

Brentwood Business Awards Ceremony: Celebrating local success

Friday 16th October



Congratulations to all the finalists of the Brentwood Business Awards!

These awards celebrate the outstanding businesses, organisations and individuals that make such an important contribution to our local business community. With 10 award categories, including the coveted Brentwood Business of the Year, the awards shine a light on the talent, innovation and success across Brentwood. Every category is independently judged and proudly sponsored by local businesses, helping to showcase the strength and diversity of our local business community.

We're delighted that [Pinney Talfourd Solicitors](#) continues to be our Headline Sponsor, with [PhoenixFM](#) as our Media Partner. Both have been steadfast supporters of the Brentwood Business Awards since they began in 2018, and we're incredibly grateful for their continued support.

The winners will be revealed at the Brentwood Business Awards Ceremony on Friday 16th October at Stock Brook Manor. Everyone is welcome to join us for this special evening – whether you're a finalist, a local business, a Chamber member, a colleague, friend or simply want to come along and celebrate the success of businesses across Brentwood.

Come along, enjoy the celebrations, support our finalists and be part of a fantastic evening celebrating our local business community.

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

Brentwood Business Briefing & Chamber Live

Thursday 1st October



The free Brentwood Business Briefing will include the latest Baytree Centre update, followed by complimentary nibbles and networking. From 8pm, the ticketed Chamber Live takes over with live music from The Multitones, performing mod, ska and 60s soul classics.

[Brentwood Borough Council](#) is considering an ambitious vision for the regeneration of Baytree Shopping Centre designed to create a vibrant destination for shopping, leisure, dining and business.

Proposals include a new cinema, leisure and gym facilities, restaurants and cafés, flexible workspace and improvements to the public spaces surrounding the historic Chapel Ruins of St Thomas à Becket. The northern part of the centre could become a lively food, drink and leisure destination, with improved connections between The Baytree Centre and Brentwood High Street.

The council is also exploring longer-term opportunities for residential-led development on the southern part of the site, alongside community and commercial uses.

Subject to approval, the next stage would include appointing a lead developer and progressing detailed design, planning and commercial work. Work on the Chapel Ruins could begin in 2027, with the wider redevelopment potentially reopening in summer 2029. Existing Baytree businesses would be supported throughout the process.

[BOOK CHAMBER LIVE TICKET HERE](#)



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Local Government Reorganisation: Latest Update

Businesses across Greater Essex may have seen recent announcements regarding Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), following the Government's decision to withdraw and review its previous decisions. The Government has confirmed that the review is intended to allow it to consider concerns raised by local people before final decisions are implemented. Its commitment to local government reform and devolution remains unchanged.

The review will consider the four previously withdrawn decisions, further decisions announced in July and proposals for West Sussex and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Government has said it is working at pace and will report back to Parliament as soon as possible.

For businesses and residents in Brentwood, there are currently no immediate changes to services, priorities or day-to-day operations as a result of the review.

The Government has also confirmed that the devolution programme for Greater Essex continues unaffected, while local elections are currently expected to proceed in May 2027 using existing council boundaries.

As your Chamber, we have various ways of communicating with Government and representing the views of local businesses. We want to hear from you. Please share your thoughts, concerns and priorities with us, and we will explore what the Chamber can do to ensure the voice of local business is heard and help bring about positive change for our community.

Contact us at office@brentwoodchamber.co.uk

Never Miss a Chamber Breakfast with a Season Ticket

Our Chamber Business Breakfasts continue to prove hugely popular. Our breakfasts are now regularly selling out, so don't miss the opportunity to connect with other local businesses.

For Chamber members, our Breakfast Season Ticket is the easiest way to guarantee your place at every meeting. For just £200, you'll receive 12 breakfasts for the price of 10, giving you a full year of networking for an excellent value price.

Sign up by Direct Debit and we'll give you two breakfasts absolutely free. You'll also benefit from a guaranteed place at every monthly breakfast without having to remember to book each time, plus the opportunity to visit a different local venue every month.

Can't make a breakfast? No problem – you can send a colleague, supplier or friend in your place.

Email office@BrentwoodChamber.co.uk to find out more.



Bumper Breakfast at Brentwood School



September sell-out Breakfast at Brentwood School.

September's Chamber Business Breakfast at [Brentwood School](#) was another sell-out event that welcomed 50 local business people, including five members of the Brentwood School team. A huge thank you to Brentwood School for its warm welcome, excellent hospitality and consistently brilliant breakfast.

These breakfasts provide a wonderful opportunity to network face to face, make new connections and catch up with familiar faces. In an increasingly digital world, events like this are an important reminder of the value of genuine personal connections. Bringing local businesses together helps strengthen relationships, share ideas and build a stronger, more connected business community across Brentwood and beyond.

Join us For Breakfast

Wednesday 7th October

**Brentwood Chamber of Commerce**

BUSINESS BREAKFAST
BRENTWOOD THEATRE



MEETING
Weds 7th October
7.30am-9.30am

Join us for the
October 2026 Business
Breakfast at
**The Brentwood
Theatre**

✓ **Open to members & non members**

This month, Wednesday 7th October, we're serving up breakfast at [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](#)

Smarter Social Media AI Workshop



Kimberley Craigmile, the Chamber's Social Media Manager attended last month's "Smarter Social Media with A.I." workshop, hosted by David Bell from [Simboc](#), in collaboration with the Chamber and [Brentwood Borough Council](#).

She said, "It was an informative and practical session, packed with useful tools and ideas that can be put into practice straight away. What I particularly valued were the time saving tips and practical ways of using AI to make social media easier and more manageable, especially for those of us who have limited time but still want to maintain a consistent and effective social media presence. It was great to come away with ideas that aren't just interesting, but genuinely useful and achievable."

AI Workshop

Friday 9th October



AI-Powered Video Creation for Beginners

Holiday Inn Brentwood
Brook St, Brentwood CM14 5NF

Friday 9 October 2026

9am - 12pm

£10 Brentwood Chamber members
£15 for non-Brentwood Chamber members

www.brentwoodchamber.co.uk/chamber-events

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 (AI).

Our final workshop in the 5-part series will be on Friday 9 October entitled AI-Powered Video Creation for Beginners.

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

[BOOK HERE](#)

Workshop: Market Insights

Wednesday 7th October

Stop Guessing. Start Growing:
Turn Market Questions into
Business Opportunities

Are you struggling to understand why sales have stalled, which customers to target, how to stand out from competitors, or whether a new product or service will succeed?

Join freelance [Market Insights Consultant, Gillian Brooks](#), for an interactive workshop designed specifically for local SMEs. Discover practical, cost-effective ways to gather and use market insight to make smarter business decisions.

Learn how to identify growth opportunities, understand customer needs, test ideas before investing, strengthen your marketing, and gain confidence in your strategy. Leave with actionable techniques and a clearer path to informed business growth.

[BOOK HERE](#)



BRENTWOOD CHAMBER
Building Better Business

WORKSHOP

Market Insights

Turn data into decisions that grow your business.

Join Market Insights Consultant Gillian Brooks for an interactive workshop that will help you understand your market, uncover opportunities and make smarter business decisions.

- Understand your customers
- Identify opportunities and risks
- Make confident, data-led decisions

PRACTICAL. RELEVANT. ACTIONABLE.

Wednesday 7th October 6-7pm
Holiday Inn, Brentwood
£5 Members £10 Non Members

Workshop : Public Speaking

Wednesday 4th November



Brentwood Chamber of Commerce

WORKSHOP

Confidence in Public Speaking

by Neil Patrick, Celebrant

Wednesday 4th November
6-7pm
Holiday Inn, Brentwood
£5 Members £10 Non Members

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.

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](#)

Members' News

Brentwood Jobs, Skills & Volunteering Event

Brentwood Council - Wednesday 7th October

Looking for a new job, considering a career change or keen to find opportunities closer to home? Brentwood's Jobs, Skills & Volunteering Event takes place on Wednesday 7 October, from 11am–3pm at The Brentwood Centre.

Hosted by [Brentwood Borough Council](#) in partnership with Brentwood Jobcentre Plus and Brentwood CVS, the free event brings together more than 50 local employers, training providers, support services and voluntary organisations.

Visitors can explore job vacancies, apprenticeships, training courses, skills programmes and volunteering opportunities across a wide range of sectors, while meeting employers face to face.

A dedicated Young People's Zone will also provide specialist support for 16–24-year-olds not currently in education, employment or training.

[FIND OUT MORE AND REGISTER FOR FREE](#)

Welcome to Our New Members



Rent Directly LTD

A web-extension-based platform that will allow users to find direct-booking websites or other listings of short-term rental hosts on various short-term rental websites to assist users in finding the best offer.

**LONG
LIVE
KING**

Long Live King

[Long Live King](#) help small businesses to improve operations, time efficiency and profitability through bespoke software development such as CRM's, project management tools and customer engagement portals. They simplify tech to be understandable and effective in solving real-world challenges or capitalising on new opportunities.



Mentoring For Life

[Mentoring for Life](#) provides personal development support for business executives and sole traders. Specialising in "state of mind" they teach the Three Principles understanding of the human operating system which is of practical but ground breaking importance to achieving clarity, confidence and performance.

Upcoming Chamber Events

1 October Thursday	Business Briefing & Chamber Live Zebrano	BOOK HERE
7 October Wednesday	Business Breakfast Brentwood Theatre	BOOK HERE
7 October Wednesday	Workshop: Market Insights Holiday Inn Brentwood	BOOK HERE
9 October Friday	Workshop: AI Powered Video Creation for Beginners Holiday Inn	BOOK HERE
16 October Friday	Brentwood Business Awards Ceremony Stock Brook Manor	BOOK HERE
4 November Wednesday	Business Breakfast Old Brentwoods Club	BOOK HERE
4 November Wednesday	Workshop: Public Speaking Holiday Inn	BOOK HERE

Upcoming Members' Events

7 October Wednesday	Brentwood Council 2026 Brentwood Jobs, Skills & Volunteering Event	MORE INFO
27, 29, 30 October	Nuclear Wild Forest Halloween Trick or Treat	MORE INFO
29, 30, 31 October	Nuclear Wild Forest Halloween Blackout	MORE INFO
31 October Onwards	Nuclear Wild Forest Nuclear Adventures Illuminated	MORE INFO
October Half Term	Nuclear Adventures Kids Go Free with paying adults	MORE INFO



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Let's Connect:

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@brentwoodessexchamber



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