

January 2025

Chamber

ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS

AWARDS 2025

.....
FRIDAY 28TH MARCH

See the categories available for entry on pages 12 & 13

Contents

- 04 **New Chamber Members**
The Chamber welcomes 6 new members from across the region
- 05 **Chamber Christmas Lunch 2024**
The annual East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lunch took place at Pecks Restaurant in Congleton on the 6th December
- 07 **The Winter Waltz Gala Dinner 2024**
A sparkling evening of giving and celebration
- 08 **Annual Clay Shoot 2024**
Details on this years clay shoot at Cloudside Shooting Grounds
- 10 **TMC Strategic Communicaitons**
Reflecting on a year of transformation
- 12 **Chamber Awards 2025**
All the information for this years awards have been revealed!
- 14 **Harts Chartered Accountants**
Assessing the impact of the October budget, on your business and personal situation
- 16 **Company Spotlight**
Highlighting p3od as an award-winning HR service provider
- 23 **Patrons of The Chamber**
Thank you to our patrons for your continued support



Welcome From The Chief Executive

Welcome from the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce

On behalf of the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to welcome you to this edition of our magazine and wish you all a very happy & prosperous New Year! The Chamber Magazine is designed to be a hub of business insights, community updates, and industry trends. This publication embodies the vibrant and dynamic spirit of our local commerce network.

At the Chamber, we are committed to supporting and driving growth for businesses of all sizes. This magazine is a valuable resource to connect, inspire, and inform both our members and the wider community.

In this issue, you'll find highlights of recent achievements, details of upcoming events - such as the launch of our 2025 Annual

Business Awards - and inspiring stories that showcase the resilience and innovation of our local businesses.

Additionally, we're continuing to deliver our UKSPF-funded workshops and masterclasses across the Cheshire East area until March 2025. For details on these valuable opportunities, please see page 20.

Looking ahead, the Autumn Budget presented significant challenges for businesses. While there was some support for smaller firms, it is evident that businesses are expected to shoulder much of the responsibility for addressing the public finance deficit. These layered costs will inevitably add to business overheads.

With higher National Insurance contributions for employers, an increased minimum wage, rises in Capital Gains Tax, and strengthened employee rights, businesses face tough decisions. These

additional costs will either need to be passed on to consumers or absorbed elsewhere within operations, adding pressure across the board.

As always, we remain committed to supporting our members through these challenges and beyond. Thank you for being part of our thriving business community.

We wish you well and if there is anything that we can do to support your business please do not hesitate to reach out at Jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk or 01260 540570.

Jackie

Jackie Randles
Chief Executive

Events Calendar

East Cheshire Young Professional Network (YPN) Financial Awareness

21st January 2025
9.00am – 11.00am

The Space, 35-37 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1AX

UKSPF Wealth Management with Franklyn

23rd January 2025
8.00am – 12.00pm

Astbury Golf Club, Peel Lane, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4RE

Thursday Thirty 30th January 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

Nadine Abrahams - Wills, Trusts & LPA's, The Lion & Swan, Swan Bank, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1AH

UKSPF Cyber Security & IT 5th February 2025

8.00am – 11.30am
Location TBC.

East Cheshire Young Professional Network (YPN) 11th February 2025

9.00am – 11.00am

The Space, 35-37 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1AX

Thursday Thirty 27th February 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

IronMarket, 10 Brindley Court, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 9QA

Amplify Your Voice: An Introduction to Podcasting 4th March 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

The Space, 35-37 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1AX

Annual Business Awards 28th March 2025

6.45pm onwards

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

Thursday Thirty 10th April 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

Sienna's & Triad UK, 3 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 2BN

Afternoon Tea Networking Event 30th April 2025

2.00pm – 4.45pm

Pecks Restaurant, Newcastle Road, Moreton, Nr. Congleton, CW12 4SB

Thursday Thirty 22nd May 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

Parx Mortgages & Insurance Ltd, Riverside Mill, Mountbatten Way, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1DY

Annual Golf Day 18th June 2025

10.00am – 9.00pm

Vale Royal Abbey, Vale Royal Drive, Whitegate, Cheshire, CW8 2BA

Thursday Thirty 3rd July 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

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

Thursday Thirty 18th September 2025

8.30am – 10.00am

Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows, Radnor Park Estate, Congleton, CW12 4UQ

Clay Shoot 15th October 2025

10.30am – 4.30pm

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

If you would like to host a Thursday Thirty, we currently have availability on 14th August 2025, 30th October 2025 and the 11th December 2025.

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:



Destination Florida Children's Charity

Destination Florida Children's Charity take children living with life-limiting conditions or illnesses on the trip of a lifetime to Florida.

110 medical and non-medical volunteers take over the reins for a whole week, allowing families and carers invaluable respite, whilst safe in the knowledge that their child will continue to receive professional medical care.

www.destinationflorida.org.uk

Tel: 0161 789 7788

Clarendon Business Centre, 38 Clarendon Road, Eccles, Manchester, M30 9ES



Brown & Brown (JSW Insurance)

Brown & Brown work to build established relationships with our clients and support them in every way. Our office is based in Newcastle-under-Lyme and has been providing insurance solutions since 2003.

www.jswinsurance.co.uk

Tel: 01782 566777

Suite 6, Landmark Business Centre, Parkhouse Industrial Estate, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 7RG



Rose Sienna Ltd

Stunning coffee, brunch & lunch in the heart of Congleton.

3 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1BN



FINANCIAL PLANNING

JPB Financial Planning

A firm of Chartered Financial Planners based in Macclesfield with over 500 clients and over £230 million of assets under advice.

We pride ourselves on independent, holistic advice for all of our clients.

www.jpbfinaancialplanning.co.uk

Tel: 01625 613940

11 Market Place, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 1EB



Tom Withers Architecture

Tom Withers Architecture is an Architectural and Design business based in Congleton, Cheshire, offering a range of architectural services. Our project portfolio ranges from internal alterations, residential extensions, and new builds to commercial and industrial buildings.

www.tomwithersarchitecture.co.uk

Tel: 01260 277175

5 The Courtyard, Greenfield Industrial Estate, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4TR



Blue Spot

At Blue Spot, we pride ourselves on our personal approach to business IT support. Big or small, no matter what your business IT support requirements, our Cheshire based team of superheroes are here to help.

www.bluespot-it.co.uk

Tel: 01260 280001

Dane Mill Business Centre, Broadhurst Ln, Cheshire, Congleton CW12 1LA



2024 Annual Chamber Christmas Lunch Report

We had an absolutely wonderful time kicking off the festivities with our Annual Christmas Lunch on Friday 6th December 2024.

The event was held at the charming Pecks restaurant just outside of Congleton and brought together over 70 guests for an afternoon filled with great company, laughter, and festive cheer. This much-loved tradition is always a highlight of the year, and this year was no exception.

Guests were warmly greeted by Jackie Randles and Liz Longmore, who set a welcoming tone for the day. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch featuring a carefully curated menu with something for every taste. The lively atmosphere was the perfect backdrop for Jackie's announcement of our upcoming Business Awards, scheduled for March 2025 - an event we're already looking forward to!

After the meal, we turned our attention to a raffle in support of our current Charity of the

Year, Bridging the Gap. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who attended, we were thrilled to raise an impressive £520 for this important cause, a testament to the kindness and community spirit of our guests.

The afternoon seamlessly transitioned into a relaxed and sociable evening as guests stayed to enjoy drinks and petit fours, sharing stories and savouring the festive spirit. It was a wonderful way to start the season, and we're already counting down to next year's celebration!



Knutsford Consultancy Wins Contract for Woodland Trust

A leading property consultancy in the Northwest has won a key contract to manage the Woodland Trust's largest estate in England after winning a competitive tender.

Fisher German has been awarded a three-year contract to conduct the estate management of Smithills Estate, located northwest of Bolton in Greater Manchester.

The 1,700-acre estate consists of a mix of woodland, farmland, grassland, ravines and peat bogs, and the natural environment is carefully conserved by the Woodland Trust to ensure a balance between encouraging wildlife and sustainable farming is maintained.

Fisher German will be responsible for the management of the estate's property portfolio including its 12 farming tenancies on-site, advising on opportunities for diversification, regular asset reviews, and more.

The firm was awarded the contract after a three-month tender process and will work on the contract from its Knutsford office.

The news follows Fisher German's successful management of land owned by the National Forest in Leicestershire over the past two years.

Matthew Burton, Associate Partner at Fisher German who will be leading on the contract, said: "This is the first time we'll be working on an estate managed by the Woodland Trust, and we're really looking forward to helping the estate more efficiently managing its property while allowing it to focus on preserving the wonderful natural environment."

"Our previous experience in managing land owned by the National Forest impressed during the tender process and helped persuade the Woodland Trust to award us the contract."

"We have got to work straight away on site, and we hope this will be the start of working on further sites with the Woodland Trust in years to come."



The Smithills Estate looking towards Bolton



The Winter Waltz Gala Dinner 2024: A Sparkling Evening of Giving and Celebration

On Friday, 29th November, the Winter Waltz Gala Dinner returned to the stunning Carden Park Hotel, marking another spectacular evening. Over 180 guests gathered for a dazzling night of entertainment and fundraising in support of The St. James's Place Charitable Foundation and this year's pledge charity, The Children's Adventure Farm Trust (CAFT).

The evening began with a soulful performance by the talented Cole Page, whose renditions of classics from the Great American Songbook set a sophisticated tone for the night. Guests were warmly welcomed by Franklyn's Managing Director, Andrew Chatterton, whose heartfelt speech highlighted the evening's purpose: to transform lives through collective generosity. Special recognition was given to the incredible sports stars who joined in celebrating this momentous occasion.



Entertainment continued with The Vinyettes, who delivered a sparkling performance of harmonious classics, and later, The Solar Flares kept the dance floor alive with their electrifying beats. Darren Proctor expertly hosted the evening, ensuring every element ran seamlessly while infusing the event with his trademark charm.

As always, the gala offered a range of exciting fundraising activities, including auctions featuring exclusive prizes like a private tour of Capitol Hill and a luxury golfing experience.

Thanks to the immense generosity of attendees, an incredible £100,000 was raised, with donations matched pound for pound by St. James's Place, doubling the impact of every contribution. This brings our total over the years to £1.88 million

– a testament to extraordinary power of community and philanthropy. Of the £100,000 raised on the night, £13,515 is going to the chosen pledge charity, The Children's Adventure Farm Trust. This is enough to enable 245 children to attend and make magical memories with their families at CAFT Christmas Experience.

A heartfelt thank you to all who attended, supported, and made the 2024 Winter Waltz another unforgettable success. Your generosity is truly life-changing, and we look forward to welcoming you back next year!



FRANKLYN

Scan here to watch the highlights from the event

Start the new year with the right advice.

Here for you, your family and your business.

-  Agriculture
-  Family
-  Business Law
-  Personal Injury & Medical Negligence
-  Commercial Property
-  Professional Negligence
-  Employment
-  Residential Property
-  Dispute Resolution
-  Wills, Trusts & Probate

www.tinsdills.co.uk | 01270 761111
Hanley | Newcastle-under-Lyme | Leek | Sandbach



Clay Shoot 2024 Report

Our 2024 Autumn Clay Shoot, held at the beautiful Cloudside Shooting Grounds, took place on Wednesday 16th October. We were thrilled to welcome 57 attendees to a day filled with clay shooting, networking, and delicious food.

This year's event was proudly sponsored by D2NA, whose team not only supported the event but also participated in the activities of the day. Upon arrival, attendees were greeted with hot beverages and a selection of breakfast rolls to set them up for the day ahead. Following this, participants headed out for the practice session, which gave everyone the opportunity to hone their skills before the main competition.

After the practice round, attendees returned to the club house where the wonderful Cloudside hospitality team served up tasty cakes and more hot beverages. It was a perfect chance for everyone to warm up and engage in some early networking before the excitement of the competition resumed.

Thankfully, the weather held up, allowing all teams to complete their rounds without interruption. The clay competition saw participants head back out onto the shooting grounds, where team spirit and competitive energy were in full swing.

Once the shooting concluded, everyone gathered back indoors to enjoy a hearty meal of hot pie, chips, and vegetables. This gave attendees another chance to network and catch up with familiar faces before the prize-giving ceremony.

The awards ceremony, led by Shaun Conway from D2NA, was a highlight of the day. The winners were proudly presented with their trophies, celebrating their shooting talent. For the individual scores, Tom Halton from Bridging the Gap took first place, David Taylor from Harts Ltd took second place and Andrew Whiteley from Harts Ltd in third place. The overall winning team included Senior Aerospace Bird Bellows, JFPF Limited and Hammond McNulty. Well done to Becky Jamieson from Jenny's Blinds for winning

the Best Ladies Individual Score and to Matt Ottley from SAS Daniels for taking the Clay Conservation trophy.

To cap off the day, we held a raffle with a range of fantastic prizes. We were delighted to announce that the raffle raised £305 for our charity of the year, Bridging the Gap.

The 2024 Autumn Clay Shoot was a fantastic day for all involved, with attendees enjoying the perfect balance of sporting competition, networking, and great food. We extend our heartfelt thanks to D2NA for their sponsorship, the team at Cloudside for their excellent hospitality and to the instructors for their advice and guidance throughout the day. Most of all, thank you to everyone who joined us – we look forward to seeing you all again next year!



Tom Halton, 1st Individual Score



David Taylor, 2nd Individual Score



Andrew Whiteley, 3rd Individual Score



Becky Jamieson, Best Ladies Individual Score



Matt Ottley, Clay Conservation



Overall Winning Team (Senior Aerospace, JFPF, Hammond McNulty)



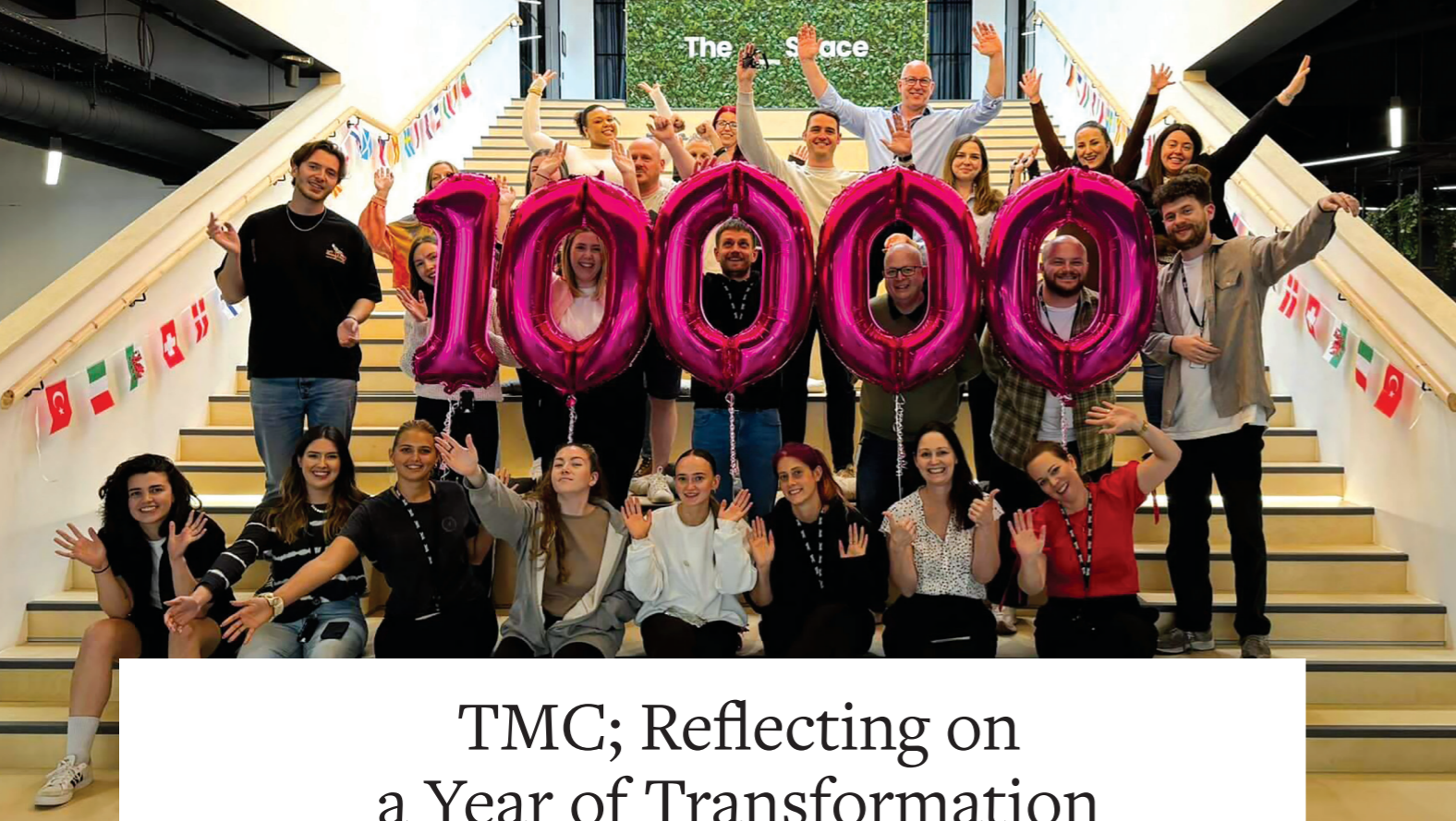
Cloudside Clubhouse



Networking & Shooting



Cloudside Shooting Grounds



TMC; Reflecting on a Year of Transformation

2024 was a landmark year for TMC. Marked by prestigious recognition, strategic expansion, a commitment to nurturing talent and unwavering dedication to excellence.

The year began with big celebrations, marking TMC's 18th anniversary and the official ceremony and presentation of our King's Award for Enterprise in International Trade, attended by Lady Redmond MBE, Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire.



This milestone was further commemorated by significant recognitions, including winning the Export & International Trade Award and a Special Achievement Award at the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce Awards in March.

Following this, our international presence has been a key focus, with strategic participation in major medical congresses across Europe. From the ESC Congress in London to ESMO in Barcelona, we've ensured TMC remains at the forefront of critical industry conversations, deepening our insights and strengthening our global connections.

Closer to home, TMC are committed to investing in the next generation within our local communities. The Future Vision work experience programme welcomed six ambitious students this summer, providing them with hands-on experience and real-world insights. The team also celebrated key milestones, including completing their 10,000th job and CEO Tim's 10-year recognition as a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing.

A standout moment towards the end of 2024 came with the strategic acquisition of Calvin PR, welcoming nine talented PR professionals into the TMC team. This expansion has significantly enhanced the company's media and public relations capabilities, complementing our existing strategic marketing approach and broadening our service offering.



The TMC office is based above The Space, a professional co-working environment in the centre of Congleton. Over the past 12 months, The Space has continued to grow in community and offering, most recently with the launch of a brand new, fully-serviced podcast studio.

This new facility provides content creators with access to high-quality audio and video equipment and production services within a professional recording space, further cementing TMC's commitment to supporting local talent and innovation.

Here's to continued growth and collaboration in 2025; finding new ways to create positive impact!

tmc The Space

chris hamriding
lettings & estate agents

NOW OPEN IN SANDBACH!

YOUR AWARD-WINNING PROPERTY EXPERTS
BOOK A **FREE VALUATION** WITH CHRIS OR PETE
www.chrisamriding.co.uk | Congleton: 01260 543 999 | Sandbach: 01270 346 500

Local relationship banking

Our unique approach to banking puts your needs and ambitions first. Your dedicated account manager is there to support you, making those important decisions to get a tailored solution that's right for you.

Would you like to experience the Handelsbanken difference?
Speak to your branch today.

handelsbanken.co.uk/wilmslow

Handelsbanken

Handelsbanken is the trading name of Handelsbanken plc, which is incorporated in England and Wales with company number 11305395. Registered office: 3 Thomas More Square, London, E1W 1WY, UK. Handelsbanken plc is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Financial Services Register number 806852. Handelsbanken plc is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ).

00.294 | 03.2024

THE CHAMBER OF CHOICE

ANNUAL CHAMBER BUSINESS

AWARDS 2025

FRIDAY 28TH 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
eastcheshirechamber.co.uk/business-awards-2025



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

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE AWARD

SMALL BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR AWARD

YOUNG PERSON
OF THE YEAR AWARD

EMPLOYER
OF THE YEAR AWARD

CONTRIBUTION TO
THE COMMUNITY AWARD

EMPLOYEE
OF THE YEAR AWARD

BEST DIGITAL MARKETING
CAMPAIGN AWARD

EXCELLENCE IN
CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT
AWARD

2025 CHARITY OF THE YEAR

The 2025 Charity of the Year Award will be decided by a poll from the East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce members.

Budget FALLOUT

a call to action



National Insurance and employment costs

The government hopes to raise £24bn from increasing employer National Insurance Contributions by 1.2% (to 15%) and by reducing the threshold above which contributions are payable from £9,100 to £5,000 effective April 2025.

This might not sound a major change at first sight. But it does mean it will cost around £650 a year more to employ someone for 20 hours on the minimum wage, or around £925 a year more for someone on a salary of £35,000 (the national average).

We have calculated the additional cost for a number of our clients and for those with more than a handful of employees, the additional tax charge is often 2-3% of total payroll costs. Businesses in sectors which have a large number of lowly paid, part time employees, are particularly affected (eg retail, hospitality, care sector). For the worst affected businesses, the tax rise could conceivably be 5% of current payroll costs.

In addition to this, April also sees an increase in the National Living Wage by 6.7% to £12.21 per hour for those over 21, and 16.3% to £10.00 per hour for those aged 18-20.

It is important all businesses review their budgets for 2025 and have plans in place to cover these increased costs, whether that is by way of reducing costs or by increasing sales prices or both.

Business Property Relief

If you died unexpectedly tomorrow, the value of your trading business will normally pass to your heirs without giving rise to an inheritance tax bill. From April 2026 this will not necessarily be the case.

Farmers have gained media attention. But the change affects successful business owners too; if your business is worth more than £1m then you too are likely to be affected. In the worst cases, your heirs could be forced to choose between an emergency sale of the business (almost always at a poor price), closing it down to realise

No, this is not an invitation to join a protest march!

But as everyone will be well aware, October's Budget brought a raft of tax increases directed at businesses and their owners. Very few will be unscathed by the rises. So if you have not already done so, you should take the opportunity to assess the impact on your business and on your personal situation...

By Chris Bentley
Director at Harts Accountants
T: 01625 669669

cash, or selling the family home. There is time to review succession arrangements between now and April 2026 to protect your heirs, the business and your employees.

Possibilities might include revising wills to ensure a married couple each pass on £1m of business assets free of inheritance tax. They might also involve handing on assets to the next generation and looking to survive 7 years, or for the younger business owner in particular, considering insurance to cover the tax liability in the event of an unexpected death.

In summary, business owners can no longer assume their business is free of inheritance tax. Working with your lawyers and financial advisors, now is the time to review the position and put in place arrangements to reflect the new tax environment.

Pensions and inheritance tax

At the moment your pension should be outside your estate for inheritance tax purposes. This changes for deaths from April 2027, not just for the part of the pensions built up from Budget Day, but for the entire amount.

Assuming you reach 75, when your heirs draw the pension funds, they will also continue to be subject to income tax on the withdrawal. This is in addition to the inheritance tax charge.

In the light of these changes we are recommending that clients use the coming months to review their pension arrangements. A review should cover both the approach to existing pensions and ongoing contributions. The impact of the changes extends beyond tax so it is important any review is undertaken in conjunction with your financial advisor.

About Chris Bentley

Chris heads up the specialist Tax and Forensic departments at Harts Accountants. For further information contact Chris on **01625 669669** or email **CBentley@harts-ltd.com**

PRINT ADVERTISING WORKS... THAT IS WHY WE ARE HERE!

Reach 33,500 homes across Cheshire each month in trusted local publications.

Our towns include Congleton, Sandbach, Holmes Chapel, including surrounding villages and Middlewich.

Speak to our team about how we can be part of your marketing mix in.

Call or Whatsapp: **01477 518 252**

Email: **bookings@archpublications.com**

Website: **www.archpublications.com**

ARCH PUBLICATIONS
reach your audience



DEDICATED TO HELPING
SMALL & MEDIUM SIZED
BUSINESSES ACHIEVE
THEIR VISION

Are you passionate
about business with a
desire to help others?



Business Doctors is a business support network, dedicated to helping small and medium sized businesses achieve their vision.

Drawing on extensive business skills and experience, Business Doctors provides 'hands on' support to business

owners enabling them to overcome their individual challenges and helping them to achieve their aspirations for growth.

We are seeking like minded business professionals to join our collaborative network. If you are ready for a new challenge, get in touch now!

"I love doing what I do – helping business owners realise their goals."



p3od Spotlight

1. What services can p3od offer?

In simple terms, p3od is a trusted and award-winning HR service provider. We offer a range of services including practical HR guidance, workforce planning, talent and succession management and support for workplace disputes or issues. Our work also extends into learning and development. Our status as a registered ILM and City and Guilds training provider enables us to equip businesses and leaders with the skills they need. Whether it's resolving HR challenges or building high-performing teams, we deliver tailored solutions designed for our clients.

2. What sets your company apart from others in your industry?

Our team is accredited at the highest level with the CIPD, with HR Director-level expertise and in-depth knowledge of employment law. What really sets us apart is our hands-on experience. We've been where our clients are - managing people, teams, and dealing with the complexities of running a business. Our approach is personal because we care. This means we invest time to understand the businesses we work with. We always go the extra mile, because we believe every business regardless of size has greater potential and can always improve its performance. This combination of deep expertise and personalised service is what makes p3od a standout in the HR industry.

3. Can you share a proud moment or milestone that reflects your company's impact?

We take pride in every client we work with, so picking one moment is really challenging. A recent example that stands out in 2024 was an equality and diversity project for Waltham Forest Council. That project led to the council being awarded best equality and diversity employer in the sector awards. This is testament to our commitment to champion equality and deliver the highest standards of HR service.

4. What are your company's core values, and how do they shape your everyday operations?

At p3od, we are driven by four core values: sustainability, expertise, passion, and pride. We share our knowledge and experience to help businesses grow and perform at their best. By staying at the forefront of industry practices, we deliver results grounded in proven methods,

sharing our knowledge and experience to help businesses grow and perform at their best. Our passion fuels everything we do, working collaboratively with clients to unlock their full potential. We take pride in going above and beyond, ensuring the highest quality service and empowering our teams to excel. These values aren't just words to us - they're the principles we live by, and our clients' feedback tells us we're getting it right.

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

There is a great quote from Martin Luther King which states, 'Life's most persistent and urgent question is - what are you doing for others?'. In today's challenging commercial environment, it's easy to deprioritise the workforce, however, research by McKinsey suggests that 94% of employees would stay longer with a company that truly invests in their career development and prioritises talent. We know that the cost of recruitment and the challenging jobs market mean that retaining employees is more vital than ever. Developing a talent and succession plan isn't just about filling roles - it's about finding and keeping the people who share your values and care as much about your company as you do.



www.p3od.co.uk
administration@p3od.co.uk



Upcoming Thursday Thirty's 2025

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



30th January 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
Nadine Abrahams
Wills, Trusts and LPA's

IRONMARKET

27th February 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
IronMarket

sas daniels
SOLICITORS

3rd July 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
SAS Daniels

IRONMARKET

27th February 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
IronMarket



10th April 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
Rose Sienna & Triad UK

parx Mortgages & Insurance

22nd May 2025
08.30am – 10.00am
Parx Mortgages & Insurance



Experienced Insolvency Manager Ben Gray Joins Currie Young

An accomplished insolvency specialist with a strong commitment to saving jobs is returning to his North Staffordshire roots.

Ben joins Currie Young from his recent role as an Insolvency Manager in Manchester and Leeds. Originally from Stoke-on-Trent, Ben holds a law degree and brings experience from both the Government Insolvency Service and private practice.

"I'm excited to join Currie Young, where I'll be leading a dedicated team," Ben shared. "Currie Young is a forward-thinking firm and an emerging leader in the sector. They share my passion for problem-solving and job preservation. While insolvency practitioners often face a challenging public image, we're equally focused on rescuing businesses and, when that isn't feasible, saving as many jobs as possible."

With headquarters in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Currie Young also has offices in Lichfield and Brierley Hill. Founded in 2015

by experienced insolvency practitioner Steve Currie, the company has grown its team in recent months, welcoming senior staff members and three apprentices.

"Adding Ben to our team highlights our success in attracting top talent to drive our growth," said Steve Currie. "Ben brings with him a wealth of senior-level experience and a strong commitment to proactive client service."

Originally from Meir Park and a former pupil of Blythe Bridge High School, Ben graduated with a law degree in 2005 and later qualified as an Insolvency Practitioner.

"Often, early intervention from a firm like Currie Young can be the key to turning around businesses facing cash flow challenges," Ben added. "Companies that seek support early have more options to stabilise the business and protect jobs."

For more information on Currie Young, please go online to www.currieyoung.com.



New Year, New Connections

NET-WORTH **Ntwrk**

Discover the NET-WORTH NTWRK,
where shared knowledge becomes
an investment that makes us all richer.

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEARCH;
The Net-Worth Ntwrk
OR SCAN THE QR CODE.



POWERED BY **IRONMARKET**



Westfield Health

Westfield Health can help support
your employees' wellbeing.

Benefits available include:



Chamber Primary Health Cash Plan
Cashback, up to set limits, on essential
healthcare and access to wellbeing services.



Private Health Insurance
Affordable access to private surgery and
medical treatment.



Wellbeing Solutions
A range of services to help support mental
health, fitness and healthy lifestyles.

Contact your dedicated Westfield Health &
Wellbeing Consultant, Manni Aheer.

maheer@westfieldhealth.com
07710 074753
www.westfieldhealth.com/chamber

Be the good.

More than 700,000 people **take their own life** each year – that's one person every 40 seconds.

And with **1 in 2 employees** seeking mental health support, if it's not you, it could be the person sitting next to you.

Every "I'm fine", or "all good" is the auto pilot response for someone who **needs help**, but doesn't know how to ask.

And once they're planning their way out, it may be **too late**.

Your business can be their **voice**.

Find out how

Charity Number: 1192348



www.btg-mindmatters.org

BRIDGING THE GAP
Mind Matters



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:

Thursday 23rd January 2025

Astbury Golf Club, Congleton
– Wealth Management with Franklyn

Wednesday 5th February 2025

The Technology Barn, Congleton
– Cyber Security & IT

Tuesday 4th March 2025

The Space 35-37 High Street, Congleton
– Amplify Your Voice: An Introduction to Podcasting



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

2024 Thursday Thirty Roundup

Thursday Thirty Networking Mornings remain a fantastic opportunity for Chamber members to connect, network, and build relationships. We always enjoy welcoming new attendees and introducing new members.



January

The_Space in Congleton, co-hosting with TMC Strategic Communications and East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce.



March

Innov8 HR hosted at the Lion & Swan



April

D2NA at Bar Twenty-Seven in Macclesfield



May

Gazer Agency, Congleton Market Quarter



June

Astbury Mere Care Home



July

Everybody Leisure at Congleton Leisure Centre



August

Pulse Fitness at iGym



August

Ruby's at Ruby's Centre



October

Eze Talk at Congleton Town Hall

If you're interested in hosting or attending a Thursday Thirty, please email Liz at liz.longmore@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk for more information.



Connect your business with your local, family-run Cheshire-based telecoms expert.

Tailored VOIP, connectivity, and security solutions for you.

- VOIP
- Web protection
- Connectivity
- Antivirus
- Mobile
- Device management
- Office 365
- IT support

hello@eze-talk.com

www.eze-talk.com

0333 200 0801



Patrons of The Chamber

We would like to thank our patrons for their continuing support



Pecks is the perfect place to impress your business guests at lunch or dinner.

Tel: 01260 275161
www.pecksrest.co.uk



Whatever you're facing, you need your solicitor to act with understanding, empathy and sound knowledge. Whether it's personal or business, we are here to support in what matters to you.

Tel: 01270 761111
www.tinsdills.co.uk



Engineering bespoke flexible joints and pressure duct systems for high temperature and high-pressure applications working within strictly regulated industries across the globe.

Tel: 01260 271411
www.sabird-bellows.co.uk

Handelsbanken

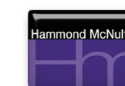
Handelsbanken take a bespoke approach to their customers' requirements for business or personal banking.

Tel: 01625 529 296
www.handelsbanken.co.uk/wilmslow



TMC are creators of award-winning communication strategies and innovative marketing campaigns.

Tel: 01260 295 700
www.wearetmc.com



Hammond McNulty provide accounting and business services, with specialists in Financial Planning and HR.

Tel: 01260 279622
www.h-m.co.uk



Reliance Medical manufacture and distribute quality medical devices to the UK and beyond.

Tel: 08456 448808
www.reliancemedical.co.uk



With expert advice and practical support, Business Doctors gives your business the ability to develop and grow.

Tel: 0845 293 8466
www.businessdoctors.co.uk

FRANKLYN

Delivering trusted, transparent solutions to ensure future financial security.

Tel: 01260 291825
www.franklyn.co.uk

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP Subscription Rates*

Number of Employees	Subscription Fee	Price Inc. VAT
Sole Trader	£150.00	£180.00
2-6	£180.00	£216.00
7-12	£210.00	£252.00
13-20	£250.00	£300.00
21-25	£280.00	£336.00
26-30	£310.00	£372.00
31-50	£350.00	£420.00
51-100	£380.00	£456.00
101-200	£420.00	£504.00
201-500	£500.00	£600.00
500+	£600.00	£720.00

*From 1st April 2023

CHAMBER MAGAZINE Advertising Rates

Advert Size	Members	Non Members
Back page (210 x 297mm)	550.00	660.00
Full page (210 x 297mm)	525.00	630.00
1/2 page (172 x 126mm)	300.00	360.00
1/4 page (83 x 126mm)	175.00	210.00

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



Scan the QR code to find out more from Jackie or Liz

Would you like to become a patron or support one of our upcoming events?

If you are interested in becoming a patron, please get in touch with Jackie Randles at jackie.randles@eastcheshirechamber.co.uk



www.eastcheshirechamber.co.uk
T: 01260 540 570



FRANKLYN

FOR WHAT MATTERS

Financial planning that's as unique as you.

At Franklyn, we promise you a truly personal service. When you work with us, your financial goals are at the heart of everything we do.

Our aim is to be your trusted financial adviser not just for today, but for the long term.

- ✓ Personal Financial Planning
- ✓ Tax Efficient Investment Planning
- ✓ Retirement Planning
- ✓ Mortgages
- ✓ Access to Currency Exchange*
- ✓ Financial Advice for Businesses

f in @  

Talk to Franklyn

CALL 01260 291825

VISIT FRANKLYN.CO.UK



Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage.

*Please note that the service provided is separate and distinct from the services offered by St. James's Place.

Franklyn is a trading name of Franklyn Financial Management Ltd and is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management Plc (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.sjp.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 18/09/2024