



Baker Labels celebrate being named Brentwood Business of the Year 2019. Photo by Carmel Jane Photography

Baker Labels scoop top 2019 Award

Baker Labels was named Brentwood Business of the Year 2019 at the culmination of this year's black-tie Awards dinner, held at Orsett Hall Hotel.

The Brentwood-based leading UK trade label manufacturer took the top honour as well as being named Small to Medium Business of the Year, with Howe Chartered Surveyors selected as overall Runner-up.

Philip Cockram, the Managing Partner of Overall Awards Partner Pinney Talfourd Solicitors, announced the top prizes at the end of the glittering November 8 event recognising and celebrating the very best of local businesses within the Borough.

Baker Labels was chosen from all of the Awards finalists by Pinney Talfourd, selected because they excelled in every part of the Awards criteria.

Other big winners on the night were Blue Serif, who took both the Employer of the Year and the Growing Business of the Year prizes. Meanwhile, Christian Howe of Howe Chartered Surveyors was also on stage twice, as he was named Business Person of the Year.

Winners of all the eight Categories, chosen by their sponsors, were revealed during the Awards ceremony. You can view a full Awards photo gallery at [facebook.com/BrentwoodChambers](https://www.facebook.com/BrentwoodChambers).

Brentwood Business of the Year (sponsored by Overall Awards Partner, Pinney Talfourd Solicitors) – Baker Labels.
Runner-up - Howe Chartered Surveyors

Sales and Marketing Award (sponsored by Bretts Business Recovery) - 24 fingers

Business Person of the Year (sponsored by Tees incorporating Wortley Byers) - Christian Howe, Howe Chartered Surveyors

Not for Profit Organisation of the Year (sponsored by Rainer Hughes Solicitors) - Kids Inspire

Not for Profit Acknowledgement Award - Brentwood Community Print

Employer of the Year (sponsored by Ardleigh Green Janitorial Services) - Blue Serif

Small to Medium Business of the Year (sponsored by Ignite Business Communications) - Baker Labels

Start-up Business of the Year (sponsored by Eye Bray & Legal Mediation) - SPotter Talent

Best Customer Service (sponsored by Bennetts Funeral Directors) - Home Instead Senior Care

Growing Business of the Year (sponsored by Carmel Jane Photography & Brentwood Chamber) - Blue Serif

New digits at 24 fingers

Chamber member 24 fingers, recent winner of the Sales and Marketing Award at the Brentwood Business Awards, has grown with the addition of a new team member, Villene Hyam.

Proudly Brentwood through and through, they are now even better placed to help those in the local area to thrive in business, enjoy the Borough, and smash it on social as local community champion and social media manager Villene joins their ranks.

If you've been keeping up with social media locally, you might have noticed a few of Villene's campaigns - including Do Good In Brentwood, Refill Brentwood and the Brentwood Art Trail, which 24 fingers were proud to sponsor this year.

Before immersing herself in the world of social media and using her skills to bring people together on her doorstep, Villene spent 12 years at the BBC. She moved from being a super-organised PA to managing an audience feedback team dealing with happy (and mainly unhappy) BBC viewers.

She spent years talking to people who loved/loathed Top Gear, and wanted more/less of Strictly Come Dancing.

Moving into the world of social media led Villene to launch Do Good In Brentwood, a campaign encouraging kindness in the local area, supporting our many independent businesses and bringing the community together.

As a keen environmentalist, she became a volunteer for Refill Brentwood, signing up tons of Refill stations and encouraging followers to reduce their single use plastic intake.

This summer she organised the Brentwood Art Trail for the first time, taking the event digital and bringing a whole community of local artists together.



Villene Hyam



Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite provides a festive setting for the Chamber's Christmas Luncheon

Key speakers to bring Awards success stories to Chamber's Christmas Luncheon

Whether or not you've bought your tickets yet for the Chamber's Christmas Luncheon on December 19, you'll no doubt be interested to hear that we've confirmed as speakers two leading lights from the recent Brentwood Business Awards.

Our guest speakers will be Mandy Baker from Brentwood Business of the Year, Baker Labels, and Matt Barry from Blue Serif, who won Employer of the Year and Growing Business of the Year at the recent Awards night.

Tickets are still available for the Thursday lunchtime event (12-3pm) at Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite - at £33 for members and £38 for non-members - and can be booked online via brentwoodchamber.co.uk/events.

Table bookings are also available. And if you reserve a table of 8, 10 or 12 with a deposit of £50 (full payment required by December 6), then you will receive a 15 per cent discount on the member full price and the option to pre-book your wine once the final instalment is received.

The ticket price includes a three-course meal and tea/coffee, and you can select course choices or flag any dietary requirements at booking. It's the perfect way to celebrate your 2019 successes and make new connections for a prosperous 2020!

Member offer from Alec's Restaurant

New Chamber member Alec's Restaurant has put together a special offer for all their fellow members and guests - with a complimentary welcome drink every time they dine with them.

Visit the Navestock Side venue and you can enjoy a glass of Prosecco, house wine, a beer or a soft drink ahead of your meal.

Recently voted Restaurant of the Year at the prestigious Essex Food and Drink Awards, Alec's is a modern British restaurant with a passion for seafood and locally-sourced produce.

Although famously known as the destination for special occasions, with their lunchtime and evening set-menu options priced from £23.50 per person, Alec's brings a touch of affordable luxury to Brentwood.

Alec's is available for exclusive hire for up to 145 guests, from product launches to weddings, with packages tailored to your requirements. They can also bring the Alec's experience to your door, and have recently catered for Bentley Motors' 100th anniversary dinner in their Chelmsford Showroom.

If you have an upcoming event you'd like to discuss, please contact Hannah, Sales and Marketing Manager, at hmccabe@alecsrestaurant.co.uk. See alecsrestaurant.co.uk for full information.



Kayla Conley delivers her Chamber Zone presentation on *Delivering Impactful Talks for Your Business*

How to deliver an impactful presentation

As a Presentation Coach, Chamber member Kayla Conley works with a lot of very talented professionals from all walks of life. But they all have one thing in common.

“When they step out on to that stage, they want to be memorable,” says Kayla. “They don’t want to freeze up, forget their lines or make a fool of themselves. They want to come across as a competent, interesting individual, and be remembered for all the right reasons.”

But if you’re new to public speaking, how can you turn an average presentation into something spectacular?

“Let me tell you, your talk is only going to have clout if it’s delivered with confidence,” she adds. “Even the most experienced speakers get a little flutter of nerves before their big moment - it’s absolutely natural.

“But what’s really important and what matters most when it comes to presenting confidently and effectively is that you believe in your key premise.

“So the biggest question as you plan for any presentation is: what do you really want to say? As long as you’re passionate about your subject and your words have a clear purpose, then the rest will naturally follow.

“The language you use, the visual aids you choose, the way you move around the space – all of these things need to be considered, yes. But if you don’t wholeheartedly believe in the story you’re telling or the advice you’re giving, your work will have little to no impact on your expectant audience.”

To hear more from Kayla or to attend one of her upcoming workshops please see kaylaconley.com.

Membership rates going into the new year

With renewal invoices for Chamber membership on their way out soon, we wanted to remind everyone of the new 2020 rates that were agreed at the AGM back in May.

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

Chamber Zone proves a Showcase hit and provides another surge in membership

This year’s new concept for the Brentwood Business Showcase, the Chamber Zone, proved popular, with a steady flow of visitors throughout the day at Brentwood School - and a bumper pile of new membership applicants.

The opportunity for prospective members to meet existing members and executive committee members in the Zone worked well, and helped contribute to 30 businesses signing up on the day.

As well as networking over coffee and cake, the day featured four presentations from Chamber members Myra McHale, Kayla Conley, Stephen Colderwood of Stepwood Ltd, and Adrian Dorobantu of OneStep Social Marketing.

Ten other new members were also approved last month: home care provider, You & I Care Ltd; AIMS Accountants for Business; financial consultants, Bright Star Financial Ltd; virtual assistant, Milestones VA; media training providers, Capricorn Media Ltd; Conciergenie, a virtual assistant and concierge; Austin Chapel IFA, independent financial advisers; The Teriss Bar; Spacio, workplace design specialists; and Friends of Blackmore School.

The 30 new members from the Showcase were: Equity Release; Meat Stop Ltd; Stones 4 U; Heritage Wills; Enterprise Rent a Car; Robin Shapero; Mrs Florentine; Step into Yoga; AL Virtual Assistance; Gold Dot Marketing; Priority Support Services; Mentaware; Crest Nicholson; DMS Project Management; Open Minds Tuition Ltd; Guida Accountancy Ltd; Bloomin’ Jacks; Home of Mortgages; Everyone’s Bakery; East Block Management; Green Tornado; ST Extreme Cleaning Ltd; Fisk Group; Bizphit; Priest Foundation; Creative Nomads; Essex Hair; Pendle Vehicle Contracts; Petite Folks Photography; and Ami Mehta Catering.

Look out for all their details being added to the Members Zone at brentwoodchamber.co.uk/members in the coming weeks.

Join The Beauty Club for makeup advice online

The Beauty Club has been created online by professional makeup artists Leanne Perilly and Justine Warwick to give users the benefit of their 15 years of experience and knowledge in the makeup industry.

“It’s for everyone of all ages, abilities, backgrounds and preferences,” explained Chamber member Leanne. “Men and women who want to know more about and discuss makeup and skincare.

“Our advice and recommendations are always impartial and independent of specific brands. The Club is for advice and sharing with like-minded people, selling is not permitted.”

You can look out for #Makeupmonday every week where they share reviews of products, new techniques, blogs, videos, podcasts and lots of tips relating to skincare and makeup, designed to make life easier.

“We invite you to join in the conversation and tell us about your good and bad experiences, what you want to learn or improve about your beauty regime,” added Leanne.

“We run regular Masterclasses for you to have a go, learn new techniques and trends or improve skills you already have.” Anyone interested can join the Club at facebook.com/beautyclubsessex & instagram.com/thebeautyclubsessex or email info@thebeautyclubsessex.com.

Chamber Events Calendar 2019/2020

December

Friday 13 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Tutor Doctor - In-Home Tuition Provider

Thursday 19 - Chamber Christmas Lunch

Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite

January

Friday 10 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Kevin Gordon - Digital Technology Labs

Tuesday 21 - Meet the Members wine tasting & networking

Liquorice, Shenfield

February

Friday 14 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Brentwood Borough Council

Tuesday 25 - Meet The Members networking event

Howe Chartered Surveyors

TBC - Meet and Eat lunchtime event

The Teriss Bar

March

Friday 13 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Howe Chartered Surveyors

Tuesday 24 - Meet The Members networking event

The Chiropractic Centre

April

Friday 17 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by The Chiropractic Centre

Tuesday 21 - Meet The Members networking event

Essex Wildlife Trust, Thorndon Countryside Centre

May

Thursday 14 - Chamber Open Meeting & AGM

Friday 15 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Blue Serif

TBC - Meet The Members networking event

Bretts Business Recovery

June

Friday 12 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Bennetts Funerals

Tuesday 23 - Meet The Members networking event

SNAP

July

Friday 10 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Guided Learning

Monday 20 - Meet The Members networking event

Saint Francis Hospice

August

Friday 14 - Business Breakfast

Sponsorship still available

TBC - Meet The Members networking event

The Teriss Bar

September

Friday 11 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Carers First

Tuesday 22 - Meet The Members networking event

Guided Learning

October

Friday 9 - Business Breakfast

Sponsored by Aching Arms

TBC - Meet The Members networking event

Kinetic Podiatry Clinic

November

Friday 13 - Business Breakfast

Sponsorship still available

TBC - Meet The Members networking event

Brentwood Brewery

December

Friday 11 - Business Breakfast

Sponsorship still available

See brentwoodchamber.co.uk/events for all the latest Chamber event updates and online ticketing or registration.

We also have free members' events listings on our website. Please add your events at brentwoodchamber.co.uk/add-member-event to increase their visibility!

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Thanks to our Business Breakfast sponsor at November's event, KK Mobile Tyres - your support is greatly appreciated!

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