



Brentwood Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

November 2013

www.brentwoodchambers.co.uk



Dear Member

We are holding **two major networking events before Christmas** and would really enjoy seeing you at one or both.

They are being held at the Marygreen Manor Hotel,
(a Chamber member).



First, we have our **Open Evening**. This is being held on Thursday 14th November (6pm to 8.30pm). Attendance is complimentary as it is sponsored by Havering College. See back page on how to book in.

A welcoming drink will be provided as well as a finger buffet. Some short presentations on the work of Chamber and of our sponsors, will provide a focal point for the evening. But the main priority will be the opportunity for networking. Guests who may be thinking of joining Chamber will be especially welcome

The other event is our annual **Christmas Lunch** on Thursday 12th December (12 noon to 2.00pm). The formalities will be kept to a minimum but we are fortunate to have, as a speaker, a local young man, Jordon Cox, who made national headlines and media appearances recently for being the *Voucher Vulture*. His appearance at our lunch is in line with our current focus on encouraging young entrepreneurs.

On that theme, we will be announcing a competition in the New Year to find candidates for our **incubator business project** which we will be sponsoring, and working in partnership with Havering College.



Members of Chamber's Executive Committee recently attended a presentation by the CEO of **Crossrail**. They reported that work on the station extension in Shenfield will start in 2015.

One of our longest established members has just retired. It is **Neil Firkins of Neil Graham Gallery**, situated on Ingrave Road, just up from Wilson's corner. The Gallery has become Neil Graham Interiors, one of whose owners is Mick Norcross (of Sugar Hut and Towie fame). We wish Neil a happy retirement (he will still be undertaking the framing and restoration work at which he is a renowned expert) and we wish the new business well for the future.

Chamber is taking part in this year's **Christmas events** in the Borough, judging the Christmas Windows competition in Brentwood, Shenfield & Ingatestone and donating prizes.

Also, we will, once again, be organising the **Shenfield lighting up event** on Saturday 30th November, 4pm. The Deputy Mayor will be operating the switch itself, while Peter Franklin, of Franklins Jewellers (outside which the ceremony will take place) is kindly providing festive refreshments. Please join us there.



As this is the final edition of the year, may I wish you a good trading period leading up to Christmas and beyond; as well as, on a personal level, a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Mike Hawkins
Chief Executive

This month's Newsletter is sponsored by:



The Shenfield Wine Company – Independent and Family Run Wine Emporium
Please contact Nish Patel on 01277-204899 (12pm (midday) till 10pm)
Email: shenfieldwineco@gmail.com

The Shenfield Wine Co.



Proud to be independent & family run



WINES – Choose from a selection of **400+ wines from all over the world** ranging from everyday wines right through to prestigious premier wines from top vineyards.

WHISKY – On average We stock **around 160 Single Malts** including some very rare bottling's from closed distilleries. Our whisky range provides an excellent gift for the person who has everything and a fantastic choice for the discerning malt enthusiast. Alongside our whisky range we also stock a range of 20 Bourbons, 18 Rums and probably the best range of hand rolled Cuban Cigars for miles.



WORLD BEERS – We stock some of the most interesting beers from around the world. Come in and buy a bottle that will bring back memories of distant holidays. We have beers from Kenya, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, Cyprus, Greece, Mexico, U.S., Mexico, U.S., Canada and much more.

SERVICE – If you find it difficult to match food and wine, we have experts on hand to give advice on wine & spirit choices for that special lunch or dinner party. We are also happy to source products which are hard, if not impossible to find. Just tell us what it is and we'll see if we can source it for you at no extra cost.



CORPORATE GIFTS – We can supply any quantity, in any format, gift wrapped if need be, and delivered to meet your specific requirements. Our service includes the ability to engrave your company logo and business message onto bottles of Champagne, Wine and Whisky.

FUNCTIONS – We supply **free glass hire** for events/functions with your order or you can rent just our glassware if you so choose. We also provide a **Wine Tasting Service**, where we can host a wine tasting event at your place of work for clients or employees. We can also arrange a private tasting at your home for any number of guests. Please call in to our Shenfield store for more information.



BRAND CHOICES – We do not compete with supermarkets! We have a brand choice philosophy of not stocking brands that are available in supermarkets. This means that when you visit us, it will be informative, interesting and most of all unique.

Visit us and get passionate about wine. As a truly independent wine and spirit merchant we stock a vast range of drinks, backed up by service levels we are proud of. Our philosophy is **“if we get excited about a product then our customers will too”**. So we are constantly searching for new products, and we don't stock anything we haven't tasted and we get paid to do it!

The Shenfield Wine Company
86 Hutton Road, Shenfield, Essex CM15 8NB
Telephone 01277-204899 (12midday till 10pm)
Contact Nish Patel: shenfieldwineco@gmail.com

Member News



Brentwood County High School

On Friday 20th June 2014 we aim to support as many local community groups and projects as we can on the first ever Brentwood County High School Community Day. If you know of a group or project that could make use of a team of between ten and twenty young people and a pair of staff for the day then please contact us.

Would you like some students to paint a fence, clear out a store cupboard, make you some cushions or help with a task of your choice? If so please contact Hilary Berry on 01277 238900 ext 414 or berry@bchs.essex.sch.uk

BCHS 'giving back to the community'



Lighting Up Brentwood: a reminder that this year's event takes place on **Saturday 30th November**. Don't forget that the high street will be closed from 8am – 8pm, so please bear this in mind when planning deliveries on that day. Promotional posters will be distributed shortly. Remember to follow us on Twitter @bwoodevents. Also think about how you and your business can get involved on the day. For further information please contact lightingup@brentwood.gov.uk

Free parking dates: There will be free parking this Christmas on the following dates in the following car parks:
Saturday 30 November: Multi storey car park, Coptfold Road, Brentwood.

Saturday 07 December: Multi storey car park, Coptfold Road, Brentwood, Hunter Avenue and Friars Avenue, Shenfield

Saturday 21 December: Multi storey car park, Coptfold Road, Brentwood, Hunter Avenue and Friars Avenue, Shenfield

Promotional posters will be distributed shortly and we would be grateful if you could display these in your premises / shop window.

Small Business Saturday: this is a new Government backed initiative to drive awareness of small businesses in our towns and encourage people to support them by shopping locally on **Saturday 7th December 2013**. The Council is supporting this event with free parking as per above. The Renaissance Group has allocated £3k for businesses in the borough to bid for funding to support them with their plans for Small Business Saturday. The funds are split equally across the borough (£1k for each main area – Brentwood, Shenfield and Ingatestone) and can be used for activities such as street entertainers / attractions. If you require more information, including posters to help promote your involvement please contact Stuart Haigh on the details below. Businesses should submit their bids online ASAP at: <http://forms.brentwood.gov.uk/default.aspx/RenderForm/?F.Name=GC9bPCLvxNG&HideToolbar=1>

Christmas window competition: Brentwood Borough Council, in association with the Renaissance Group and Brentwood Chamber of Commerce are launching this year's Christmas Window Competition at the Lighting Up Brentwood event on **Saturday 30 November 2013**. If you're a business in Brentwood, Shenfield or Ingatestone with a shop window, then please take part. Businesses in Brentwood high street can also take part in the Secret Santa Treasure Hunt during Lighting Up. Letters to all businesses are currently being distributed. Entry forms must be completed and returned by Friday 15 November.

For more information contact: **Stuart Haigh, Interim Town Centre & Marketing Manager**
T 01277 312515 | F 01277 312743 | www.brentwood.gov.uk | stuart.haigh@brentwood.gov.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Executive Committee Meeting Dates 2013 - 2014

21st November 2013. 16th January, 20th February, 20th March, 17th April, 15th May, 19th June, 17th July, 18th September, 16th October and 20th November 2014.

If you have any issues you want to be raised at an Executive Committee meeting, please contact the Chamber office a week or so before the relevant meeting and we will put it on the agenda

Email: info@brentwoodchambers.co.uk

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ NETWORKING EVENTS 2013 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Open Evening, 6.00pm to 8.30pm, Thursday 14th November ★

Marygreen Manor Hotel, London Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4NR

To book your place please email the office info@brentwoodchambers.co.uk

★ Business Breakfast, 7.45am to 9.15am, Wednesday 4th December ★

Marygreen Manor Hotel, London Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4NR

Complimentary event, to book a place please email lrussell@wortleybyers.co.uk

The next following breakfast will be on Wednesday 5th February 2014 (no meeting in January).

★ Pint & a Chat, 7.00pm, Wednesday 4th December ★

Spotlight Bar, Brentwood Theatre, 15 Shenfield Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AG

Members and non-members welcome, no need to book, just turn up from 7:00pm; the first 10 people to arrive receive their first drink free!

★ Christmas Lunch, 12.00 noon to 2.30pm Thursday 12th December ★

Marygreen Manor Hotel, London Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4NR

To book and pay online go to: <http://brentwoodchamberchristmasluncheon.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Sign Off

As I mentioned on the front page of this Newsletter, in the early New Year, Chamber will be formally launching a competition for places to be awarded in connection with our incubator business project. It will be co-located with Havering College's Peter Jones Academy in Brentwood High Street. The emphasis will be on start-up young entrepreneurs. **If you know anyone who fits this bill, you can nominate them; so please let us know.**

Finally, an opportunity to receive funding for your business has arisen. **Robert Robinson of 'Low Carbon Business' is working with Brentwood Council and has funds available for matching grants.** The focus is on helping SME's drive greater resource efficiency e.g. energy conservation or waste management. If you are thinking of doing something along these lines, why not get in touch with Robert - **Mobile: 07726 580063 Office: 01268 758423 Email: Robert.Robinson@groundwork.org.uk** and you may, on a first-come-first-served basis, secure a welcome grant.

Have a happy Christmas and New Year and we'll meet again in January 2014.

Mike Hawkins

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