



# BRENTWOOD

## Chamber of Commerce

*Bringing you the  
latest business news  
from Brentwood*

### Making progress on lots of fronts

The Chamber's AGM last month was an ideal opportunity to assess the progress which the Chamber is making, and to clarify our plans for the future.

Undoubtedly the biggest achievement of 2018 was the inaugural launch and success of the Brentwood Business Awards. The 2019 Awards have now been launched, and you have until June 30 to enter.

Apart from the fact that you may win, there are many other reasons for entering the Awards. The entry process itself is an excellent format for examining your organisation and assessing what you do well and what makes you unique.

The judging process is another opportunity for you to take a step back and examine your business, as the judges will come and visit you to discuss your organisation and what makes it special.

Entering the Awards is also a way of showing your employees and your clients that you are proud of your organisation, which is a great way of boosting morale.

Our membership numbers continue to grow, and are now at the highest level they have been for at least 15 years. We are a subscription-based organisation, and do not receive any grants, so we rely on the members' subscriptions to finance the running of the Chamber.

If you know of anyone who you think might benefit from Chamber membership then please do encourage them, or bring them along to one of our events, which are always open to non-members.

On the subject of events, the monthly Business Breakfast continues to be fully booked, despite an increase in capacity, so we have now launched a second monthly event, this time in the evening – 'Meet The Members'.

As well as being another opportunity for networking, it is also an excellent opportunity for you to showcase your organisation, by hosting the event.

Looking to the future, we are hoping to offer other services to you, which will help you to grow and develop your business.



This does of course take time, and the Chamber Committee are all volunteers, which is why things don't always happen as quickly as we would like!

However, we do intend to continue to grow and to play a vital part in helping to 'Build Better Business for Brentwood'.

Colin Barber, Chairman

### BEST SALES AND MARKETING

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### BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

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### NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR

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### EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

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### SMALL TO MEDIUM BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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### START-UP BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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### BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE

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### GROWING BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

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Promote your business and enter up to two categories for FREE  
at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/business-awards)



## Four more new members join up

Established in 1998, **Brentwood Chiropody Surgery** has 25 years of experience serving clients across Brentwood with care and dedication. They deliver a high-quality chiropody and podiatry service, and specialise in verrucas, ingrown toenails and nail surgery.

Hornchurch-based **Flower-Shed** do that little bit extra for you to say Thank You, Happy Birthday, or even Sorry with flowers. Their uniqueness comes into play when you need to say goodbye to a loved one, as you can book a home appointment to make the hard task of choosing flowers personal.

**Vortec Webdesign** work with small businesses, sole-traders, tradespeople and home-businesses to get them a professionally designed and managed website, for a fraction of the price of traditional website design companies.

**Thomas Oliver** is a financial services company based in Goffs Oak, Herts - though Mortgage Broker & Protection Adviser Richard Rushworth works in Shenfield, for a wide range of clients in Brentwood, Essex and north London. Everyone is an individual and Richard approaches them that way.

## AGM approves new fees

A resolution for the approval of revised Chamber membership subscriptions for 2020 was passed at the recent AGM and Open Meeting at Brentwood Cricket Club on May 16.

From 2020 onwards the revised fees per business type will be as follows:

Sole Trader / Charity / NFP - £60  
 2 – 10 Employees - £72  
 11 – 25 Employees - £84  
 26 – 50 Employees - £108  
 51 – 100 Employees - £144  
 101 – 200 Employees - £156  
 201 and over £288

## New Committee members

We are pleased to welcome the outgoing Mayor Sheila Murphy to our Executive Committee. Sheila, who has recently retired brings a wealth of business experience with her, and she is keen to help nurture and develop new businesses.

Also elected at the AGM to fill vacancies on the Committee due to normal retirements and other causes were Nick Bown, Leah Burke and Helen Knox.

Claire Spurgeon and Paul Gulley were re-elected; as were Colin Barber as Chairman and Peter Clements as Vice Chairman.

## Jointly-hosted workshop provided by Invest Essex

Chamber, Brentwood Borough Council and the Brentwood Business Partnership have partnered with Invest Essex to bring you a FREE website & SEO workshop on Thursday June 20, from 9.30am until 1pm.

The event will be held at the offices of Tees incorporating Wortley Byers Law, in Cathedral Place, Brentwood CM14 4ES.

Topics being covered will include:

- Website analysis and expert review.
- Usability Benchmark against competitors.
- Conversion SEO – technical website review.
- Link analysis.
- Google search console task to identify opportunities.
- Digital review – look at other aspects of activity, i.e. social media but at a higher level.

Spaces are limited to 15 people. To book your free place, email [business.support@investessex.co.uk](mailto:business.support@investessex.co.uk) with your contact details.

## Social media workshop full of practical advice

Chamber, in collaboration with 24 fingers, is offering a training workshop on July 5 - 'How to target, engage and sell using social media' - including practical advice and skills you can walk away with and implement immediately.

The session, at Create Business Hub in Brentwood from 10am-12pm, costs £40 for members and £50 for non-members, and will include:

- How to target, engage & sell using social media.
- Identify your ideal client and learn where to find them online.
- Create a simple social media strategy - quickly & efficiently.

Emma Goode is the founder of 24 fingers, a social media agency based in Brentwood, helping local Essex businesses with their social media - and growing business and brand through digital marketing.

Workshop places are limited - book via [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/events)

## Top award for HBBS

HBBS have been honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Services, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

Havering and Brentwood Bereavement Service have been in existence for over 30 years and provides counselling support to young people, adults, and families.

Emma Tierney, Chief Executive Officer of HBBS said: "As a local charity celebrating its 30th year, we feel honoured to have received this prestigious award which highlights the importance of the counselling we provide.

"In our local community. We could not have reached so many clients without the support and dedication of our team of dedicated volunteers, staff and counsellors. We look forward to both continuing our work and expanding to meet the evolving needs of the community."

## New Partner at Pinney Talfourd

Pinney Talfourd LLP have announced the appointment of Edward Garston, a dedicated company and commercial specialist, as a new Partner.

Edward joined the firm in 2016 and leads the corporate arm within the Commercial Department, based in Brentwood. In January 2019 he had the huge honour of winning the Legal 500 UK 2019 Award for Corporate and Commercial Individual (Outside London).

He acts for clients ranging from owner managed businesses, management teams, entrepreneurs, high net worth individuals, banks, financial institutions, and alternative lenders.

He said: "I am pleased and excited to have joined the partnership at Pinney Talfourd and look forward the challenges that come with my new role. I plan to continue to grow and develop the level of corporate work here at Pinney Talfourd and am keen to implement some exciting changes over the coming years."



# Chamber Events Calendar 2019

## June

### Friday 14 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Tees incorporating Wortley Byers

### Thursday 20 - Invest Essex free website & SEO workshop

Tees Incorporating Wortley Byers, Brentwood

### Monday 24 - Meet The Members networking event

Tina Wing Photography, at Essex Wildlife Trust, Thorndon Countryside Centre

## July

### Wednesday 3 - Chamber Summer BBQ

Ashwells Country Club

### Friday 5 - Chamber Training Workshop Event: How to Target, Engage & Sell using Social Media, run by Emma Goode, 24 Fingers

Create Business Hub, Brentwood

### Friday 12 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Howe Chartered Surveyors

### Tuesday 23 - Meet The Members networking event

Bennetts Funeral Directors, Brentwood

## August

### Friday 9 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by SNAP

### Thursday 22 - Meet The Members open networking event (TBC)

## September

### Monday 2 - Netwalking

(Location TBC)

### TBC - Brentwood Business Briefing

### Tuesday 10 - Meet The Neighbours networking event

Novotel Stansted Airport

## Friday 13 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Brentwood Borough Council

## Thursday 19 - Business Planning workshop

(Location TBC)

## Mon/Tues 23/24 - Meet the Members networking event (TBC)

## October

### Friday 11 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Tees incorporating Wortley Byers

### Tuesday 22 - Chamber visit & tour (details to be arranged)

### Thursday 31 - Brentwood Business Showcase

Brentwood School

## November

### Friday 8 - Brentwood Business Awards 2019

Orsett Hall Hotel

### Friday 15 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by KK Mobile Tyres

### Wednesday 20 - Business Seminar & Workshop (TBC)

### Monday 25 - Meet the Members networking event

Brentwood Theatre

## December

### Friday 13 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Tutor Doctor - In-Home Tuition Provider

### Thursday 19 - Chamber Christmas Lunch

Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite

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

Remember, you can add your own member events to our website at [brentwoodchambers.co.uk/add-member-event](http://brentwoodchambers.co.uk/add-member-event)



*Guest speaker at last month's AGM and Open Meeting at Brentwood Cricket Club was former Brentwood and Ongar MP Eric Pickles - now The Rt Hon. the Lord Pickles*

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