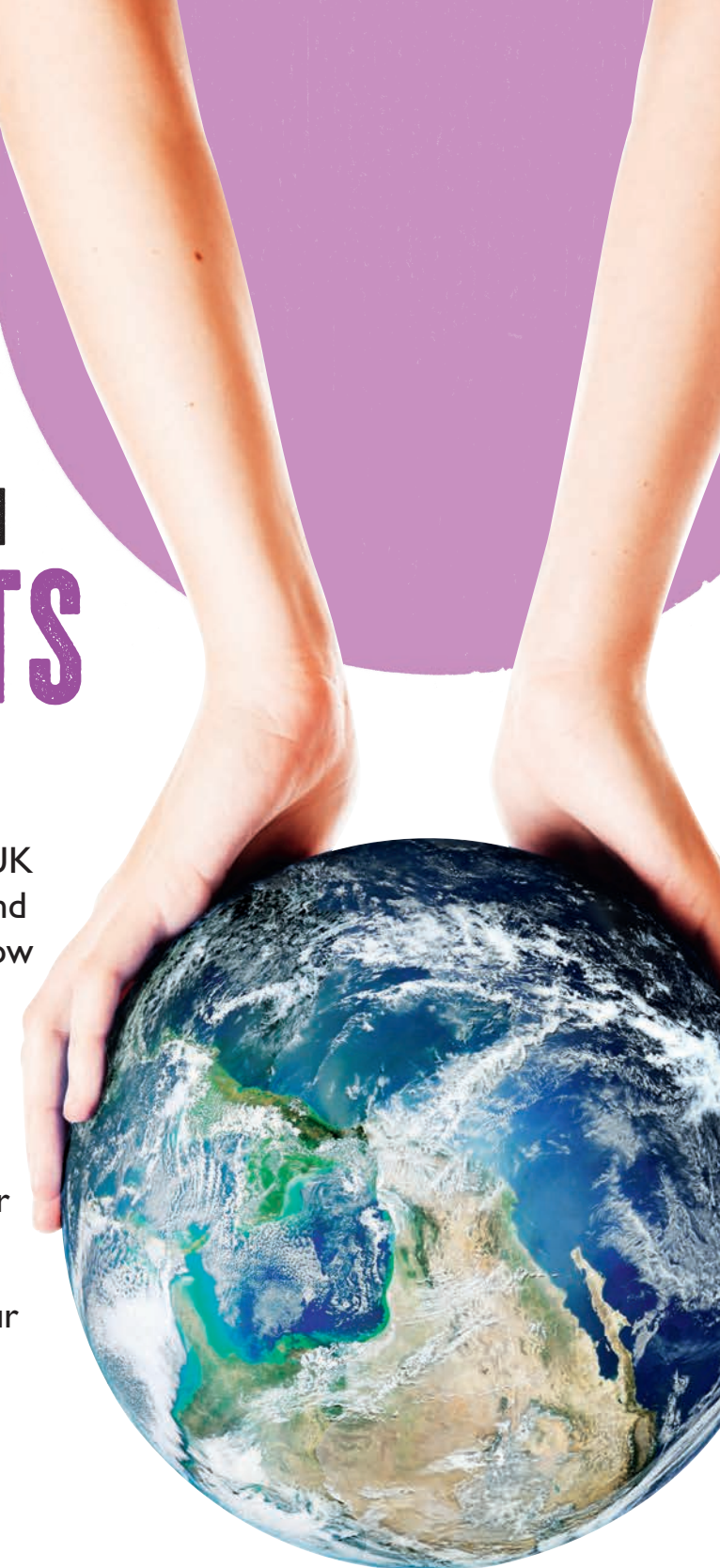
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Shaping skills for your existing & future workforce



The Cheshire & Warrington Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) is one of 38 LSIPs that have been approved by the Department of Education Secretary of State. It has been developed to ensure that employers' most pressing skills needs are reflected within the local skills system.

The Cheshire & Warrington LSIP is led by South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Our LSIP aims to support employers in articulating their skills needs, whilst brokering links with Post-16 technical education to shape current and future provision; skills for your new and existing workforce.

In order to develop our LSIP, we have already engaged with many local employers and as a result been able to establish our Roadmap, focussing on key themes of Technical Skills (with priority areas of Manufacturing, Health & Social Care, Life Sciences, Digital and Low Carbon), Accessibility, Employability Competencies, Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance, and Educational Professionals.

Our aim is to ensure the current and future workforce have the necessary skills and access to local opportunities, as well being able to upskill or reskill to meet changes within industry. We also want to ensure that we can be responsive to the developing needs of employers.

If you would like to be part of making a difference to skills training within Cheshire & Warrington, or would just like to find out more, please get in touch – we're here to make things easier!

LSIP@sccci.co.uk or via our website:
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WR Partners Confirmed as Bolesworth Official Accountancy Partners

WR Partners, a leading firm of Accountants, Business Advisers and Tax Specialists, recently announced the launch of their corporate partnership with Bolesworth, a renowned historic estate in Cheshire.

The firm has become the official accountancy partner associated with Bolesworth; a series of focused business events in June 2024 will give WR Partners the chance to connect with local businesses, including Bolesworth's business tenants, in order to build a strategic relationship with Bolesworth that promises enhanced financial support and expertise.

With a strong team of 200+ professionals WR Partners are keen to work collaboratively with local business owners and individuals to protect their wealth.

Bolesworth Estate, with its rich history and exceptional beauty, has long been a visitor destination in Cheshire, offering a wide range of events and attractions, including World Class equestrian competitions, live music, and live motorsport events. The Estate also acts as an exclusive venue for

corporate activations & private events, as well as large public events & family-focused festivals. As the newly appointed Accountancy Partner, WR Partners is looking forward to assist with providing financial guidance and support to the estate.

"We are thrilled to deepen our relationship with Bolesworth Estate and take on the role of the official Accountancy Partner associated with the Estate and Bolesworth Events," said Helen Spencer, Managing Partner of WR Partners. "Bolesworth Estate is not only a jewel in the Cheshire landscape but also a vital contributor to the local community and the broader region. We look forward to working closely with Bolesworth Estate's team to help strengthen their financial offering and ensure long-term sustainability."

"Bolesworth Estate has a legacy of excellence and we believe that WR Partners, with their proven track record and commitment to our shared community, is the ideal partner to support our financial needs. We are excited about the possibilities this collaboration presents and the positive impact it will have on the local economy."



Nina Barbour, MD and owner of Bolesworth said, "We are delighted to be working with the team from WR Partners and are happy that they have joined us as our official accountancy partner - associated with the Estate and the events that we run here at Bolesworth. We look forward to working with them to strengthen their presence in the North West."



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Prism Solutions Supports Local Chamber Member

On Thursday 14th December 2023, Prism Solutions held their 'Mince Pie and Mingle' event at Congleton Tennis Club, creating a mid-morning gathering aimed at fundraising for fellow Chamber members New Life Church, and specifically for The Storehouse Foodbank.

Operated by New Life Church, The Storehouse operates out of the Danesford Community Centre in Congleton, providing essential support to families facing emergency or extreme hardship situations. The dedicated team at The Storehouse is putting in tireless efforts to assist those in need, recognising the increased challenges faced by many families and individuals this year.

Prism Solutions took the initiative to host the Mince Pie and Mingle event with the primary objective of raising funds to assemble and distribute food packages throughout the community. Attendees were treated to festive drinks such as Mulled Wine and Hot Chocolate, accompanied by delicious homemade Mince Pies and Stollen.

Acknowledging that not everyone could attend the event, Prism set up an online donation portal to allow those unable to be present to contribute. Additionally, participants had the opportunity to partake in a raffle, offering the chance to win fabulous prizes during the event.

The impact of the fundraising efforts saw an impressive total of £1231.28 raised, showcasing the collective commitment of Prism Solutions and New Life Church, supporting the community and addressing the needs of those facing challenging circumstances.



Patrons of The Chamber

We would like to thank our patrons for their continuing support



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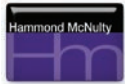
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51-100	£380.00	£456.00
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201-500	£500.00	£600.00
500+	£600.00	£720.00

*From 1st April 2023

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Advert Size	Members	Non Members
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1/2 page (172 x 126mm)	300.00	360.00
1/4 page (83 x 126mm)	175.00	210.00
Inserts (leaflets)	250.00	300.00

All prices are subject to VAT at the current rate
Artwork, please supply hi-res cmyk PDFs to:
liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk

The Cheshire East Business Support Initiative

Start, Sustain and Succeed.

Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems and businesses through the Cheshire East Chambers Network – all three Cheshire East Chambers of Commerce working together.

The listed workshops below are to be delivered by East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce:

Wednesday 17th January 2024

The Space 35-37 High Street, Congleton

- Digital Marketing
- Sales

Thursday 8th February 2024

Holmes Chapel Community Centre

- HR
- Health and Safety

Thursday 14th March 2024

Sandbach Town Hall

- Business Coaching
- Account recording



This project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.



For more information and bookings for the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Workshops, please email liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk