



SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

ISSUE 2 2025

**FIND OUT ABOUT UPCOMING
NETWORKING EVENTS**

**SBC WELCOMES NEW TALENTED
EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

MEET SBC'S NEWEST MEMBERS

WWW.SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER.COM

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD



KEVIN LOCKWOOD

Manager of Shrewsbury Shopping Centres

Dear Members and Friends,

As we embrace the vibrant energy of summer in Shrewsbury, I extend a warm welcome to all our members, partners, and the wider business community. This season marks a time of growth, collaboration, and renewed opportunities for us all (my glass is always half full...)

Firstly, I wish to congratulate the Liberal Democrats on their recent success in the local elections. We look forward to collaborating with the new council leadership to foster a thriving economic environment for businesses across Shrewsbury.

Our summer calendar is brimming with events designed to inspire, educate, and connect: For more details and to register for these events, please visit our events calendar.

As we navigate the dynamic landscape of business, our focus remains on providing valuable resources, fostering meaningful connections, and advocating for the interests of our members. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and are committed to supporting each of you in your endeavours.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Shrewsbury Business Chamber. Together, let's make this summer a season of growth, collaboration, and success.

Warm regards,
Kevin Lockwood
SBC Chair.

 WWW.SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER.COM

 [SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER](#)

 [@SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER](#)

 [@SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER](#)

 [@SHREWSBUSINESS](#)

BAKE OFF STAR HEADS TO SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL

Shropshire Festivals has announced that Great British Bake Off finalist, Christiaan de Vries, will be joining the Shrewsbury Food Festival lineup this year. Christiaan impressed the Bake Off judges with his artistic bakes and creative flavour combinations during the 2024 series.

Shrewsbury Food Festival will take place on June 28th and 29th in the Quarry. Christiaan will join local top chefs leading demonstrations, with the rest of Shrewsbury's park hosting all the usual foodie, family fun with two live entertainment stages, street food, bars, 200 food, drink and home stalls, and free kids rides and activities.

Originally from the Netherlands and now based in London, Christiaan's baking style is all about making delicious creations easy to try at home, often with a surprising twist to keep things exciting. His background in fashion shines through in his intricate designs and elegant bakes. Now splitting his time between the UK and the Netherlands, he brings his love of baking to Dutch TV screens while sharing his latest recipes with a growing community on Instagram.

More big news for this year's food festival is the extension of Saturday's opening hours on June 28th, with the addition of a charity concert in aid of Shine On with Harvey Owen. From 6.30pm, the kids' area, chef stages and exhibitor areas will close, leaving the live music stage rocking until 10pm, with the region's best drink producers and street food businesses serving until last orders. The concert is included in the ticket price, alternatively, you can arrive from 4.30pm onwards for a reduced ticket charge.

Beth Heath, Director of Fun at Shropshire Festivals, said she is excited to see Shrewsbury Food Festival in a new format this year. *"For the first time in Shrewsbury Food Festival's 12-year history, we're open until the sun goes down. Join us for a day of foodie fun and an evening celebrating a wonderful local cause - get ready to party!"*

"We're thrilled to welcome Christiaan de Vries to the lineup this year, who will complement our local talented chefs and bakers, like Tat Effby, Stuart Collins, and James Sherwin. Our demo stage provides plenty of inspiration and top tips across different cuisines and cooking styles."



"It's not just chef demos, Shrewsbury Food Festival is jam-packed with free entertainment - a rocking live music stage, family performances on the bandstand, a field to fork interactive zone, and a family entertainment area will keep kids busy all day with free activities, circus skills and rides, offering excellent value for money."

"There's something for everyone at Shrewsbury Food Festival, and there's a reason why this event has been named 'Festival of the Year' in the West Midlands for the last two years running, so come along and see what all the fuss is about - you're guaranteed a great time!"

The Charity Concert is being organised in memory of the teenage boys who tragically lost their lives in a crash in North Wales in November 2023. Profits from the concert will go towards the charity, Shine On with Harvey Owen, which aims to support pathways for young people to enjoy the arts, music and food.

Shrewsbury Food Festival is on June 28th and 29th in the Quarry. Buy tickets at www.shrewsburyfoodfestival.co.uk.

SHOOTHILL CONTINUES NATIONAL EXPANSION WITH DYNACOM ACQUISITION



Shoot Hill, the Shropshire-based full service digital technology provider, has acquired Essex-based IT support firm Dynacom, furthering its ambition to scale its integrated service offering across the UK.

With over 20 years' experience, Dynacom supports businesses nationwide with expert-led IT support, cybersecurity and cloud solutions. Now operating as Dynacom IT Support - A Shoot Hill Group Company, the business joins Shoot Hill as part of a strategic move to expand its national footprint and service capabilities.

The acquisition is the latest step in Shoot Hill's expansion strategy and reinforces its position as a full-service digital technology provider, combining IT, software development and marketing services. With a reputation for reliability, personal service and technical excellence, Dynacom brings over two decades of experience into the Shoot Hill Group.

The story behind the acquisition is one rooted in trust and shared values. Simon Jeavons, Shoot Hill Group MD and Simon Beckett, Dynacom owner and Managing Director, first met in 2017 at a Microsoft Inspire conference in Washington D.C. and have remained in close contact ever since. Over the years, they collaborated on joint projects, referred business to each other and developed a lasting professional respect – laying the groundwork for this strategic move.

Simon Jeavons, Shoot Hill's Group Managing Director, said: "We are on a mission to offer businesses a smarter, more joined-up way to manage their digital needs all in one place. Dynacom's team shares our customer-first mindset and long-standing commitment to excellence. This partnership not only strengthens our Group, it also marks another key milestone in our national growth plans. We're actively pursuing more opportunities like this in 2025 and beyond."

Simon Beckett, Dynacom owner and Managing Director, added: "This is a great move for our team and our customers. We've built Dynacom on long-term relationships and trusted service. Joining the Shoot Hill Group gives us access to wider expertise and future-facing capabilities. Our team remains in place, committed to delivering the personal service we're known for. It's a big step forward, made easier by the strength of the partnership we've already built with Simon and the team."

Rod Plummer, Executive Chairman of Shoot Hill, said: "This marks another proud moment in Shoot Hill's journey. The business has been built on steady progress and strong partnerships, and this move reflects our commitment in recent years to scale with purpose. Dynacom is a great fit for the group, and we're looking forward to what comes next."

This acquisition follows Shoot Hill's recent expansion and leadership restructure, further reinforcing its position as a national full-service digital technology provider.

ARE YOU JUST TIRED OR IS IT BURNOUT?

Burnout happens when a person is physically, mentally and emotionally exhausted. It is different from stress in that stress is often short term and a person can continue to function whilst stressed. Burnout can occur when high pressure continues. Long term stress can also cause burnout.

What are the signs and symptoms?

Burnout is a gradual process over time. Burnout symptoms can be similar to depression and anxiety and they might go unnoticed and unaddressed.

Burnout includes severe exhaustion, feeling cut off from others, and feeling you have no hope, energy, or reason for things to change.

Other symptoms may include: feeling overwhelmed, self doubt, sleeplessness, and anxiety. Relationships might suffer as a person becomes more withdrawn. You might begin to dread receiving emails and other tasks. You may stop doing things you enjoy, lacking the energy or motivation to do what you used to like.

You may feel reluctant to admit to yourself that you're struggling.

Things that contribute to burnout

- Money worries
- Work
- Worries about job security
- Isolation
- Physical health
- Sleep
- Caring for others
- Relationships

What can help you recover from burnout?

You might need time off work. Rest and time. Alongside time off; seeking external support, learning to be kinder to yourself and putting in boundaries is really important.

- Learn to say no to unreasonable demands.
- Eating a balanced diet and receiving plenty of nutrition.
- Maintain a good sleep routine.
- Make time for yourself to do things you enjoy.
- Rest, because rest is necessary, not a luxury!
- Exercise and movement boosts mood and is good for you physically and mentally.
- Practice mindfulness, learn to tap into the power of



now, to find calm and gain fresh clarity.

- Sometimes a change of specific task when you return to work can prevent a cycle, maybe ask your manager if you think a change of task would help you as you return.
- Seek professional mental health support to gain awareness, leading to choice and change.

Burnout is not a sign of failure or weakness

It's a sign that something needs to change. Reach out for support from loved ones that you feel safe with. Seek professional mental health support. It is so important that you don't try to navigate emotional distress alone.

More information about burnout: <https://mentalhealth-uk.org/burnout/>

Are you an employer that would like to invest in staff wellbeing through counselling as part of increasing staff retention and improving your productivity?

Providing professional mental health support is a way of valuing your staff and supporting your employees emotional wellbeing by offering early intervention.

For 2025 I am offering a 5% discount for Shrewsbury Business Chamber members who would like to invest in their employees' wellbeing.

More information here:

<https://www.presencecounselling.co.uk/employee-counselling-shrewsbury/>

Or contact me, Susie Harris: office@presencecounselling.co.uk

Susie Harris MNCPS (Accred)

Presence Counselling & Psychotherapy

THREE NEW HIRES FOR START TECH



This month, Start Tech has welcomed three new members of staff to their base in Shrewsbury.

Jane Parry joins with over 30 years' experience in the IT industry as the new Service Desk Manager. Rachel Owen, former Director of Membership at the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce, is the new Account Manager. Finally, Ben Handley has been recruited as a Service Desk Technician.

The MSP provides managed IT and cyber security expertise to over 2,000 users across 70 companies from their Shrewsbury headquarters. The business was recently shortlisted for 'Outstanding Customer Service' at the Shropshire Chamber Business Awards 2025, with Operations Director, Jordon Tipper, up for the 'Young Business Person' award.

Start Tech's Managing Director, Ian Groves, said, "Start Tech is going through a period of growth, and leading the way with a new generation of managed IT services, helping businesses to optimise their infrastructure

with the latest tech developments. This includes creating robust strategies for AI implementation and strengthening their cyber security.

"The recent high profile cyber security breaches have shown the importance of partnering with an IT business that can help you protect against attacks, keeping your reputation and customer trust intact.

"At Start Tech, we are proud to be Shropshire's only National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) certified Cyber Advisors. This certification means we have been independently assessed on our ability to provide practical, hands-on support and deeply understand Cyber Essentials' technical controls.

"As the business develops, our team grows, so we are thrilled to welcome three talented and impressive new team members. With Jane, Rachel, and Ben on board, we'll be able to provide an even better premium service."

To find out more about Start Tech visit www.start-tech.co.uk.

NEW PARTNER APPOINTED AT BERRYS

Leading property firm Berrys has appointed a new partner at the company's Hereford office.

Vicky Price, Associate Chartered Surveyor, joined the Hereford office in 2014. She has over 16 years' experience working in the rural sector on a wide range of professional matters including valuation, business appraisals and land and tenancy law. Vicky is a member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, a Registered Valuer and Fellow of the Central Association of Agricultural Valuers.

Stuart Thomas, Chief Executive Officer at Berrys, said: "The Board are delighted to announce the appointment of a new partner.

"We are delighted for Vicky and her appointment reflects her outstanding commitment, technical knowledge and leadership skills. We are committed to recognising and rewarding talent from within the business and Vicky will be instrumental in leading our Hereford Office and continuing to provide exceptional service for our clients.

"I would like to congratulate Vicky on this well-deserved promotion and look forward to her continued success as a Partner at Berrys."

Vicky Price can be contacted at the Hereford office on 01432 809834
email vicky.price@berrys.uk.com.



Someone raises
a health issue

You have
a concern

Your business
is changing

An employee raises
a complaint

Call us if...

You need help
recruiting

You are looking for
development & training

You simply need
some reassurance

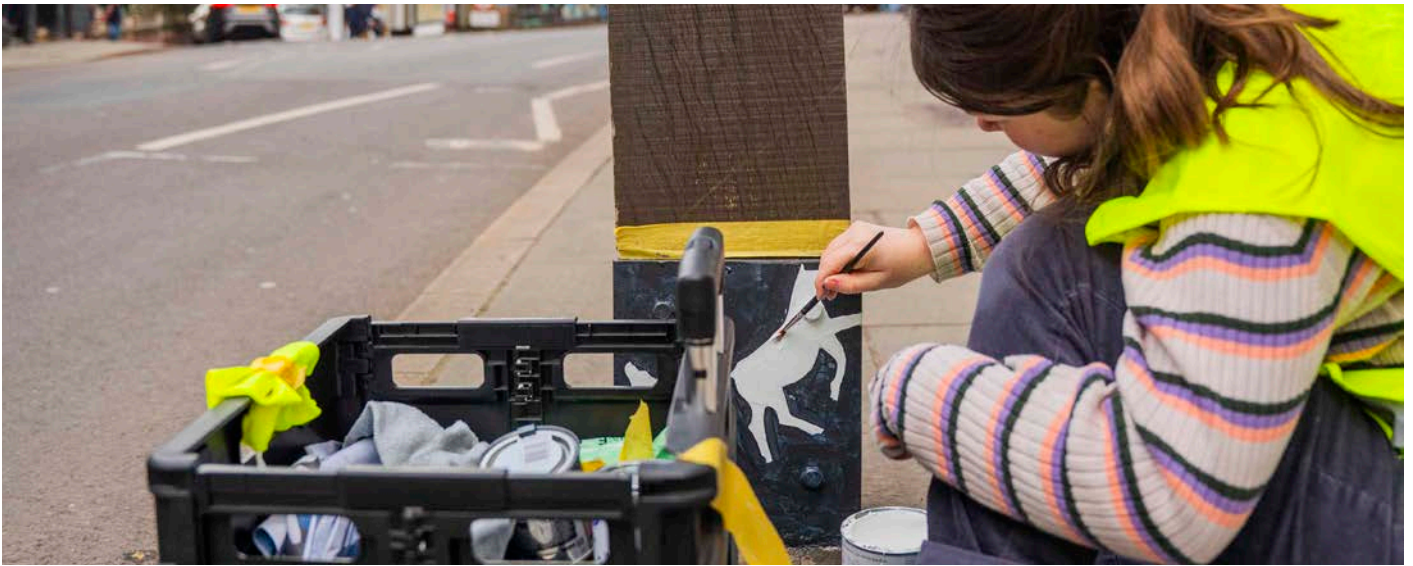


Contact Ms Niamh Kelly
Call **01743 290 474**
Visit www.hrdept.co.uk

Preventing People Problems

Niamh.Kelly@hrdept.co.uk

MINI MURAL TRAIL BRINGS SHREWSBURY'S STORIES TO LIFE - AND BOOSTS BUSINESS TOO



A colourful new trail of mini murals is brightening up the streets of Shrewsbury - celebrating Shropshire's rich folklore while encouraging people to explore the town on foot or by bike.

More than 20 artists from across the region have been painting vibrant designs on bollards, phone cabinets, and other street furniture, forming part of a new "mini mural trail" coordinated by Shrewsbury BID. The trail not only showcases local talent, but also supports efforts to improve walking and cycling routes across the town centre through the Shrewsbury Moves programme, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

With all designs inspired by Shropshire's myths, legends and folk tales, the trail links to a new storytelling series soon to be launched on the Original Shrewsbury website - encouraging residents and visitors alike to discover more about the town's heritage as they explore.

Stephanie Mansell-Jones, Project Lead for Safer Shrewsbury & Public Realm at Shrewsbury BID, said the trail was already proving popular with both locals and tourists.

"It's been brilliant to see the creativity on show and how it's transformed parts of town that are often overlooked," she said.

"As well as improving the visual appeal of key walking and cycling routes, the trail is also about building community pride, supporting local artists, and helping spread footfall across the town - which benefits businesses beyond the main shopping streets."

One of the featured artists, Saffron Russell, brought the ghostly tale of the Phantom Coach of the Lion Hotel to life on bollards along Wyle Cop.

"Painting the story of the Phantom Coach gave me a chance to connect with the folklore that makes Shrewsbury so unique," she said.

"It's been lovely seeing people stop, smile, and talk about the designs - public art like this helps people feel part of their place and sparks curiosity in our shared history."

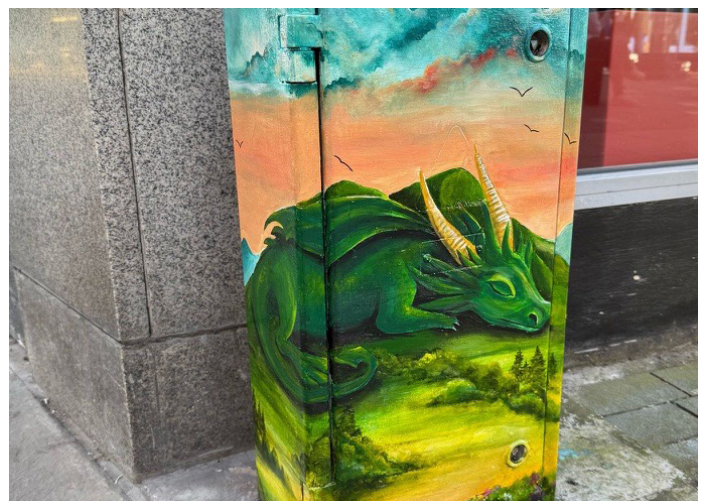
In Coleham, **Emma Williams** used her mural to tell the story of Wild Edric and Lady Godda.

"I wanted to capture the magic of Edric's legend while also brightening up the walk into town," she said.

"This project is a great way to encourage people to explore new routes and notice the small details in the town they might otherwise miss."

The mini mural trail forms part of a wider set of improvements under the Shrewsbury Moves initiative, which focuses on making active travel options like walking and cycling more attractive, safer and enjoyable.

Maps for the trail and links to the folklore stories behind the designs can soon be found at originalshrewsbury.co.uk/minimurals.



THIRD-PARTY HARASSMENT & WHAT IT COULD MEAN FOR SHREWSBURY BUSINESSES



In October 2024, the Worker Protection Act introduced enhanced protections against harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace. They created a new obligation on employers to prevent it before it happened, or potentially face punishment at a tribunal. One of the many things the new Employment Rights Bill will do, is include third-party harassment e.g. customers, suppliers etc in your responsibilities.

Even if third-party harassment (which means all harassment – not just sexual harassment) hasn't occurred, you're still required to take all reasonable steps to prevent it from happening. You're expected to anticipate harassment risks and act ahead of them.

Your status as a small business in Shrewsbury or the frequency of third-party interactions in your workplace; doesn't matter in the eyes of these new regulations: you'll still be at risk of prosecution if a tribunal found there was more you 'reasonably' could have done to prevent harassment.

The new regulations make your preventative duty very clear, but how exactly do you take "all reasonable steps"

to prevent third-party harassment?

Conduct a risk assessment. There are several risk factors to consider; including interactions with third parties, power imbalances, lone and night working or any circumstances where staff may be attending social events outside of work. Get your staff involved in assessing any risks

If you don't already have one, you should develop an anti-harassment policy. Clearly communicate this to staff across your business and any third parties: clients or suppliers. (You might want to include this in your commercial terms with your third party suppliers – it could protect you and your staff)

Educate your staff - although the regulations refer to third-party harassment, you'll still need to train your staff to prevent, or if necessary, handle it – and this includes how to challenge inappropriate behaviours – and how staff can be supported if they occur

And finally – you'll want to stay ahead of the game by incorporating best practices as soon as possible: especially in regards to preventative duty. We understand that the existing guidance is vague at best, and headache inducing at worst! Whether you're seeking further clarity on the Employment Rights Bill, or need help implementing changes to align with regulations: the HR Dept Shropshire (shropshire@hrdept.co.uk) are here to help!

QUILTER VOUCHED FOR AS A TOP RATED FINANCIAL ADVISER FOR 2025

I am thrilled to announce that I have been recognised by VouchedFor as a Top Rated Financial Adviser for 2025, as shown in The Times and The Telegraph on Saturday 15th March.

This status is awarded solely on client feedback and I am beyond grateful to have received 48 verified reviews and testimonials last year, of which 100% are rated 5 stars. This is assessed against various benchmarks, and I am thrilled and proud not just to be named in this article, but also the quality of my reviews. It really shows how well full, in-depth and comprehensive financial planning works.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to leave me a review over the last year. Without you, these achievements would not be possible. I do very much appreciate it and will always welcome feedback - positive or negative!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
vouchedfor
HOME TO THE UK'S MOST TRUSTED ADVISERS

DISTRIBUTED IN
THE TIMES



VouchedFor's 2025 Top Rated Financial Adviser Guide

Helping you plan a future that really adds up

SUPPORTED BY
BlackRock **Fundment**

VOUCHEDFOR'S TOP RATED FINANCIAL ADVISERS CENTRAL ENGLAND

NAME	FIRM	STATUS	REVIEWS	FEES PUB.	LOCATION	YEARS QUALIFIED
Ollie Hill	Quilter Financial Advisers	R	48	N	Shrewsbury	1

HENSHALLS REBRANDS AS BROWN & BROWN



Henshalls is excited to announce its transition to the Brown & Brown brand as part of a nationwide unification of the company's retail broking businesses in the UK.

For over 50 years, Henshalls has been a trusted insurance presence in Shropshire, supporting customers with tailored insurance solutions. Henshalls became part of the Brown & Brown team in 2023 and has since worked closely with the wider business, while maintaining its commitment to the excellent local service for which it is known.

The move will bring enhanced operational efficiencies across Brown & Brown's broker base, as well as broader access to products and services, without changing the people or personalised service that local customers have come to expect.

Carolyn Callan, CEO of Brown & Brown Europe's Retail division, explained: "Bringing our many brands under one name allows us to better support our customers,

teammates suppliers and insurer partners, while preserving the entrepreneurial spirit that makes our local offices so successful. The name above the door might have changed, but we will continue to deliver excellent service and innovative solutions, as well as ensuring our customers benefit from our strong relationships with insurers."

What This Means for Local Customers

The rebrand will not change the local team, office location or high level of service that customers expect. From March, customers will be able to access www.bbrown.com to find information on products and services - existing local sponsorships and charity partnerships will not be affected.

Mark Freeman, Managing Director from Henshalls commented "It is a testament to Brown & Brown's commitment to community broking that we are continuing to do the same things we've always done, providing a local service to fantastic clients and continuing to be part of the local community. I hope John would be very proud."

SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER WELCOMES TALENTED NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Shrewsbury Business Chamber is delighted to announce the appointment of several accomplished professionals to its Executive Committee.

These new members bring a wealth of experience across various industries, further strengthening the Chamber's commitment to supporting and growing the local business community.

Kevin Lockwood, Chairman of Shrewsbury Business Chamber, said

"We are thrilled to welcome such a talented group of professionals to our Executive Committee. Their combined expertise in sales, law, marketing, events, and retail will be invaluable in supporting local businesses and driving economic growth. Each of these individuals brings unique skills and experience that will help us strengthen our network and continue promoting Shrewsbury as a thriving business hub."

The newly appointed executive members are:

Pippa Tait – Sales Geek

Pippa has proudly owned and run Sales Geek Shropshire since May 2022, where her mission is to elevate the sales performance of local businesses. Pippa's expertise includes advanced sales training, executive coaching, psychometric assessments, and team diagnostics. Prior to this role, she dedicated twenty years to the MedTech industry, supplying to the NHS and other global healthcare providers. Having grown up in Shrewsbury, she spent a decade away before returning over fifteen years ago. Today, Pippa is a proud resident and passionate about the town's vibrant community.



Claire – Peakes Travel Elite

Claire Moore is owner of award-winning independent travel agency, Peakes Travel Elite. Claire's passion for travel has seen her exploring the world, but she is always happy to return to Shropshire and is very proud to call Shrewsbury her home. Peakes Travel Elite has over 30 years' experience in arranging holidays to all corners of the world. The expert team see customers by appointment and particular areas of expertise include cruising, touring and adventure, luxury and special interest holidays.



Nikki Pickering – Talbots Law

Nikki was born in Shrewsbury and has lived here all her life. She qualified as a Chartered Legal Executive in 2003 and has spent her career specialising in Family Law both in Shrewsbury and its surrounding areas.

Nikki deals in all areas of family work, with a special interest in matters involving children and domestic violence. Nikki is passionate about supporting and promoting Shrewsbury. *"We are lucky to live in such a beautiful area and it is great to see Shrewsbury growing with such a wide diversity of shops and social events"*, says Nikki.



Beth Heath – Shropshire Festivals

Beth Heath is the Creative Director of the award-winning events business Shropshire Festivals and the marketing agency Shropshire ThinkTank. She is also the Director of Visit Shropshire, championing the region's tourism sector. Dubbed the 'Director of Fun,' Beth has been running businesses in the West Midlands for over 30 years, with experience spanning events, retail, hospitality, marketing, and tourism. Under her leadership, Shropshire Festivals attracts over 90,000 visitors to the region annually through events such as Shrewsbury Food Festival, Shropshire Oktoberfest, Shropshire Business Festival, and Shropshire Petal Fields.



Continued...

Louise Christie - Buy-From

Louise Christie is a dynamic strategic marketer and communications expert with over 25 years of experience in the field. Her expertise spans marketing strategy, brand storytelling, and public relations, with a particular focus on the retail sector. She is passionate about the power of clear and engaging communication in driving business success. As the founder of Buy-From, a thriving marketing consultancy, Louise has built a reputation for her innovative approach to brand development and strategic marketing. Beyond her consultancy, she is a sought-after public speaker and dedicated board member, holding positions such as Chair of the National Committee for The Giftware Association, Governor for Wrekin Old Hall Trust, and Trustee for the Shropshire Youth Support Trust and The Benevolent Society. Most recently, Louise has taken on the role of Director of External Relations at Wrekin College, where she leads marketing, admissions, development, and enterprise strategy for the Trust.



Suzanne Heavens - Heavenly Brides

Suzanne Heavens is the owner of Heavenly Brides of Shrewsbury, a well-established bridal boutique in the centre of Shrewsbury. After a successful career in administration management, Suzanne transitioned into the bridal industry, managing a bridal retail operation for a national charity before taking the leap into self-employment. After becoming a mum 2010, she decided it was time to go self-employed, and fulfilled a lifelong dream by opening the doors to Heavenly Brides on 8th December 2012. There, she has built a strong reputation for helping brides find their perfect dress.



Amy Henson - Berrys

Amy is a senior member of the Berrys planning team, joining from a senior planning position at Shropshire Council. She is a chartered member of the Royal Town Planning Institute and completed her undergraduate Masters of Planning at the University of Liverpool. Amy has worked for a number of local planning authorities across the midlands in both senior and principal planning officer roles. She has over 10 years public sector planning experience and over 12 years of private sector planning experience. Amy specialises both urban and rural planning, particularly in managing complex, major residential and commercial planning applications. She has a sound working knowledge of all aspects of planning including enforcement, planning policy, strategic site allocations and development management. Regularly holding planning seminar updates for the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce and our Developers Breakfasts for property and commercial members.



The Shrewsbury Business Chamber remains committed to advocating for local businesses, enabling collaboration, and ensuring Shrewsbury remains a vibrant and prosperous place to work and invest. For more information about the Chamber and its initiatives, visit [Shrewsbury Business Chamber's website](#).

About Shrewsbury Business Chamber

Shrewsbury Business Chamber is a proactive and inclusive organisation dedicated to supporting and promoting businesses in Shrewsbury and the surrounding areas. The Chamber provides a dynamic platform for local businesses to connect, collaborate, and thrive through networking events, advocacy, and knowledge-sharing opportunities. By working closely with key stakeholders, including the local council and business leaders, the Chamber plays a vital role in influencing economic development and ensuring Shrewsbury remains a vibrant and prosperous hub for commerce. Open to businesses of all sizes and sectors, it champions the success of its members.

SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES CHARITY CONCERT



Shropshire Festivals is adding an evening concert on June 28th at Shrewsbury Food Festival in aid of 'Shine On with Harvey Owen'

A Charity Concert is being added to this year's Shrewsbury Food Festival. Shropshire Festivals is organising the concert for Crystal Owen, the Shrewsbury mother of Harvey Owen, who lost his life alongside three friends in a crash in North Wales in November 2023.

Profits from the concert will go towards her charity, Shine On with Harvey Owen, which aims to support pathways for young people to enjoy the arts, music and food, which were all passions of Harvey's.

Shrewsbury Food Festival takes place in the town's park on June 28th and 29th. Across two days there are top chefs leading demonstrations, 200 food drink and home stalls, a family entrainment area with free kids' activities, live performances, circus skills and have-a-go activities, a field to fork area, bars and street food from across the region, and a live music stage.

The concert will take place on the evening of the first day of the festival, Saturday, June 28th, with an extension to the festival's opening hours on that day. Instead of the festival site closing at 6.30pm, just the kids' area, chef stages and exhibitor areas will close, leaving the live music stage rocking until 10pm, and the region's best drink producers and street food businesses will still be serving until last orders.

If you have a day ticket to the Saturday of the festival, you won't need to buy an additional ticket for the Charity Concert, but donations are welcome. Music fans and supporters just wanting to support the concert can arrive from 4.30pm onwards for a reduced ticket charge.

Crystal Owen will say a few words to kick off the charity concert, before the live music continues, which will be a celebration of local talent. Ego Friendly will open the concert with their indie/rock/pop covers, SkaBurst will give their energetic ska twist on classic tracks, and HotRox will deliver rock, pop, funk and soul big numbers to close the show.

Beth Heath, Director of Fun at Shropshire Festivals, said she is excited to see Shrewsbury Food Festival in a new format this year. *"We've been delivering this epic festival for over a decade and this Charity Concert is a big change to the usual format."*

"The tragic loss of those four young men sent shockwaves through our community, which are still felt today, and they are still in our thoughts. We want this concert to provide a way for the community to channel their love and support into something which will help more young people, whilst celebrating some of Harvey's passions."

"Adding this concert means the fun doesn't stop at 6.30pm as usual, and you can party through the evening as the sun goes down with live music, bars and street food."

"I also hope that the concert will entice locals in who don't think the food festival is for them, by coming in from 4.30pm to get a taste of the festival before the concert starts, so they can appreciate how it's so much more than a food festival, with lots of free activities, fantastic producers and brilliant bands to enjoy. There's a reason why this event has been named 'Best Festival in the West Midlands' for the last two years running!"

"It will make our huge festival an even bigger challenge to deliver with long hours and hard graft, so please make it worth it by supporting the event."

As part of the charity's mission, the festival will raise awareness for road safety and there are plans for a community emergency services area where you can learn more about their work with have-a-go activities during the day event.

Crystal Owen said, *"I am truly honoured that Beth and the team at Shropshire Festivals have chosen to support a 'Shine On' fundraising event, which aims to empower young people and spread the love that Harvey shared so freely during his life. This event not only celebrates Harvey's legacy but also seeks to raise awareness about road safety, helping to prevent more young lives*

from being lost too soon and sparing families from the unimaginable pain of such tragedies.

"Though Harvey's time with us was short, he exuded love, kindness, and a deep desire to help others. He always saw the best in people and wanted to make a positive impact. Through 'Shine On,' I hope to ensure that Harvey's light continues to shine brightly, inspiring and supporting young people for many years to come, giving them the confidence to reach their full potential.

"I read a quote recently which I think sums up 'Shine On' best: 'Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love.'

"One of Harvey's favourite songs was 'All You Need Is Love' by the Beatles. I hope everyone leaves this event feeling the love and wanting to pass that love on."

Shrewsbury Food Festival is on June 28th and 29th in the Quarry. Tickets can be bought in advance at www.shrewsburyfoodfestival.co.uk or on the day. Tickets for entry from 4.30pm onwards will be £10 per person (under 2s go free), for the concert from 6pm - 10pm.



**EXCLUSIVE
DEALS!**
for Shrewsbury
Chamber
Members!

**Stronger teams
start here!**

Boost your team's wellbeing with discounted corporate gym memberships exclusive to Shrewsbury Business Chamber members.

Call: 01743 583124

or visit www.love2stay.co.uk/love2live

TO CLAIM YOUR OFFER!

SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL NAMED FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR



Local events business, Shropshire Festivals, has won Tourism Event/Festival of the Year at the 2025 West Midlands Tourism Awards for their flagship event – Shrewsbury Food Festival. It is the second year running that the Shropshire business has scooped gold and pipped big city events to the post.

On March 18th, the awards night celebrated the best venues, experiences and events from across the West Midlands visitor economy. 15 winners were crowned at the annual celebration of the sector at Edgbaston Stadium.

The ceremony was hosted by radio, TV and sports broadcaster Amber Sandhu, with entertainment provided by B:Music Young Performers and music group WIRED. The awards were organised by the West Midlands Growth Company, the region's lead for the West Midlands Destination Development Partnership.

Shrewsbury Food Festival is an annual event in the town's Quarry Park which champions local independent producers, chefs, performers, and businesses. It happens across two days on the last weekend in June. The event boasts around 200 food, drink, and homeware exhibitors,

chef demonstrations, a chef school, a live music stage, a family entertainment stage, a field to fork area, VIP tent, corporate party tipis, and a whole area of free kids' activities.

Shropshire Festivals owner, Beth Heath, said, "We were completely shocked to hear our name announced – we didn't expect to pick up the award two years running, especially being up against events in big cities! I'm so proud that a Shropshire family-run business has scooped gold, putting Shrewsbury firmly on the map as a great place to visit."

"Shrewsbury Food Festival has been growing in momentum since it was launched in 2013. We're passionate about creating a day out for the whole family – whether you want to enjoy the bars, street food and live music, shop 'til you drop, learn from top chefs, or soak up all the free activities and fun for kids. We're dedicated to creating zero waste events, committed to championing local businesses and people."

Shrewsbury Food Festival is taking place on June 28th and 29th this year. Find out more at www.shrewsburyfoodfestival.co.uk.

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

THE
DARWIN



The Alaska Building,
Shrewsbury Business Park,
Shrewsbury,
SY2 6FG.

Offices Available To Let

- Modern offices available to let on a new lease.
- Prominent position within the Business Park.
- Suites from £250 pcm to £15,000 pa.
- Suite sizes from 18.5m² to 96m².
- Gated parking available.
- Lift accessing all floors.



For further information contact:

James Satoor

01743 276 666

james.satoor@cgpooks.co.uk

Cooper Green Pooks

01743 276 666

www.cgpooks.co.uk



PIPEKIT, independent distributor of specialist pipework systems & drainage solutions, offers personal customer service & technical support built on experience.



FRIENDLY SERVICE . EXPERT ADVICE . EXTRA SUPPORT

✉ enquiries@pipekit.co.uk 🌐 www.pipekit.co.uk
Call us: 01743 860088



Lanyon Bowdler
SOLICITORS

**Our
People
Your
Team**



Legal services including:

- **Property**
- **Disputes**
- **Business Law**
- **Employment Law**
- **Family**
- **Personal Injury**
- **Wills**
- **Clinical Negligence**
- **Agriculture**

Contact us:

01743 280280
info@lblaw.co.uk

Find us:

**Chapter House North,
Abbey Lawn,
Abbey Foregate,
Shrewsbury, SY2 5DE**

Pleased to support
Shrewsbury Business Chamber



www.lblaw.co.uk

SOME SNAPS FROM RECENT EVENTS



Netwalking

We love welcoming your lovely faces to our monthly events, and this year we've got some great ones lined up.

Our events give you the chance to network with other local business owners, while trying/learning something new. We have met so many new lovely people & businesses in the last 12 months and we have welcomed a huge amount of new members.

If you would be interested in sponsoring an event please contact Donna - shrewsburybc.events@gmail.com

We hope to see you soon!



Cheese & Wine Evening

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...



B Brown & Brown

Insurance Solutions You Can Trust

In 1939, Brown & Brown started as a small, two-partner firm with a bold vision centred around relationships. While this vision has propelled us to grow into one of the world's largest insurance brokerages, our foundation remains the same: a commitment to trust, resilience, teamwork and delivering results for our customers.

Business doesn't stand still, and neither do we. Our strength is in our people. With deep local connections and the resources of a global leader, we take an agile, forward-thinking approach to risk. Whether our customers are expanding, evolving or facing new challenges, we build solutions that help protect what they value most.

Ready To Find Your Solution? Let's Chat.

Phone: 01743 668913

Address: 1 Brassey Road, Old Potts Way, Shrewsbury, SY3 7FA

Website: BBrown.com

TALBOTS LAW JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



Talbots Law Expands Rapidly in Shropshire with Second Office Opening in Just Two Months

Talbots Law, one of the Midlands' fastest-growing law firms, has strengthened its presence in Shropshire with the opening of a new office in Telford—its second in the county in just two months.

Following the successful launch of its Market Drayton office earlier this year, the new Telford location marks another major step forward in the firm's ongoing expansion strategy. It reinforces Talbots Law's commitment to delivering expert, friendly, and accessible legal services to individuals and businesses throughout Shropshire.

The new Telford office will offer a full range of legal services, including conveyancing, family law, wills and probate, and support for local businesses through its corporate and commercial team.

Dave Hodgetts, CEO of Talbots Law, said: *"We're thrilled to be growing our footprint in Shropshire. Opening two offices in quick succession is a reflection of our belief in the strength of the opportunity here and the sense of community that we've felt since bringing the brand to the county."*

Telford is a thriving town that is generating a fantastic level of investment, and we're excited to bring our people-first approach to legal services to even more clients in the county. This is just the beginning of our journey in Shropshire."

The new office is now open and welcoming clients, with a team of experienced solicitors on hand to provide trusted legal advice, whether face-to-face or virtually.

Talbots Law was the first law firm in the Midlands to become employee-owned and now employs more than 500 staff and operates from 13 locations across the Midlands. It is continuing to recruit as part of its regional growth plan.



TEAMPOINT JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



TeamPoint are very happy to join The Shrewsbury Business Chamber and we look forward to meeting other members at future events. TeamPoint is a real asset to many businesses throughout the UK and we are excited to have this opportunity to raise awareness about our service in our own town.

What is TeamPoint?

TeamPoint was built by Severn Solutions in Shrewsbury in 2011 it is an online platform used by contractors and maintenance teams to manage their jobs and other aspects of their businesses.

TeamPoint enables businesses to run the day-to-day operations to the highest professional standards whilst freeing up time to enable growth and improve customer service.

We are a small team compared with many other cloud based job management service providers; this means that we take the time to understand the businesses who we work with and have the knowledge and flexibility to support them effectively. This has been proven by our 100% customer retention rate.

Who uses Teampoint?

Typically businesses with 10- 500 staff including

building services, facilities management, maintenance, drainage, HVAC, plumbing and heating, landscaping, water treatment and many more. Teampoint is useful for any company with 10 or more workers who are working on jobs that are remote from the office. We are always open to the idea of adapting our software to suit different industries.

What does Teampoint do?

Teampoint is a software platform that connects field workers with their work office and customers via a mobile app.

The software streamlines all of the day-to-day organisation of the company including:

- **Quotes and Sales:** Customer CRM. Record and track quotes. Site surveys. Email and online acceptance. Sales team performance. TeamPoint powers your sales team to quote more and win more.
- **Job Management:** Track SLA's for reactive and planned work. Calendar and map based scheduling. Match job requirements to operative skillsets. Pre defined service runs.
- **Service Contracts:** Comprehensive service contract system to generate all your repeat work orders and invoices. Multiple frequency and invoicing modes which can cover all variation.
- **Purchasing:** Full purchasing system- manage purchasing limits and approvals, suppliers, track purchase orders, receipts and job costing.

Continued...

TEAMPOINT JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER

- **Finance:** Send invoices straight from Teampoint, include before and after photos and customer signatures so you always get paid on time, then integrate with your chosen financial package
- **Stock:** Full stock and inventory system covering multiple warehouses. Track operatives van stock, stock requests and stock checks. Mobile app for warehouse management
- **Mobile workers App:** Send jobs and surveys to your field workers. Mobile app to record job completion - risk assessments, before and after photos, customer signatures. Mapping and route management, tools, timesheets, van stock and much more.
- **Reporting:** Full set of reporting tools to ensure vital management information is at your fingertips at all times.
- **Bespoke modifications:** If any of Teampoint's processes are not quite right, we can tweak them for you so they match your business perfectly. If you need something completely new or an integration with another product, we can build it for you.

least £50,000 every year'

'Having worked with TeamPoint now for some years, I can only heap praise on the excellent approach, clear thinking and positive response we receive. From initial exploration of the system to implementation and on going support and upgrades, Leon and his team have always found a way to solve any issues that inevitably arise. They are solved quickly and with minimum fuss.'

For more detailed ... You can find real life examples of how working with teampoint has helped our customers to manage and grow their businesses in the 'Customer Stories' section of our website, <https://teampoint.app/customer-stories>, please take a look!

Please take a look at our website and follow our LinkedIn page for news and updates.

We are always happy to talk or arrange a demo if you think that Teampoint might work for you or for a business that you know.

What our customers say!

'We have a franchised business, with operatives all over the country. We were running a paper-based system to handle communication and invoicing, it was extremely inefficient and costly. TeamPoint migrated everything online for us. Now we can all get to the information we need at the click of a mouse.'

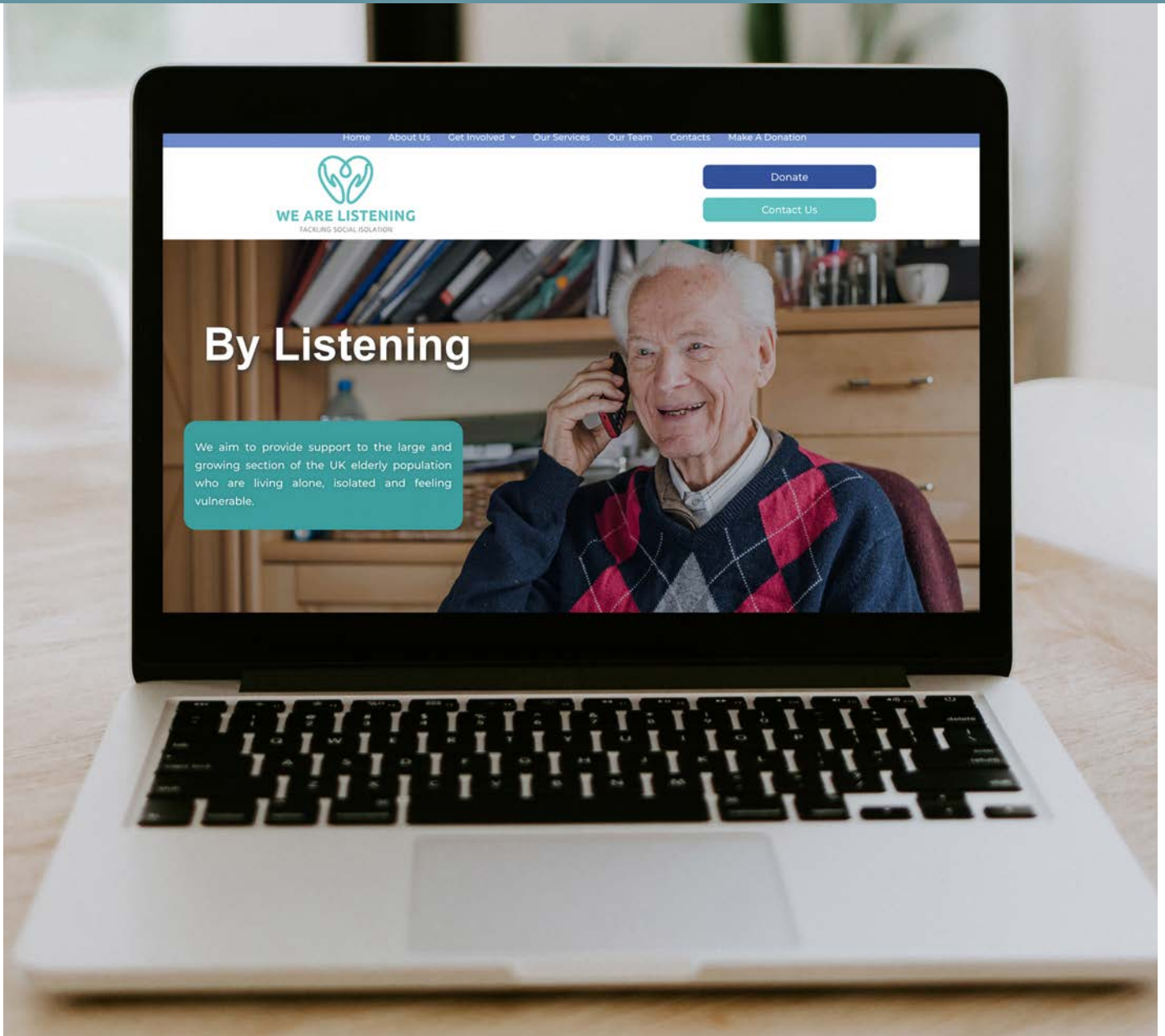
'No question is too silly- they don't make you feel foolish or silly they are very, very supportive... there is a link on Teampoint- so if you've got a problem, you just pop it in and it gets sent off and they answer you pretty much within the hour- if not sooner... and usually with a solution. They are always happy to pop on and give you training.'

'Since installing TeamPoint in 2019 we're doing 3 times as many jobs but haven't needed to recruit any new administrators, saving us at

We look forward to taking part in Shrewsbury Business Chambers events and meeting you all



WE ARE LISTENING JOINS SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



We Are Listening is a Shrewsbury-based charity founded in December 2023 (Reg. No. 1206228), offering an alternative befriending service for older and vulnerable adults across the UK. Through friendly telephone calls and letter-writing, we help clients feel more connected, reduce loneliness, and improve wellbeing.

Our trained and DBS-checked volunteers provide a personal connection—bringing warmth, conversation, and emotional support to individuals who may feel isolated. We also monitor wellbeing regularly to ensure clients receive the right help at the right time.

While our service is national, we are actively growing our local presence with links to Shrewsbury College, care homes, Community in Good Hands, and the Rotary Club.

We welcome new referrals, volunteers, and supporters. Visit our website to learn more or get involved.



WE ARE LISTENING
TACKLING SOCIAL ISOLATION



**SHREWSBURY
BUSINESS CHAMBER**

ONE YEAR ON WITH JULIA BUCKLEY



June 26th, 2025
6:00 pm

Origins Restaurant, London
Road Shrewsbury SY2 6PR

[SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER.COM](https://shrewsburybusinesschamber.com)



One Year on with Julia Buckley

Following the popular event last year with Julia shortly after election, Julia is back to listen to the audience and answer questions along with updating us on the progress made during her first year as our MP. Hosted at Shrewsbury College hot drinks and cake will be provided at this event along with an opportunity to network with members during the evening.

Origins Restaurant London Road Shrewsbury SY2 6PR
June 26, 2025 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Members Price: Free
Non-members Price: 5.00

To book your place go to -
<https://shrewsburybusinesschamber.com/events/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

NETWALK

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

WED 18 JUN
6PM

FREE TO ALL

AN EVENING WITH JULIA BUCKLEY

OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WHAT'S HAPPENED LOCALLY AND WHAT IS ON THE HORIZON.

THU 26 JUN
6PM

MEMBERS: FREE
NON MEMBERS: £5

JULY

NETWALK

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

WED 2 JUL
6PM

FREE TO ALL

GIN TASTING AND NETWORK EVENT

EVENING AT GIN DIFFERENT IN OUR MARKET HALL FOR AN EVENING OF GIN, A GIN QUIZ AND NETWORKING

WED 9 JUL
6PM

MEMBERS: £5
NON MEMBERS: £15

AUGUST

NETWALK

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

WED 27 AUG
6PM

FREE TO ALL

SEPTEMBER

NETWALK

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

WED 24 SEP
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



SHREWSBURY BUSINESS CHAMBER



@SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER



@SHREWSBURYBUSINESSCHAMBER



@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 with all copy and any images.

To advertise in future issues if you could please contact 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.

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL FEE
Retired	£30
Charity	£50
Sole Trader	£70
Up to 10 employees	£100
More than 10 employees	£140

For more information on how to join please head to our website 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