



# SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

ISSUE 4 2023

**FIND OUT ABOUT UPCOMING  
NETWORKING EVENTS**

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# CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



## KEVIN LOCKWOOD

Manager of Shrewsbury Shopping Centres

**Being a retailer for over 35 years, Christmas trading is the most important trading time of the year, and it seems to come around so quickly every year - maybe I'm getting old??**

What also comes around quickly are our quarterly magazines as it doesn't seem 2 minutes since I was writing my foreword for the Autumn edition...

Shrewsbury Business Chamber has had a great year, celebrating with nearly 30 new members to our group which is a phenomenal effort by everyone. Our strategy 18 months ago was to increase membership, be member focussed, have a variety of member events, increase our Social Media reach (well done Lauren) and continue to work with likeminded people. I think we have made huge strides in all of these; however, we are not going to take our foot off the gas and sit back... we want to continue to grow the organisation and give our members, which are predominantly small businesses, an opportunity to grow with us.

In 2024, we will be bringing to you a full calendar of events which will be a mixture of networking, socialising and learning & development opportunities which I hope you will enjoy.

I would like to personally thank each and everyone of you for your continued support of the Shrewsbury Business Chamber and to my colleagues who sit on the Executive Board with me, giving up their valuable time.

On behalf of the Shrewsbury Business Chamber, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. See you in 2024....

Best wishes,  
Kevin Lockwood Chairperson, Shrewsbury Business Chamber

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# SHREWSBURY BID BACKS SAFER BUSINESS ACTION WEEK



**Business leaders in Shrewsbury have welcomed a series of “targeted patrols” to crack down on crime in the town centre.**

**Safer Business Action Week took place from October 16 to 22 - a national week of action to reduce business crime in towns and city centres across the UK.**

Shrewsbury BID is working with West Mercia Police and other partners to reassure businesses in Shrewsbury that the town remains a safe place to live, work and visit.

**Stephanie Mansell-Jones, business liaison at Shrewsbury BID,** said: *“We are pleased that West Mercia Police is conducting targeted patrols in Shrewsbury town centre, both with Safer Neighbourhood Team officers, as well as officers drafted in from surrounding areas and specialist teams.*

*“We are continuing to work with the police, Shrewsbury Town Council and Shropshire Council on a range of initiatives, including the newly-formed Anti-social Behaviour Taskforce, to identify offenders, gather evidence, and ensure action is taken to protect the trading environment, residents, and other users of the town centre.”*

**Inspector Ben Tanfield, from Shrewsbury Safer Neighbourhood Team,** said: *“Tackling business crime is an important focus for the police here in Shrewsbury, with operations and investigations carried out all-year round.*

*“Safer Business Action Week is an opportunity to highlight that acquisitive crimes such as shoplifting and*

*fraud have a major impact on the lives and livelihoods of the communities we serve.*

*“Officers from the Shrewsbury Safer Neighbourhood Team along with the Neighbourhood Crime Fighting Team have been out in Shrewsbury all last week.*

*“We have run several operations in the town centre, Sundorne and Meole Brace. The operations have used uniformed and plain clothed officers, building on the success of our previous ‘Op Darwin’ activity.*

*“We work closely with Shrewsbury BID and I would encourage all town centre businesses and venues to sign up to Shrewsbury Watch if they haven’t already done so.”*

Shrewsbury BID, with support from the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner and Shropshire Council, funds the Shrewsbury Rangers who regularly patrol the town centre to help reduce crime and provide extra visual reassurance for businesses and the public.

Discussions are ongoing about continuing the project once the initial funding programme comes to an end, with businesses being very positive about the impact the rangers have had in the town centre.

**Stephanie** added: *“We know that businesses appreciate the extra support provided by the rangers, so we are actively talking with partners about the future.*

*“It’s clear that by working together we can continue to make Shrewsbury a safe and enjoyable destination.”*

Businesses are asked to report all crime and anti-social behaviour to ensure that police have a clear picture of offenders and strong evidence to support enforcement measures.

If a crime is ongoing dial 999 for immediate support. For non-urgent incidents call 101 or report online at <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

# THE EFFECTS OF AI ON PHOTOGRAPHERS



**In an age where technology advances at breakneck speed, photographers find themselves navigating a challenging landscape. The rise of artificial intelligence (AI) is transforming industries worldwide, and the world of photography is no exception. While AI offers exciting possibilities, it also raises concerns about the future of this artistic profession.**

## The AI Invasion

Photography has been a beloved art form and profession for over a century. Photographers capture moments, tell stories, and convey emotions through their lenses. However, the advent of AI has ushered in a new era where machines can mimic human creativity and skill. One of the primary ways AI encroaches on photography is through automated image editing. AI-powered software can now retouch, enhance, and manipulate photos with incredible precision. What used to require hours of painstaking work in the darkroom or behind a computer can now be accomplished with a few clicks. While this can be a boon for efficiency, it threatens to devalue the unique touch and creativity that photographers bring to their craft.

## Stock Photography Dominance

The stock photography industry has experienced a seismic shift thanks to AI-generated content. Large databases of stock images now contain thousands of photos generated by AI algorithms, which are often indistinguishable from those taken by human photographers. This flood of AI-generated content can saturate the market, making it difficult for photographers to sell their work or earn a living through stock photography.

## Automated Photography

AI-powered cameras are another area of concern. These smart cameras can adjust settings, compose shots, and

even select the best moments to capture, all without human intervention. While this technology can be a game-changer for amateurs and enthusiasts, it threatens to diminish the role of professional photographers who rely on their expertise and creative vision.

## The Human Touch

What sets human photographers apart is their unique perspective, creativity, and ability to capture the essence of a moment. AI lacks the emotional intelligence and creative intuition that photographers possess. While AI can replicate certain technical aspects of photography, it struggles to understand and convey the deeper emotional and artistic elements.

## Adaptation and Collaboration

Photographers need not see AI as an adversary but rather as a tool for collaboration and creativity. Many photographers are embracing AI as a means to enhance their work, automating repetitive tasks and using AI-generated content as a starting point for their projects. By learning to work alongside AI, photographers can leverage its capabilities to expand their own artistic horizons.

## Conclusion

The rise of AI presents a double-edged sword for photographers. While it threatens to automate aspects of the profession and flood the market with AI-generated content, it also opens up new possibilities for creative collaboration and efficiency. The key for photographers is to adapt, staying at the forefront of technology and using AI as a tool rather than a replacement for their unique vision and skills. In this ever-evolving landscape, the human touch in photography remains irreplaceable, ensuring that photographers will continue to find their place in the world of visual storytelling.

AI may be here to stay but so will the personal touch of a photographer will never fade.

- Chantelle Spare Photography  
Find me - <https://chantellespare.co.uk/>

# SHREWSBURY SALES FIGURES OUTPERFORMING NATIONAL AVERAGE



**Sales in Shrewsbury have increased by 9% compared to last year, significantly higher than the UK town and city centre average - with the market hall reporting one of the busiest summers it has ever had.**

Footfall in the Darwin Shopping Centre and Shrewsbury Market Hall have been higher this summer compared to last year, and statistics compiled for Shrewsbury BID show the overall town centre is performing well.

Seb Slater, executive director of Shrewsbury BID, said: "We monitor town centre performance data on a monthly basis, working with highly-respected data analysts, Beauclair and Springboard, to track customer spend, footfall and other metrics.

*"It's very encouraging to note that sales in July increased by 9% year on year, compared to the national average of 2%, with hospitality, fashion and entertainment performing particularly well. We'll receive August sales figures next week but from feedback received we are optimistic they will continue to show a positive trend.*

*"We are aware of recent stories in the local press quoting town council figures which suggested footfall had decreased significantly this summer, but these figures show that Shrewsbury is performing strongly compared to national benchmarks and should be a source of confidence for businesses.*

*"Our Springboard cameras, which count physical people on the street on Pride Hill and High Street, have shown*

*a decrease of 5.8% on last year over July and August, which is actually above the benchmark for West Midlands and a little below the UK benchmark for town centres."*

Shrewsbury Market Hall has reported a bumper summer of trading - with traders saying it has probably been the best the market has ever had.

Darren Tomkins, Shrewsbury BID board member and owner of Gindifferent in the market hall, said: *"In August the footfall counters recorded more than 67,000 visitors to the market hall. We've never seen numbers like this before, at this time of year - it really has been a great couple of months.*

*"In the past we've traditionally seen footfall drop off a bit during the school holidays, but this summer it has been incredibly busy."*

Kevin Lockwood, manager of the Darwin Shopping Centre, said traders were feeling positive following a busy summer.

He said: *"Footfall has been good over the summer months, with a clear increase on last year, and tenants have reported strong sales figures.*

*"We are increasingly aware that footfall figures do not tell the whole story as to whether trading conditions are good or bad, as so many other aspects of the economy affect businesses in different ways.*

*"That being said, the mood amongst businesses in the shopping centre is upbeat and we hope the rest of the year will continue the positivity."*

# SHREWSBURY BASED PIPEKIT LAUNCHES NEW PREFABRICATION BUSINESS



## **Pipekit, an independent distributor of specialist pipework systems and drainage solutions, has launched a prefabrication service following market demand.**

Pipekit, has developed and invested in its prefabrication capability with its European, market leading supply partner Geberit, following investment in dedicated staff and its fabrication facilities at its headquarters in Shrewsbury. The service, which offers prefabricated HDPE drainage stacks for the tall building market, significantly helps specifiers and contractors save on labour, storage, handling, and tool costs, as well as support sustainability strategies and reduce carbon footprint of building projects.

Pipekit's prefabrication team has been extended to five and includes newly appointed Jane Smith, Sales Consultant for Prefabricated Drainage, who brings a wealth of industry experience to the role. Commenting on the launch Jane said: "We're really looking forward to showcasing our prefabrication capabilities. We have launched this service following a demand from the market for prefabricated drainage on large projects, and it knitted well with our established experience and expertise in the offsite construction sector".

Pipekit's prefabrication service manages the design, assembly and testing of the stacks at its in-house facility in Shrewsbury and then delivers the product for a complete installation offering; a service that can offer a quicker installation at significantly lower project costs. Working in conjunction with Geberit, Pipekit can

fabricate bespoke stacks up to 315mm in diameter, using Geberit HDPE, Silent db20 and Sovent drainage fittings and pipe. Pipekit is already prefabricating drainage stacks, in conjunction with Geberit, for the Octagon, Birmingham, an octagonal, residential high rise building project, which on completion will be a 49 storey, 370 build to rent homes complex.

Summing up, Martyn Rowlands, MD of Pipekit said: *"As a distributor of Geberit products for many years, adding an additional service of drainage prefabrication became an obvious next step for the business. We have listened to the market, invested in the service and we're looking forward to offering it to the marketplace. The benefits of stacks being produced in a factory environment, under strict quality controls and delivered to the customer on our own vehicles, will be a very attractive proposition to the client and contractor alike. Plus, as an independent distributor we offer a dedicated sales and customer service team, with industry and technical expertise at the heart, to ensure high levels of fulfilment are achieved for our customers at every level"*.



# BEING PRESENT IN THE MOMENT



## Looking for ways to feel more settled and in control of your life?

### When was the last time you offered yourself the opportunity to really notice how you are feeling?

With so much demand on your time involving work, family, leisure activities, it's important to notice what is happening inside.

This information is for you if you find it difficult to make time for yourself in a busy schedule.

Here's a list of fairly typical ways that many people manage not to acknowledge their feelings:

- Staying so busy you have no time to notice how you feel
- Scrolling on your phone
- Finding you can't resist responding to every phone notification
- Using alcohol to help you relax
- Consuming information
- Retail therapy

A typical brain tends to:

Have some regrets about the past

Replay difficult past conversations

Imagine future conversations

Worry about an upcoming event or meeting

This is how many people deal with uncomfortable feelings:

- Keeping them all inside
- Comfort eating
- Ignoring how you feel
- Pushing the feeling away

Pausing to offer yourself a quiet sanctuary, even for a few minutes, is important. You can check in with yourself and how you're feeling.

## It does take practice to bring yourself into a sense of calm awareness of the present moment.

When you're not acknowledging your valuable feelings you may notice you're restless or perhaps you suddenly seem to be really angry 'out of the blue'.

Underneath anger lie other feelings, including sadness, fear, emotional or physical pain, unmet needs, injustice (the list isn't exhaustive).

### Are you able to be in the present at this moment?

Here's an exercise you may like to do to help you be more present:

1. Find a comfortable place where you won't be interrupted.
2. This could be in your home, in your garden, in a park, wherever feels right for you.
3. Sit down and feel the strength in your spine, yet a sense of feeling relaxed in your body.
4. Have an openness to possibility.
5. Notice the feeling of your feet on the ground, allow your hands to rest in your lap.
6. It's important to feel comfortable so if your position needs to be different that's ok!
7. Close your eyes, or if you prefer fix your gaze upon something low down.
8. Bring your attention to your breathing, you don't need to change it.
9. Can you feel your breath in different parts of your body
10. Notice sounds, in the distance
11. Be present with the sound, it doesn't need to be judged.
12. Notice sounds, nearer to you.
13. Where there is silence, allow that to be.
14. Is there any tension in your body?
15. If your body could speak, what might it say to you?
- 16.

### How are you feeling right now?

The purpose of this exercise is to bring a sense of calm awareness of the present moment.

Susie Harris MNCPS

[www.presencecounselling.co.uk](http://www.presencecounselling.co.uk)

# GRANT SUCCESS FOR LOCAL CHARITY



## Trustees at a Shropshire charity are celebrating after a local insurance broker helped them to secure a generous £10,000 grant.

Henshalls Group - which has its headquarters in Newport - was one of 40 winning brokers to win a share of this year's £300,000 Aviva Broker Community Fund prize pot.

And thanks to their efforts, The Harry Johnson Trust will receive the donation to help their work supporting children and teenagers who are receiving care from the oncology team at The Princess Royal Hospital in Telford.

Mark Freeman for Henshalls, said: "We are absolutely delighted with the wonderful news that our application on behalf of The Harry Johnson Trust has been successful.

"We've been a passionate supporter of the Trust since it was created, and it's great that they will be able to put the money to good use and make such a positive difference in the local community."

The Trust is in memory of Sally and Stephen's son Harry, who died at the age of seven after a nine-month fight with Double Hit Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Sally said: "As a Trust, we are fortunate to own a static caravan in mid Wales which families can use for much-needed time together. "Harry's House is available for families who can also use the park's luxury facilities free of

charge, knowing that they are not far from the hospital if they need it.

"The caravan is also used by bereaved families and the wonderful staff who give so much to the children, and who sometimes need time away too. The local children's oncology and haematology community are all welcome to book time there.

"We are extremely grateful to Henshalls and to Aviva for the generous donation and it is an extremely welcome boost as our Trust is completely run by volunteers and all the money raised goes towards our projects."

The Aviva Broker Community Fund helps local causes build stronger communities across the UK. It also gives causes access to volunteering and professional coaching opportunities, as well as tools and resources to help build their capabilities and achieve long term sustainable success.

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# ALEESHA SCOOPS NATIONAL AWARD



**A former apprentice who became a Senior Human Resource Consultant in just three years, has scooped a national Young Business Woman of the Year award at a ceremony in London.**

Aleesha Skett (28 ) of The HR Dept Shropshire successfully completed a two-year apprenticeship with the company before being promoted to a leading role as a Senior HR Consultant in 2023, working with local SMEs across Shropshire.

The National Business Women's Awards 2023 announced the category winner at their annual star-studded award ceremony held in the Hilton Hotel, Wembley, north London last week. Now in their seventh year, the Awards continually strives to offer so many incredible business women a platform of their own to celebrate their incredible achievements and rewards; and promotes stars of today and of tomorrow across many diverse sectors.

Speaking about her award, Aleesha said: *"I am absolutely thrilled and totally surprised with this national recognition.*

*"A great deal of work has gone into developing The HR Dept business across Shropshire in recent years. I've been very fortunate to have played a part in that success both as an Apprentice and now a qualified Senior Consultant."*

Aleesha is also a Trustee for the Shropshire Youth Association.

Last year the National Business Women's Awards 2023 recognised company director Níamh Kelly as the 'Business Woman of the Year.'

# FESTIVAL FUN IN THE BUSINESS WORLD



**Shropshire Festivals' final major event of 2023 was Shropshire Oktoberfest, held on October 6th and 7th under huge marquees stretching across Shrewsbury's Quarry. They welcomed thousands of people to their beer tents, with Saturday's event selling out.**

The award-winning events team hosted several corporate parties for local businesses within the festival.

Pave Aways celebrated their 50th birthday in style, Aaron & Partners enjoyed making pizzas and cocktails with invited guests, and Base Architects were treated to a beer tasting workshop from award-winning beer writer, Laura Hadland, one of the top three drinks' writers in the UK.

This followed a bumper corporate offering at the Shrewsbury Food Festival in June, where over 1,000 corporate guests were entertained at VIP parties within the festival in designated tipis and tents, over just one day.

Creative Director, Beth Heath, said their 2024 calendar of events is already filling up with corporate parties, consultancy projects, award nights, and local festivals. "If you have any big business milestones coming up or if you're looking for a way to entertain your clients and staff, then why not consider a corporate event from Shropshire Festivals? "We can provide a VIP party within one of our festivals - Shrewsbury Food Festival,

Shropshire Oktoberfest or Shropshire Petal Fields, or we can put together a party or festival for your business, taking away the stress of party planning. From staff parties to award nights, and hospitality at sporting events to graduation celebrations, we can cover just about any kind of event management project, bringing the Shropshire Festivals magic along for the ride!"

Their 2024 events include the return of Shropshire Business Festival at Wrekin College on April 11th. The free event will include expert speakers, workshops, seminars, networking, and the region's best businesses sharing their expertise. Register your interest at [www.shropshirebusinessfestival.co.uk](http://www.shropshirebusinessfestival.co.uk).



# CAMPAIGN TO CELEBRATE AND GROW BUSINESS IN SHREWSBURY LAUNCHING IN NEW YEAR



**A new initiative to encourage inward investment and raise the profile of Shrewsbury as a great place to do business will be launched in the new year.**

The **'Work in Shrewsbury'** programme will include a national campaign to promote the benefits of living and working in the town, as well as providing resources to retain young talent and help existing businesses to grow.

The campaign, which has received £320,430 from the Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), will centre around a new 'Work in Shrewsbury' online platform, highlighting inspiring case studies and delivering a programme of masterclass events across all sectors of the business community.

The investment will also help to bring a series of publicly accessible high-speed wi-fi networks to the town centre, as well as funding a 'Future Shrewsbury' business grant scheme.

Seb Slater, executive director of Shrewsbury BID, said the project would support existing businesses as well as attract new talent and investment into the town. He said: "We all know what a fantastic place Shrewsbury is to do business, and the Work in Shrewsbury campaign will demonstrate the many reasons why people should consider relocating here. "There will be a number of key elements of the campaign:

the Work in Shrewsbury website will be the focal point of all activities, including high quality videos and case studies to showcase what a thriving business scene we have here in the county town.

"There will be a masterclass events programme to help individuals and businesses grow their skills and find new opportunities.

"Another important strand of work will be encouraging young people who have grown up in Shrewsbury to stay in their hometown to grow their career rather than feeling the need to move to a larger town or city.

"As part of the project we will also be expanding our data dashboard to give businesses and entrepreneurs even more information to help them target new markets and attract more customers."

Ann Tudor, of TCA Accountants and a member of the Shrewsbury BID board, said the Work in Shrewsbury project was a key priority for the BID over the coming years.

"Attracting and retaining talented business owners and entrepreneurs is key to the ongoing success of any town," she said.

"We want to celebrate the many successful companies which already call Shrewsbury home and highlight to people across the country why Shrewsbury is such a fantastic place to live and work.

"The project will see us working even more closely with a range of partners to bring more skills and more jobs to the town, helping to grow the local economy both now and into the future."

# LANYON BOWDLER CELEBRATES EXCELLENT SHOWING IN PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL LAW GUIDE



## **A Shropshire law firm has maintained its excellent rankings in a prestigious national guide, with 13 lawyers highlighted as recommended practitioners.**

Lanyon Bowdler, which has offices across Shropshire, Herefordshire and North Wales, has nine practice areas recommended in the 2024 Chambers UK legal guide, six of which are ranked in the top two bands.

The Chambers UK guide ranks law firms based on independent research and interviews with clients, and has been helping people find the best lawyers and firms in the country for more than 30 years.

Lanyon Bowdler is celebrating four lawyers ranked in Band 1, four in Band 2, three in Band 3 and two in Band 4, while the firm has three Band 1 practice area rankings, three in Band 2, one in Band 3 and two in Band 4.

**Brian Evans, managing partner of Lanyon Bowdler,** said: "Chambers UK is a highly respected guide and law firms are always very keen to be included because it is shaped by comments from clients themselves, along with independent research and interviews with other professionals.

*"We are therefore delighted to see nine practice areas and 13 individual lawyers recommended in the guide. It is a great achievement for every lawyer included, but we are particularly pleased to see Will Morse gaining a new Band 4 recommendation in the West Midlands*

*Employment section and Debbie Humphries being included in Band 2 of the guide's Midlands Personal Injury category.*

*"It is also great to see the firm's new listing at Band 3 in the West Midlands Corporate (mergers and acquisitions) section, along with Clinical Negligence, Personal Injury and Family departments maintaining their Band 1 recommendations.*

*"Congratulations to all those who have been included - our significant presence in the guide re-enforces our position as one of the leading law firms in the region."*

The full list of recommended lawyers is: Edward Nutting, Agricultural & Rural Affairs (Wales); Beth Heath, Emma Broomfield and Lucy Small, Clinical Negligence (Midlands); Grainne Walters, Corporate M&A (West Midlands); John Merry and Will Morse, Employment (West Midlands); Philippa Pearson, Family/Matrimonial (Hereford & Worcester and Surrounds); Lisa Grimmett and Sue Hodgson, Family/Matrimonial (Shrewsbury & Surrounds); Andrew Pegg, Litigation (West Midlands); Dawn Humphries and Debbie Humphries, Personal Injury (Midlands).

The firm is recommended in the following practice areas: Family/Matrimonial (Hereford & Worcester and Surrounds); Family/Matrimonial (Shrewsbury and Surrounds); Agricultural & Rural Affairs, Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury (Midlands); Agricultural & Rural Affairs (Wales); Litigation, Employment and Corporate M&A (West Midlands).

# PIPEKIT SUPPORTS NEXT GENERATION OF PLUMBERS AS IT SPONSORS SHREWSBURY COLLEGES GROUP



Mitch Lloyd, Pipekit, Connor Edward, Full Time L2 Technical Certificate in Plumbing Student, Paul Burt, McAlpine Plumbing.

**Shrewsbury based Pipekit is partnering with Shrewsbury Colleges Group, as the independent pipe systems and drainage distributor sets out to support the next generation of local plumbers. Pipekit will be sponsoring the plumbing and gas department at Shrewsbury College on an ongoing basis and will be providing tools, materials and technical presentations.**

The partnership commenced this September and Pipekit has provided the college with various products and resources from the leading manufacturers Pipekit represents, including Albion, Flamco, Geberit, George Fischer, McAlpine and various others. One of the key components to the partnership will be monthly technical presentations, conducted alongside industry manufacturers, to offer 'real life' knowledge and experience to the course. The first session took place this week and was run by McAlpine Plumbing Products. The training event showcased the McAlpine products to the students, highlighting the features and benefits, as well as demonstrating installation techniques and procedures. This will be followed by a session on valve technology from Albion and then a gas and water applications focus by Geberit Mapress.

Commenting on the sponsorship, Martyn Rowlands, owner and MD of Pipekit said: "We are delighted to be actively involved in the future of our industry and being able to give something back to our community. We were

keen to play a part in helping to ensure local students and apprentices are aware of the latest products and technology that is being used within the industry, and significantly deliver that message through leading manufacturers".

He continued: "It's also hugely rewarding to support a college that both myself and our Sales Director, Jamie McQueen, attended in our younger days".

The partnership between Pipekit and Shrewsbury Colleges Group also has plans to introduce a Sponsored Student Award which will look to help drive standards and achievements for the enrolled students.

Stuart Raine, Curriculum Director for Construction Trades at Shrewsbury College added:

"This is a fantastic partnership that has already contributed to some outstanding development of practical skills and knowledge through the generosity of Pipekit. It is brilliant to combine the skills and knowledge of staff here, with up-to-date industry tools, equipment, materials, and processes provided by Pipekit. Truly an outstanding local company who are collaborating with us here at SCG to support plumbing and heating engineers of the future".

Pipekit is a family owned, independent pipework and drainage distributor based in Shrewsbury. Founded by Martyn Rowlands, Pipekit offers leading brand pipe systems and drainage products to various sectors internationally, nationally, and locally.

For further information visit: [www.pipekit.co.uk](http://www.pipekit.co.uk)

# INSPIRING STORIES OF THRIVING AFTER BRAIN INJURY TO BE SHARED AT CONFERENCE



## **A life-changing injury can be devastating - but it can also inspire an incredible response as people thrive in the face of adversity.**

Shropshire law firm Lanyon Bowdler is bringing together inspiring individuals who have done just that, as part of the 'Thriving After Brain Injury' conference.

The event is expected to attract professionals working with, and people living with, brain injury from across the country - with former captain of the England and GB hockey team, Alex Danson MBE, and GB paralympic footballer, Jack Rutter, headlining an impressive panel of speakers.

Dawn Humphries, head of the personal injury team at Lanyon Bowdler, said: "We are delighted to be welcoming a range of people, some of whom will share stories of incredible courage and resilience, with others discussing the very latest in rehabilitation and support services.

"A big thank you to all of our speakers for giving up their time to be part of this important event, and I would also like to thank our sponsors, ARAG, Frenkel Topping Group and No5 Barristers Chambers.

"We hope as many people as possible will join us for what is sure to be an inspiring, educational and uplifting day."

Alongside Alex Danson MBE and Jack Rutter, speakers will include Andrew Worthington, a consultant in neuropsychology and rehabilitation with Headwise,

Hannah Wright, a brain injury coordinator and counsellor at Royal Buckinghamshire Hospital, and Daniel Thomas, a qualified music therapist at Chroma.

Stephanie Webster, of Frenkel Topping Group, said: "Frenkel Topping are beyond excited to support and attend the upcoming Thriving After Brain Injury conference and to celebrate those who have not only overcome life-changing injuries but have thrived despite adversity.

"We're looking forward to hearing stories and insights from other experts in this industry that will no doubt inspire us all."

William Theaker, practice director at No5 Barristers' Chambers, added: "We are thrilled to be sponsors of the Thriving After Brain Injury event with Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors. No5's Henry Pitchers KC and Chris Bright KC join a great line-up of speakers on the day."

Mike Knight, of ARAG, said: "We are committed to supporting and facilitating access to justice through our legal insurance services, so we are delighted to be part of an event like this which will help build understanding of the challenges injured people face.

"Lanyon Bowdler is an outstanding firm of lawyers and we are proud to work with them."

The conference will be held at Theatre Severn in Shrewsbury on March 6, 2024, and tickets are available now - for more information visit [www.lblaw.co.uk/press-and-events/events-and-seminars](http://www.lblaw.co.uk/press-and-events/events-and-seminars)

# DIGITAL REVOLUTION FOR SHREWSBURY TOWN CENTRE

**Work has started on a much-needed project to revolutionise the broadband speed available to retail and office premises in Shrewsbury - which could see the town centre becoming one of the best-connected of its kind in the UK.**

Shrewsbury BID is working closely to support Full Fibre who are building the network, which due to the historical nature of Shrewsbury town centre is hugely complex, with substantial obstacles being overcome during the rollout.

Landlords and businesses are now being urged to get behind the project, to bring faster connection speeds to the centre of Shrewsbury, and better efficiency for local shops and businesses.

**Seb Slater, executive director of Shrewsbury BID,** said: *"Broadband coverage in Shrewsbury town centre varies massively, and a lot of our members tell us they are hampered on a daily basis by poor connectivity, with average download speeds across the town centre flatlining below 20Mbps and upload speeds being very poor."*

Now, as the network rolls out across the town centre, businesses and residents will have access to 100% fibre optic ultrafast internet, which provides more dependable internet connections, with 1Gbps download speeds. A very significant upgrade.

**Seb** added: *"We are delighted that Full Fibre have committed to building the new fibre network across the town centre using existing underground ducting. We are now talking to town centre property owners where permissions are required to install a small terminal box allowing the service to be provided to nearby businesses and residents. A big thank you to local landlords and agents who have already given their support to the project."*

**Matt Smith, Head of Public Procurement and Engagement at Fibre Heroes,** said: *"We are excited to be building a full fibre network in Shrewsbury town centre. Town centres are often neglected by telecoms providers like Openreach as they are the most complex areas to upgrade. Our team are working really hard to overcome the challenges that have prevented others from upgrading the town centre, and we're really grateful to the landlords that have worked with us so far. "We have begun rolling out the network across the town centre already and our technology will provide the future-proofed solution to the town centre's long-term connectivity needs."*



Local businesses will be able to access these new services through a large and ever-growing number of broadband providers active on the Full Fibre network. This includes local business ISPs such as Connexis. Two of the first businesses to access the new connection are Tanners Wines and The Lion and Pheasant hotel in Wyle Cop.

**Jim Littler, of The Lion and Pheasant,** added: *"A fast internet connection is a must-have for any business, so we are delighted to be one of the first premises to connect to this new fibre service."*

*"Not only is a faster connection important for us to function efficiently as a business, it also improves the experience for our customers too."*

*"It's great that Shrewsbury BID is backing this project, and we hope the whole of the town centre will soon have access to the kind of high-speed internet connection which every business needs."*

**James Tanner, Chairman of Tanners,** added: *"Historically, access to good quality high bandwidth connectivity has been an issue within the town centre."*

*"The provision of an affordable platform such as this, that gives us additional bandwidth whilst saving money compared to our previous service, enables Tanners Wines to focus on our core business activity, which gives businesses operating in the town centre a welcome competitive edge."*

**Councillor Robert Macey, Shropshire Council's Cabinet member for culture and digital,** said: *"This is a significant step forward in providing strong digital connectivity for our businesses in the town centre, which will further enhance Shrewsbury as a place to do business."*

*"With major regeneration projects coming forward such as Smithfield Riverside, the availability of these fibre connections will be one of the reasons we remain attractive to future investment."*

# SHOP LOCAL AND SUPPORT SHREWSBURY TRADERS AT CHRISTMAS



**Business leaders in Shrewsbury are encouraging people to shop local this Christmas - as the town centre approaches full occupancy for the busiest time of the year.**

Shrewsbury BID says the town centre remains a popular draw for retail and hospitality businesses, and the few vacant units are either under offer or subject to strong interest from potential new tenants.

Seb Slater, executive director of Shrewsbury BID, which represents around 500 businesses, said: "We have welcomed dozens of new businesses to the town centre throughout this year, and it's great to see very few empty units as we get into the peak shopping season of the year. "From national chains to small independent retailers, Shrewsbury is continuing to add to its fantastic array of shops, bars and restaurants.

"St Mary's Street, Wyle Cop and Pride Hill are either at or very close to full occupancy, and we understand any empty units are quickly attracting interest.

"There's no doubt that the trading environment is tough at the moment, but Shrewsbury's national appeal has been clear to see with the number of new businesses moving to the town during the past 12 months.

"The shopping experience in Shrewsbury is better than ever during the Christmas period, with a wonderful festive atmosphere, so we would urge people to please support their local traders rather than doing their Christmas shopping online.

*"We also have Small Business Saturday coming up on 2 December, which is a national campaign to encourage people to support the small businesses which are so vital to our local economy."*

Vonny Simons, owner of The Toy Box in Wyle Cop, said the support from shoppers in the run-up to Christmas was vital.

She said: "Christmas is always an important time of year for retail shops, and we really do rely on the support of our local customers.

"A town centre like Shrewsbury offers so much more than you can get online - it's a proper shopping experience and you simply never know what you might find as you browse the huge variety of shops we have here!"

Debbie Carvell, owner of two independent town centre stores - Carvell on the square and Carvell Lingerie and Swimwear - said Shrewsbury was a special place at Christmas.

She added: "I am so proud of my two newly rebranded stores in Shrewsbury and am very much looking forward to a busy few weeks ahead.

"You cannot replicate the experience of the high street through an online purchase - especially when it comes to clothing and lingerie.

"As business owners we support each other too, so we look forward to buying presents from other shops and of course supporting the hospitality industry across the town over the Christmas period."



# SHREWSBURY SUCCESS AND POTENTIAL HIGHLIGHTED AT DOWNING STREET MEETING



**The success of Shrewsbury as a destination - and the challenges of getting to the “next level” - has been highlighted to the Government during a meeting at 10 Downing Street.**

Mike Matthews, owner of the Prince Rupert Hotel and chair of Shrewsbury BID, was among the guests at a meeting of business owners arranged by Enterprise Nation, where he put his views to the Prime Minister’s lead business adviser, Franck Petitgas.

Mike said: *“It was a really positive discussion and Mr Petitgas was genuinely interested in what we had to say.*

*“I was there to represent Shrewsbury as well as the Prince Rupert, so I raised the subject of how successful Shrewsbury has been over the past 10 years, and how the Government can support us to get to the next level.*

*“I said we have exceeded expectations as a town, and we are now ahead of comparable destinations in terms of sales figures and hotel occupancy, but what we have not yet tapped into is the American and Far Eastern markets.*

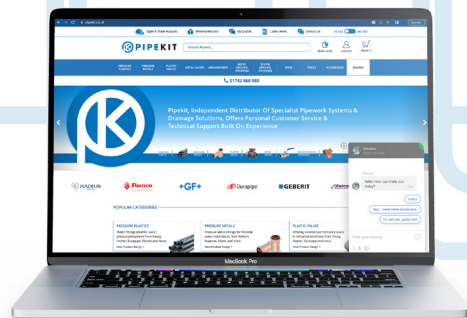
*“The potential is huge, and as a theme of the meeting was accessing new markets, I felt it appropriate to ask for Government support to put Shrewsbury alongside the likes of Bath, Chester and Harrogate for overseas tourist itineraries.*

*“You don’t often get the opportunity to sit in Downing Street and talk about your town with an advisor to the*

*Prime Minister. It was a fantastic experience and I would like to thank Emma Jones from Enterprise Nation for arranging the meeting and inviting me to take part.”*



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A Development by Alaska Property Group

- New office building available for occupation Q1 2024.
- Prominent position fronting Wenlock Road.
- Total size: 560 sq m / 6028 sq ft (over two floors).
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photo shows similar building



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# LOVE2STAY Christmas ADVENTURE

**Christmas Trees**  
Buy a real Nordic Fir Christmas tree from Love Plants! Both cut and pot grown trees available.  
From 21st November  
Local delivery available

**Join us for the Twilight Trail**  
Join us for our bigger and better Twilight Trail, witness the trim trail be transformed into an enchanting light display.  
From 25th November  
£7.50 per person

**Santa Grotto**  
Santa has made his way from the North Pole to visit his favourite Christmas destination, make sure to arrive in your Christmas best and say hello!  
From 25th November  
£12.50 per child

**Wreath Making**  
Join us for some wonderful festive fun and make your very own Christmas Wreath for you to display in your home.  
£30 per person

**Christmas Afternoon Tea**  
Enjoy a selection of freshly made sandwiches, savouries, homemade scones and sweet treats at Love Coffee Salop Leisure.  
From 20th November 12.30pm - 3.30pm daily  
£19.50 per person

**Story time with Mrs Claus**  
Come along and enjoy 'Storytime with Mrs Claus' and her Elf whilst enjoying a cookie and baby chocolate. At the end of the session, you get to take the story home so you can enjoy it again and again. Recommended for 3-6 yrs.  
£30.00 per child

**Santa Paws**  
Give your four-legged friend their own festive experience with a visit to Santa Paws.  
For £6 your pet can enjoy seeing Santa and get a special treat to take away with them too. Santa has picked a range of toys suitable for different dog sizes.  
£6.00 per pet

**Starts 25th November 2023**

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www.lblaw.co.uk

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS  
& NETWORKING EVENT



**£5** FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS

**£15** FOR NON MEMBERS & GUESTS



**SHREWSBURY**  
BUSINESS CHAMBER

6-9PM  
ORIGINS  
RESTAURANT

Join us for our annual Christmas Party and networking where we will be announcing the winners of the town's Christmas Window competition and launching our events programme for 2024.

This event is going to be one of our best.

A Great chance to meet Chamber members and other business owners in shrewsbury to network.

£5 per ticket for chamber members. Guests are £15.

Origins Restaurant London Road Shrewsbury SY2 6PR - 6pm - 9pm.

To book your place go to -

<https://shrewsburybusinesschamber.com/events/>

# SOME SNAPS FROM RECENT EVENTS



Tapas Night  
Sponsored by Peakes Travel Elite



Flaxmill Tour with cyber security talk from Start Tech & West Mercia Police Cyber Protect Team



Cheese & Wine Night with Lezley Picton

We love welcoming your lovely faces to our monthly events. And this year has been better than ever. We have met so many new lovely people & businesses. We have welcomed a huge amount of new members. And we have held some brilliant events, some of which have been kindly sponsored by you!

If you would be interested in sponsoring an event please contact Donna - [shrewsburybc.events@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburybc.events@gmail.com)

We hope to see you soon!

To make sure you don't miss out on our events make sure you check out our website

<https://shrewsburybusinesschamber.com/events/>

and follow us on all socials..

 SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

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THE  
**COLLECTIVE**  
SHREWSBURY

**RETAIL LETTING  
OPPORTUNITY IN THE  
HEART OF SHREWSBURY**

*Are you running a small business and considering a retail unit in Shrewsbury? If so - we'd love to hear from you!*




**TOWN CENTRE RETAIL OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES AT THE COLLECTIVE  
IN THE DARWIN CENTRE, SHREWSBURY**

*Flexible 2 year lease at an affordable rent - inclusive of utilities, service charge, wi-fi and marketing support (does not include business rates but some smaller units may be eligible for relief).  
Includes store room.*

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND BE FIRST TO HEAR ABOUT THE LATEST OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE EMAIL:  
[info@shrewsbury-shopping.co.uk](mailto:info@shrewsbury-shopping.co.uk)

**THE  
DARWIN**

# CHRISTMAS WINDOW COMPETITION ENTRIES



# CHRISTMAS WINDOW COMPETITION FINALISTS

CHARITY SHOP



LARGE WINDOW



MARKET HALL



SMALL WINDOW



A BIG THANKYOU TO OUR SPONSORS...



# BUY-FROM JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



**Marketing with Purpose.**  
**Buy-From is a purpose-driven creative agency and we are proud of our values-led ethos which means we give back wherever possible.**

We are based in beautiful Shropshire but work with clients throughout the UK. We are both proudly local and ambitiously global. Our clients range in size, from the tiny but ambitious to large, countywide employers that span the private, not-for-profit, and public sectors. Our team is led by marketing and communications professionals with over 90 years' experience between them!

We provide creative solutions, outstanding customer service, and PR and marketing expertise to support your business, no matter what its size.

[Take a look at some of the good stuff we do.](#)

## **IN A NUTSHELL . . . WE DO GOOD STUFF FOR GOOD PEOPLE.**

How do we do this? We are committed to making a difference by:

- Offering free education, tools, and training
- Supporting our chosen charity
- Making as positive an impact on the people and the planet as we can

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Our USP is the way in which we underpin everything we do with education and training. Wherever possible we offer training, free toolkits, and mentoring, to enable businesses to keep as much of their marketing in-house. That empowers them to take ownership and grow, enabling them to invest in marketing and PR campaigns that really make a difference.

## WE GIVE A LITTLE BACK

Every year we support two charities - one through fundraising and one through agency time donated each month. This is an important part of our ethos, and the whole team get involved. In 2023, we have raised over £6K for The Brain Tumour Charity. Last year we supported Shropshire Rural Support with dedicated time, and this year that support has transferred to Shropshire Youth Association.

## PEOPLE AND PLANET

We pride ourselves on having the best people in the team, and have a culture of constant learning, support, and growth. The planet is also a key part of our focus as a business: We are currently working towards B Corp status and documenting our environmental footprint is a key part of that. We also support the Cycle to Work scheme and belong to Ecologi.

# FLEXASSIST JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



**FlexAssist**  
Flexible Business Support

**FlexAssist, where flexibility meets assistance in the most seamless way possible.**

Founded in 2022 by Helen Pugh who has a diverse professional background, spanning various business roles including managerial positions.

At FlexAssist, we understand that small business owners often wear multiple hats, juggling various responsibilities that can be time-consuming and overwhelming. That's where we come in. We offer a comprehensive suite of support services designed to streamline operations and free up valuable time for entrepreneurs.

Our services encompass a wide range of administrative and operational tasks, including but not limited to, administrative support, research, customer support, recruitment and much more.

With a team of skilled professionals, FlexAssist ensures that these crucial tasks are handled efficiently, accurately, and in a cost-effective manner.

By partnering with FlexAssist, small business owners can regain control of their time, reduce stress, and increase their focus on strategic activities that drive growth. Our flexible, tailored solutions are designed to meet the unique needs of each business, allowing them to thrive and prosper while we handle the rest.

With FlexAssist as your trusted business support partner, you can be confident that your small business will receive the professional assistance it deserves, enabling you

to achieve your goals and aspirations while leaving the operational details to us. Let us take care of the behind-the-scenes tasks, so you can concentrate on what truly matters – the success and expansion of your business.

Furthermore, we offer support to small businesses allowing business owners to finally enjoy the vacations they've often postponed due to concerns about managing their affairs in their absence.

We can support your business with packages starting from 5 hours a month.

Get in touch to book a no obligation discovery call : [info@flexassist.co.uk](mailto:info@flexassist.co.uk)





# LAURA MAY PHOTOGRAPHY JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



**I'm Laura, a personal branding photographer working with entrepreneurs and creatives to capture editorial images that elevate their business.**

It's really important to me that my clients feel completely at ease in front of the camera. You want to look professional but not corporate. I get it! We'll strike that balance between relaxed and confident, with absolutely zero cringe-factor guaranteed.

As my client Bella says: "Laura put me at ease immediately, telling stories and making me smile. The entire process was so fun and relaxing (and went by so fast!), which resulted in a gallery of photos that I absolutely love."

Before the shoot, I'll work with you to understand your ideal client and your business goals. We'll discuss your outfits, props, and possible locations, and come up with a loose plan for the day.

On the day itself, you can relax and enjoy the experience. I'll guide you every step of the way, ensuring you feel your most confident throughout. I'll try not to make you laugh too much, but I can't make any promises!

After the shoot, you'll receive a gallery of professionally edited images that captures the essence of your brand.

Now you have a wide selection of assets to elevate your business online (and offline) and make a lasting impression on your audience.

I'm really excited to become a member of Shrewsbury Business Chamber and can't wait to meet lots of fellow creatives!

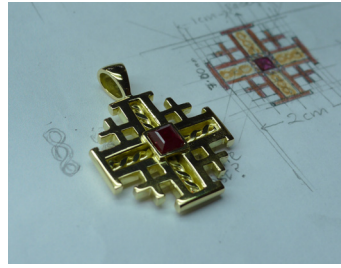
Check out my personal brand photography:  
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Say hi on Instagram: @lauramayphotographyuk

Connect with me on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lauramstanley/>



# SIRES MASTER GOLDSMITHS JOIN SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



## **Brief history & description of our business**

The PAREKH family name has an ancient legacy spanning thousands of years. The surname Parekh is derived from the Sanskrit word "Pariksaka" or an examiner, responsible for testing & identifying precious gems & metals. They later grew into trading in gemstones, cutting & polishing gems & becoming Artisans in Goldsmithing. They had become entrusted as court jewellers & familiar with the extravagant tastes of the Maharajas.

We have been making beautiful bespoke jewellery in the UK since 1977. Jagdish Parekh, who was taught Goldsmithing by his father, arrived in Britain at the age of 20 and started his own jewellery workshop in the West Midlands in 1977.

Kirty Parekh, his son, at an early age, showed strong, creative flair in many mediums & was passionate about art. In 1995, he proceeded to The University of Central England & studied Precious Metals and gemstones at the prestigious School of Jewellery in the world-famous Birmingham Jewellery Quarter. He became a Handmade Model Maker, the most skilled position in the Jewellery trade which was evident in his early work at the School of Jewellery. Working with craftsmen/artisans in the Quarter and all the wealth & skills passed down from his father, Kirty became incredibly talented and a highly regarded goldsmith. He is the current Master Goldsmith of SIRES with his son Ushan Parekh taking on a Goldsmithing Apprenticeship with SIRES.

We are proud to have established one of the few UK-based independent designer Jewellers. Now in the Medieval town of Shrewsbury, we make our own handcrafted, unique, bespoke, signature designs, hand-engraved Family Crest Signets, bespoke diamond engagement and wedding rings, and we specialise in remodelling once-loved jewellery holding sentimental value into statement pieces to be treasured once again by our clients across Britain.

## **Why are we called Sires?**

A King is addressed as SIRE, who our forefathers had served as court jewellers. The word SIRE also means the founder of a family, used in acknowledgement of our ancestral artisan forefathers.

## **What makes our business unique?**

We offer very high-end pieces designed and handcrafted

by us, to be accessible to all. For example, 9ct with white sapphires to 18ct with natural flawless diamonds to satisfy all budgets, without reducing quality. Our jewellery and the nature in which we do business have made our service steeped in sentimental one-off pieces, as we are able to mix our designs from existing pieces to create something completely different using the customer's sentimental gold, & precious stones. We have become generational master goldsmiths, creating & preserving heritage craft from our family to yours. We are going back to traditional handmade jewellery and hand engraving, at a time, when the industry is becoming reliant on technologies such as CAD and 3D printing losing the artisan human touch that today's clients long for. It brings stronger sentiment and continues a story which that piece already has.

## **Who is our average customer?**

Our customers range from all ages. A young person wants a signet ring, with their personal mark, which could be initials or family crest, to people in their 50s and 60s. But one thing we do find is that we have clients who appreciate quality, rarity and bespoke. They want to feel special and have something that is completely unique to them and something that has a story and a memory for them to treasure and take with them on their life's journey.

## **Do you offer bespoke services?**

Yes, we do offer services to our customers, where we design an item of jewellery they require, using their sentimental jewellery and also we offer free advice and design service on Signet Rings, which includes a search for their family crest and design for their hand engraved initials.

## **What do you have planned for the business over the next 12 months?**

We have some new designs small, but very high quality pieces which we hope to have ready for Christmas. They will be made using a hand made model and particularly small details will be carved in the design to make each piece unique.

We proudly continue to pass on our skills to the next generation, as we continue to train in the art of handmade British craftsmanship.

<https://www.siresmastergoldsmiths.co.uk/>

# 8 FINANCIAL PLANNING JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



**We are fixed-fee, independent financial planners, offering unbiased advice to best support you. We create bespoke financial plans that enable you to realise your ideal future.**

We help people on their journey to financial independence, working exclusively with business owners and people approaching retirement.

This often means we advise on the following areas:

- Protecting your wealth using insurance, where required
- Managing and growing your wealth using investments
- Planning towards your retirement
- Passing on your wealth

We create bespoke financial plans that enable you to realise your ideal future. We take the time to find out what worthwhile looks like to you.

Being fixed-fee and independent, we are completely agnostic to who we invest into and can offer unbiased

advice to support your unique journey.

We don't just want to provide a return on investment, we want you to get a maximum return on life.

Our 360 approach means we see the bigger picture.

We're financial experts who are lifestyle focused.

Are you ready to start your journey towards financial freedom? Get in touch with us today.

For more information visit...

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01952 442 688  
[info@8fp.co.uk](mailto:info@8fp.co.uk)



# CYBER & DATA PROTECTION JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

## Cyber & Data Protection



We have a goal to make Shropshire the most cyber secure county in the UK. To help us make progress we have developed excellent value cyber security packages for any organisation in Shropshire.

1. Securing Shropshire Essentials - £99 + VAT per month
2. Securing Shropshire Complete - £249 + VAT per month

### The Benefits

- Like having your own data protection and Cyber Security experts at a fraction of the cost
- Pricing designed to make Shropshire more secure. Very good value and only available to Shropshire organisations
- It's better to be prepared for cyber-attacks than be reactive to them. Securing Shropshire means you will be prepared.
- Data protection & Cyber Security is a core business concern...a breach can be costly (direct financial loss, time loss, earnings loss and to reputation). Securing Shropshire reduces your financial risk and helps to protect your reputation should a breach happen.

12-month contracts	Securing Shropshire Essentials	Securing Shropshire Complete
<b>Templates and Guidance to help you</b>	Essentials is suited to companies who's Cyber and Data Protection requirements are basic or as <a href="#">the first step</a> to addressing subject property	Suited to organisations that rely on technology and where a loss of the systems or theft of data would have a significant impact. They may process personal data, depend on supply chains, use technical systems or infrastructure to operate
- understand your risk	✓	✓
- control your risk	✓	✓
- manage your assets	✓	✓
- access and control supply chain risks	✓	✓
<b>Training for staff</b>		
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- e-learning Data Protection training - 25 licences included	✓	✓
<b>Assessments</b>		
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- Cyber Essentials readiness assessment	✓	✓
- Firewall configuration review		✓
<b>Services</b>		
- Cyber and Data Protection Emergency Breach Support - telephone   Portal   Email 1 hour response		✓
<b>Discounts</b>		
- 10% off Full or Lite Cyber Risk Assessment	✓	✓
- 10% off Cyber Essentials Certification booked via us	✓	✓
- 10% off External, Internal, Wi-Fi, SaaS Penetration Testing		✓
- 10% off Subscription to Vulnerability Management		✓
- 10% off Phishing Awareness Training		✓
Terms and Conditions Apply* (exc. VAT)	Cost £99 - SAVING c.£470 per month*	Cost £249 SAVING c.£1080 per month*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## DECEMBER 23

CHRISTMAS PARTY

TUE 12 DEC  
6PM

MEMBERS £5  
NON MEMBERS £15

## JANUARY 2024

SPEED NETWORKING  
SPONSORED BY SALOP LEISURE

WED 17 JAN  
6PM

MEMBERS FREE  
NON MEMBERS £10

## FEBRUARY

GIN TASTING AND QUIZ  
SPONSORED BY POP UP SHROPS LTD

WED 21 FEB  
6PM

MEMBERS FREE  
NON MEMBERS £10

## MARCH

NETWORKING & SALES GEEK  
MASTERCLASS SPONSORED BY SALES GEEK

WED 13 MAR  
6PM

MEMBERS FREE  
NON MEMBERS £10

NETWALK  
2 HOUR WALK COVERING 4 MILES AND  
INCLUDES A PUB STOP.

WED 20 MAR  
6PM

FREE TO ALL

## APRIL

NETWALK  
2 HOUR WALK COVERING 4 MILES AND  
INCLUDES A PUB STOP.

WED 24 APR  
6PM

FREE TO ALL



**For more information about our events, please take a look at the events section of our website and follow all our socials for updates.**

 [WWW.SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER.COM](http://WWW.SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER.COM)

 SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

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 @SHREWSBUSINESS

# THANKYOU!

## Thankyou to everyone who has contributed to this issue of the Shrewsbury Business Chamber magazine.

We are always looking for new content to promote over social media, so if your business has some exciting news, any events or good news to share, then please send these to us so we can promote for you across our social media.

If you would like to be featured or have a story or an event you'd like included, if you could please send an email to [shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com) with all copy and any images.

To advertise in future issues if you could please contact [shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com)

## Thinking about becoming a member?

Shrewsbury Business Chamber is the business group of choice for the Shrewsbury area. The Chamber organises regular events allowing businesses to network, voice their opinions and gain useful business expertise. The Chamber provides a collective voice and ensures business issues reach the right officials. A not-for-profit membership organisation which is headed up by a volunteer business focused Executive Committee. The Business Chamber works closely with other local private and public sector organisations for the betterment of businesses from across the Shrewsbury area.

BUSINESS SUBSCRIPTIONS	ANNUAL FEE
Sole trader	£60
Up to 10 employees	£90
More than 10 employees	£120

OTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS	ANNUAL FEE
Student (0-24)	FREE
Charity (less than ten employees)	£30
Retired Business Owner	£30

For more information on how to join please head to our website [www.shrewsburybusinesschamber.com](http://www.shrewsburybusinesschamber.com)

The opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the editor, or those of Shrewsbury Business Chamber.

To advertise in future issues if you could please contact our editor via email at

[shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburybc.editor@gmail.com)