



# BRENTWOOD Chamber of Commerce

*Bringing you the  
latest business news  
from Brentwood*

## Finalists for the 2018 Brentwood Business Awards

The category judging process is now complete and we are pleased to announce all the finalists for the Brentwood Business Awards - detailed in full below.

The category sponsors shortlisted the applicants for their category in July after entries closed, and made detailed assessments during the summer before confirming their finalists.

Sponsored by overall awards partner Pinney Talfourd Solicitors and supported by official media partner PhoenixFM, the Awards winners will be revealed at a black tie gala dinner on November 9.

Pinney Talfourd will be undertaking judging meetings this month to select the overall Business of the Year winner from the category finalists - with the

headline award being announced at the climax of the function at Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite.

Tickets and tables for the dinner are now on sale. Individual tickets are priced at £40 per person, with a discounted rate for table bookings. We encourage you to book quickly - see [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events) for details.

### EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



Carmel Jane Photography

Spinal Care Clinics

Blue Serif

### BRENTWOOD BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



### NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



Special Needs And Parents (SNAP)

Rotary Club of Brentwood a Becket

Brentwood Community Print

### EXCELLENT CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

Sponsored by



Chicken and Frog Bookshop

Nuffield Health Brentwood Hospital

Brentwood Brewing Company

### APPRENTICE/TRAINEE OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



Ben Falkingham - FRP Advisory LLP

Thomas Wade - Grange Motors

Ben Ashley - Brentwood Leisure Trust

### SALES AND MARKETING AWARD

Sponsored by



Tina Wing Photography

Blue Serif

Carmel Jane Photography

### GROWING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



Howe Chartered Surveyors

Ignite Business Communications

Blue Serif

### BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



Guy Hocking - Ignite Business Communications

Carmel Jane - Carmel Jane Photography

Philip Ruck - Brentwood Borough Council

### SMALL TO MEDIUM BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



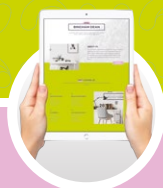
Carmel Jane Photography

Heart of Gold Jewellers

Blue Serif



branding



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creative artwork



photography



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## A strategic message from your Chairman

Here at the Chamber we are very much aware that we exist to meet the needs of our members, and consequently we are constantly assessing what services we provide and how we can further enhance the benefits of membership.

As those of you who attend the Business Breakfast will be aware, we have recently been asking members to tell us what else we can do to support you and your business.

Following on from this, the Chamber Executive Committee devoted our monthly meeting in September to a 'Strategy Session' which gave us the opportunity to consider various ideas for the Chamber moving forward.

We had a lively and interesting debate with various suggestions being considered. Some of the ideas still need to be re-examined and fine-tuned, but we have initially set ourselves the following objectives for 2019.

- A re-branding for the Chamber, including logo, typeface etc
- An enhanced presence on social media, with particular attention being paid to LinkedIn
- Regular 'Information Meetings' for members, with expert guest speakers on a variety of business-related subjects
- Business seminars for Chamber members
- Restructure our members directory in order to make it easier for members to conduct business with each other
- Increase the income for the Chamber by organising some different events, which will generate revenue
- Assess what other Chambers are doing for their members, and see what best practice we can examine and improve upon

We are as always open to new ideas, so if you have any other suggestions, do let us know.

And if you would like to become more involved in the Chamber by joining the committee, then we would love to hear from you.

Colin Barber, Chairman

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## Shop till you drop for Christmas

Orsett Hall Hotel's Christmas Shopping Evening, now into its third year, takes place on Wednesday November 21 - with the aim of topping the 2017 event, when the Chamber member welcomed over 700 guests.

Nearly all of the items and produce on sale are from the local area or made by local people. Sale items vary from children's clothes and toys, candles and jewellery to beauty products.

There are homemade festive cards, advent calendars, even animal treats - unique, one-off gifts, which make the perfect present. Doors are open from 3.30pm to 9pm.

Guests can enjoy a festive mulled wine while wandering through the hotel and enjoying the stalls bursting with Christmas cheer. One of the highlights is all the talented local school choirs performing Christmas carols on the large centre stage.

The shopping evening kickstarts the hotel's festive season which runs through to January. Thousands of guests attend Christmas party evenings with friends and colleagues, others enjoy quality time with family. Over 500 guests will walk through the doors on Christmas Day itself!

For further information see [orsetthall.co.uk/orsett-hall-events](http://orsetthall.co.uk/orsett-hall-events).

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## Christmas bookings being taken already

It's the time of year when we already start to think of that most wonderful time of the year - and our final event of 2018, the Chamber Christmas Luncheon.

It may only be October, but tickets are already available online and selling for the function on Wednesday December 19, from 12-3pm.

Following the success of the 2017 lunch we will again be holding our Christmas event at the Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite. And both individual and table bookings are available to book now - allowing you to bring along colleagues, clients and suppliers if you so wish to what promises to be one of the highlights of the festive season for businesses in Brentwood.

Early bird ticket prices will run until November 30, at £25 for Chamber members and £30 for non-members. After that ticket prices will be £30 and £35 respectively.

However, if you fancy booking a table - for 8, 10 or 12 - then you can do so with a deposit of £50, and you will receive a discount of 25 per cent off the regular member's ticket price, and the option to pre-book your wine once your final payment instalment is received.

As an additional benefit for table bookers, your organisation's name will be listed on the menus at the event! Full details of the table booking process is on the Chamber website.

Starter options for the lunch will be a choice of Tomato & Basil soup, Pate with Melba Toast, and Fanned Avocado with a Red Wine Vinaigrette. As you'd expect the main options include Roast Turkey with all the Trimmings - but also Cod Provençale, or Roasted Vegetables and Butternut Squash in Filo Tart.

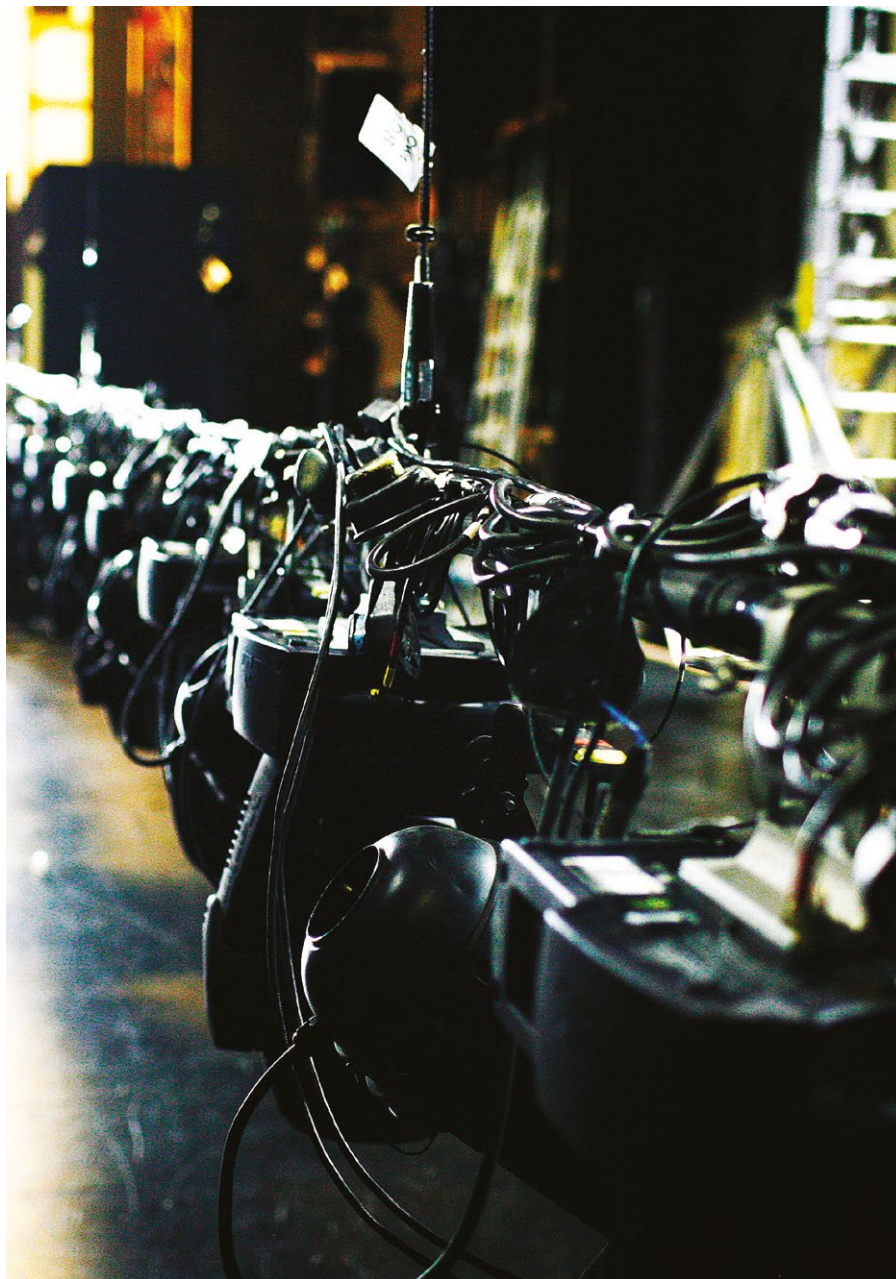
To finish you can choose from Christmas Pudding with brandy sauce and a mince pie, Chocolate Profiteroles, or Cheese and Biscuits.

It promises to be a great way to celebrate your 2018 successes and make new business connections for a prosperous 2019. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible! Book online now at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events).



*Orsett Hall Hotel will be fully decked out by November 21 for the annual Christmas Shopping Evening*





## Queen's Theatre trip takes you backstage

If you've ever wondered what goes on behind the curtain as a theatre prepares to put on a performance, then you have your chance to find out by attending our Evening at the Theatre event this month.

The October 10 experience at Chamber member Queen's Theatre in Hornchurch will include a backstage tour, followed by a buffet meal, and a ticket to see top musical *ONCE* from the front of house later that evening.

*ONCE*, based on the successful film written and directed by John Carney, is set in Dublin and tells the story of a street musician and a Czech woman who are drawn together by their shared love of music. Originally from the book by Enda Walsh, with music and lyrics by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová, it promises a very enjoyable evening.

And you'll be able to watch it with a singular new perspective, having seen the set-up from the other side of the curtain earlier on. Brought to Queen's by the producers of *Made in Dagenham*, it features an ensemble of actor-musicians who play their instruments live on stage.

The Chamber event begins at 5.45pm, with the backstage tour from 6pm, and a buffet of salad and accompaniments including Spanish omelette, meats, quiche and pizza. And you'll be settled in your seat by the time the show itself starts at 7pm, running until 10pm.

Remaining tickets are on sale now at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events) at £35 for Chamber members and £40 for non-members.

*Get a different perspective on the theatre from behind the stage curtain at our Queen's Theatre event*

## TV stars Ashwells claim the limelight

It's not often that our sponsors and guest speakers at the monthly Business Breakfast are TV stars - but that was the case last month at Marygreen Manor.

Janine and Deb Davies-Tutt of Ashwells Reclaimed Timber sponsored the September 14 event, hot on the heels of appearing on BBC1's *Countryfile* the weekend before. The massively popular Sunday primetime programme produced an episode from Essex, and featured the Chamber member and what Ashwells do at their tropical hardwood reclamation business.

Presenter Anita Rani visited their Bulphan site to see some of the amazing and colourful wood they recycle and give a new lease of life - wood that has travelled half way around the world to be used in sites like jetties, docks and lock gates decades ago.

Thanks to Ashwells it can now be used again by all kinds of designers, architects and engineers in a wide range of structural projects across the UK, also helping to protect tropical habitats for future generations in the process.

The sponsor at the October 12 Business Breakfast will be WPA Healthcare - and remaining tickets are on sale online - see [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events).



*Janine (left) and Deb Davies-Tutt (right) were joined by some of their suppliers at the September breakfast, including web designer Alison Jones*

## Chamber Events Calendar 2018

### October

#### **Wednesday 10 - Queen's Theatre backstage tour, buffet and tickets to musical Once**

Tickets available on Chamber website now

#### **Friday 12 - Business Breakfast**

Sponsored by WPA Healthcare

### November

#### **Thursday 1 - Brentwood Business Showcase**

Brentwood School

Exhibitor and Visitor registration now open at

[brentwoodbusinessshowcase.co.uk](http://brentwoodbusinessshowcase.co.uk)

#### **Friday 9 - Brentwood Business Awards - Black Tie Awards Dinner**

Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite

Tickets available on Chamber website

[brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards)

#### **Friday 16 - Business Breakfast**

Sponsored by Legal Mediation

#### **Saturday 24 - Christmas Lighting up in Brentwood;**

12.30pm-6pm, Brentwood High Street

[brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=417](http://brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=417)

### December

#### **Friday 14 - Business Breakfast**

Sponsored by Kinetic Podiatry Clinic

#### **Wednesday 19 - Chamber Christmas Lunch**

Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite

Tickets and Tables booking on Chamber website now

**See [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events) for latest updates and ticketing information.**

## Networking groups in the Brentwood area

We hope you attend and enjoy many of our regular Chamber events for your business networking. But the Chamber is also pleased to bring you details of other networking groups in the Brentwood area.

Details of your group or any updates can be sent to

[Neil.Hornsby@BrentwoodChambers.co.uk](mailto:Neil.Hornsby@BrentwoodChambers.co.uk)

**Biz'ee Women:** next meeting Monday Oct 8, 9:45am-12pm; De Rougemont Manor, Great Warley Street; contact Liz Smith, 07780 682428; [www.bizeewomen.co.uk/brentwood](http://www.bizeewomen.co.uk/brentwood)

**Brentwood Business Network:** fortnightly Thursday, 8am-9.30am, next on Oct 11; The Lot Bar & Restaurant, 71-75 Hutton Road, Shenfield; £15 includes choice of breakfast; [www.brentwoodbusiness.network](http://www.brentwoodbusiness.network)

**Brentwood Professionals Networking Group (BPNG):** last Friday of the month, 1pm-3pm; O'Neill's, Brentwood High Street; contact Paul Gulley, Handelsbanken, 01245 347906

**The Circle:** 3rd Thursday of the month, 4pm-6pm; The Sugar Hut, Brentwood High Street; contact Dan Sayers, M.J Bushell, 01277 245300, [info@circle-net.co.uk](mailto:info@circle-net.co.uk)

## Meet The Neighbours

Stansted Airport Chamber of Commerce is hosting another Meet the Neighbours networking event next spring - giving you the chance to promote your business to like-minded business people from neighbouring areas. This will take place on Tuesday March 5, so put it in your diary - and get full details online at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events).

## New Chamber Members

We're pleased to announce that lots of new members have joined the Chamber over the past couple of months.

At our latest Chamber Executive Committee meeting applications for membership were approved from Brentwood-based ink cartridge and office supplies business Toner Inc Ltd; Ongar-based Commercial Finance Network, which offers a business funding brokerage; and Chelmsford-based charity Kids Inspire, which helps disadvantaged young people turn their lives around.

Earlier in the summer we were pleased to welcome two other members to the Chamber: KK Mobile Tyres Ltd, and Savvy Sandy Utility Warehouse.

If you know of any business or organisation interested in joining the Chamber too - then point them in the direction of our website at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/join](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/join).

## Executive Committee Dates

The next meeting of the Chamber's Executive Committee takes place on Thursday October 11. If you have any issue you'd like raised, then please contact the Chamber direct via email, phone or social media - details at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/contact-us](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/contact-us).

Two further meetings will take place before Christmas on Thursday November 8 and then Thursday December 13.

**ebn Brentwood:** every other Thursday, 8am-10am; George & Dragon, Mountnessing; contact Hayley Taylor, Taylor Made Promotions, 01621 856504; membership and meeting charges apply

**ebn Shenfield:** every other Tuesday, 8am-10am; George & Dragon, Mountnessing; contact Mandy Baker, Insight Coaching, 07946 377970; membership and meeting charges apply

**The Phoenix Family:** events held at Shenfield Cricket Club, 22a Chelmsford Road, Shenfield CM15 8RQ; contact Steve Roach, Phoenix FM, [sr@phoenixfm.com](mailto:sr@phoenixfm.com); [twitter.com/the phoenixfam](https://twitter.com/the phoenixfam)

**Round Robin Networking:** Brentwood and Stock; The Robin, Ongar Road, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am-12pm; Harvard Inn, Stock, 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am-12pm. Contact Paul Alexander 07557 797319; [www.roundrobinnetworking.co.uk](http://www.roundrobinnetworking.co.uk)

**Word of Mouth, Brentwood:** free networking on 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10.30am; Slug & Lettuce, Brentwood High Street; 07533 988177; [twitter.com/WordOfMouthBwd](https://twitter.com/WordOfMouthBwd)

The Chamber cannot be held responsible for the validity of the information - please confirm with the group contact before attending.

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