

## A Message From Your Chairman

As we turn to a new year, I find myself reflecting on the incredible resilience and ingenuity our Brentwood business community has shown over the past twelve months. We've seen small startups find their footing and established firms break new ground, proving once again that Brentwood is a fertile environment for enterprise.

While every year brings its own set of hurdles, the spirit of collaboration within our Chamber remains our greatest competitive advantage.

To ensure your business thrives in an ever changing landscape, the Chamber remains steadfast in its commitment to:

- **Tailored Business Support:** Providing resources, guidance and expertise needed to help your business scale effectively.
- **Strategic Lobbying & Advocacy:** Acting as your collective voice to local and national government.
- **Meaningful Connections:** Facilitating introductions that matter.
- **Dynamic Networking Opportunities:** Hosting a diverse calendar of events designed to foster genuine relationships.
- **Professional Training & Development:** Upskilling our workforce.
- **The Brentwood Business Awards:** Celebrating excellence and providing a platform to showcase the incredible talent and success stories within our borough.

The Chamber is only as strong as its membership. As we enter this new year, I encourage you to get involved. Attend an event, mentor a new entrepreneur, or simply share your insights at our next Business Breakfast.



On behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish you a prosperous, healthy, and record-breaking New Year.

Warm regards,  
Colin Barber Chairman  
of the Brentwood  
Chamber of Commerce

## A Look Back at Our Christmas Lunch



Chamber Christmas Lunch

One of the most cherished traditions at the Chamber is our annual Christmas lunch, and this year's gathering at Warley Park Golf Cub was certainly one to remember. Whether guests joined us to network, celebrate with their small business teams, or simply catch up with old friends, there was a genuine energy in the room.

The moment we arrived we were greeted by the festive sounds of the Hogarth School Choir, whose performance of traditional carols and more modern songs provided the perfect seasonal backdrop.

The afternoon was a blend of great food and spirited competition. We all enjoyed a truly delicious traditional Christmas menu that lived up to its reputation. It wouldn't feel like a Chamber Christmas without Colin's famous "True or False" questions keeping us all on our toes. This year, we were thrilled to have [Neil Patrick](#) host a brilliant musical quiz that had the whole room thinking.

It was a wonderful way to wrap up the year together. Thank you to everyone who attended and made the afternoon so special.

## Join Us For Breakfast

### Wednesday 7 January

This month, we're serving up breakfast at [The Brentwood Theatre](#). Whether you're a long-time member or new to our Business Breakfasts, this is a great chance to connect, collaborate, and grow your local business in a professional and welcoming environment. Both members and non-members are welcome.

[BOOK HERE](#)

**Time: 7.30am - 9.30am** (unless stated otherwise)

### Business Breakfasts Upcoming Schedule

**7th January - Brentwood Theatre**  
15 Shenfield Road, Brentwood.



**3rd June - Brentwood Town FC**  
Doddinghurst Road, Pilgrims Hatch.



**4th February - SNAP**  
Pastoral Way, Brentwood.



**1st July - Holiday Inn**  
Brook Street, Brentwood.



**4th March - Masons Restaurant**  
155-157 Ingrave Road, Brentwood.



**5th August - FIGO Restaurant**  
92 High Street, Brentwood.



**1st April - King George's Playing Fields**  
1-3 Hartwood Pavilion, Brentwood.



**2nd September - Brentwood School**  
Middleton Hall Lane, Brentwood.



**6th May - Brentwood Kitchen**  
Wilsons Corner, Brentwood.



**October - T.B.C**

◆ Professional Venues ◆ Great Food ◆ New Contacts Every Time ◆ Friendly & Welcoming ◆

Email: [office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk](mailto:office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk) to find out more.

## Breakfast Season Ticket Offer

The Chamber would like to offer you 2 free Breakfast Meetings when you sign up for breakfasts by Direct Debit. That works out to be 12 months networking for just £200.

If you can't attend, you can send a colleague, supplier or friend in your place. Email [office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk](mailto:office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk) to find out more.

## Happy New Year! Cheers to a Fresh Start



The start of a new year is the perfect time to reflect on the strength of our local business community. Looking back at the meals together over breakfast and lunch, formal awards celebrated and casual networking of the past year, one thing is clear: we are stronger together.

Whether you are a long-standing member or just joining us, we are honoured to support your journey. We wish you, your family, and your team a healthy, happy, and successful 2026.

May your business thrive and your connections grow deep this year. We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Lock in Your 2025 Subscription Rate: Pay by Direct Debit and Save



To continue providing the high level of service and quality you expect, our standard annual rate will be increasing for 2026.

However, we are pleased to offer a substantial benefit to our members who choose to pay by Direct Debit.

Sign up for annual Direct Debit and secure the 2025 rate. By paying via Direct Debit, you will receive a discounted rate equivalent to the current 2025 pricing, ensuring you are shielded from the upcoming increase. It's the simplest way to save.

Contact [office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk](mailto:office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk) to set up your Direct Debit.

## New Chamber Members Welcome

If you are a local business and have not yet been to a Chamber of Commerce event, you are very welcome to come along to take advantage of the Chamber's programme. To find out more visit the website at [brentwoodchamber.co.uk](http://brentwoodchamber.co.uk). If you would like to join the Chamber email us at: [office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk](mailto:office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk)

## Welcome to Our New Members

### Tina Wing Business Photography



Business photography including headshots, brand, property, products, events and food.

### Cool Breeze Air Conditioning Solutions Ltd



Specialists in domestic and commercial air conditioning installations and servicing.

### Utility Warehouse



Utilities for home & business.

### Freshwell Coffee



Freshwell Coffee is a small, independent roastery built on passion, precision, and two decades of expertise. Founded

and led by an owner with 20 years in the coffee industry, they bring deep knowledge and genuine craftsmanship to every stage of the journey—from sourcing to roasting to your cup.

## Meet the Members

This is one of the most straightforward and rewarding ways to build professional connections within our community. Rather than meeting in a generic hall, each gathering is hosted by a different member right at their own business premises.

This unique format offers a dual advantage for our network. For the host, it is a great opportunity to open your doors and showcase your facilities, team, and services to a captive audience of local professionals.

For the attendee, it provides a rare behind-the-scenes look at various industries. It's an ideal environment to gather fresh ideas, find inspiration in different management styles, and see firsthand how other local businesses operate.

We believe networking should be accessible to everyone. To keep the focus on building relationships, there is no charge to host an event or to attend one. We simply ask that the host provides some light refreshments and a welcoming atmosphere for their guests.

We've recently enjoyed successful evenings at:

- Holiday Inn (Hospitality & Events)
- The Treehouse Club (Education & Childcare)
- Nuffield Health (Wellness & Fitness)

Email: [office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk](mailto:office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk) to find out more.

## Member's News

### Brentwood Council

Brentwood Council is looking for your views on improving local representation.

Brentwood Borough Council will be consulting local residents, businesses and organisation to find out how local representation can be improved in light of the Government's Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

The Community Governance Review (CGR) will ensure that all residents and stakeholders continue to be represented effectively by looking at the community governance arrangements in the area to decide whether they are working for the residents, or if they should change. They deal with very local forms of governance, like parish-tier councils or community and neighbourhood associations.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) will see the abolition of Brentwood Borough Council, as well as all of the other district tier councils and Essex County Council. They will be replaced by fewer, larger authorities that combine the services that are currently delivered by the two tiers of local government. Brentwood will merge with some of our neighbouring councils to form one large council.

Local government reorganisation means that Brentwood will be merged with other councils. We want to make sure that local voices and community identities continue to be heard or represented in larger and more diverse authorities.

Some parts of Borough, including the Town Centre, Shenfield, Hutton, South Weald, Pilgrims Hatch and Warley, do not have parish councils and we would like to find out if residents want this changed.

In Brentwood, there are currently 9 parish or town councils. However, part of the borough, largely around the town itself, currently does not have this local representation.

The Council will also welcome alternative suggestions as to how the town and parish councils could be arranged to serve residents of the area most effectively, or, indeed, whether some other form of community governance such as neighbourhood area committees or forums, residents associations, etc, would better serve an area, or part of it.

Please submit your view using either of these two methods:

- by completing an electronic survey on the consultation website [Brentwood Borough Council Community Governance Review Consultation](https://www.brentwood.gov.uk/cgr) | [Engage With Us](#)
- filling out a paper questionnaire by emailing [crg@brentwood.gov.uk](mailto:crg@brentwood.gov.uk) to request a copy.

The first stage consultation is now open and will conclude on 12 January 2026. The representations received during the first stage consultation will help us to form the proposal direction and recommendations for Full Council (due in March 2026).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



## Brentwood School Careers Convention

Tuesday 24th March

Would you like to exhibit at Brentwood School's annual Careers Convention?

The event offers excellent opportunities for:

- Meaningful networking with other professionals
- Raising your organisation's profile with young people and families
- Engaging directly with motivated students who are eager to learn about future careers



**To secure your place, we kindly ask that all exhibitors complete our short Google Form**

They very much hope you will be able to join them in 2026 and would be delighted to welcome both returning and new exhibitors. Further event details will follow in due course. Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

## SNAP Quiz Night

Friday 30th January

Are you ready to exercise those brain cells in January at the SNAP Quiz on Friday 30th January 2026?

Whether you consider yourself a professional quizzier or are looking for a fun way to connect with family, friends or work colleagues, SNAP Quiz Night is packed full of a variety of topics, along with fun games and top team prizes.

The SNAP Quizmaster extraordinaire, Tony, will once again be leading the proceedings, along with one of the lovely SNAP young people, Jamie, hosting some of the rounds.

[MORE INFO](#)

## Brentwood Council

**Smart Start Brentwood: Helping local entrepreneurs to turn business ideas into reality**

Brentwood Borough Council, in partnership with the Let's Do Business Group, has launched Smart Start Brentwood, a new support programme designed to help local residents and early-stage entrepreneurs start, grow and scale their businesses.

The fully funded initiative offers a comprehensive package of free workshops, expert one-to-one mentoring and access to a Start-Up Grant Scheme to help participants bring their business ideas to life and take existing ventures to the next level.

The programme is free and is open to anyone in Brentwood looking to explore self-employment or strengthen an existing small business. Participants will gain practical, hands-on experience in areas such as marketing, finance, business planning and growth strategy.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

### Upcoming Chamber Events

<b>7 January</b> Wednesday	<b>Business Breakfast</b> Brentwood Theatre	<a href="#">BOOK HERE</a>
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<b>4 February</b> Wednesday	<b>Business Breakfast</b> SNAP	<a href="#">BOOK HERE</a>
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### Upcoming Member's Events

<b>30 January</b> Friday	<b>SNAP</b> Quiz Night	<a href="#">MORE INFO</a>
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<b>24 March</b> Tuesday	<b>Brentwood School</b> Careers Convention	<a href="#">MORE INFO</a>
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