

Weekly Newsletter - Every Friday Morning

## **Opening Remarks**

#### **Informed opinions**

We have not one but two reports on Wednesday's budget. It's good to get different perspectives on these. One of our commentaries suggests there's an element of electioneering, while toward the end of this newsletter there is a very detailed breakdown of the major points. If you read this newsletter on a mobile...remember to click to view more to read all the articles.

#### Other events

There are still some tables to fill for the BHBPA Quiz night – email me if you'd like to come along. And don't forget to book your place at our AGM on March 20th, there's a complimentary breakfast and an overview of what BHBPA has planned in 2024, we have nearly 50 bookings so far.

**Let's Go Net Zero** has an event looking at sustainable transport - something that cannot be ignored in your **Scope calculations**. Another series of **Grow Digital** events is also announced. These have proven very popular, especially among our smaller members.

#### This year's awards

One of the BHBPA awards is already seeing a number of entries come in: 'Best Business'. The sponsor of that category, Mayo Wynne Baxter, explains why they feel it's important to celebrate well-run businesses. You'll have to fill in a form and enter to have any hope of being nominated!

You only have three weeks to submit that form!

#### **Business & Community**

We share an example of business in the community, while another of our awards sponsors, Plumpton Racecourse, explains why that is so very important.

Keep the stories coming in: <a href="mailto:richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk">richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk</a>

#### BH Biz Star awards 2024 - Ticket sales are now live!

Click the banner below to take you to our ticketing platform

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



## EARLY BIRD PRICES FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Individual tickets only £75 per head.

Any block booking of more than 8 tickets only £65 per head

**BOOK HERE** 

## **Community & Business**

#### **Paper Plus Celebrates 25 Years Serving Schools**

Local, family-run business, <u>Paper Plus</u>, is this year celebrating 25 years of serving schools. Supplying everything from paper, classroom resources, office supplies and furniture, the company began in 1999 as a kitchen-table start-up, founded by Directors Lucy and Cliff Henry.

Today, Paper Plus operates from premises in Burgess Hill with a team of 15, an inhouse delivery service and a national client base of schools and businesses.



# Tree Planting - Downs Junior School The company prides itself on its friendly, personal approach, having built strong relationships with schools and local businesses over the years.

"We are extremely proud of where Paper Plus is today and we wouldn't be anywhere without our customers, some of which have been with us from the very beginning. Customer loyalty is everything to a small business and we'd like to extend our thanks to all of you." Lucy Henry, Director, Paper Plus UK



In recognition of the support of one of their longest-standing customers, Paper Plus has selected Downs Junior School in Brighton to receive a new cherry tree, to be planted in the school's grounds.

Alongside this, Paper Plus is pleased to be supporting Sussex-based Tree Action - a not for profit community interest company - who will provide the tree and planting services.

"We're delighted to be supporting two local organisations through this initiative as a way of recognising our 25th birthday.

Downs Junior School have been with us since the beginning and Tree Action's work with young people throughout Sussex is invaluable." Cliff Henry, Director, Paper Plus UK

The new cherry tree was planted this week at the school, with help from the Downs Junior School Garden Monitors, Garden Sage nurseries, Tree Action and staff from Paper Plus.



About Tree Action UK www.treeactionuk.org

Tree Action is a Sussex-based not for profit community interest company that organises and raises funds for tree planting projects in schools, colleges, or on public land. They aim to connect young people with the environment to support their mental well-being, give them the opportunity to learn about and care for trees, and make their own positive contributions to tackling climate change.

Paper Plus is a family-run, established business, providing consumables and furniture solutions to the education and commercial market. It is a Sussex based company with over 25 years' experience in education and office supplies.



Paper Plus supports schools and businesses across the UK with; Furniture, PPE & Hygiene, Classroom Essentials, Paper & Reprographics & Facilities supplies.



www.paperplusuk.com

01444 238 050

sales@paperplusuk.com

## **Community Champion Award**

Introducing the sponsor of this year's Community Champion award



Plumpton Racecourse is thrilled to sponsor the Community Champion award at the <u>BH Biz Star 2024 Awards</u>. As the heart of our own community, we recognise the vital role that businesses play in contributing to the local area's prosperity and wellbeing.

This award aligns with our own commitment to supporting initiatives that foster community engagement and development!

The Community Champion award celebrates businesses that go above and beyond in giving back to the community.

By supporting this award, we hope to encourage more businesses to get involved within their communities and invest in meaningful, community-driven initiatives, to see the benefits of working symbiotically.

## The Easter Festival

A Hidden Gem in the World of Horseracing



Plumpton Racecourse is a hidden gem in the world of horseracing. The thrill of Jump racing, the joy of a win, delicious food and drink, and stunning rural backdrop provide a memorable sporting experience for everyone from novice to racing expert.

Our Eggcellent Easter Festival is coming up on Sunday 31st March and Monday 1st April, and we would love to welcome fellow BHBPA members and their families to our beautiful track.



#### www.plumptonracecourse.co.uk

For all Hospitality bookings call the office on **01273 890383** or **contact us** via the website

## **Enter the BHBPA Business Awards**

Entries must be in no later than Friday March 29th



Our **BH Biz Star awards** focus on the most of important part of any business – your people.

#### Multiple entries in a single category

You can enter up to three different categories, but in each category you have the opportunity to make multiple entries. So if you have several 'Bright Stars' or 'Star Apprentices', tell us why they're exceptional.

Read about what we are looking for in each of the award descriptions on our website. Our judges are looking for evidenced submissions so make it apparent what has been achieved.

#### We look forward to hearing from you.

Once you're done, send the completed forms, together with any supporting evidence, testimonials and the like to: <a href="richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk">richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk</a>



Download an entry form today

Early Bird tickets - Buy here

## 2024 Spring Budget - Your Country Needs You

#### Thoughts on Wednesday's budget

Wednesday's Budget theme was about encouraging some of the 10milion workingage people back to work. Or was it just electioneering?

Please see our summary here? 2024 Spring Budget - Your Country Needs You

Please let me or another **On The Spot Accountant** know if you have any queries.

Paula Tomlinson BFP FCA CTA Founder and Director









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## **Best Business Award**

Introducing this year's sponsor of Best Business



We are excited to be sponsoring the Best Business category at this year's **BHBPA Awards** .

In our opinion this is the award to win, and the recipient will need to display many of the qualities that we at Mayo Wynne Baxter hold dear.



The winning business will need to be a leader in sustainability, a magnet attracting the best people, treats employees well, has a good company ethos, one which makes its workforce proud, is generous to charity, can demonstrate a good CSR contribution and makes a good profit ethically.

PROUD SPONSOR
BEST BUSINESS
OF THE YEAR

These business traits very much mirror our own.

We understand that Mayo Wynne Baxter does not exist in isolation nor are we a firm that is simply a way of making money.

Our employees depend on our firm and our clients, suppliers and the wider local community are all affected by our firm and what we do.

We take our corporate social responsibility seriously and take time to understand our firm's impact on the wider world and considering how we can make this impact as possible.

At Mayo Wynne Baxter we take a responsible attitude, go beyond the minimum legal requirements and follow straightforward principles to ensure that the firm's activities leave a positive impact on our suppliers, clients, community, staff and environment.

We also show support for others that share this ethos, and we hope that our sponsorship of this award will help shine a light on the business excellence that exists in Mid Sussex.

#### Lee Hills

Mayo Wynne Baxter - Partner



0800 84 94 101 <u>Contact us</u> <u>www.mayowynnebaxter.co.uk</u>

## **Grow Digital West Sussex**

#### **Game Changing Mentoring from Grow Digital West Sussex**

In business, the path to profit is never easy. When overwhelm kicks in, decision making is impacted, and creating a five year plan is all but impossible. At times like these, having a mentor allows you to explore new ideas and gain clarity. More importantly, you no longer feel alone.



The Grow Digital West Sussex free mentoring programme has been instrumental in matching local business owners with their perfect mentor match. Our mentors have all walked a similar path; occasional self-doubt, brave choices, and steadfast determination are common traits among them. They know what it takes to succeed, and their empathy and experience oozes through every mentoring session.

As our final series approaches, we'd like to share how significant this is for the mentees. But before we do, a reminder that there's still time to benefit from what we believe is a life-changing opportunity.

Only workshop attendees can apply to be mentored, so booking your ticket now is the first step.

#### Book your place at a location near you to avoid disappointment.

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

20th March, Crawley: Sandman Hotel, Crawley

21st March, Horsham: Blackbridge Community Centre, Horsham

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

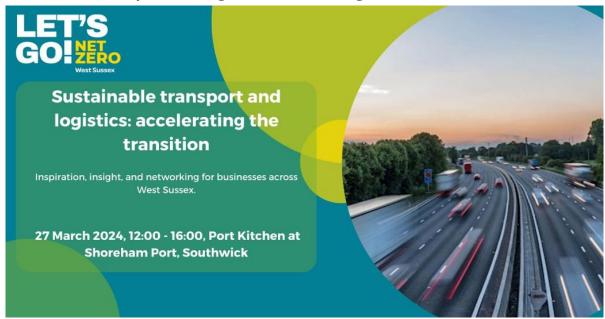
27th March, Chichester: The Grange, Midhurst

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

Reserve your FREE Tickets now

#### **Green Growth Platform**

Sustainable transport and logistics: accelerating the transition



Wed, 27 Mar 2024 12:00 - 16:00 Port Kitchen at Shoreham Port, 104 Albion Street Southwick BN42 4DP

Sustainable transport and logistics: accelerating the transition **Tickets:** Wed 27 Mar 2024 at 12:00 book on **Eventbrite** 

Sustainable transport and logistics: accelerating the transition is a free event exclusively for West Sussex businesses looking to reduce the environmental impact of travel and logistics.

#### The event includes:

- · A tour of Shoreham Port
- · Lunch at the Port Kitchen
- · A series of lightning talks from businesses and sector experts
- A panel Q&A
- Time for networking

#### Our speakers include:

- · Lydia Harvey, Sustainability Director, Shoreham Port
- · Gareth Sear, Business Engagement Lead, Gatwick Airport
- · Adam Huttly, Founder, Red Inc.
- · Sam Keam, Founder, Zedify
- · Stuart Brittle, Managing Director, Medisort

Book your places on EventBrite



## **Spring Statement 2024**

**Analysis from Galloways Accounting** 



Chancellor Jeremy Hunt delivered his budget on Wednesday after much speculation about what tax cutting measures he would introduce ahead of the next general election. The budget seemed to be aimed at benefiting working families with cuts in National Insurance for employees & the self-employed and changes to the Child Benefit system.

There was also a cut in the higher rate of Capital Gains Tax on residential property disposals and the creation of a new ISA allowance to encourage investment in promising UK businesses.

The Chancellor has responded to pressure from business groups by raising the threshold for VAT registration to £90,000 and announcing his intention to extend Full Expensing to leased assets.

The Chancellor made his cuts possible with a series of tax-raising measures. These included a new regime for non-doms, the abolition of the Furnished Holiday Lettings tax regime and Multiple Dwellings Relief, alongside a new duty on vaping and an

### **Personal Tax**

#### **Individual Savings Accounts**

The government announced that it is looking to introduce the UK ISA. This will have a new ISA allowance of £5,000 in addition to the existing ISA allowance, and will provide a new tax-free savings opportunity for people to invest in the UK.

#### High Income Child Benefit Charge

The High Income Child Benefit Charge (HICBC) is a tax charge that applies to higher earners who receive Child Benefit, or whose partner receives it.

The government is increasing the income threshold at which HICBC starts to be charged from £50,000 to £60,000 from April 2024. The rate at which HICBC is charged will be halved from 1% of the Child Benefit payment for every additional £100 above the threshold to 1% for every £200. This means that Child Benefit will not be withdrawn in full until individuals have 'adjusted net income' of £80,000 or more.

The government estimates 485,000 families will gain an average of £1,260 towards the cost of raising their children in 2024/25. 170,000 families will be taken out of paying the tax charge.

In addition, the government plans to administer the HICBC on a household rather than individual basis by April 2026, with a consultation in due course.

#### Non-UK Domiciled Individuals

From 6 April 2025, the current remittance basis of taxation for non-UK domiciled individuals will be abolished and replaced with a residence-based regime. Individuals who opt into the new regime will not pay UK tax on any foreign income and gains arising in their first four years of tax residence, provided they have been non-tax resident for the last ten years. Anyone who has been tax resident in the UK for more than four years will pay UK tax on their foreign income and gains.

The government will also introduce the following transitional arrangements for existing non-UK domiciled individuals claiming the remittance basis:

- an option to rebase the value of capital assets to 5 April 2019
- a temporary 50% exemption for the taxation of foreign income for the first year of the new regime (2025/26)
- a two year Temporary Repatriation Facility to bring previously accrued foreign income and gains into the UK at a tax rate of 12%.

The government will also reform Overseas Workday Relief for employment duties carried out overseas.

Inheritance Tax (IHT) is currently a domicile-based system. The government announced the intention to move to a residence-based system, subject to consultation, but no changes to IHT will take effect before 6 April 2025.

## **Employment**

#### National Insurance contributions

The Chancellas has muchically amounted social showers to the National Incomessa

The Chancellor has previously announced major changes to the National insurance contributions (NICs) system.

#### **Employees and NICs**

Following the Autumn Statement in 2023 the government cut the main rate of Class 1 employee NICs from 12% to 10% from 6 January 2024. The government has further cut the main rate of Class 1 employee NICs from 10% to 8% from 6 April 2024.

According to the government, building on changes made at the Autumn Statement the government has cut taxes again for 29 million people with the average worker on £35,400 receiving a cut in 2024/25 of over £900.

#### The self-employed and NICs

The self-employed generally have to pay two forms of NICs: Class 2 and Class 4. Firstly, the government will amend Class 2 self-employed NICs from 6 April 2024. This means that, from 6 April 2024:

- Self-employed people with profits above £6,725 will continue to get access to contributory benefits, including the State Pension, through a National Insurance credit, without paying NICs.
- Those with profits under £6,725 and others who pay Class 2 NICs voluntarily to get access to contributory benefits including the State Pension will continue to be able to do so.

This will mean that a self-employed person who currently pays Class 2 NICs will save at least £192 per year.

Secondly, the government will cut the main rate of Class 4 self-employed NICs from 9% to 6% from 6 April 2024.

According to the government, combined with the removal of the requirement to pay Class 2 NICs, this will save an average self-employed person on £28,000 £650 a year.

## **Business**

#### **Capital Allowances**

The Full Expensing rules for companies allow a 100% write-off on qualifying expenditure on most plant and machinery (excluding cars) as long as it is unused and not second-hand. The rules were originally designed to be effective for expenditure incurred on or after 1 April 2023 but before 1 April 2026. Similar rules apply to integral features and long life assets at a rate of 50%. The government announced in the Autumn Statement 2023 that both allowances will be made permanent.

The government is to publish draft legislation for consultation to help consider any potential extension to include plant and machinery for leasing.

#### Furnished Holiday Lettings

The Furnished Holiday Lettings (FHL) tax regime will be abolished from April 2025. Draft legislation is to be published and will include anti-forestalling measures that will apply from 6 March 2024. The effect of abolishing the rules will be that short-term furnished holiday lets and longer-term residential lets are treated the same for tax purposes and individuals will no longer need to report the two income streams

#### Research and Development relief

As announced in the Autumn Statement 2023, the existing Research and Development Expenditure Credit (RDEC) and SME schemes will be merged, with expenditure incurred in accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2024 being claimed in the merged scheme. The rate under the merged scheme will be set at the current RDEC rate of 20%.

The changes also provide additional relief for loss-making Research and Development (R&D) intensive SMEs through a higher rate of payable tax credit from April 2023, as a feature of the existing SME scheme. Those entitled to this higher rate would, from April 2024, continue to claim under rules similar to the current SME scheme rather than under the new RDEC scheme.

A number of other changes will apply to the new regime from April 2024, including that R&D claimants will no longer be able to nominate a third-party payee for R&D tax credit payments, subject to limited exceptions.

#### **Business Rates**

The small business multiplier will be frozen for another year, while the 75% Retail, Hospitality and Leisure relief will be extended for 2024/25. The standard multiplier will be uprated in line with the Consumer Prices Index for September 2023. These changes will take effect from 1 April 2024 in England.

#### **Other**

Other announced changes include:

Making the cash basis of accounting the default position for the self-employed from 2024/25, with an alternative to opt for the accruals basis, together with technical changes to the regime.

A number of changes to strengthen the Construction Industry Scheme from April 2024.

## **Capital Gains**

#### **Capital Gains Tax Rates**

The Government has decreased the higher rate of capital gains tax payable on residential properties (not covered by Private Residence Relief) from 28% to 24%. This is aimed at increasing the number of properties on the market.

#### CGT annual exemption

The government has announced that the CGT annual exempt amount will be reduced from £6,000 to £3,000 from 6 April 2024.

#### Inheritance Tax nil rate bands

Despite much speculation before the Budget, Inheritance Tax (IHT) has not been abolished. The nil rate band has been frozen at £325,000 since 2009 and this will now continue up to 5 April 2028. An additional nil rate band, called the 'residence nil rate band' is also frozen at the current £175,000 level until 5 April 2028.

## **Other Matters**

#### The VAT Registration threshold

After many years of having been frozen, the government will increase the VAT registration threshold from £85,000 to £90,000 and the deregistration threshold from £83,000 to £88,000 from 1 April 2024. The government has stated that these new thresholds will be frozen but has not stated for how long.

#### Stamp Duty Land Tax changes

There will be the abolition of Multiple Dwellings Relief, broadly from 1 June 2024 but subject to transitional rules, for purchasers of residential property in England and Northern Ireland.

#### Other changes

The alcohol duty freeze will be extended until February 2025.

The temporary 5p cut in fuel duty rates will be extended until March 2025 and the planned inflation increase for 2024/25 will not take place.

A new duty on vaping products will be introduced from 1 October 2026. The government will also introduce a one-off tobacco duty increase from the same date.



## The BHBPA Annual Quiz Night

#### This year in aid of **Kangaroos**

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

#### The Woolpack Inn, Burgess Hill

Last 4 tables left! - DON'T DELAY

1 team of 4

1 team of 5

2 teams of 6

#### **Booking**

I 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 richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

## **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!







EAST GRINSTEAD
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION CONNECTING & SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS WITH LOCAL PEOPLE

## Joint Networking

**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

## All Upcoming BHBPA Events

12 Mar 2024 7.00pm-9.30am The BHBPA Quiz Night

In aid of Kangaroos - Held at The Woolpack

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

20 Mar 2024 8.30 - 11.00am **Our AGM** 

Held at Panattoni Park Burgess Hill

**FREE** for all members

24 April 2024 5.00 - 8.00pm Joint event with HHBA, EGBA & GDB

To be held at Porsche Centre Mid Sussex

Huge joint event with 150+ expected - book on eventbrite

**FREE** for all members

24 May 2024 7.00pm - 1.00am The BH Biz Awards Evening

The AmEx Stadium - We expect between 300-400 guests Dress to Impress. Early Bird tickets - **BUY THEM HERE** 

#### 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 - richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk







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