

Summer 2024 edition
CHAMBER CHATTER
by local business, for local business

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE TAUNTON BUSINESS COMMUNITY



In this edition...

- Read about the fantastic local businesses taking up Taunton Chamber of Commerce membership
- Book your tickets for our upcoming events: opportunities to network, make new connections and pick up some top business tips
 - Catch up with good news from across our membership



Membership update

MEMBERSHIP REACHES 200+ THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Membership has now exceeded the 200 mark, a milestone of which we are very proud, and which bears testament to the lively and supportive business community that we have grown here at Taunton Chamber of Commerce.

I very often hear from new organisations joining us that their application has been prompted by a recommendation from an existing member (or in some cases several!) so, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you as members for helping to raise our profile in the interactions you have with other local businesses - as an organisation we are definitely stronger together.

ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

On that note, we are producing a revised membership leaflet, as due to our steady stream of new members, current stocks have depleted. As we collate membership benefits for this new leaflet, I felt it was worthwhile reminding you of what your membership offers you and all the ways you can benefit from your subscription.



WE FOCUS ON PROMOTING YOU, NOT US

'CHAMBER CHATTER' JOURNAL

Receive a half page welcome feature as a new member and use our pages to highlight your ongoing wins. Our bi-monthly publication is widely distributed both in print and digitally, focused on good news from the local business community.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Gain B2B and B2C exposure and wider engagement with our multi-platform Social Media focus on promoting our members.

ONLINE SPOTLIGHT

Align your business with our trusted brand with free promotion on our frequently visited website. All members have an interactive listing on our directory and we have a news page dedicated to hosting your articles and updates. Additionally, you can feature courses or events you are running on the website's events calendar.

MEMBER TO MEMBER OFFERS

Promote your goods and services to fellow members with our brand-new online feature and help bolster the local economy by taking up discounts yourself.



WE BRING THE LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY TOGETHER

MAKE NEW CONTACTS AND EXCHANGE IDEAS

We have an exciting programme of networking, workshop and social events throughout the year, enabling you to meet fellow members in an informal atmosphere, as well as forging links with businesses across the wider regional Chambers of Commerce.

YOUNG CHAMBER

Our emerging group dedicated to supporting younger local entrepreneurs and those in the early stages of their careers continues to gain momentum, offering both events and a forum for future-proofing Taunton.

LOW COST OR NO COST

We offer free entry or reduced members' rates to all our events, and as we operate as a not-for-profit organisation with minimal overheads, there are no costly tickets, add-on fees or VAT to pay when you book.



WE OFFER SUPPORT & GIVE YOU A VOICE

WE MAKE OURSELVES AVAILABLE

Being in business can often present challenges and our Membership & Events Manager is committed to offering assistance and guidance both in person and online. Our cross-sector volunteer Executive Committee are members of the local business community themselves and can offer sector specific help where appropriate.

WE MAINTAIN STRONG TIES WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

We believe in working together to make Taunton better and our regular meetings with town and regional Council, as well as our local MP, enable us to input members' ideas and concerns on the direction, regeneration and development of Taunton and the surrounding area.

WE PROVIDE A RESPECTED VOICE

The ability to present a critical mass of opinion ensures that the Chamber is taken seriously, making certain that the business voice of Taunton is heard and understood.

Upcoming Events Programme

Don't miss out on the following opportunities to meet with fellow members, make new connections and learn something new!



HEALTHY YOU, HEALTHY BUSINESS
FRIDAY 19TH JULY 4PM - 6PM
£25 per person

Join us with members **The Sangha House** for a chilled-out evening of networking and wellbeing between 4pm and 6pm. The afternoon starts with a short presentation about the Sangha House journey and looking after ourselves, especially as business owners, when so many people depend on us. Following this, there will be some relaxed and informal networking opportunities over mocktails, together with the chance to try some products, and head therapist Olena will be on hand to offer taster appointments to show how beneficial her treatments really are.



CHAMBER BREAKFAST CONNECTIONS
THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER, 8AM
£12 per person

Enjoy a breakfast buffet and the chance to make new connections with businesses from across Bridgwater and Taunton. Listen to inspiring presentations from organisations involved in supporting, upskilling and finding meaningful opportunities for our local young people and find out how you can support. Members **Adventure, Next Stage Somerset** and **Young Somerset** will take part in the event, and our thanks go to **Clarke Willmott** who will be hosting us at their offices at Blackbrook Business Park. Single and combined tickets are available, to encourage you to bring along a younger person from your workforce. Book via the Bridgwater Chamber website: <https://www.bridgwaterchamber.org.uk/chambers-events/>



CUPPA & CAKE RELAXED NETWORKING
THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 11AM
£8.50 members' price

Join us for our ever-popular relaxed networking events at members **The Great Western Hotel** - an easy stroll from the town centre, with parking nearby at Kilkenny Car Park. An opportunity to enjoy delicious refreshments, catch up with all the latest news from the local business community and to make some new connections at the same time.



BURGER & BEVVIE NIGHT
WEDNESDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 6PM
£14 members' price

One of our standout events from last year is BACK! Enjoy chilled out networking over a delicious burger, fries and bevvie at members **eat the bird**. Clucking-good catch ups and award-winning flavours: what's not to like? Book ASAP though as, holy cluck these tickets were hot last year!

All our events are bookable via the eventbrite link below, plus, click to 'follow' our eventbrite page, which means you'll get a notification into your inbox whenever we add a new event!
www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/taunton-chamber-of-commerce-15354648391

Many of our Chamber members hold regular events throughout the year - visit our online events calendar to see what is on offer!

scan here



WELCOME TO OUR New Members



Channel Adventure CIC is a community based outdoor adventure delivery organisation that is based on the Minehead Seafront and at COACH in French Weir Park, Taunton. These two venues enable us to share our vision across Somerset, to get as many people outside having fun, being active and recognising the potential for adventure that is right on their doorstep.

From the heights of our climbing tree to the lows of the river bed of the Tone, we offer a wide range of exciting activities to children and adults alike. Want to practice your climbing skills, or perhaps get on the water, we've got you covered!

We offer several services including: half and full day activities, holiday clubs, water and land based hire, Duke of Edinburgh programme, corporate and team building activities, private activity delivery and community based ventures. Want to see what we could deliver with your business, family or school?



Contact adventure@channelgroup.co.uk
www.channeladventure.co.uk



JEWELLS OF TAUNTON

STEVE JEWELL
Will Adviser
& Estate Planner



I have worked in finance all my working life starting in banks at age 16. My roles have included Customer Services, Assistant Bank Manager, Financial Adviser, Independent Financial Adviser and Operations Director at Watermark Wealth Management.

I now enjoy meeting people and helping them to ensure that their hard-earned wealth passes efficiently according to their wishes rather than to unintended others such as 'The Tax Man' and to help to prevent accidental disinheritances. I work hand in hand with a number of Financial Advisers to provide a 'joined up' approach to a clients' needs and requirements.

A key area of advice is ensuring Lasting Powers of Attorney are in place so that the right persons can assist clients with their affairs should the need arise.

07939 407273
steve@jewellsoftaunton.com



We use accounts to reveal the challenges facing your business and to help you overcome them.

Your accountant should be making you profit. Too many find their accountancy spend is a valueless overhead rather than a powerful tool to help grow their business. We want to see business owners demand more.

We challenge ourselves to find new ways to offer the best possible accountancy service. This can be as simple as delivering tax returns earlier, so that clients have longer to prepare for their tax bills. Or as fundamental as bookkeeping every day instead of once a month, so that clients can always access a live picture of their business' performance.

We consider our accountants and clients to be part of one team, working together. We are constantly asking the question "why?", to challenge results and preconceived ideas - to better understand what we can do to help our businesses grow. We have put 'useful information' at the centre of everything we do. We are constantly challenging, constantly looking for ways to improve systems; both internally and for our clients.

Already working on behalf of numerous Taunton Chamber of Commerce members, and based at fellow member Collar Factory, we are delighted to have taken up membership.



THE MOUNT SOMERSET

Restaurant now open. Rooms open late 2024.

Sensitively restored to its former glory, the impressive Mount Somerset is a Grade II-listed Regency building affording guests far-reaching views of still Somerset landscapes, complemented with indulgent fine-dining and luxurious accommodation. Tipped to be an award-winning dining experience with rooms, expect consistent service without pretence, all served with welcoming warmth. We want you to feel relaxed and at home, while experiencing quietly professional hospitality.

Good food should be an emotional experience that moves you. Expect surprise and delight from exceptional fine dining at The Mount Somerset Restaurant, thanks to well known local chef, Olly Jackson, who hosts our new restaurant now open.

Opening Times: The a la carte menu is available for lunch and dinner Wednesday to Saturday 11am-11pm. We are offering a 2 or 3-course set-price Sunday lunch menu on Sunday, opening 12-6pm on Sundays.

For those wanting lighter dining our fixed price menu offers three courses available Wednesday to Saturday from 12.15 to 3pm and on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30pm. (Parties over five need to call to book.) From 5pm - 10pm on Friday nights you are also invited to enjoy two cocktails for £15, with a good supply of mocktails for your designated driver.



NFU Mutual

NFU Mutual Taunton are proud to be new members of Taunton Chamber of Commerce.

Our office is run by agents William Hawkins and Caroline Thorne and our aim is to provide a personal and individual service by developing and maintaining long-term relationships with our clients.

We ensure our clients receive expert help and assistance whether they are an individual client, farm, estate, self-employed tradesman or small or large business.

Our insurance offering covers (but is not limited to):

- Motor
- Home & Lifestyle
- Cover that can be extended beyond the home such as Homeworker, Caravan, Dog & Cat & Travel
- Commercial
- Caterers
- Fleet
- Farm
- Tractor

Visit our office at New Agriculture House, Blackbrook Business Park.

Tel: 01823 444700

Email: taunton@nfumutual.co.uk



Heat 24 Ltd offers top-notch services for residential and commercial properties. We pride ourselves on our expertise, dedication and attention to detail.

We install, service and maintain a broad spectrum of heating products, including central heating systems, underfloor heating, and high-efficiency boilers. We can design and customize solutions to fit the specific needs of each customer that ensures maximum comfort and energy efficiency. We also provide bathroom installations and plumbing works.

Our company has an unwavering commitment to customer service. We are family run and we really care about our customers. We have a team of highly skilled professionals who deliver prompt, reliable, and friendly services from the initial consultation through to installation and maintenance.

Whether upgrading an outdated system or installing a brand-new one, Heat 24 Ltd ensures every project meets the highest standards of efficiency and safety.

In a competitive market where dependability and performance are crucial, Heat 24 Ltd shines as a company, committed to providing exceptional Plumbing and heating services and keeping homes and businesses warm throughout the year.

We look forward to working with you.

www.heat24ph.co.uk



SMITH & EVANS

HIGHER PLOT - SOMERSET

After five years searching for the perfect site, Guy Smith and Laura Evans swapped our suburban semi for a South Somerset smallholding in 2007 and planted Higher Plot Vineyard.

Guy was a Director of WineGB, the body that represents our industry and has worked with grape growers and wine producers around the globe for the whole of his career. Laura was a film editor before swapping darkened rooms for the wide-open spaces of a vineyard. We are the only producers of Sparkling wine based on the three classic Champagne grapes in Somerset.

If we were to have a philosophy it would be to make fully ripe, natural wines that fully express the land here at Higher Plot. Despite being very small-scale producers (5-6000 bottles per year), our wines have won medals in some of the world's most prestigious wine competitions, and we have been featured on TV and in the National Press. We're really looking forward to getting to know more people from businesses around the Taunton area, Before Covid most of our wine went to London bars and restaurants and whilst we do sell our wines nationally to the likes of Waitrose, we much prefer working with people in the local area.



www.smithandevans.co.uk



We are delighted to welcome UA in UK Ukrainian Shop & Cafe to membership.

Based on the Paul Street row of businesses opposite Taunton Library, the venture was created to promote the unique art, culture and delicious cuisine of Ukraine in Taunton.

Getting the new venture up and running has kindly been supported by fellow Taunton Chamber of Commerce members CICCIC, Paydough.me and K & J Hodge Contractors amongst other local members of the Taunton business community.

Natalia who runs the business fled Ukraine with her family due to the conflict and was previously an accountant in her homeland. *"We hope that everyone will be able to come along and try our delicious and authentic cuisine at the centre of the Ukrainian community in Taunton."*

The cafe gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday, from 10am to 5pm.

Our menu, as always, includes:

- ♥ A delicious lunch menu
- ♥ Desserts made from original Ukrainian recipes
- ♥ Fresh juices and milkshakes as part of our summer menu

www.uainukshop.co.uk

Member Good News



INTRODUCING BYTESIZE!

Fitting new knowledge into our overstuffed business brains during the working day is always a challenge!

Keeping up with ever changing technological trials that are inhibiting company growth is something we all have to face. Many companies will just sub the work out and we are grateful that they do, as we enjoy working with them. BUT we are ever conscious that in our fine area of the country there are a lot of small and micro businesses, maybe only established for a few short years; how can they afford the outlay?

What if you could learn information that will really make a difference in bite-size pieces? What if the first hurdle to jump was free?

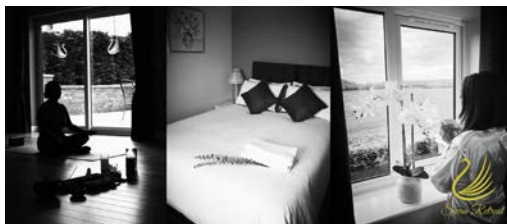
Chamber Members, **Somerset Web Services** and **White Knight Marketing** have worked in collaboration to introduce this initiative and are offering taster sessions to those that want to learn more about how to increase their website visibility, how to compete with competitors and take a benchmark of where they are now. These workshops cover technical information about your website and marketing that will help you to understand how to take that first step.

Search Engine Optimisation can seem very daunting, and it can get complex when you really dive in deep BUT so much can be achieved with a little knowledge – and maybe then, you will be able to afford to dig deeper when you are ready!

The courses will cover SEO, analytics, website maintenance that influences your ranking, social signals, email deliverability and what may be stopping your campaigns from working, tracking and performance software and a lot more!

You can sign up to the starter SEO session now, so why not book yourself on and see for yourself how you can take some control back in building your website.

Visit: <https://bytesizeonline.co.uk/>



SAY HELLO TO SWAN RETREAT

We are thrilled to announce that The Swan Centre is being rebranded and will now focus exclusively on retreats!



Nestled in the heart of Somerset, surrounded by beautiful countryside, nature trails, woodlands, and breathtaking views, our centre is more than just a place. It's a community dedicated to fostering mindfulness, inner peace, and personal growth.

We look forward to guiding and supporting those who need a nurturing space to heal and thrive. Join us on this renewed journey towards mindfulness and well-being.

Stay tuned for more details on our upcoming retreat programmes and workshops designed to enhance your well-being and connect you more deeply with yourself and nature.

Our centre features treatment rooms, a spacious kitchen, a cosy dining room, a dedicated yoga space, and a spacious garden perfect for strolls, meditation, or simply soaking up the peaceful surroundings.

In addition, we offer luxurious and comfortable accommodation, conveniently located in the same building as our Retreat. Whether you're here for relaxation, reflection, or rejuvenation, we're here to welcome you to our peaceful sanctuary.

Our centre will also be available for exclusive hire, allowing you to host your own retreats, workshops, or events in this beautiful setting. Embrace the opportunity to tailor your experience and share the serenity of Swan Retreat with your own community or clients.

Thank you for being a part of our Swan journey!

CICCIC FUTURE IS AT RISK - WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

It is with a heavy heart that directors at our members Creative Innovation Centre CIC are warning it could face closure within 12 months due to a considerable funding gap.

In the 12 years that CICCIC (a not-for-profit org) has been offering community connections through arts and culture, it has never been funded for its core activities. Having been through austerity cuts, nearly 2 years of closure during the pandemic, CICCIC has continued to survive by dedicating the director's personal finances, which are now exhausted, and they need financial support if they are to continue at CICCIC, Arts Hub (Flook House) and in the community. Ironically, in 2023 CICCIC won 'Best Community Arts & Culture Venue 2023' - South West England' Award and in March this year, the Mayor of Taunton presented Creative Innovation Centre (CICCIC) with a Certificate of Thanks in recognition of its contribution to the creative and social well-being of Taunton.

There are many ways to help, and CICCIC is appealing to everyone to help keep the venue open no matter how large or small your contribution: www.creativeinnovationcentre.co.uk/future/

SOUTH WESTERN AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST NAMED OFFICIAL PARTNER OF JOB FAIRS SOUTH WEST

Taunton Chamber members Job Fairs South West is delighted to announce a strategic partnership with the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SWAS) aimed at fostering employment opportunities and community engagement across the South West.

The alliance between Job Fairs South West and SWAS NHS Trust marks a significant step forward in addressing employment needs and supporting the communities they both serve across the length and breadth of the region. As an official partner, SWAS NHS Trust will collaborate closely with Job Fairs South West to provide access to a multitude of career opportunities, training programmes, and valuable resources for individuals seeking employment within the healthcare sector.

"We are thrilled to welcome the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust as our official partner," said Stuart Wright of Job Fairs South West. "Their commitment to excellence in healthcare and community service aligns perfectly with our mission to empower individuals through meaningful employment opportunities. Together, we will be able to double our efforts as we bridge the gap between job seekers and employers whilst at the same time making a positive impact on the communities in which we operate."

"We are excited to partner with Job Fairs South West to boost employment prospects and promote career opportunities within the healthcare sector," said the spokesperson for the South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust. "By joining forces, we can leverage our combined strengths to support job seekers across the South West in finding fulfilling careers whilst meeting the growing demands of our healthcare services."

Through these efforts, Job Fairs South West and SWAS NHS Trust aim to foster a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and support within the local community. Held across Somerset, Dorset and Devon - with new locations being added regularly, Jobs Fairs South West's events attract a wide range of well-known employers and support service providers and routinely attract over 650 attendees.

Visit: <https://jobfairssouthwest.co.uk/>



DENISE SPRAGG TAKES ON ROLE AS NATIONAL PEDICURE EXPERT

Chamber members The Sangha House find themselves at the very heart of the pedicure world, thanks to co-director Denise Spragg's YouTube habit during lockdown.

Denise says, "I came across a channel called Meticulous Manicurist, based in the United States, where she was showcasing footcare on her clients which seemed to be a cross between cosmetic pedicure and podiatry (chiroprody, as it was known here). I was intrigued and quickly realised this would be really popular in our health and wellbeing centre."

When the founder of the channel, Lori Holloway, started offering tuition of her method, Denise was her first student in the UK, and after qualification, gained a whopping 17 new clients in her first week alone. She has since been working very closely with industry accreditation body, Habia, to get the course accredited and insurable for other technicians, and also gave her opinion on what the National Occupational Standards for pedicure in the UK should look like.

Denise and her husband and co-director Andy are thrilled to announce that her work has now paid off, gaining full accreditation earlier this year. As a result, pedicure in the UK can now include more complex work, such as footcare for those with diabetes, ingrown, impacted and thickened nails, and even fungal infections.

Denise is now working with major beauty company Sweet Squared (the owners of the CND Shellac brand) as their national pedicure expert to roll the method out even further. She adds, "I am very proud to be part of this huge change in the industry which has the potential to impact many people's lives for the better, and all from our lovely town here in Taunton."

habia
hair and beauty industry authority



The Sangha House



www.thesanghahouse.co.uk

Celebrating 7 years
DB

designbean

Designing awesome things in Somerset since 2017



sally@designbean.co.uk | 07984 404528 | designbean.co.uk



GURDS OF TAUNTON CELEBRATE CENTENARY

Taunton Chamber member Gurds of Taunton, a traditional gentleman's outfitters of 70 Station Road, which has been part of the Taunton Chamber of Commerce for very many years, is celebrating its centenary year. First opening its doors in 1924 when George Gurds founded the business, it changed hands in 1934 when Wallace Frank Escott Court brought the business and the building, 4 generations later the Court family are still running the shop.

Gurds has a beautiful Victorian listed cottage shop front, complete with ornate tiles and plasterwork. It was formally Biffin a Victorian chemist, and the name remains on the glass above the door to this day. Inside, Gurds still has many original fixtures and fittings including a wall of wooden glass fronted draws, counters, and haberdashery units. Most of the interior has remained the same over the years, with just more of the ground floor being made into shop floor space...the suit room used to be the garage!

To this day Gurds still offers the same personal service that it has done for the last century, with an incredibly wide selection of products, fits and sizes.

Gurds centenary window display, has many of the appliances and tools which have been used in the shop over the last 100 years for those who are interested, showing the history of retail and how it has evolved.

Taunton Chamber of Commerce wishes all at Gurds of Taunton a very happy centenary year and many more years of serving the Taunton community to come.

www.gurds.co.uk



MAIL BOXES ETC.

7 Bridge St. Taunton

Tel: 01823 322263

Email: info@mbetaunton.co.uk



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Taunton Chamber of Commerce



BE. LASER & SKIN CLINIC HAVE MOVED

Established in 2021, Be. Laser & Skin Clinic have now relocated to their exciting new unisex premises in the prestigious Crescent in Taunton at the end of June.

Be. Laser & Skin Clinic use only the UK's most advanced medical-grade laser technology, offering Diode laser hair removal, tattoo removal, skin treatments and blemish removal among their luxury services, with clinic staff fully qualified to the highest standards in all treatments.

Call or visit the website to book your free consultation or to find out more.

1 The Crescent, Taunton TA1 4EA

01823 806190

info@beaestheticstaunton.com

www.beaestheticstaunton.com

ANDY BERRY, PRINCIPAL AND CEO OF BRIDGWATER & TAUNTON COLLEGE MADE CBE IN KING'S HONOURS

Andy Berry, Principal and CEO of Bridgwater & Taunton College, has been appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the King's Birthday Honours list. This prestigious accolade recognises his significant contributions to the field of education and his impact on community development through innovative educational practices and partnerships.

Upon hearing of his appointment, Andy remarked, *"Receiving this CBE was both surprising and incredibly humbling. This honour not only reflects my beliefs in the transformative power of education but also highlights the collective efforts of our dedicated staff at BTC. Together, we strive to enrich lives and bolster our community through outstanding educational experiences and partnerships."*

Derek Randall MBE, FCFE, Chair of the BTC Board of Governors, commented, *"Andy's unwavering dedication to enhancing student and community life through education has rightfully earned him this recognition. His visionary leadership and persistent drive have been instrumental in helping to advance regional economic prosperity."*

The CBE is awarded to individuals who have made innovative contributions to public life or who have performed outstanding services at a regional or national level. Andy's recognition underscores his prominent role in shaping educational policies and programmes that have a lasting impact on society.



Taunton Chamber of Commerce are committed to support you as the positive voice in our Taunton Deane Business Community.

Call: 01823 230898 **Email:** office@taunton-chamber.co.uk

www.taunton-chamber.co.uk   



Taunton Together

11am - 7pm 28 September 2024



SUPPORT THE NEW 'TAUNTON TOGETHER' 2024 FESTIVAL BY SPONSORING OR ADVERTISING THIS YEARLY COMMUNITY TOWN CENTRE EVENT

Taunton Town Council is collaborating with its cultural partners and businesses to deliver Taunton Together, an end of summer celebration, taking place on Saturday, 28 September 2024. This event will be Taunton Town Council's first ever festival, a vibrant celebration of community, culture, and creativity in the heart of Taunton town centre.

[See the Festival presentation here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TDnpyrk2FSKNDFuW5aKUIVtULcdnuNB1/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TDnpyrk2FSKNDFuW5aKUIVtULcdnuNB1/view)

There will be performances, acts, stalls, and artists located across the town centre, in:

- Somerset Square • Goodland Gardens • Castle Green
- Taunton High Street • Orchard Shopping Centre
- Taunton Minster • Somerset County Cricket Ground

About Sponsorship & Advertising

Support Taunton's first festival for Celebrating Taunton's Art Culture and Diversity and reach an audience of 10,000+ readers in print and online across Taunton Deane while supporting a range of community and professionally led activities over the weekend of 28th Sept 2024. Taunton Together and Taunton Town Council are pleased to be working in partnership with Taunton-based design company ADK Creative and CICCIC to design and deliver the print brochure for the festival. This brochure is marketed in advance on social media, event outlets and press, and you have a unique opportunity to advertise while showing your support for the Taunton community. Designed to provide great value for money and distributed to many outlets and advertised on 10,000's of social media posts and groups.

Facts You Need to Know

- Circulation/Print Run 2,000+
- Social Media Reach 80,000+
- Estimated Footfall 40,000+
- Advertising rates from: £45 - £300

Public Places For Public to Pick Up Copies:

Orchard Shopping Centre, Taunton Library, Hestercombe Gardens, Brewhouse Theatre, Creative Innovation Centre (CICCIC), Mr Miles, Taunton Tourist Information Centre, Council offices, Tacchi Morris Arts Centre, Bridgwater & Taunton College, The Castle Hotel, select pubs, hotels & restaurants.

FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP

Create more impact and show your support by becoming a festival sponsor. Simply select your options below:

- **OPTION 1 – BRONZE – £400**
Includes half page ad, your logo featured in a special 'supporters' page within the brochure, 2 free tickets.
- **OPTION 2 – SILVER – £800**
Includes full page ad, your logo featured in a special 'supporters' page within the brochure, 4 x tickets to VIP area.
- **OPTION 3 – GOLD- £1200**
Includes 2 x full page ad, your logo featured in a special 'supporters' page within the brochure, 8 x VIP area tickets.

- **OPTION 5 – PLATINUM – £3000**
We only have 2 of these available and it's for main sponsorship of the festival. Includes 2 x full page ad, a one-page article/photo in the brochure about your company and its support for the festival, your logo featured in a special 'supporters' page within the brochure, your logo on posters and social media posts, your logo on banners, plus 8 x tickets to VIP area.

Where Your Sponsorship & Advertising Spend Goes

Each advert, after costs, will generate income that will be used to support some of the costs of the festival, provide support for community groups, and secure income so the festival can be repeated in 2025, making Taunton Together a regular celebration for many years to come.

A dedicated person is assigned to all those who become sponsors, so if you would like further information and guidance or to confirm your sponsorship please contact:

Richard Holt 01823 337477
richard@ciccic.co.uk

Bethan Turner 01823 230898
office@taunton-chamber.co.uk

www.tauntontogether.co.uk



TAUNTON CARNIVAL - A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR BUSINESS AND BRAND!

As Taunton Carnival Committee we are sharing here the wonderful business promotional opportunities that we have put together so that businesses who align their brand with Taunton Carnival through sponsorship can maximise the opportunities to increase their exposure.

New for this year we have an exciting range of value for money sponsorship packages, perfect ways for businesses in the local area to easily get involved in carnival. To ensure that sponsors are able to gain the maximum impact possible, there are only a limited number of opportunities available, and we would love to welcome you on board as one of our sponsors for 2024. Bearing in mind the diversity of the local business community, we have something for businesses of all sizes and sectors.

Taunton Carnival has been entertaining the community for generations, but in modern times was restarted in 1966, and since then has been illuminating the streets of Taunton, and has raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for local charities and organisations and attracting thousands of people to the town for the annual procession, now hosted at 7pm on the 3rd Saturday in October.

Taunton Carnival costs around £9,000 to put on every year, and this figure does not include the funds needed to build floats and walking entries. Everyone involved are volunteers, who come together to put on a remarkable event. The funds needed for carnival are raised by the committee, without any government funding or support.

How can you help?

We have three packages available, which relate to the sponsorship of a class. We are fortunate enough to welcome many fantastic entries to Taunton Carnival which are divided into specific categories (classes), depending on what the entry is, what it looks like, and the age and number of entrants etc. Funds from your sponsorship will enable us to support clubs and entrants financially and make sure they can keep rebuilding and coming back to Taunton Carnival every year!

We firmly believe that what Taunton Carnival can offer you in coverage and brand alignment, makes supporting us a significant opportunity for you, as well as Taunton Carnival as an organisation, and the wide variety of community-based entrants taking part. In the Sponsorship Documents (scan the QR), we give full details of our sponsorship packages and their value to you as a business, including purchase costs and what each one delivers to your company in return.

GOLD SPONSORSHIP PLAN

Deal is £1000 per year for 4 years.

"Taunton Carnival is Proudly Sponsored By..."

SILVER SPONSORSHIP PLAN

Deal is £300 for one year

- Class 1 - Feature Class
- Class 3 - Comic Class
- Class 4 - Youth Class
- Class 5 - Open Class

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP PLAN

Deal is £100 for one year

- Class 6 - Single Adult Walker
- Class 7 - Single Juvenile Walker
- Class 8 - Walking Pair
- Class 9 - Walking Group

For more information about the specific features and benefits of the packages available, please scan the QR code or email info@tauntoncarnival.co.uk



All advertising associated with the benefits of these packages will be paid by the Committee.

MAKING GREEN NORMAL UPDATE



NZT

HELPING TAUNTON WITH
ITS JOURNEY TO NET ZERO

Net Zero Taunton Group

FREE! Come and join the journey as we create a shared space for Taunton businesses to collectively make a bigger impact through support and collaboration

FC
DI

Thursday 18th July 6-8pm

The Firepool Centre for Digital Innovation, Trenchard Way, TA1 1FH

As well as all the usual support, discussion and collaboration opportunities, this time Net Zero Taunton are looking at local B Corp business case studies and sustainable finance with Port & Co and Lendology CIC.

Portt
& Co lendology.cic

Whether you are at the start of your net zero journey, or have already made some changes to how your business operates, this group is for you. Meet like minded local business people, discuss ideas and actions and decide what future talks and workshops would help you make more progress - all in a friendly, interactive and collaborative environment.

Supported by



our mission

To design and print quality products, at fair prices, with outstanding customer service, while focusing on sustainability and reducing our impact on the environment.



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