

Burgess Hill

BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

Opening Remarks

This week's summary

We have commentary on this week's Autumn Statement. St Peter & St James's flagship store in Uckfield is in the news. We tell you about another of the association's business awards launching in the new year. We explain how your business's LinkedIn page can follow ours. Chichester College Group launch the employers guide to courses for 2024-25.

A local law firm share their perspectives on employee ownership. An accountancy firm announces the latest cohort to join their prestigious training programme. Today (Friday) last chance to snap up a ticket for our local MP Mims Davies' next Business Breakfast, happening next Friday, details below.

Train your staff on key skills using excel - heavy discounts for BHBPA members, see below for more details or click here: [Training Courses](#)

The countdown to Christmas gathers pace

Plenty going on in the town with Christmas events kicking off this weekend. BHBPA sponsors the yuletide greenery.

In other news

We introduce another of the many new members to have joined in recent months and announce a fantastic event in January.

Still places available for our Porsche event next Wednesday, test drives of Taycans and Cayennes available, and we start a little earlier than previously advertised, now beginning at 5.00pm. More details below. [Book events here](#)

Become part of the fastest growing business group in Sussex. [Join Here](#)

Keep the stories coming in richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk or call **07393 728688**

Attention Attention Attention

Our newsletter platform is changing

As of the 1st of December we will be using a slightly different newsletter platform and this means the newsletter will be delivered to your inbox from a new sender:

mail@bhbpa.co.uk



A Major Milestone

Our membership numbers continue to rise

200

The 200th member signed up earlier this week

Let's reiterate BHBPA's Statement of Purpose

- Collaborative
- Supportive
- Informative
- Enabling
- Consultative

We exist to champion our members' needs and interests and promote business in the Mid-Sussex area. We welcome members from all industries and sectors, accommodating start-ups to SMEs to multi-nationals.

Using our very close liaison with the local town, district and county councils and our MP, we promote interests and lobby for support and improvement across a wide range of topics.

Among our members we promote collective focus to achieve common goals and share best practice. We aim for Burgess Hill and its business parks to become known as a centre of excellence for a sustainable future, with our members and their staff proud to be located in Burgess Hill. We are committed to embedding equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) considerations in all aspects of our work, including policy development and employment practices.

We are also community focussed. Many of the staff that work in our members' factories,

warehouses and offices live locally; we help our members fulfil ESG (Environment and Social Governance) goals, giving back to that local community.

Above all, we enable our members to come together as a friendly and mutually supportive group of businesses, sharing many common goals and celebrating one another's achievements.



[Reasons for joining BHBPA](#)

To find out more, arrange a face to face or online meeting, please contact:

richard.cox@bhbp.co.uk

07393 728688

BHBPA's January event at CAE Burgess Hill

Presentations on apprenticeships and simulator demonstrations on offer

Wednesday morning January 24th 8.30-11.00am

Buffet breakfast kindly provided by CAE

CAE Burgess Hill, Innovation Drive, York Road

Non-motion aircraft simulator demonstrations will be available during the morning. A fascinating insight into the realm of the modern pilot.



A speaker from CAE will be discussing their Simulator Technician Apprenticeship Scheme.

We will also have many local apprenticeship providers on hand to discuss course content.

If you provide apprenticeships [get in touch](#) we will be offering tables for you to present materials.

Insight into the new Sussex & Surrey Institute of Technology



Mark Puttock-Brown
Associate Dean of the

The University of Sussex is delighted to be a partner of the Sussex-Surrey Institute of Technology (IoT) and for the first time in the history of the University to offer degree apprenticeship programmes.

We are delivering three programmes from September 2024: Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (MSc), Data Science and AI (MSc) and a Finance and Technology (BSc). As Associate Dean of the IoT I will share with you our plans for these programmes, how you as the employer can get involved in apprenticeship delivery and the support we can offer to train the next generation of highly skilled

Additional presentations are expected to be announced soon.

Many thanks to the team at CAE for opening up their impressive facility for our event. Book early to avoid disappointment.

We expect a high turnout but spaces are limited.



Book your places for this BHBPA event - [CLICK HERE](#)

2023 Autumn Statement

A dripping tap...

After all the media interviews, I was expecting a waterfall of tax improvements for all small businesses, but we ended up with a dripping tap!

This was trying to be about 'making work pay' and 'improving productivity'.

However, the employee and sole trader national insurance reductions don't offset the fiscal drag of frozen 40% and 60% income tax thresholds.

Please see more here: [2023 Autumn Statement](#)

[Paula Tomlinson](#) BFP FCA CTA
Founder and Director
On the Spot Tax

Please see our [LinkedIn page](#) and
connect on LinkedIn. Follow us on [Twitter](#).



m: 07717 854333
t: 01444 882677
w: onthespottax.co.uk

We are following you...But are you following us?

Building our shared social media presence

If your business has a LinkedIn page we are now following it, why not return the favour with your company's LinkedIn page.



Here's how to do that:

On your LinkedIn company page admin settings 'Manage Following' and search for and select Burgess Hill Business Parks Association - job done!

Encouraging productive partnerships that contribute to the collective growth and development of the Burgess Hill business community.

Burgess Hill
BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

BH Biz Stars 2024

We're teasing you with what will be launched in January 2024.

We'll have 11 awards up for grabs.

This week:

Bright Star

The BH Biz Stars 2024 Bright Star Award goes to...

Is there a member of staff that always brightens the working day? Your nominee might be the person most other members of staff would suggest as a spokesperson for the group; someone who knows what is going on, is usually involved in it, and often leading it.

Perhaps someone whose worth to the company has only become clear after time; someone who always gets the job done, and done well, but never brags about it, a person who elicits a comment like "Thank goodness, we have him/her. Don't know what we'd do without them!"

Stay tuned for the January launch...

Flagship Store Opens

A Fresh Display branding project

St Peter & St James Hospice recently consolidated their two Uckfield shops into one large flagship store, which was formerly HSBC bank. The new shop has furniture, homewares, clothing and children's toys all under one roof.





Fresh Display were proud to work with the hospice retail team on branding the inside and outside of the shop. This included installation of the new shop fascia, window vinyls, internal hanging signs, acrylic panels and cut vinyl lettering throughout the store.

Many people braved the rain on Saturday to see the shop officially opened by their patron Piers Morgan.

Every purchase made helps local people living with life-limiting illness.



freshdisplay.co.uk
sales@freshdisplay.co.uk
01444 246546

This year's Christmas Tree

Why not recycle your Christmas Tree in aid of St Peter & St James Hospice

This year we will be collecting real Christmas Trees on the 5th & 6th of January, it's really easy just register your tree and leave it outside your home or business and we will come along and collect it.

The trees are then bought back to the hospice where they will be chipped and the chippings reused in the local community.

For more information and to register your tree please visit
www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

or scan the QR code below.

Recycle your Tree!

In aid of



St Peter & St James Hospice
Hospice care in the heart of Sussex

Registration closes Monday, 1st January, 2024



www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

After costs, St Peter & St James Hospice receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

We will be collecting & recycling trees on the 5th January and 6th January 2024.

Scan the QR code or visit our URL and enter your post code to register.



giftaid it



St Peter & St James Hospice
Hospice care in the heart of Sussex

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**We'll show you how
Microsoft can help
you beat the
cyber criminals.**



New members

- **Mind-based Training**

Mind-based Training

Personal and staff development training programmes

Hello, I'm Roy Speer. I run training programmes in areas such as stress management, resilience and peace of mind. These are for individuals, companies or groups, in-person or on-line, from one hour to 12 months. In the same way we exercise our bodies for physical fitness, so we can exercise our minds for mental fitness. For my clients, I act as a personal trainer – but for the mind.

The training programmes are based on mindfulness exercises and techniques with elements of other personal development training woven in.

Potential benefits of the training programmes include:



Roy Speer

- Quieter mind
- Attract and retain staff
- Responding rather than reacting
- Reducing stress and anxiety
- Improved focus and concentration
- Changing unhelpful mental habits
- More efficient use of time
- Increased understanding of self and others
- Gaining new perspectives
- Greater calmness, mental resilience and peace of mind
- Breaking unsuccessful habitual patterns of dealing with challenges
- Reduced staff absence

Here's what a few of my clients say:

- I learned many life-changing distinctions regarding my mindset and thought processes during the course. Roy uses simple examples and explains a very complex subject with great clarity.
- Insights into hidden behaviours and thought process were eye opening and gave me access to new and lasting ways of thinking.
- I am now making more time for what is important to me, and the course has positively impacted my relationship, health, and work.



For more information and to see what other clients have said about the training, have a look at my website mind-basedtraining.com

You can get in contact with me on **07973 740559**
or email at info@mind-basedtraining.com

Christmas Lights Switch On

Burgess Hill Festive Market follows swiftly afterwards

We can't wait to welcome you all to our **It's Christmas!** event, this Saturday 25th November. Join us in Church Walk from 11am - 5:30pm for some festive fun!

What's happening?

There will be plenty to do this Saturday as part of our Christmas Lights Switch On.

- Stall holders in Church Walk from 11am - 4pm.
- Music and magic on the stage from 11am - 5:30pm
- Walkabout entertainment throughout the day!

Find out more [here](#)



The Festive Market

On Saturday 2 December, 10am – 3pm, Burgess Hill Market and Burgess Hill Community Crafters Market are combining forces to bring a Festive Market to Burgess Hill town centre.

There will be a variety of stalls including handmade crafts and gifts, barista coffee, mulled wine, Christmas decorations, French patisserie, Christmas trees, children's toys and wooden items, soaps, jewellery and more on Church Walk, as well as a wonderful variety of local Craft Makers in The Kiln (30-32 The Martlets Shopping Centre). Plus, there will be free face painting between 11am – 2pm in the Town Council's Help Point (96 Church Walk).

On the day, the Rock Choir will be joining the Festive Market with performances at 11am, 12pm and 1pm on Church Walk, additionally Mid Sussex Radio will be supporting the event.

Festive Christmas trees will decorate Church Walk, kindly sponsored by [Burgess Hill Business Parks Association](#) and More Radio.

Thank you to the businesses supporting this year's festive lights: Hunters, Laurence Gould

Partnership Ltd, SCGC / Leo Rose Developments, Gardiner Opticians, WH Smith, The Block and Gasket, The Six Gold Martlets Wetherspoon Pub, B Cruttenden and Son, and Sunshine Café.



When you shop locally you support an entire community, not just a business.

Introducing our new Employer Guide 2024/25

Chichester College Group

In today's rapidly evolving business landscape, the core asset of any successful enterprise is undoubtedly its people. At the Chichester College Group, we recognise this and we are committed to ensuring we are responsive to the needs of local, regional, and national employers.



As a group, we are renowned for our wide range of vocational and academic programmes, and employer engagement initiatives, we take pride in shaping individuals who possess the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required to excel in a dynamic and fiercely competitive job market.

Our distinct approach, as outlined in our new Employer Guide, revolves around our

commitment to employers.

We believe the partnership between education and industry is pivotal for fostering innovation, spurring growth, and enhancing productivity. Through close collaboration with employers, we tailor our programmes to meet the evolving demands of the job market, ensuring alignment with the specific needs of your industry.

Our commitment extends beyond the classroom. Our colleges are equipped with cutting-edge facilities, state-of-the-art resources, and industry-standard equipment. Our learning environments include modern workshops, simulation labs, digital innovation hubs, and dedicated employer suites – providing a dynamic setting where students translate theory into practice.

What sets the Chichester College Group apart is not just our infrastructure but also our exceptional team of highly qualified and dedicated tutors and support staff. Their passion for empowering learners and meeting the needs of employers, ensures that our students receive an education that thoroughly prepares them for the challenges awaiting them in the workplace.

In essence, we don't just educate; we empower, ensuring our students are not just jobseekers but invaluable contributors to the ever-changing professional landscape.

Paul Rolfe - Associate Principal Employers & Stakeholders



View the guide: Scan the QR code.



To view the guide, please visit:
[CCG Training | Chichester College Group](#)

Embracing a Legacy

Bennett Oakley Solicitors Celebrates a Year of Employee Ownership

Bennett Oakley Solicitors marks a significant milestone as it celebrates its first anniversary under employee ownership.

Employee ownership is one of the fastest growing business succession solutions in the UK, where there are now more than 1,000 employee-owned businesses, with the sector more than doubling in the past three years.

Last year Bennett Oakley became the first law firm in Sussex to lead on this new business venture.

This remarkable journey not only symbolises a commitment to the future but also exemplifies the power of unity, dedication, and a collective vision.



A Vision Realized: From Founders to Employee Owners

Founded on principles of integrity and client satisfaction, Bennett Oakley Solicitors has long been a cornerstone of legal expertise in our community. A year ago, the firm took a bold step by transitioning into an employee-owned model, placing the power directly in the

hands of those who have contributed significantly to its success – the employees. This shift towards employee ownership ensures that the values, ethics, and dedication that have defined Bennett Oakley Solicitors remain steadfast, if not stronger, with each passing day.

The Essence of Employee Ownership: Empowerment and Collaboration

Under the employee ownership scheme, every staff member at Bennett Oakley Solicitors became a shareholder, fostering a culture of collaboration, shared responsibility, and mutual respect. This unique setup has empowered employees at every level, encouraging them to take initiative, make decisions, and actively contribute to the firm's growth.

The impact of this approach has been nothing short of remarkable. With a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of the firm's objectives, employees have embraced their roles as not just workers but as custodians of Bennett Oakley Solicitors' legacy. This sense of ownership has translated into enhanced client experiences, innovative solutions, and an overall boost in the firm's reputation.

CEO at Bennett Oakley, Sarah Rowland, said:

"Becoming 100% employee owned has been a great move for our business. It has provided us with an opportunity to lead on an empowering initiative that remains almost unseen within the legal industry. Law firms tend to be very hierarchical with profits being shared among partners and everyone else having very little input into the operations or strategy of the business. Moving to employee ownership means that our people are not just employees; we are all champions with a shared vision. Together, we will continue to navigate challenges, explore new horizons, and uphold the firm's legacy of integrity and professionalism."



For more information regarding Bennett Oakley, please visit our website: bennettoakley.co.uk

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Business Breakfast with Mims Davies MP

Friday 1st December, from 8am to 10am

Mims Davies, MP for Mid Sussex, is delighted to invite you to her Digital and AI Business Breakfast on Friday 1st December, from 8am to 10am, at the East Grinstead Rugby Football Club, which she very much hopes you will attend.

You're Invited To
MIMS DAVIES MP
Digital and AI
Business Breakfast



Kindly Sponsored By:



Friday 1st December 2023
08:00 - 10:00

PP This will be a fantastic chance for our local businesses in Mid Sussex to represent their company and network with fellow businesses and entrepreneurs to give a further boost to our strong and thriving Mid Sussex economy. QQ



East Grinstead Rugby Football Club
The Pavillion, St Hill Road
East Grinstead
RH19 4JU

RSVP: Mims.Davies.MP@Parliament.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Invitations are non-transferable and work on a first come first served basis



We'll be looking at how businesses can grow using Digital and AI technology, while also bringing a range of local businesses together to enhance networking and help grow the Mid Sussex economy.

In an ever-changing world, where competition is fierce and knowledge is crucial, we hope that our speakers will feed your minds. A delicious breakfast of pastries, fruit, hot beverages and fruit juices will also be provided. Do let me know, when confirming your place, if you have any dietary requirements.

Please RSVP to mims.davies.mp@parliament.uk by Friday 24th November.

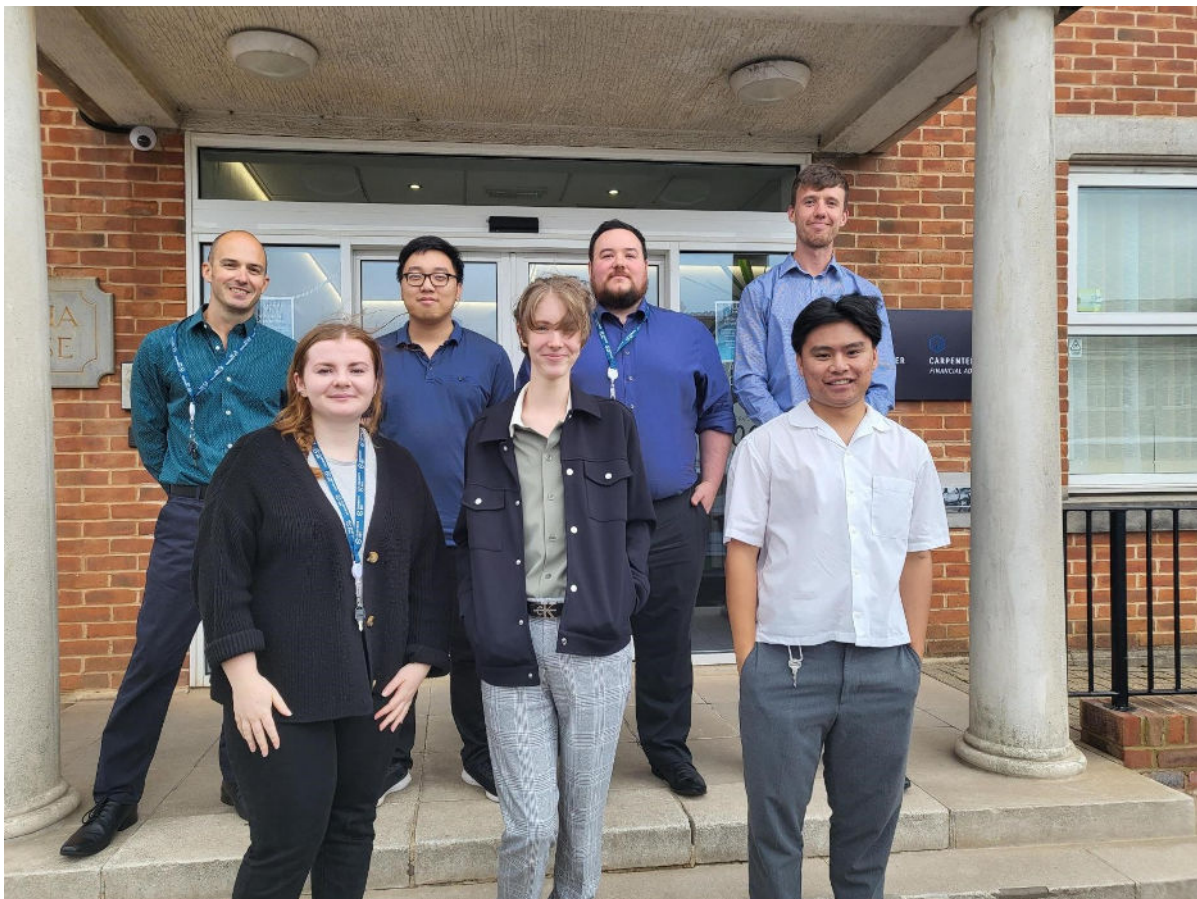
Please note that this invitation, as a free event, is limited to one person per business and is on a first come first served basis. Spaces are limited, so please do book early to avoid disappointment.

Carpenter Box - A new cohort

15 New Trainees embark on a 'Platinum' career path with Carpenter Box

Sussex and South East accountancy firm, Carpenter Box, has recruited 15 new trainees onto its premium training programme.

Every year, the firm supports school and college leavers, as well as career changers, on a structured pathway towards either the ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) or ACA (Associate Chartered Accountant) qualification, mixing professional study with on-the-job experience.



Carpenter Box welcomes some of its latest students (l-r): Johnny Lancaster, Niamh McLaughlin, Hai Phan, Charlie Smile, James Tuohy, Jack Woods & Jose Puno.

Carpenter Box Managing Partner, Alan Edwards, who started his own career as a trainee at the firm, commented: "Training the next generation of accountants, tax and business advisers is a responsibility we take very seriously, and for many years we have invested heavily in emerging talent."

“Our training provision has earned ‘Approved Employer’ and ‘Platinum’ status, underlining our commitment to give our apprentices the best possible start to their careers.”

Most of the current intake have joined the Assurance & Advisory team, with some joining the Business Services Group and StarBox, which provides new media companies and digital platform content creators with expert finance and tax advice.

Included in the latest cohort is Johnny Lancaster, who swapped a sales role to embark on a new accountancy career. He said: “I’ve always been a detail person and enjoy numbers, data, problem solving and fundamentally understanding the way different businesses operate. Therefore, Audit felt like a really good fit and an exciting opportunity to use some of my existing skills.

“As a forward-thinking, growing company, Carpenter Box really appealed, and the team has been supportive, welcoming and happy to share their knowledge.”

Hai Phan joined the firm from university where his degree allowed him nine exemptions from the 14 papers that make up the ACCA qualification. He commented: “The mix of studying and working was difficult at the beginning given that there was a mountain of knowledge that I had to process. However, as the months progressed, I have now eased into the process and I’m enjoying the mix of studying and working.

“I feel comfortable in the office environment - the support I have received from my colleagues has been phenomenal and has also enabled me to assist newer trainees.”

Carpenter Box, celebrating its centenary this year, earned ‘Approved Employer’ and ‘Platinum’ status for the quality of its continual professional support, which includes progress monitoring, evaluation and staff development.



[Contact us](#)

carpenterbox.com

November Networking

Porsche Centre Mid Sussex

Our evening event next month

Wednesday 29th November 5.00 - 7.30pm

Dealer Principal Andy Crabbe will give a short presentation with updates about the dealership and the last few quarters.

During the event Porsche Centre Mid Sussex will be offering test drives in their Taycan electric models and the new Cayenne models.

Register for a test drive upon arrival.



For our last event at the Porsche Centre we attracted over 60 delegates.



Light refreshments will be provided courtesy of Porsche Centre Mid Sussex.

Members - **FREE**

Non-members - Only one event to meet the group before we ask you to join.

We will also have a short but very informative presentation from Emma Cleary, from Flexibility Matters.

Are you ready for the new flexible working legislation?



Book early to avoid disappointment, we anticipate a good showing of members.

Always use our booking system, this ensures you are listed on the delegate list we send out the day before and we'll have a name badge waiting for you when you arrive.

Visit our website: [Book Here](#)



December Networking

The Christmas social gathering at The Woolpack

Tuesday 12th December from 4.30 onwards

This is always a popular event, and we expect those decorations from last year (see photo right), will have multiplied yet again...these tribble-like creations hanging from the ceiling remind me of this [Star Trek episode](#)

Many thanks to Dee & Lance and the super team at The Woolpack.

There'll be a selection of festive treats awaiting you, including their renowned sausage rolls!



Join us as we celebrate the season!

For all BHBPA events - [BOOK HERE](#)

BHBPA Training Courses

Discounted training delivered by Chichester College Group

These courses are delivered by the Chichester College Group and are all held at Haywards Heath College. Minimum numbers for these courses to run would be 10 delegates. The maximum number of delegates for the courses is 12.

Bookings:

For full details on booking these courses and to claim your discounted rates, please see the BHBPA website: [Training](#)

Courses Details

Courses run from 9.30am to 4.30pm and all attendees receive a notepad, pen, and course materials to take away. On completion of the course attendees receive a College Certificate of Attendance.

Lunch provided

Haywards Heath College arrange refreshments and lunch for delegates.

Course Fee Payment

Courses will be invoiced by Chichester College Group (CCG) once the course has taken place. Invoices are sent via email.



19/12/2023

Excel for Beginners – Course Outline

This course is ideal for users of Microsoft Excel who wish to learn how to create and maintain their own spreadsheets. This course provides hands-on delivery, covering the following topics: saving and retrieving, changing the column widths, adding, subtraction, division,

9.30 - 4.30

Haywards
Heath College

multiplication, totalling columns and rows, functions, comments, copying, formulas, absolute cell references, hiding columns and rows, inserting, and deleting rows, formatting cells, currency format, borders and shading, autofill, freezing and splitting and sorting.

Discounted cost for BHBPA Members

This course usually costs £160 per delegate.
As a BHBPA member **you pay only £95**



13/02/2024

9.30 - 4.30

Haywards
Heath College

Excel Intermediate – Course Outline

This course provides delegates with further knowledge of Microsoft Excel and some of its more advanced features, enabling them to use a wider range of tools to help them with their day-to-day work.

The following topics are covered: range names, links, percentages, auto filter, charts, IF function, Sum IF, working with grouped spreadsheets, calculations involving multiple sheets, calculations involving multiple ranges, protecting sheets, object linking and embedding.

Discounted cost for BHBPA Members

This course usually costs £160 per delegate.
As a BHBPA member **you pay only £95**

For further details and to book any of these courses - [CLICK HERE](#)

Banner advertising in this newsletter

We're made the banners larger!

- 2024 March to May (3 months) - £180
- 2024 June to July (2 months) - £120
- 2024 Sept to Nov (3 months) - £180

Maintain high brand awareness with our weekly readership. Typically 300-400 'opens' across our membership week in week out, with many 'internal distributions' in the larger companies following that.

If you'd like to find out more, get in touch:

richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

07393 728688

To book any BHBPA events, or the events run by our members - [CLICK HERE](#)

All Upcoming BHBPA Events

2024 calendar events will be exciting

Keep up to date with this newsletter and on our website

Would you like to give a presentation at one of our general networking events?

We are always interested to hear from you if you have a 10-15 minute presentation covering a pertinent business topic. To discuss this in more detail contact

richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

Wednesday 29th November 5.00 - 7.30pm

Porsche Centre Mid Sussex

Test Drives & Networking

FREE for all members

Tuesday 12th December from 4.30pm onwards

BHBPA Christmas Social Networking

The Woolpack

FREE for all members

Wednesday 24th January 8.30 - 11.00am

CAE Burgess Hill

Apprenticeships and simulator demonstrations

FREE for all members

Please ALWAYS book our events on our website.

Whether it's an online event, or a site tour at one of our members, or a networking event at a venue. We need to know how many are attending. Spaces can sometimes be limited and we are finding increased demand. **So book early!**

A banner for Fresh Display with a dark blue background. On the left is the 'fresh DISPLAY' logo in white and green. To the right of the logo, the website 'freshdisplay.co.uk', phone number '01444 246546', and email 'sales@freshdisplay.co.uk' are listed in green. Below this, the slogan 'Bring your brand to life' is written in large white letters. At the bottom, a list of services is separated by vertical bars: 'Portable Displays | Exhibition Stands | Event Branding | Office Graphics | Design & Print | Signage'. A green curved graphic element is on the far right.

fresh
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Bring your brand to life

Portable Displays | Exhibition Stands | Event Branding | Office Graphics | Design & Print | Signage

Closing Remarks

We want to hear from you

We are keen to hear your stories, awards won, apprenticeships completed, sustainability improvements, your involvement with local schools and all and everything going on in various business parks in and around the town.

Let's celebrate your successes and achievements!

Deadline for copy each week is Thursday noon.

Contact me directly - richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

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