

Join Us for Our Summer BBQ

Wednesday 8th July



BRENTWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SUMMER BBQ

Join us for a relaxed summer evening of food, drinks, networking and live music.

We'll have Oasis Only, an Oasis tribute band, performing on the night, so bring your work colleagues along and make an evening of it.

oasis only
Oasis Only Tribute Band

DATE
Wednesday 8th July

TIME
6pm-10pm

VENUE
Brentwood Rugby Club, King George's Playing Fields, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, CM8 2AQ

TICKETS
£20 Includes a choice of burger or hotdog with sides.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

We're delighted to invite Chamber members, non-members, partners, friends and clients to our much-anticipated Summer BBQ on Wednesday 8th July at Brentwood Rugby Club.

This annual summer gathering is the perfect opportunity to step away from the office, enjoy a relaxed evening, and strengthen connections within our local business community. Whether you're looking to catch up with familiar faces, meet new contacts, or simply enjoy a great summer evening, everyone is welcome.

Expect delicious BBQ food, drinks, informal networking opportunities and fantastic live entertainment. We're especially excited to welcome Oasis Only, one of the UK's leading Oasis tribute bands, who will be providing the soundtrack for what promises to be a memorable evening.

Events like these play an important role in bringing our business community together, creating opportunities to build relationships, share ideas and celebrate local success in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. Don't miss this chance to connect, unwind and make the most of the summer with organisations from across Brentwood.

Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to book today.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Celebrate Brentwood's Best with the People's Choice Award



Brentwood is home to a vibrant and diverse business community that helps make our borough a fantastic place to live, work and visit. Now is your chance to recognise the businesses that make a difference every day by taking part in the People's Choice Award.

Whether it's your favourite coffee shop, a trusted independent retailer, a local restaurant, or a service provider that consistently goes above and beyond, every nomination and vote is an opportunity to celebrate excellence and dedication. These businesses are at the heart of our community, delivering outstanding customer service and contributing to Brentwood's unique character.

By voting in the People's Choice Award, you are doing more than acknowledging great service. You are helping local businesses gain valuable recognition, attract new customers, strengthen their reputation, and continue growing. Your support can contribute to job creation, investment, and the ongoing success of Brentwood's local economy.

The award shines a spotlight on the businesses that make a positive impact and encourages them to continue delivering exceptional experiences for residents and visitors alike.

Take a few moments to support the businesses you value most. Vote today and help celebrate the very best of Brentwood's thriving business community.

[VOTE HERE AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES](#)

One Year of the Chamber Business Breakfast



July 2025 at Holiday Inn - Our first Business Breakfast using the new structure.

Twelve months ago, the Chamber embarked on an ambitious experiment. Rather than holding the Business Breakfast in the same venue every month, we decided to take the event on the road, visiting a different business, charity, school or organisation each month and giving members the opportunity to experience more of what Brentwood has to offer.

One year later, the results speak for themselves. Over the past 12 months, the Business Breakfast has welcomed 568 attendees, representing approximately 150 individual business people from around 112 different businesses, charities and organisations across Brentwood and the wider Essex area. With an average attendance of 47 people per meeting, the breakfasts have become one of the most active and diverse business networking events in the borough.

These breakfasts have created countless referrals, collaborations, partnerships and friendships, many of which will never appear in any statistic.

The Chamber Business Breakfast is not just a networking event. It has become a community of local businesses supporting one another, sharing opportunities and helping each other succeed.

A huge thank you goes to every venue, sponsor, committee member, speaker, member and guest who has supported the business breakfasts during its first year.

Here's to another year of connections, conversations and collaboration!

Brentwood Business Awards Ceremony: Celebrating local success

Friday 16th October

The Brentwood Business Awards spotlight outstanding local enterprises, featuring 10 distinct categories and the coveted "Brentwood Business of the Year" award. Each category is expertly judged and sponsored by local businesses, with winners revealed at our highly anticipated awards ceremony.

This year, we're thrilled to have [Pinney Talfourd Solicitors](#) as our Headline Sponsor and [PhoenixFM](#) as our Media Partner, both steadfast supporters since the awards began in 2018.

The recipient of Best Sole Trader Award 2024, generously sponsored by Brentwood Council this year, was Amy from Smiths Cat and Dog Grooming. Amy's experience truly highlights the award's transformative power. She shared, "Thank you again for honestly changing my life. The extra customers I gained from the award winning has led me to opening a new unit." Her journey stands as a powerful testament to the incredible growth and new opportunities that winning this award (or any of our other awards) can bring to local sole traders.

45 Businesses Attend June Chamber Business Breakfast



The Chamber welcomed 45 businesses to our June Business Breakfast at [Brentwood Town Football Club](#) last month, making it another busy and productive morning of networking, introductions and business connections.

One of the key objectives of our breakfast meetings is to create opportunities for local businesses and organisations to support one another through referrals, introductions and collaboration. Judging by the number of referrals exchanged during the event, there was certainly plenty of business taking place around the room.

Some of the referrals passed on the morning included:

- Tree Surgeon to a Celebrant
- Chamber of Commerce to a Building Society
- Restaurant to a Charity
- Energy Provider to a Beautician
- Chartered Surveyor to a Local Authority
- Accountants to a Mortgage Broker
- Charity to a Tree Surgeon
- Hotel to a Celebrant
- Celebrant to a Charity

These examples highlight the wide variety of businesses and organisations represented at our events and demonstrate how valuable face-to-face networking can be in building meaningful business relationships.

A big thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to another successful breakfast. We look forward to welcoming members and guests to our future events.

Join us For Breakfast

Wednesday 1st July & 5th August



This month, 1st July, we're serving up breakfast at [Holiday Inn Brentwood](#) and next month, 5th August, we'll be at [Figo Restaurant](#). 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.

Please book early to guarantee your place. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Member Spotlight

Judith Barretto Punwani - Founder of Halo Creative Media



Judith Barretto Punwani:
Founder of [Halo Creative Media](#)

Tell us briefly about your business.

[Halo Creative Media](#) is a creative communications and digital marketing business built around helping organisations share who they are in a clear, thoughtful, and human way. I work

across website design, branding, visual identity, content creation, social media, and strategic communications, and I've been lucky to support charities, healthcare organisations, housing associations, and small businesses along the way. What I enjoy most is helping people tell their stories in a way that feels genuine, engaging, and true to them.

What is your role in this business?

I'm the founder and the person behind all the creative work from the first conversation to the final design. I guide clients through the whole process and make sure everything feels clear, supportive, and aligned with their goals and values.

How long have you worked there?

I've been running Halo Creative Media for a year now, slowly shaping it into something that feels meaningful and grounded. It has been growing steadily through word of mouth and community relationships. I have been developing it alongside my wider experience in communications, marketing, and creative media, while supporting the charities I work with.

What was your first job?

My first job was in a primary school, and it shaped so much of how I work today. It taught me patience, empathy, and how to really listen and respond to what people need, skills I still carry with me every day in the way I communicate and support others.

What job did you think you'd like to do when you were a child?

Something creative, always. Even when I was young, I was drawn to storytelling, and finding ways to express ideas visually. I didn't know exactly what form it would take, but I always knew I wanted to do something that felt creative, meaningful, and centred around helping people and bringing their ideas to life. So, it makes sense that I eventually built a career around communications, creativity and people connections.

Who do you admire in the business world?

I really admire people who build with heart; founders who care about community, ethics, and the human side of business just as much as the bottom line. The people I'm drawn to most are the ones who lead with integrity, stay grounded in their values, and create something meaningful without losing sight of the people they're doing it for. I particularly respect entrepreneurs who stay authentic, continue learning, and use their platforms to empower others.

Have you had any mentors, and what did you learn from them?

As a new business, I've been fortunate to meet a few people who have really helped shape the way I work and grow. Their support, encouragement, and advice have been invaluable. They've helped me trust my instincts, set healthy boundaries, and keep things simple and clear both in business and in the way I approach my work. One of the biggest lessons has been the importance of resilience and adaptability. I've also learned that relationships matter just as much as technical skills in business.

What advice would you give to someone just starting up in business?

Start small, stay consistent and keep learning. Build relationships, know your values, and price your work with confidence. And remember: your business should support your wellbeing, not drain it. Importantly, people connect with people, so staying genuine and rooted in your values.

How do you handle setbacks or frustrations?

I try to see setbacks as opportunities to learn and improve. Running a business teaches you resilience very quickly. I usually take a step back, breathe, and give myself space to think. Once the emotion settles, I look at what the situation is trying to teach me and focus on solutions, and remind myself of the bigger picture and long-term goals.

What are your hobbies and interests outside of work?

Outside of work, I enjoy crocheting and painting, which give me a chance to slow down and be creative in a different way. I love spending time with my two furry babies and looking after my fish tank, both bring a real sense of calm and joy to my day. I also really value the simple things, like cooking, baking and being around family and friends - making time for the people that matter most.

Who would you like to spend one day with and why?

I would love to spend a day with Oprah Winfrey because of her ability to connect with people, tell meaningful stories, and build a platform that inspires and empowers others. I think the conversation would be both insightful and motivating.

AI Workshops

Following the success of the first two sessions in our AI Workshop Series, delivered in partnership with Brentwood Borough Council and David Bell of Simboc, we are pleased to continue supporting local businesses in exploring the practical benefits of artificial intelligence.

Upcoming workshops in the series:

- Friday 10 July – AI Tools for Sales and Lead Generation
- Friday 4 September – Smarter Social Media with AI
- Friday 9 October – AI-Powered Video Creation for Beginners

Participants who attend all five workshops will receive a Certificate of Completion at the end of the programme.

To reserve your place, visit the [Chamber Events](#) page.

Workshop: Public Speaking

Wednesday 2nd September

Public speaking is one of the most valuable skills for personal and professional success, and it's no surprise that this workshop has been one of our most requested topics.

We are thrilled to announce that this interactive session will be delivered by [Neil Patrick](#), an experienced independent celebrant who knows exactly what it takes to command a room, capture hearts, and deliver unforgettable speeches.

Whether you are presenting at work, speaking at family events, leading team meetings, or simply looking to communicate with greater confidence, this workshop will provide practical, real-world techniques to help you engage any audience, manage nerves, deliver impactful messages.

Join us to learn from a master storyteller and develop the skills and confidence you need to become a more effective, authentic speaker.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Welcome to Our New Members

FFT Plumbing & Heating



FFT Plumbing & Heating provides professional plumbing and heating services across Brentwood and Essex. Our services include plumbing repairs, leak detection, bathroom plumbing, shower resealing, boiler servicing, boiler repairs, and general maintenance. We are committed to reliable service, quality workmanship, and customer satisfaction.

Alpha Connectivity



Alpha Connectivity is a Fintech company specialising in POS card terminal services, EPOS till systems, Business Funding, Energy Brokerage and Telecom/Internet Services. We have customers and resellers all over the country but are based in Brentwood.

Members' News

Nuclear Wild Forest - Splash

July & August

From bouncing and climbing to splashing and sliding, children aged 6+ can explore the Lake Zone in a safe, exciting environment packed with energy and laughter. Epic water obstacles include Upslide-Down, Doughnuts, Mud Pits, YouTube, Magic Carpets, Splat-the-Rat and more.

Nuclear Wild Forest - Just Get Over it

Tuesdays & Thursdays in the summer holidays

90 minutes of action packed obstacle and muddy fun, led by designated & qualified instructors. Children will bounce, climb, crawl, jump and slide their way around the course in a session designed for all abilities.

Nuclear Races - FIT Rookies

Saturday 18th July

An exciting outdoor fitness race designed for young athletes aged 9-15, giving them the chance to take on a fun and challenging course built just for them. Combining functional fitness stations with short runs, the race introduces the next generation to fitness racing in an energetic, supportive and confidence-building environment.

Nuclear Adventures - Unlimited Summer Pass

Why settle for one day of adventure when you can have six weeks? The Nuclear Adventures Summer Pass is the ultimate ticket for adrenaline-seekers and families looking to stay active all holiday long. This year, we've made the pass more inclusive than ever. Whether you're conquering the treetops, hitting the bullseye at the range, or joining our specialised Quiet Sessions, your pass covers it all.

[MORE INFO](#)

Rotary Club of Ingatestone - Proms At The Hall

Come along for Proms at the Hall, a spectacular open-air concert in the beautiful gardens of Ingatestone Hall. Enjoy an unforgettable evening of musical theatre, headlined by John Pierce, with local performers, delicious food and refreshments. Supporting local charities. Bring your picnic and celebrate summer together.

[MORE INFO](#)

Upcoming Chamber Events

1 July Wednesday	Business Breakfast Holiday Inn Brentwood	BOOK HERE
8 July Wednesday	Summer BBQ Brentwood Rugby Club	BOOK HERE
10 July Friday	AI Tools for Sales and Lead Generation Holiday Inn	BOOK HERE
5 August Wednesday	Business Breakfast Figo Restaurant	BOOK HERE
2 September Wednesday	Workshop: Public Speaking Holiday Inn	BOOK HERE
7 October Wednesday	Workshop: Market Insights Holiday Inn Brentwood	BOOK HERE

Upcoming Members' Events

4 July Saturday	Rotary Club of Ingatestone Proms At The Hall	MORE INFO
18 July Saturday	Nuclear Races FIT Rookies	MORE INFO
Tues & Thurs in the summer holidays Nuclear Wild Forest: Just Get Over it		MORE INFO
July & August	Nuclear Wild Forest Splash	MORE INFO



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