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**Weekly Newsletter - Every Friday Morning** 

# **Opening Remarks**

Snowdrops and crocuses have been spotted in numerous locations in Mid Sussex...so the future is looking brighter and more colourful after a drab start to the year.

That should encourage you to get out and about a bit more and perhaps that's why everyone has just announced so many events. It's important to book BHBPA's early, next week's at Total Sense Media has sold out...But we have a new one to announce: the annual joint jamboree of the business associations of Mid Sussex and Gatwick. BHBPA organise it this year and it should be epic: **Events**.

When it comes to carbon calculations we give you some clear insight so you are not comparing 'apples with pears'. We offer expert advice on property and planning, more news on Copilot and one of our members announces a significant merger. And don't delay on the last few spaces left on a popular training course for your HR staff.

In addition to that expert advice, there are useful business support and guidance webinars and seminars from both the Coast to Capital and the Grow Digital teams. There is an offer on desk space in Haywards Heath.

Every week now you will hear more about our awards, including catching up with past winners. This week we begin with a detailed look at the sponsorship opportunities.

Become part of the fastest growing business group in Sussex - Join Here .



# **BH Biz Awards - Entries already coming in!**

#### Don't leave this to the last minute!

I'm not one of the judges, but I have been impressed so far with the submissions. You send the completed forms and any supporting evidence to me: <a href="mailto:richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk">richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk</a>





#### It takes time to craft an entry form

Don't leave this to the last minute, you need to carefully consider your application entry, it may not be a very long form, but it takes time and thought to craft a winning entry and explain why you should be considered as a worthy nominee.

#### **Galvanise your team**

Winning awards is one thing that will galvanise a team to even greater things. We'd like to think the BH Biz Stars are a little different from the rest. While acknowledging the commitment of our business leaders and founders, to get their businesses to where they are now, we also offer the opportunity for your staff to be celebrated as well.

#### A step to even greater accolades?

Being nominated for an award is just part of the process. Entering for one of our categories is of itself a useful exercise, helping you to focus on your achievements. It can be used in good stead for other national awards you may want to consider in your own sector.

#### **Marketing Gold Dust**

And winning any award is a marvellous testament to your company ethos and commitment to doing good business...and it's PR and marketing gold dust!

#### **Totally independent**

Totally independent of any of our award sponsors, our three judges will be announced shortly. They're looking forward to seeing your entries.

#### The Big Night

Our Gala Awards evening will be held at the <u>AmEx Stadium</u> in the Mayo Wynne Baxter Hall as pictured on this page. This magnificent venue holds 400. For the last event we held, way back in 2019, there were 350 guests on the night. Ticket sales will begin soon, with special rates when you book a table of ten.

We have eleven awards for you to enter, or to nominate someone or another member business for. What we're looking for with each award will be found here on our website: **Awards** 

You'll also find an Application Form that you can download and complete.

You can enter up to three awards, with three separate application forms. Deadline for submission of entries is **Friday the 29th of March**.

Winning Workplace
Green Champion - **Sponsored by Edwards Vacuum**Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Champion
Community Champion - **Sponsored by Plumpton Racecourse**Future Talent & Skills Champion
Charity Champion
Bright Star
Star Apprentice
Team of Stars

BH Biz Stars 2024

Business Person of the Year

# Become one of this year's sponsors

Best Business of the Year - Sponsored by Mayo Wynne Baxter

We have had interest in a number of the award categories.

The categories can be sponsored by any member.

#### The category sponsorship package includes:

- 2 free tickets to the event itself (total ticket value = £180)
- Your company's name on the Winner's trophy
- Presentation of the trophy at the Awards event in May
- Your company logo in the awards brochure at the evening event
- Your company logo as a clickable link on our Awards page on our website describing the category
- Your company logo on the email signature we provide to each award's nominees, and later for the winners
- Prominent mentions of your sponsorship when that category is promoted online, in social media and in the newsletter
- The cost of category sponsorship: £1,800

#### For all sponsorship enquiries: richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

Here's a flavour of one of the awards descriptions:



#### **Business Person of the Year**

Perhaps this is a younger person, clearly 'going places'; is always on the ball, challenging management with new ideas perhaps, figuring stuff out for themselves without waiting to be told or asked; the sort of employee the business would do well to hold on to. Someone on a fast track to bigger things in your business.

Or perhaps the ultimate seasoned professional, he or she usually knows the best route to take for the business. They are someone younger staff look up to/go to for advice; they are a useful and obvious representative of the company, an ambassador for the business. This person is perhaps recognised as influential outside of the workplace, in the local business community or nationally within your sector.

#### You can nominate others

I am aware of a number of younger entrepreneurs who are members of BHBPA. I have been impressed with how they are developing their businesses. Managing exceptional growth is a challenge, perhaps you know them as well. Why not nominate them yourselves for **Business Person of the Year!** 

# The Sherrards Academy

A learning and development platform incorporating a full range of online employment law and HR related training courses



Sherrards is a leading specialist and firm, providing comprehensive advice on HR and Sherrards is a leading specialist employment law **Academy** employment issues to employers and are sought by HR professionals for a wide variety of training schemes. Described in a key legal directory as "a very professional and approachable team that provides high-quality advice and engaging employment law and HR training."

The Sherrards Academy is the firm's learning and development platform incorporating a full range of online employment law and HR related training courses. The next cohort of their CPD accredited, UK Employment Law Course is commencing on 20th February 2024 and is delivered over 4 x hour long live webinars. The course blends direct contact with an experienced, specialist employment law solicitor with engaging learning content, providing delegates with a deeper understanding of the key aspects of UK employment law in a practical and interactive way.



To find out more visit <u>www.sherrardsacademy.com</u> or send an email to academy@sherrardslaw.com

# **Understanding Carbon**

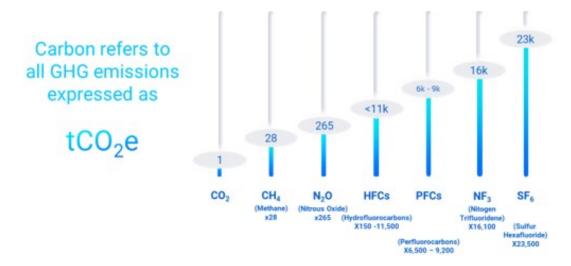
The race to Net Zero has led to a massive amount of confusion and disinformation on what exactly is the 'right thing to do'.

At Auditel, we believe in trying to keep it simple and suggest the immediate goal of most organisations should be to achieve a robust, trustworthy, and meaningful carbon footprint report and reduction plan. Once that is done most other objectives tend to fall into place.

#### What is Carbon?

Carbon is the generic term used to describe and measure the 7 different greenhouse gases which are harming the planet.

The global warming potential of each gas types is measured on their equivalent warming potential to one tonne of CO2 (tCO2e).



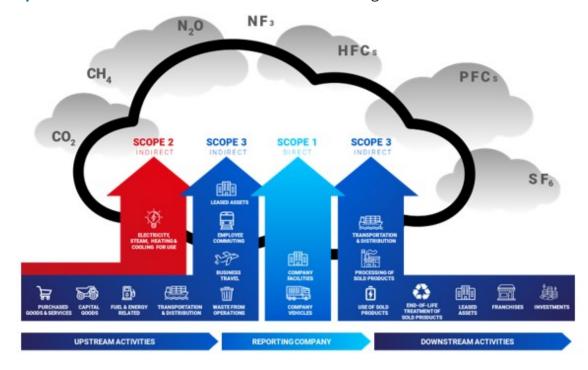
#### **Emission Sources by Scopes**

Emission sources are categorised into one of three scopes.

Scope 1 – Direct emissions from company-owned assets

Scope 2 – Primarily electricity produced offsite & used by your business

**Scope 3** – All other emissions, broken into 15 subcategories



#### **Market forces driving Carbon Management**

As more organisations and consumers begin to question and take action to reduce their own carbon footprints, the more your customers will demand to see how you have accounted for your carbon emissions and what you are doing to reduce them. Whether it be to comply with legislations, win tenders, meet consumer demand, tackle cost increases or just to stay competitive, no UK business can ignore its carbon footprint.



#### **Carbon inventories**

To safeguard your brand against the danger of any false environmental claims, you need to ensure the quality of your first carbon inventory is robust.

#### **Quality carbon inventory check list:**

- Include clear definition of organisational and operational emission boundaries
- Examine the full value chain of your organisation
- Comply with GHG Protocols or ISO 14064-1
- Avoid spend based analysis
- Document any excluded emissions, with reasoning
- Clear and verifiable calculation methods
- Clear evidence file for all activity data
- Ideally, 3rd party verifier's opinion statement

#### Promote your achievements cautiously!

It can be a real positive to promote your own achievements in this area, both to win more business and also to inspire others.

However – be careful what you say! Always sense-check any environmental claims and consider obtaining external verification before publication (a relatively small outlay to protect the reputation of your brand).

#### **Carbon Reduction**

Measuring your emission is important, but the real goal for us all MUST be to reduce our absolute emissions. Often organisations rush to implement reduction ideas with no real understanding of their impact on overall emissions. Equally, others spend far too much money offsetting emissions with carbon credits, without any real consideration towards carbon reduction.

We hope you have found this brief introduction to Carbon Management useful. If you would like to find out how Auditel could help your business please contact Ian Hopping on **01825 791128** or at <a href="mailto:ian.hopping@auditel.co.uk">ian.hopping@auditel.co.uk</a>



# **Dedicated Desk Space**

#### Available in a prime location in Haywards Heath

The cost for the above is £250 per month.

If this is of interest or you have any questions please contact us now by emailing **Katie.Appleby@jonathanlea.net** or call us on **01444 708 640**.





wewillhelp@jonathanlea.net 01444 708 640



# **Microsoft Copilot**

#### Microsoft Copilot is now live for businesses of all sizes

Microsoft Copilot for Microsoft 365 is an Al-powered productivity tool that can be integrated with everyday Microsoft 365 apps like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Teams. It uses large language models (LLMs) and content in Microsoft Graph to provide real-time intelligent assistance, enhancing the creativity, productivity, and skill of users.

Crucially, the tool is now available to all businesses, regardless of size. Customers with Microsoft 365 Business Premium and Business Standard plans can now add Copilot for £296 per person per annum and benefit from all its features.



# **Benefits of AI Adoption for SMBs**

Small and medium businesses (SMBs) can benefit from Al technology.

Copilot facilitates real-time co-authoring and can simplify document management by providing feedback on shared documents and suggesting relevant content.

By using Copilot, SMBs can benefit from real-time co-authoring, enhanced productivity and creativity, and reduced workload. The tool also offers valuable insights and design tips to improve workflow.

#### **Best Practice Tips**

The following best practice tips will help you use Copilot more efficiently and effectively:

- Once enabled, Microsoft Copilot is available in all 365 Office applications for easy access.
- Make use of Copilot suggestions to improve workflow; these can also be customised.
- Always fact-check for errors. This is good practice in general.
- Use Power Platform and Microsoft Autopilot to speed up everyday tasks and make your workplace even more productive and efficient.

#### **Getting started with Microsoft Copilot?**

To get started with Microsoft Copilot choose the Business Premium licence to access advanced features, such as premium AI tools.

Before installation, it is essential to have a secure data strategy. The Business Premium licence can assist with this, offering advanced data management and security features to help protect your data and ensure it is used effectively.



Talk to us on Tel: 01444 443200 email us on info@extech.co.uk extechcloud.com

# The BHBPA Annual Quiz Night

This year in aid of Kangaroos

The Woolpack: Tuesday 12 March from 7.00pm onwards (Quiz starts at 8.00)

You must book your team places as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

We start assembling at 7.00pm for nachos provided by Dee, Lance and their team at The Woolpack. The quiz itself begins at 8.00pm.

Here we see some smiling faces from **Rohan Solicitors** who had a lot of fun on the night last year.



#### Cost

Includes a bowl of chilli or cheese nachos. £5.00 payable on the night.

#### Raffle

There will also be a raffle on the night with a variety of nice bottles of wine. We hope you can also join in on that action on the night. Support the invaluable work of Kangaroos.

#### **Individual players**

If you are on your own or there are only two or three of you, you can still join in. We will have at least one 4 or 6 person team we will create for the evening from single participants. I've already given that team a provision name: The Usual Suspects

#### Multiple teams from one company

One company had two teams of six last year. Subject to availability we can accommodate these.

# Maximum capacity - Current availability Only 6 tables left! - DON'T DELAY

1 team of 4 1 team of 5 4 teams of 6

#### **Booking**

I will manage the teams so contact me directly about the size of your team and the team's name. I'll let you know the availability for the various table sizes.

Email to book your table / individual seats <a href="mailto:richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk">richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk</a>

# **BHBPA - Annual General Meeting**

Join us at the Panattoni Park Burgess Hill 20th March from 8.30 - 11.00am

#### Find out what BHBPA has been up to this past year and what we plan

We'll be having the meeting inside one of the complete units at the Panattoni Park Burgess Hill. A buffet breakfast has been arranged, coming from the Hickstead Lodge and sponsored by Panattoni.

We'll have an update on everything the association has done over the last 12 months and what we have in store for the rest of the year.

#### **Commercial Property Update**

Find out about commercial property in Sussex. We have a respected expert in this field giving an overview of the Mid Sussex market:

Tim Hardwicke from SHW.



- An overview of the Burgess Hill / Mid Sussex, Warehouse, Industrial & Logistics market. (i.e. Rents / Demand / Supply)
- How Mid Sussex sits in line with the broader South East and A23/M23/A27 Sussex region.
- Occupier trends / what do occupiers want from a unit.
- Environmental, social & corporate governance (ESG) & Greener units

#### You'll leave the event energised!

We'll conclude with a well-being wrap-up session. Enhancing the morning's proceedings by alleviating stress, nurturing connections, and creating a positive, lasting impression on attendees.



Participation is encouraged in a welcoming manner, featuring handson demonstrations of quick, SIMPLE and fun relaxation techniques! Brought to you by Well-Being Motivator <u>Sam Rehan</u>

Click here to book this event

# The Power of Networking

The joint event of BHBPA, EGBA, gdb and HHBA is this year hosted by Burgess Hill Business Parks Association

We would like to thank Porsche Centre Mid Sussex for hosting an event we expect will generate a huge turnout. We have put a limit on this of 150 guests.

We would also like to thank CAE for allowing us to use their adjacent car park for the evening.

This is strictly a **MEMBERS ONLY** event You will have to **book via eventbrite**. It is on our website...but use the eventbrite booking form please!





CONNECTING & SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS WITH LOCAL PEOPLE





# Joint Networking Event

FREE Members only BHBPA, EGBA, gdb and HHBA

The power of networking -sparking business creativity, innovation and efficiency!







Join the ultimate 2024 Joint Networking Event where BHBPA, EGBA, gdb, and HHBA come together for an epic in-person gathering!





Wednesday, April 24th 6pm - 8pm





Innovation Drive, Burgess Hill RH15 9TW



Book this event here



### The Generate Growth Series #4!

FREE webinar series tailored for SMEs of all sizes in the Coast to Capital region.





#### Mark your calendars for the following insightful sessions:

#### Wednesday, 21st February: Integrating Al Into Your SME with Simon Collins

This webinar is hosted by obsolete.com a strategic, human first, AI consultancy focused on helping businesses adopt AI responsibly. Our team brings decades of experience guiding companies through technological shifts. We take a balanced, ethical approach to AI.

A human first approach, means adopting these technologies not to replace people but to empower them by augmenting the wisdom and knowledge that is the result of their experience.

#### Wednesday, 28th February: Business Strategy with Emma Mills-Sheffield

This interactive webinar focuses on how to create a strategic plan for your business, and what practical steps you can take to make sure you deliver it. The session will cover how to come up with ambitious, bold plans and what you need to put in place to create a roadmap to get there. You will get access to practical tools and templates to put into practice in your business right away.

We will also demystify some of the terminology around strategy and break down the steps into bite-size chunks.

#### <u>Wednesday, 6th March: Getting The Most From LinkedIn To Build Your Business</u> <u>with Jeremy Taylor</u>

This workshop will include a wealth of practical advice & guidance that you can implement straight away.

#### Agenda:

- What is LinkedIn?
- Your profile & how to present the best of you
- Your content & engagement strategy
- Your business page
- Building your community
- Any questions?

After the session, you will receive a comprehensive checklist to help you build a more effective LinkedIn profile as well as the opportunity to receive regular tips & hints. How do I sign up?

To secure your spot, simply click the link for the webinar you'd like to attend above and sign-up via EventBrite. (You can attend as many as you like!)

Each webinar is a power-packed 1-hour session, featuring a 45-minute presentation and delivery by our expert speakers, followed by a 15-minute Q&A session.

All webinars will take place online via Zoom. Once registered on Eventbrite, a convenient Zoom link will be sent directly to your inbox.

Reserve your spot today and embark on a journey of growth and success. **See you at the Generate Growth Series!** 



Contact us on our website portal or call 01293 305965

# **Property expertise**

#### Your invitation to our next Property & Planning breakfast seminar

We are delighted to offer you the choice of two dates and two locations to join our expert Property and Planning teams for their ever popular updates as we bring you our next breakfast seminar to discuss all things Real Estate.

Book now to enjoy tea, coffee, bacon rolls and to network with colleagues and contacts in the field.



DATE
Thursday 22 February 2024
TIME
8.10 - 10.00am
LOCATION (map link)
DMH Stallard, Griffin House, Crawley,
RH10 1DQ

DATE
Wednesday 6 March 2024
TIME
8.10 - 10.00am
LOCATION (map link)
Hotel du Vin, Brighton, BN1 1AD

Book this event here

Book this event here



BRIGHTON - JUBILEE ST | BRIGHTON - OLD STEINE | GATWICK GUILDFORD | HORSHAM | HASSOCKS | LONDON

# **Grow Digital**

#### Final Countdown to the Last Series of Grow Digital West Sussex

In March, along with the thought of daylight hours shifting to British summer time, there's something great on the horizon. We're on the final stretch with our fabulous Grow Digital West Sussex roadshows, and are joined by new speakers with fresh workshop content.

Whether you're a start-up sole trader, or an SME with your eye on growth, we promise to deliver workshops that help your business thrive in 2024.

Before we share the details, remember that series four is the last roadshow of the programme and we have another bumper set of expert digital talks for you. These workshops sell out fast, so get your ticket now, to avoid disappointment



#### **Workshop One: Save Time**

Get Paid Faster

with Beth Jackson from 2 Sisters Accounting

#### **Workshop Two: Be Visible**

Be Visible & ROAR Louder: Crafting a Strategic Presence with Paid Advertising and Email Marketing

with Louise Stevenson from Tiger Marketing

#### **Workshop Three: Reduce Costs**

Cost-Effective Strategies in Powerful Video Content Creation with Nathan from Igloo Media

#### **Workshop Four: Make Money**

Connect to Convert: using LinkedIn to Unlock Business Growth

#### **Dates and Locations**

Series four is the final event in our run of sold out workshops, and it's your last chance to grow your digital toolkit.

Book your place at a location near you to avoid disappointment (links below)

• 19th March, Adur & Worthing: Ropetackle Arts Centre, Shoreham

• 20th March, Crawley: <u>Sandman Hotel, Crawley</u>

• 21st March, Horsham: <u>Blackbridge Community Centre, Horsham</u>

• 26th March, Mid Sussex: Rawson Hall, Bolney Village

• 27th March, Chichester: <u>The Grange, Midhurst</u>

• 28th March, Arun: Ham Manor Golf Club, Littlehampton

## Carpenter Box announces Jones Avens merger

Sussex and South East accountancy firm Carpenter Box has reached agreement with Jones Avens accountants to merge the practice into its south coast operations.

The merger expands the Carpenter Box network into Hampshire for the first time and will see Jones Avens, which has offices in Chichester and Portsmouth, rebranded Carpenter Box Jones Avens. Carpenter Box currently serves its growing client base from offices in Worthing, Brighton, Chichester, Crawley and London.



Photo L-R: Sarah Fitzgerald, Carpenter Box Partner, David Knight and Peter Reading outside the new Chichester Office.

Commented Alan Edwards, Managing Partner at Carpenter Box: "We are delighted to welcome Jones Avens into the Carpenter Box family.

The firm is a great fit for our growth strategy, with its culture of customer service excellence and staff development, and will enable us to expand both the range and reach of our services to existing and prospective clients."

Commented David Knight, Partner at Carpenter Box Jones Avens: "This merger represents a significant milestone in our journey. By joining with Carpenter Box, we will unlock additional resources, expertise and services that will directly benefit our clients by providing access to additional specialist knowledge."

Peter Reading, office lead at Carpenter Box's Chichester office, added: "This is a very positive move for both firms, our clients and our people and we look forward to working with our Jones Avens colleagues to grow our presence in the Chichester and Portsmouth areas."

The merger brings together two firms with a combined 215+ year track record of providing tax planning, advisory services and financial planning expertise to clients in Sussex, Hampshire and beyond.

Carpenter Box is an award-winning firm of chartered accountants, tax specialists, business advisers and independent financial advisers with a reputation for innovation and excellence. The firm continues to expand across the south and in London, with specialist teams helping businesses grow in a profitable, sustainable and tax-efficient way.



Contact us - We'd like to hear from you

15 Feb 2024 TotalSenseMedia

**8.30 - 10.30am** A overview of how to promote your business and a presentation

on how to prepare your business for sale

**SOLD OUT** 

12 Mar 2024 The BHBPA Quiz Night

**7.00pm- 9.30am** In aid of Kangaroos - Held at The Woolpack

Tickets paid on the night £5 (includes chilly or cheese nachos)

20 Mar 2024 Our AGM

8.30 - 11.00am Held at Panattoni Park Burgess Hill

**FREE** for all members

24 April 2024 Joint event with HHBA, EGBA & GDB

**5.00 - 8.00pm** To be held at Porsche Centre Mid Sussex

Huge joint event with 150+ expected - book on eventbrite

**FREE** for all members

24 May 2024 The BH Biz Awards Evening

**7.00pm - 1.00am** The AmEx Stadium - We expect between 300-400 guests

Dress to Impress

Table booking details and pricing will be announced next week

#### 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!

#### **Book all Events - CLICK HERE**

## **Closing Remarks**

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 - <u>richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk</u>







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Hillcrest House
84 Valebridge Road
Burgess Hill
RH15 ORP

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