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Burgess Hill

BUSINESS PARKS ASSOCIATION

Weekly Newsletter - Every Friday Morning

Opening Remarks

Christmas Spirit

It really isn't that long now...The Woolpack turns on its Christmas decorations and we share their Christmas offer for office parties.

In other news

Details on spotting counterfeit banknotes. There's a webinar on how to get the most out of OneNote. Another of this year's **BHBiz** award winners is celebrated and we introduce a new Members' Offer. One of our members, undergoing sustained growth, announces a rebrand.

Advertise in this weekly newsletter

We have one banner space becoming available for the next quarter. Dec-Jan-Feb. With over 800 subscribers, it's the key metric that counts: over 250 'opens'. This weekly communications vehicle gets redistributed internally within our larger members. Maintain high brand awareness. [Find out more](#)

BHBPA Events

Come along to one of our events, all showing excellent delegate numbers, each with a slightly different mix of businesses: [Book Events](#)

The Spirit of Enterprise & Endeavour

We have an extended report on last week's networking event at Spirit of the Downs, a fascinating tour. One of their spirits would make for many an ideal Christmas gift.

Keep the stories coming in: richard.cox@bhbpa.co.uk

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Networking last week at Spirit of the Downs

Our delegates were all in agreement - a fascinating talk and tour of the distillery.

Our delegates were all in agreement - a fascinating talk and tour of the distillery
We'd like to thank Michael, Bridgette and Josh from Spirit of the Downs for putting on some lovely local wines and Sussex canapes to accompany their presentation and tastings.

The spirit of enterprise and endeavour is something we heartily celebrate among our business community. It takes determination and perseverance to establish any business. Distilling spirits has its own challenges. Michael explained how, with no previous experience, his journey began. There were pitfalls and mistakes and lessons learned. Hands-on hard work has paid dividends with the company's products winning multiple awards. They've created a range of delicate, fruity, smooth and complex brandies & grape spirits. These are now being offered in many local quality wine merchants in Lindfield, Hurstpierpoint and elsewhere.

There are plans to expand and to do so in a highly sustainable manner, utilising solar energy and making sure their waste products are themselves put to good use afterwards, re-enriching the soil on nearby farms and orchards.

For the moment they produce small batches of between 600 to 1,500 bottles of each distinctive spirit and have a number of different vintages, reflecting the base product they work with, the otherwise unwanted pomace, grape skins as supplied from local vineyards.

Their Grape Spirits have an essence of Grassiness, Plum, Madagascan Vanilla and also Maraschino Cherries. Their brandies vary in depth of flavour from light Brandies using English oak with Elderflower and Honeysuckle coming through, to French oak providing Caramel and Rich Vanilla flavour similar to traditional Brandies.

I was taken aback that there is currently only one oak barrel maker (cooper) left in the UK, based in Yorkshire, he's recently taken on three apprentices. Michael explained how reconditioned barrels help create more complex taste profiles. Each of these barrels can cost £900 each.

Spirits consumption in the UK has increased in recent years and part of that is due to a renaissance in cocktail making. Michael explained how a Margarita made with his Grape Vodka has a very distinctive taste. You can find out more about their suggested cocktails [here](#).

The perfect gift for Christmas, for a loved one or for some of your favoured clients. Check out their current range of handcrafted, artisanal spirits here: [Spirits Range](#)





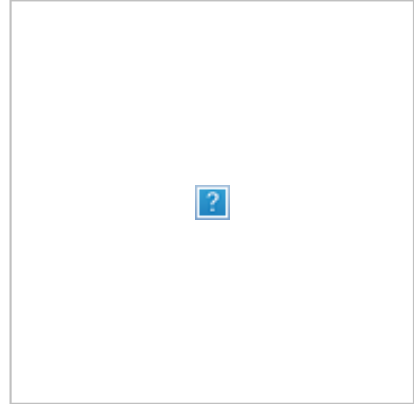
Spirit of the Downs Founder Michael Yeoman



Josh explains how they measure alcohol content. In the Still: the strongest brandy they produce, Sussex Brandy at 60% is bubbling away.



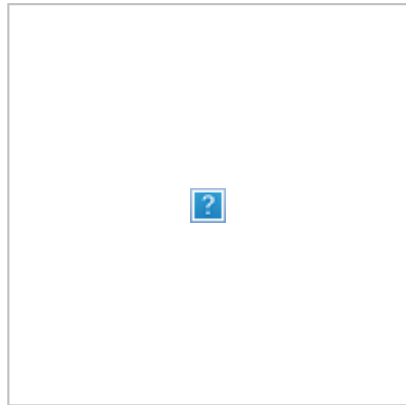
Chief distiller Josh's enthusiasm for his craft, developing natural flavours, was palpable. Oak barrels infuse eclectic taste profiles.



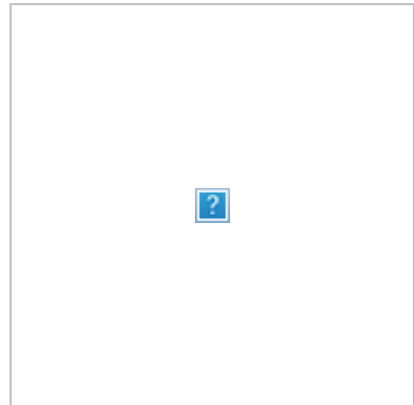
Considerable investments have been made, here Josh explains how a £16,000 brandy Still works.



Tours and tastings are available and can be booked on their website.



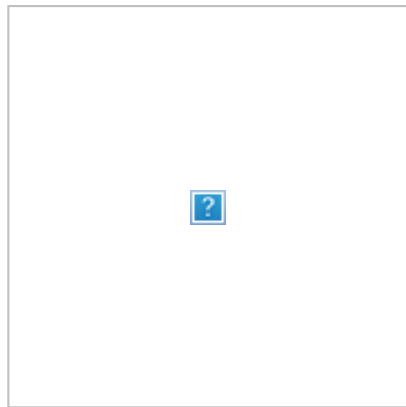
On this occasion for BHBPA members the tasting was free.



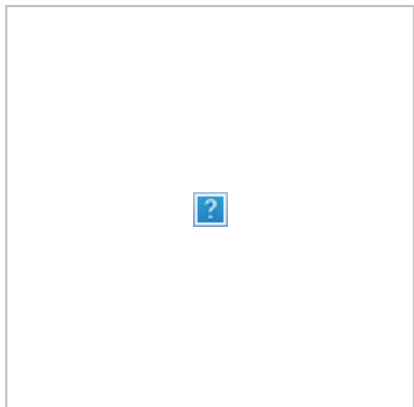
There's also a shop inside where you can purchase any of the award winning range.



We encourage our members to make use of their social media feeds. Alex is showing off his purchase, a Christmas gift for his father.



A small drop is enough to get the aroma and taste of each spirit. It's recommended you have a designated driver for your tour.



New barrels arrived earlier this week from Yorkshire, where the only UK cooper is based. These are reconditioned, each imparting different flavours.



hello@spiritofthedowns.co.uk

0800 0157255

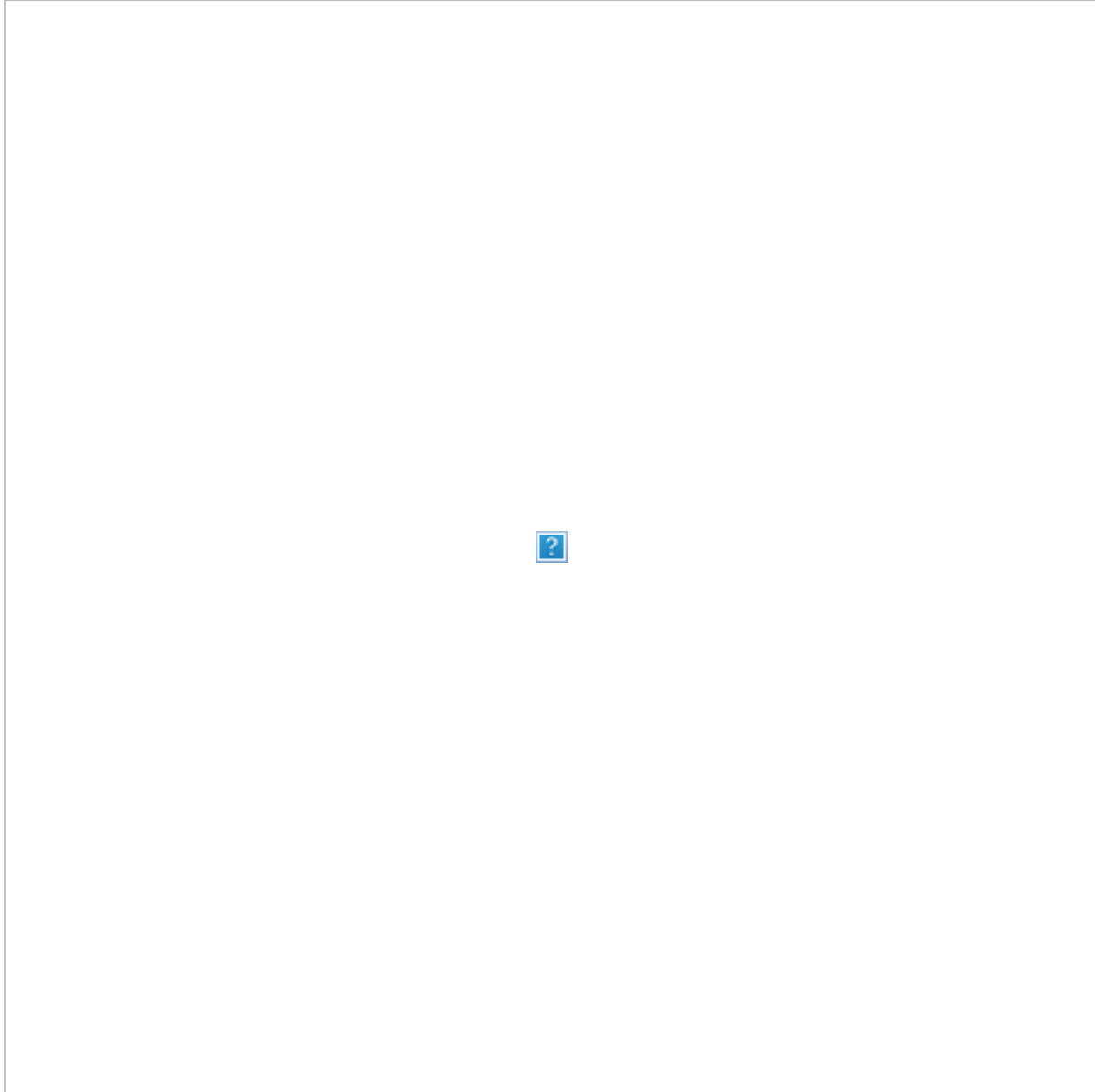
[Contact us](#)

[Book a Distillery Tour](#)

(Or check out our BHBPA Member's Offer on tours further below)

Bright Star 2024

BHBiz24 Winner's Certificate presented to Mike Abbott of Mid Sussex Golf Club



Mike and myself on a blustery and very changeable autumn day on the greens.

A Focus on People

Our biennial business awards stand out from many others out there for their focus on the people behind every business. The stand out award for an individual is the Bright Star category, this year sponsored by [Epassi](#). A fantastic event attended by 250 guests at the Amex Stadium last May celebrated the first 20 years as BHBPA.

The BHBiz24 Bright Star category was judged by our judge Paul Rolfe, Associate Principal of Chichester College Group, Director of Sussex & Surrey Institute of Technology and Chair of Chichester Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

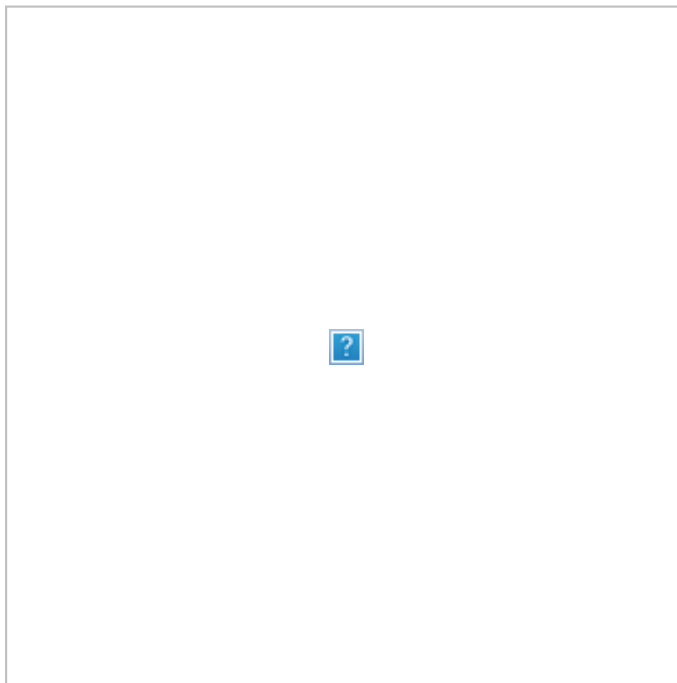
Here's what Paul had to say about Mike Abbot's entry (which his colleague Lee submitted) for the **BHBiz24** awards:

"Mike was a stand-out winner this year, his nomination demonstrated a commitment to providing first-class service to the visitors of Mid Sussex Golf Club making them feel welcome and valued. On a daily basis he goes above and beyond to ensure the club runs smoothly by stepping up to cover areas of the business as needed. His commitment and creativity in developing the clubs socials has resulted in a doubling of new members last year."

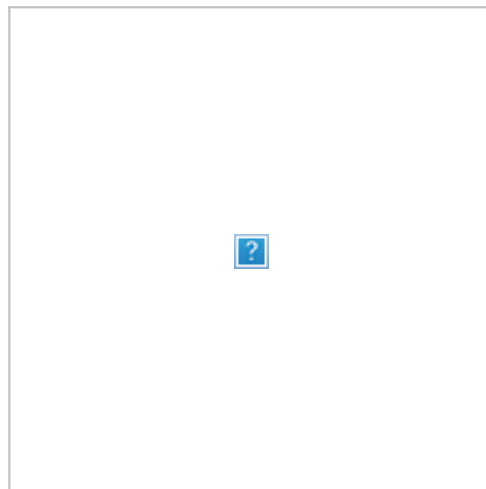
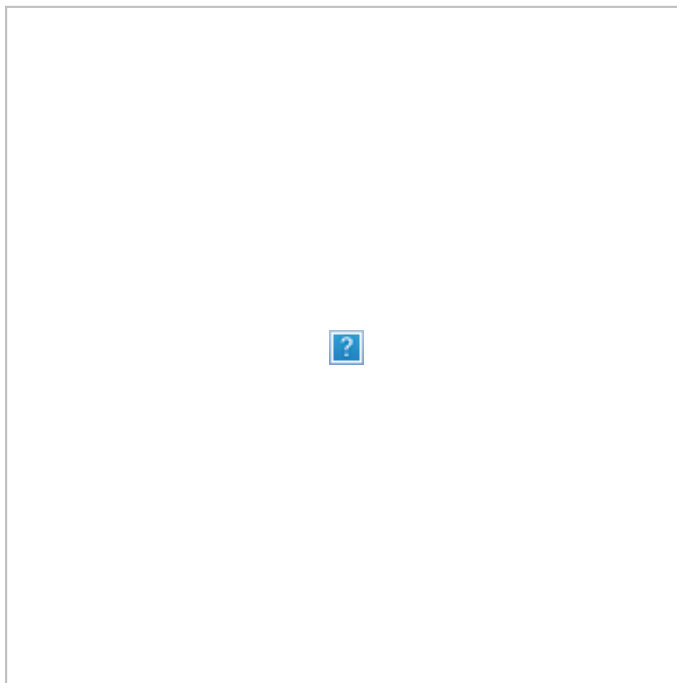


www.midsussexgolfclub.co.uk

Mid Sussex Golf Club
Spatham Lane
Ditchling
East Sussex BN6 8XJ
Tel: 01273 846567



Mike & colleagues celebrating in May.



Friend or Foe?

How do you feel about AI?

Are you curious, anxious, excited – or maybe a mix of all three?

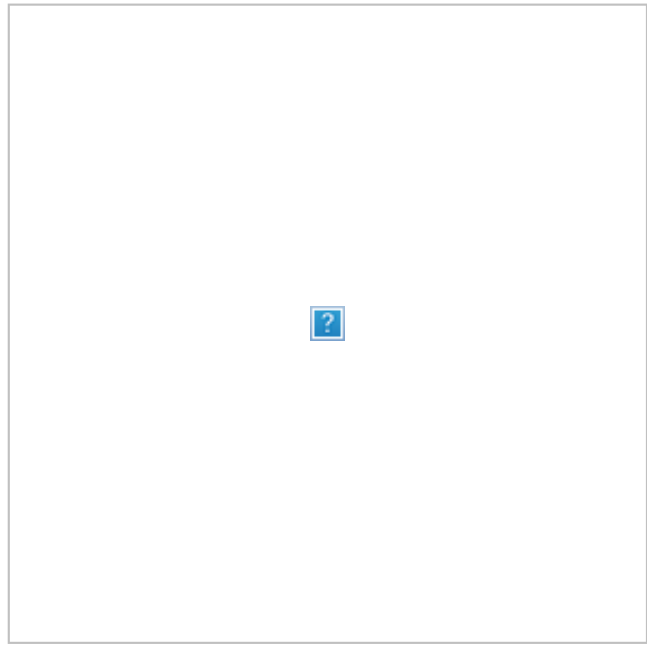
Join the [Roses & Associates](#) for a fun, interactive session on how AI can enhance your PR, marketing and even your personal life.

This hands-on introduction will leave you feeling inspired, empowered and ready to explore the world of AI with confidence!

Just bring your curiosity and your smart phone!

We can't wait to see you there – [book](#) your spot now!

December 3rd at Pangdean Barn
8.30-11.00am



Book the BHBPA December event at Pangdean Barn [HERE](#)



01444 241341

hello@rosemediagroup.co.uk

www.rosemediagroup.co.uk

Christmas at The Woolpack

Festive Meals and Party Bookings 2024

Our Festive menu is available from Friday 22nd of November up to and including Sunday 22nd December

Two courses are £27.00 per person and three courses are £33.00 per person.

We can cater for groups of up to fifty for a sit down meal and we welcome companies, interest groups, sports clubs and family gatherings.

A £10 deposit per person is needed to secure your booking and all meals have to be pre-ordered.

Our Festive Menu can be seen and downloaded at www.thewoolpack.net

Our House menu is available throughout the period.

There is present for all organisers from the house, if you book a table of ten or more then you can claim your bottle of John Paul Cuvee Sec 2021 (white) or Borsoa Garnache (red) to drink at the table or take home (one bottle per booking).

The Christmas Decorations will be switched on Monday 18th November

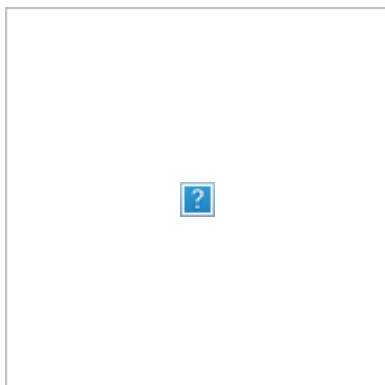
The pub will be closed until 5.00pm and the lights will be switched on at 6.00pm. There will be Mulled wine and mince pies all round with squash and cookies for the kids.

If you would like to come along for what is always a great occasion then please book although walk ins are welcome.

We hope to see you over the Christmas period and keep an eye out for our Events there will be live music, carol singing, quizzes and more.



The Woolpack in Burgess Hill becomes a magical place at Christmas



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Rebrand for Growing Business

HSEnergy Group Unveils New Brand to Reflect Growth and Ambition

HSEnergy Group, formerly known as Home Smart Energy, is proud to announce its rebranding, signalling a bold new chapter in its journey of growth and expansion. With a fresh name and updated visual identity, HSEnergy Group is positioning itself as a leader in the renewable energy industry, providing innovative energy solutions across residential, commercial, and wholesale markets.

The rebranding reflects HSEnergy Group's evolution from a primarily residential-focused energy company to a diversified entity with clearly defined business units: HSEnergy Residential, HSEnergy Commercial, and Smart4Solar.



Neil Mitchell

This transformation comes as the company strengthens its presence in the commercial sector, expands its wholesale operations, and continues its mission to make energy independence accessible to a wider audience.

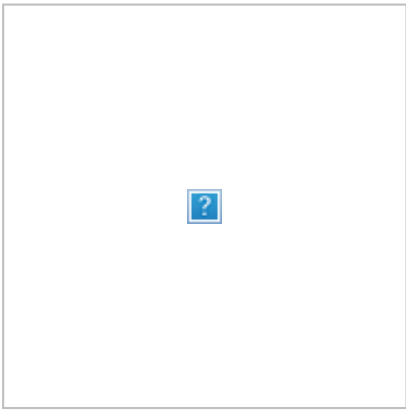
Neil Mitchell said:

"Our new brand encapsulates our ambitions to lead the renewable energy sector through innovation, quality, and growth. HSEnergy Group allows us to bring our offerings under one unified identity while retaining the agility and expertise that our customers have come to trust."

HSEnergy Group's commitment to delivering reliable and affordable energy solutions remains at the core of its operations. The rebrand showcases a forward-looking vision that aligns with the company's strategic expansion into new markets and product categories, ensuring it remains at the forefront of energy innovation.

About HSEnergy Group

HSEnergy Group is a leading provider of renewable energy solutions, specializing in solar systems, battery storage, energy management systems, and more. With dedicated business units serving residential customers, commercial entities, and industry partners, HSEnergy Group is committed to driving energy independence and sustainability across the UK.



www.hsenergygroup.com

01444 708252

info@hsenergy.co.uk

Banknote Checking Scheme

Invitation to support the Bank of England's 'Banknote Checking Scheme' to protect businesses

The 'Banknote Checking Scheme' helps protect businesses from counterfeit banknotes and keeps them up-to-date on the latest banknote news. Also provided are free training materials on how to check banknotes.

The run up to Christmas can be a time when businesses are at greater risk of being targeted with counterfeit banknotes, due to an increase of cash use, the hiring of new staff and stores being busier.



The Scheme is completely free and enables businesses to:

- reduce the financial loss and reputational risks caused by counterfeit banknotes

The quickest way for businesses to protect themselves from accepting counterfeit banknotes is for them to sign-up to the Bank of England website. [This page](#) has all of the key resources including [a poster](#) and [booklet](#) which includes the King Charles III banknotes.



You can also order Bank of England physical training materials for free using this [link](#).

OneNote Training - Webinar

Take Notes Like a Pro With OneNote

- Thursday 21st November 2024
- 12:30PM GMT
- Zoom
- Duration: 30 Mins

Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6017303659134/WN_TG5YeIn1QTSxNHwi4maivg



Imagine having all your notes, ideas, and plans in one place—easily accessible, beautifully organised, and ready to share with your team at any time. With Microsoft OneNote (the app you never knew you had), you can streamline your productivity and take control of your tasks, projects, and creative ideas like never before!

Join our upcoming 30-minute webinar, "Take Notes Like a Pro with OneNote," where we'll demonstrate must-know tips to get the best out of OneNote. From powerful organisation to effortless collaboration, this session will help you transform the way you work, study, or manage personal projects.

Whether you're new to OneNote or looking to refine your skills, this live demo will uncover ways to save time, stay organised, and elevate your productivity. Don't miss out! Secure your spot today and get ready to take notes like a pro!

Register for the webinar - [CLICK HERE](#)



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Financial advice, built around you.

Planning for your future doesn't begin with income, products and portfolios. It starts with you. And together, we'll help you to plan a happy and financially secure life. So you can focus on living it.

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SJP approved: 02/08/2024

W10425



Woodlands Meed College - Networking - 21st November - BOOK HERE



Pangdean Barn - Networking - 3rd December - BOOK HERE



The Woolpack - Networking - 10th December - BOOK HERE

Member's Offer

A unique distillery experience

Exclusive Offer for Burgess Hill Business Association Members!

Enjoy a unique distillery experience with 50% off our popular distillery tour, usually £20. Discover the art of distilling, sample our handcrafted spirits, and learn the secrets behind every bottle—all for half the price! Simply use code **BHBA50** when booking to claim your discount. Don't miss out on this limited-time offer to explore, taste, and save. Book your tour today!



hello@spiritofthedowns.co.uk

0800 0157255

[Contact us](#)

Member's Offers

Have you got an offer for our members?

We already have a few offers on the BHBPA website: [Member's Offers](#) page. (You'll find this page as a drop down under Membership.)

If you've got an offer, such as a free audit, seminar or some sort of discretionary discount for BHBPA Members, send me about 90 words of text explaining your offer, include your contact details for the offer and a suitable image.

Check out our other Members Offers [HERE](#)

All Upcoming BHBPA Events

21st November
9.30 - 11.00am

Woodlands Meed College - Tour & Presentation
Buffet will be served by college students

3rd December
8.30 - 11.00am

Pangdean Barn

Will AI Replace PR and Marketing?
Presentation from Rose Media Group & others

10th December
5.30 - 7.30pm

The Woolpack - Annual Christmas Drinks

Mulled wine & mince pies - always popular business social event

Please 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@bhbp.co.uk



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