

ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE TAUNTON BUSINESS COMMUNITY



## E WHITE & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

### CELEBRATING 120 YEARS

Congratulations to our member **E. White & Son Funeral Directors** as they celebrate their 120th year serving families in Somerset. Founded in Taunton in 1905 by Ernest White, the independent family-run business has been entrusted by families in their time of need for more than a century, thanks to its commitment to personal service.

The business has seen four generations of the White family at its helm, each bringing its unique touch to the business. After Ernest, his son, Percy, took over in the 1940s, followed by Percy's son, Adrian, and daughter, Sue, in the 1980s. The firm enters its 120th year under the leadership of fourth-generation Charlie White, continuing the family tradition.

In this  
edition...

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

# Upcoming Events Programme

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



## The Castle at taunton

**"SPIRIT OF THE SEASON: A SOMERSET TASTING TRIO" - A DELICIOUSLY DIFFERENT TASTING & SHOPPING EVENT**  
WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER - £10

Join us at members The Castle Hotel for an evening of local artisan gin, cheese and chocolate in celebration of the darker months, crafted by fellow members Somerset Chocolate Co and Dryad Gin, with The Cheese Connection. Hear about the local provenance and story of delicious local produce over tastings, plus do some festive shopping too.

**To book:** [www.the-castle-hotel.com/events](http://www.the-castle-hotel.com/events)



## The Castle at taunton

**SRD**  
TECHNOLOGY UK

**BREAKFAST AT THE CASTLE HOTEL WITH SRD TECHNOLOGY UK**  
WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 7:45 - 9:30AM - £18

Our topic for this breakfast with members **SRD Technology UK** is a timely one: 'Decoding Cyber Security for Small Business'. We'll hear all about the benefits of Cyber Essentials accreditation and how we can ensure our businesses are as protected as possible.

Alongside the insight shared, there will be plenty of opportunity to network, and enjoy a delicious Full English Breakfast courtesy of fellow members **The Castle at Taunton** - in addition to Traditional Breakfast, Vegetarian and Vegan Full English Breakfasts are also available.



the  
Quantock  
restaurant

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER FROM £25

Choose a ticket for either a delicious 2 or 3 course menu, created by the talented culinary team at The Quantock Restaurant at **Taunton College**.

Once you have made your ticket booking, you'll be sent a form to make your individual choices, from those displayed on the booking page.



Somerset  
Chamber of  
Commerce

TAUNTON  
CHAMBER  
of  
COMMERCE

**"LET'S NETWORK OVER BREAKFAST"**  
JOINT NETWORKING EVENT WITH  
SOMERSET CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER - £15

Join with our friends at Somerset Chamber of Commerce at **UCS Taunton College**, for a festive morning of face-to-face networking with our vibrant Somerset business community, have your Christmas jumpers at the ready! Taunton Chamber members need to use the promo code **TauntonXmas** to receive member rate.

**To book:** <https://www.somerset-chamber.co.uk/events/view/let-s-network-over-breakfast-with-taunton-chamber/>



# Member to Member Offers Page

## HAVE YOU ADDED YOUR OFFER OR TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

Don't forget that as part of your membership benefits you are able to take up a wide range of offers from fellow Taunton Chamber members!

From Health & Beauty to Venue & Meeting Space Hire, from Branded Workwear to Support for all your IT & Telecoms needs, from Marketing & Promotion Products & Services to Food & Drink, from Fitness to Fixing Your Car & Home, from Training & Development to Business Support Services... and so much more!



**'Keeping the Pound Local' is a key part of our ethos and we will regularly highlight this page:**

- ✓ **On the Taunton Chamber Social Media Pages**
- ✓ **In our Chamber Chatter Journal**
- ✓ **In the Welcome Pack we issue to New Members**
- ✓ **In our Membership Renewal Communications**

## NOT ADDED YOUR OWN MEMBER TO MEMBER OFFER YET?

To add your offering, simply head to our website, or click the button below to complete the webform, noting the following:

- Your offer(s) need to be available (unless otherwise described) to owners, partners, trustees, employees/ registered volunteers of all Taunton Chamber member organisations. Our online Membership Directory is updated on a weekly basis and so can easily be used as a reference point regarding organisations within our membership.
- Your logo, plus contact details will automatically be pulled through from the Members Directory page, so there is no need to repeat these unless there is a specific person at your organisation who will deal with processing your offer(s). Please also take a moment to double check that we still have the most up to date logo and contact details on display for you business.
- To limit administrative work, members will have the opportunity to add/ update their offer(s) once every few months only (or at the commencement of a brand new membership) so it is preferable to choose longer term offers rather than any with time sensitive limitations.

Complete the webform here:  
[www.taunton-chamber.co.uk/m2m-offer-form/](http://www.taunton-chamber.co.uk/m2m-offer-form/)

## HOW TO BOOK OUR EVENTS

Unless otherwise stated, all our events are bookable via the following eventbrite link:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/taunton-chamber-of-commerce-15354648391](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/taunton-chamber-of-commerce-15354648391)

Plus, you can click to 'follow' our eventbrite page, which means you'll get a handy notification into your inbox whenever we add a new event!



## Save the Date!

Look out for emails and social media posts across the next few weeks, introducing our 2026 events programme, including:

**CUPPA & CAKE RELAXED NETWORKING AT THE GREAT WESTERN HOTEL**

**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 11AM - £8.50**

TAUNTON  
CHAMBER

of  
COMMERCE

WELCOME TO OUR

# New Members

## ARGENT PARTNERSHIP

### UTILITIES. MADE SIMPLE.

**If you aren't sure you are getting the best deal on your gas and electricity and are spending too much time trying to find out the best deal for your business...we can help.**

You'll get the same experience, expertise and attention to detail that our clients, who include Savills Plc, The Wellcome Trust and The Crown Estate have been getting for over 10 years.

Experience from managing more than 12,000 meters, agreeing gas and electricity contracts worth more than £45 million and the insight that comes with pricing contracts 50 weeks of the year (we do take a bit of time off at Christmas).

What we do isn't difficult or complicated but we appreciate that you may find it time consuming and frustrating.

Instead we make it as simple, straightforward and time efficient as possible.

As important is the fact that we are not brokers. Brokers receive a commission from Utility Suppliers by marking up the rates/standing charges – the level of which they aren't usually keen on declaring even when asked.

Argent Partnership are remunerated entirely by fees.

On an average sized meter that's as little as 10p per day or £36.50 per year.

Based in Taunton for a few years now it's only recently that we have secured contracts on behalf of local businesses...principally because friends have approached us to help.

Not sure you are getting the best deal and are spending too much time trying to find out what is best for you? Email us and we can help.

[graham@argentpartnership.com](mailto:graham@argentpartnership.com)  
[charlotte@argentpartnership.com](mailto:charlotte@argentpartnership.com)



**A hidden gem of a boutique situated in the village of Curry Rivel near Langport, specialising in Mother of the bride and groom wedding outfits along with Prom and evening wear. We work by appointment only, to give you the 1 2 1 personal attention, ideas and inspiration for your big day.**

When your son or daughter ties the knot it's a day full of pride love and excitement. So of course, you want to look absolutely fabulous and feel amazing. We're here to make sure you not only look stunning but also feel confident and comfortable throughout the day. We offer endless inspiration, fabulous designs and accessories that perfectly complement your look. Whether it's a bold colour or a classic style we'll help you create an ensemble that leaves you feeling incredible. With sizes up to 32 with our order in collection and endless colours to choose from, we have styles to suit everyone's shape.

The glitz and glam of the Prom and evening wear starts from size 0 up to 22, whether you want it sparkle in a ball gown, or be sassy with a split, are all waiting for you to dance the night away.

To book your appointment visit [www.bellissimo-occasionwear.com](http://www.bellissimo-occasionwear.com) or if you would like to chat, call 07783 138736



### Best SME Awards

The Best SME Awards is a national awards programme which shines a spotlight on the exceptional achievements of SMEs across all sectors, recognising the leaders, innovators, and teams whose passion and dedication inspire others.

Winning a Best SME Award isn't just a trophy on your shelf, it's a mark of excellence that sets you apart. This national recognition validates your credibility and showcases your success. Awards raise your profile, attract new business, and expand your network.

The awards are open until 22nd January 2025 and to find out more visit the website;

[www.bestsmeawards.co.uk](http://www.bestsmeawards.co.uk)

### Taunton Businesswomen UnLtd Business Networking

Taunton Businesswomen UnLtd Business Networking group meets each month at Taunton and Pickeridge Golf Club, starting 20th January. The Group Leader is Debbie Gilbert, founder of Businesswomen UnLtd. This business networking event is great for people in the Taunton area with a business or looking to start one.

Our meetings are friendly and relaxed and you will find lots of help and support, plenty of new contacts and some great guest speakers. This Taunton business networking group is for women in business simply book and attend - there is no membership, professional lock out or strict rules which are often associated with business networking.

[www.businesswomenunltd.co.uk/events](http://www.businesswomenunltd.co.uk/events)



### Drive It School of Motoring: Helping Somerset Learn to Drive with Confidence

At Drive It School of Motoring, we're passionate about helping new drivers gain the skills and confidence they need for a lifetime of safe driving. Serving Taunton, Bridgwater, Minehead, Watchet, Williton, Wellington, Highbridge, Burnham-on-Sea, and the surrounding Somerset areas, we offer comprehensive manual and automatic driving lessons tailored to every learner.

Our team of experienced, DVSA-approved male and female instructors are fully DBS-checked and committed to providing a friendly, supportive learning environment. Whether you're just starting out or looking to refresh your skills, we offer a range of flexible course options - from weekly lessons to semi-intensive and intensive driving courses.

Every student also receives free access to Theory Test Pro, helping you prepare thoroughly for your theory test. And with our unique "No Pass - No Resit Fee" guarantee, we'll cover the cost of your second driving test if you don't pass on your first attempt.

As a proud local Somerset business, we value community connections and are excited to be part of the Chamber. To celebrate, we're offering 10% off driving lessons for all Chamber Members and their families - just quote "CHAMBER MEMBER" when booking.

At Drive It, it's more than just passing a test - it's about building confidence, independence, and road safety for life.

[www.driveit.co.uk](http://www.driveit.co.uk)



**BLACK BEAR**

**PUB  
GROUP**

**Black Bear Pub Group is an independent, family-run group of Somerset pubs with our own micro-brewery at our centre. We believe that good pubs are largely about the people involved, from our fab local suppliers and staff to the customers... pubs are places where people from all walks of life can come together and enjoy an eclectic social scene.**

We focus on good food created by talented chefs using as much local produce as possible, with well-kept beers, hand-picked wines, and a vibrant atmosphere. All our venues are unique, with their own food offerings, décor, and clientele. We aim to serve the communities in which they each sit by hosting events and fundraising and making them accessible to all. Most importantly, they all remain true to what they are — good, local pubs!

**The White Horse**, Bradford on Tone offers warm hospitality, exceptional seafood by our talented kitchen team, comforting pub classics and a welcoming service, led by Amanda's friendly team.

**The Carew Arms** is the beating soul of Crowcombe. A true Country pub... Serving incredible food, friendly banter and a proper heartfelt hospitality!

**The Royal Oak**, Hillcommon is bursting with energy... Where Marcin's culinary wizardry meets a team who are filled with passion and energy! We pride ourselves in your experience.

**The Bear Inn** captures everything Wiveliscombe stands for... Lively, welcoming and full of charm. From the bustling bar to the spacious garden, it's a pub that just works and that's why we love it!

[www.blackbearpubgroup.co.uk](http://www.blackbearpubgroup.co.uk)

**Free to Lead**  
CONSULTING LIMITED

**Free to Lead Consulting Ltd helps professionals and teams create clarity, connection and change.**

I'm Helen Franklin and I founded Free to Lead Consulting Ltd in 2015 to partner with people to do exactly what the name suggests — free them up to lead in business, in their careers, and in their lives.

Services include individual and team coaching, meeting design and facilitation, and learning design and delivery to help:

- Managers and leaders overcome self-doubt, lead with confidence and intentionally manage their careers
- Teams become high-performing, collaborative and energised — with equal share of voice, clear outcomes and a sense of pride and connection
- Senior leaders run impactful strategy days that are focused, inclusive and enjoyable, with expert design and facilitation that lets them fully participate

I bring warmth, professionalism and the ability to create safe, energising spaces where people can think, make decisions and move forward with confidence. With a Masters in Coaching & Mentoring, I love to explore the needs of a business or team, tailoring pragmatic solutions to what matters most.

If you'd like to talk through how I might support you or your business, I'd love to hear from you.



[helen.franklin@freetolead.com](mailto:helen.franklin@freetolead.com)

07730 900460 | [www.freetolead.com](http://www.freetolead.com)

or find me on LinkedIn



**Ellisons School of Motoring has long established itself as one of the leading and multi award winning driving schools in the South West. We are very proud of the reputation that we have built, offering the very best in driver training to the next generation of motorists and helping thousands of learners successfully through their tests.**

When you learn with Ellisons you get much more than just great driving lessons.

- ✓ Manual & automatic lessons available.
- ✓ Full support of our Admin team outside of lessons.
- ✓ Access to our learner app which gives you access to practice for theory test, track progress, view lessons, pay for lessons and also message your instructor.
- ✓ Our Admin team will help you to book a driving test and to help find cancellations when you're ready.
- ✓ Flexibility - Evening & weekend lessons also available.
- ✓ Male & Female instructors.
- ✓ Patient, friendly and honest. Learn at your
- ✓ pace to build your confidence.
- ✓ Structured support to give you the best chance of successfully passing and being a safe driver once passing.

### **HISTORIC TAUNTON VENUE REOPENS UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP**

Biddys By Soph is owned and run by Sophie, a talented baker who also runs fellow Taunton Chamber of Commerce member **Sophisticatered**, which specialises in Creative Catering & Event Design across Somerset.

Biddy's is now dog-friendly, and customers can expect menu items such as a hot English breakfast, waffles, pancakes, burgers, an extensive range of Sophie's delicious cakes, and more - all served in the traditional Biddys American Diner style surroundings.

#### **Some of Biddys recent feedback;**

*"Great cafe revitalised! Overall, a really nice old fashioned full English breakfast. Well priced and freshly cooked. We will return!"*

*"Fabulous food and coffee! Will definitely be back, the best chocolate caramel brownie I've ever had"*

*"Had breakfast today with my bestie. It was delicious. Great food, coffee and great prices and service. Support local. We will be back."*

**Biddy's By Soph current opening hours are 6.30am - 3pm Tuesday to Saturday, apart from Fridays where hours are extended to 5pm for After School Club - Shakes and Bakes.**

[www.esofm.co.uk](http://www.esofm.co.uk)

  **FOLLOW US FOR LATEST UPDATES**

**14 Station Road, Taunton TA1 1NH**  
**biddysbysoph@yahoo.com**



**Taunton Flower Show, organised by the Taunton Deane Horticultural and Floricultural Society, is one of the South West's most beloved summer events. Held in Vivary Park each August, it welcomes over 16,000 visitors across two days, offering a vibrant festival atmosphere rooted in horticultural excellence.**

The show dates back to 1831 and has been hosted in Vivary Park since 1851. It's a community-driven event, run primarily by volunteers, over 400 of them, supported by two staff members and a volunteer board. In 2025, more than 2,500 entries filled the amateur competition marquee, showcasing the creativity of local growers and makers. Visitors travel over 40 miles to attend, and the show generates an estimated £1 million in economic impact for Taunton.

We invite local businesses to get involved, whether through volunteering or sponsorship. Volunteering during show week is a fantastic team-building opportunity, while sponsorship helps sustain the event and promotes your brand to a wide regional audience. Packages range from client entertainment and business promotion to supporting specific areas of the show.

Join us in growing Taunton Flower Show into a premier event for our community, our visitors, and local businesses.

[www.tauntonfs.co.uk](http://www.tauntonfs.co.uk)



## Good Times App

HELPING PEOPLE DISCOVER LOCAL AGAIN

**We started Good Times App with a simple idea: to make it easier (and more affordable) for people to find out what's happening around them — and for local businesses to be seen without breaking the bank.**

Built right here in Somerset, the app shows users events, offers, and services within 10km of where they are — or wherever they're going. From live music and pop-up markets to family activities, sales and wellness classes, our goal is to reconnect people with what's happening on their doorstep.

In a world full of noise and scrolling, too much choice often leads to no choice at all. That's where Good Times App comes in — helping people discover things that match their lifestyle and interests, without the overwhelm.

We've already had fantastic support from the Bridgwater and Taunton area, with dozens of local businesses on board and sharing what they do. But this is just the beginning.

We believe in the power of local — and we're building something that puts communities, creativity and connection first.

**Join us. Support local.**

And help bring back the good times — one tap at a time.

[www.goodtimesltd.co.uk](http://www.goodtimesltd.co.uk)



**izzi stockton**  
BRIDAL • PROM • OCCASIONWEAR

**Izzi Stockton Bridal is an independent bridal and occasionwear boutique in Taunton, Somerset, known for its warm, personal service and beautiful selection of dresses for every shape, style, and celebration.**

We specialise in wedding, prom, and mother of the bride or groom dresses, offering a relaxed, no-pressure experience where every customer is made to feel confident, supported, and truly special. Our boutique carries an extensive range of gowns in all sizes, with expert advice and professional alterations available in-house to ensure a perfect fit.

Customers travel from across the South West for our friendly, unhurried atmosphere, where trying on dresses feels exciting, not overwhelming. Whether you're a bride searching for "the one," a parent helping your daughter prepare for prom, or a Mother looking for something elegant to wear to your son or daughter's wedding, you'll find genuine care, patience, and expert guidance at every step.

At Izzi Stockton Bridal, we believe that finding your dress should be a joyful, calm, and confidence-building experience — because it's never just about the dress, it's about how you feel in it.

We work by appointment so please call us or message us through our website.

01823 331053 | [www.izzistocktonbridal.co.uk](http://www.izzistocktonbridal.co.uk)  
48 Bridge St, Taunton, TA1 1UD



## **REAL WORLD MEDICAL TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONAL, WORKPLACE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

At LRT Medical Solutions, we are dedicated to educating, developing, guiding, and executing in the field of medical training. We believe that hands-on, research-based learning is the most effective way to equip individuals with critical life-saving skills, whether in civilian settings, high-risk workplaces, or professional environments.

Our instructors are veteran military medics, paramedics, TCCC and FREC-certified trainers with real-world experience in combat zones, emergency response, and frontline medicine. With nationwide training locations across the UK and internationally, we bring expert medical education directly to you.

All courses are Quasafe Accredited and currently graded "Outstanding."

We are opening doors to a new training centre in Wellington. This will be immersive, challenging and testing. We will have state of the art classrooms, scenario rooms, and environmental rooms. We look forward to welcoming new clients through the doors on January 01, 2026.



[www.longreachtacticaltld.co.uk](http://www.longreachtacticaltld.co.uk)



# GINGER & PINK

**What started as a conversation over the kitchen table is now becoming a reality. Ginger & Pink will be an inclusive brunch café in the heart of the Orchard Shopping Centre.**

As a business, it will focus on good food, with the priority of being community minded. In collaboration with other creatives, we hope to give back in little ways, championing our 'Pay It Forward Scheme' and also working with local charities. We will be serving a wide menu, including hand crafted coffee, flavoured matchas, smoothies and frappes. The food menu is set to be delicious, reasonably priced and vary regularly.

A delicious brunch style menu will include a 'build your own bagel', topped French toast and wholesome brunch bowls. This is just a snippet of the menu but trust us when we say there will be something to suit everyone.

It does not stop at food. Another string to our bow will be our exciting range of evening events including workshops with local arty-crafty folk. A 'sober night out', will encourage individuals to have a good night out without the alcohol and more importantly the hangover the next day. A neurodiverse meet up, that is not therapy based but surrounded by those who understand. And a final mention is our two separate sensory rooms targeted towards those who struggle with conventional dining or who just want some privacy from the outside world!

With an extremely laid back but excited approach we cannot wait to welcome you and bring all our ideas to life.

WALPOLE DUNN

CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

**Walpole Dunn is an accountancy firm based in Taunton, serving Somerset and the surrounding areas.**

We offer a range of compliance and consultative services to businesses large and small in the area, always based on our own business values of being solution-focused; providing personal service; and remaining transparent with our fees.

The WD team specialises in cloud-based accounting and payroll solutions, including Xero (Gold Champion Partner); QuickBooks (Platinum ProAdvisor); and Sage (Authorised Accountant), and have guided all sorts of businesses through the process of being fully digital and Making Tax Digital (MTD) compliant.

On top of the day job, the team loves to get involved in the local community and it supports local charities through its "Charity of the Year" initiative. Over the years, the team has got stuck in raising funds for local causes, including by completing a fire walk; completing a skydive from 15,000 ft; and most recently doing a bungee jump over Bristol Harbourside.

Walpole Dunn is proud to be a member of Taunton Chamber of Commerce and continue to support businesses throughout Somerset.



FOLLOW US FOR LATEST UPDATES

[www.walpoledunn.co.uk](http://www.walpoledunn.co.uk)

# Member Good News



## LUDACRUST MOVES FROM THE STREETS TO THE SEATS

For our Autumn Social event, we were delighted to support Taunton Chamber of Commerce member Ludacrust as the Taste of the West award-winning business, previously operating as a mobile catering unit, recently made the move to permanent premises in Taunton Town Centre.

For delicious gourmet pizza, cooked freshly in a bespoke wood-fired oven hand-built on site, head to **4-6 Magdalene Lane, Taunton TA1 1SE**.

Jumper and the team are ready to serve you up awesome food in super-chilled surroundings 11am – 10pm seven days a week.



## CHAIRMAN MARKS 25 YEARS WITH GREENSLADE TAYLOR HUNT

Simon Havens is celebrating 25 years with Taunton Chamber of Commerce members Greenslade Taylor Hunt. Simon joined the firm in October 2000 and has worked for the property partnership throughout its branch network in Sherborne, Bridgwater, Wells and Yeovil. He became a Partner at GTH in 2005 and oversaw the opening of a new office in the Cathedral city of Wells in 2012. Simon is now the Head of Residential Sales for GTH and the firm's current Chairman.

Simon started his career as a trainee negotiator back in 1988 with a small independent firm in Taunton, rising through the ranks with numerous competitors until joining GTH in 2000.

*"I didn't dream of going anywhere else and then you get to Chairman. It's a real honour," said Simon. "GTH is widely recognised as one of the most prolific firms of property professionals in the West Country, offering a diverse and specialist range of services,"*



**MAIL BOXES ETC.**

7 Bridge St. Taunton

Tel: 01823 322263

Email: [info@mbetaunton.co.uk](mailto:info@mbetaunton.co.uk)



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Taunton Chamber of Commerce



# THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS!

## Taunton shoppers



### ...we need your help!

**SCC** SOMERSET  
COUNSELLING  
CENTRE

Thank you to **Tesco**

# Stronger Starts

## YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH IN SOMERSET FOR FREE WHEN YOU SHOP AT TESCO!

Somerset Counselling Centre has been shortlisted for Tesco's Stronger Starts scheme, which provides funding to local causes that make a real difference in their communities.

We are calling on Tesco shoppers in Taunton to lend their support. Every vote will help us secure vital funding to provide affordable counselling for 11-15-year-olds who need mental health support. Voting is now open and will continue through the Christmas shopping period until mid-January 2026.

**How you vote for us:** Each time you shop at Tesco, simply collect a blue token at the till or near the self-service checkouts, and place it in the voting box by the exit. By choosing Somerset Counselling Centre, you are directly supporting young people's mental health and wellbeing in our community.

You can vote for us at the following stores:

- **Galmington Taunton Express (TA1 4TY)**
- **Taunton Superstore (TA1 4AB)**
- **Lisieux Way Express (TA1 2PD)**
- **Rex Taunton Express (TA1 3ES)**
- **Taunton High Street (TA1 3PN)**
- **Priorswood Road Express (TA2 7PS)**

Every token counts. Together, we can make a real difference for Somerset's young people. If you would like to find out more about the work that we do both as a counselling service and a charity, you can find out more here: [www.scctaunton.org.uk](http://www.scctaunton.org.uk)

Please share far and wide in your network, and with your staff, family, and friends.



branding • menus • flyers • posters • banners • brochures • stationery



# designbean.co.uk

graphic design with a personal touch





## **RICHARD HUISH COLLEGE AND STEPHENS SCOWN LLP LAUNCH LEGAL SKILLS PROGRAMME TO EMPOWER FUTURE LAWYERS**

Richard Huish College and the Huish Law School are thrilled to announce the launch of a pioneering Legal Skills Programme, developed in partnership with leading South West law firm Stephens Scown. This initiative offers students a unique opportunity to gain the practical skills most valued by legal employers.

### **Programme highlights:**

- Six expert-led Sessions delivered across the academic year
- Focus on client care, professional communication, and effective networking
- Designed with direct input from legal professionals
- Certificate awarded upon successful completion of all sessions.

Course Manager Rowena Mudge: *"This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to grow and learn alongside a well-respected local firm. Stephens Scown's generous donation in both time, expertise and experience, along with £500 towards our enrichment programme allows students to gain invaluable experience and earn a certificate that will really stand out on future applications."*

Alistair Tudor, Head of the Transformation and Client Delivery team at the firm, says: *"In the fast-developing legal marketplace, it is vital for future legal advisors to develop more than just their academic and theoretical knowledge of the law. The Legal Skills Programme aims to support and develop an understanding of the mechanics of how a lawyer works but also to support students with the softer skills required around networking, people management, conflict resolution, problem solving, and above all, being able to deliver outstanding client service. We look forward to sharing how we put our clients' experience right at the heart of the business, and how delivering an outstanding client journey from first enquiry to matter completion can help you stand out in a crowded marketplace."*



## **UCS COLLEGE GROUP WINS PRESTIGIOUS SKILLS COLLABORATION INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

UCS College Group is proud to announce that its Nuclear team, in partnership with EDF Energy and the Fleet Air Arm Museum Yeovilton, has been awarded the 2025 Skills Collaboration Initiative of the Year Award at the Energy & Utility Skills Awards, held at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole earlier this month.

The annual Energy & Utility Skills Awards have become one of the most highly anticipated events in the energy industry's calendar, celebrating innovation, collaboration, and excellence in training and workforce development. This year's event brought together leading professionals and organisations committed to shaping the future of the UK's energy and utilities workforce.

Representatives from UCS College Group's Nuclear team attended the awards ceremony, celebrating alongside peers and partners from across the energy sector.

*"We are absolutely thrilled to receive this national recognition",* said Paul Goss, Assistant Principal of Clean Energy at UCS College Group. *"This award highlights the power of collaboration in delivering innovative, high-impact learning experiences for our apprentices. Working with EDF Energy and the Fleet Air Arm Museum has been a privilege, and we are proud of the difference this partnership continues to make."*

The award underscores UCS College Group's ongoing commitment to skills excellence and to building strong partnerships that inspire the next generation of energy professionals.

*Member Directory*

360 South West  
 4 Seasons Flooring  
 Academy ICT  
 A C Mole & Sons  
 Activate Fitness  
 AE Floor Restoration  
 Aisling Magill Photography  
 Albert Goodman  
 Alder King Consultant Surveyors  
 Alfies Landscapes Ltd  
 Amanda-Louise Funeral Services  
 Andrea Duncan Photography  
 Apple FM  
 Argent Partnership  
 Autumn Films  
 Averys Garden Centre  
 Azthetics / DentaQuest  
 Ballantine Wealth Management  
 Barclays Business, Taunton  
 Bath Place Traders Association  
 The Bear Inn Wiveliscombe  
 Be. Laser & Skin Clinic  
 Bellissimo Occasion Wear  
 Below Ground Solutions Ltd  
 Biddys by Soph  
 Best SME Awards  
 Bishop Fox's School  
 Black Bear Pub Group  
 Blackdown Financial  
 Blackdown Hearing  
 Blue Penguin Chartered Accountants  
 Bredons Sewing Machine Centre  
 Brewhouse Theatre & Arts Centre  
 Calverts (Taunton) Ltd  
 The Carew Arms Crowcombe  
 Carly Press  
 Castle Hotel (Taunton) Ltd  
 Centenary Lounge  
 Chadwick Business Centres  
 Channel Adventure CIC  
 Channel UK Events CIC  
 Charlotte Fisher Wellbeing Coaching  
 Cherwyn Developments Ltd  
 CICCIC  
 Clark Shaw Associates  
 Clarke Willmott  
 Cleaning Solutions UK  
 Confident Orthodontics  
 Cosmic  
 Cooper Associates  
 Corner House Hotel  
 Costgard Ltd  
 County Walk Shopping Centre  
 Crescent Funeral Services  
 Cullen's Catering  
 CulturaLinks CIC  
 Daffodil PR & Communications  
 Daisy Admin Services  
 Dan Kennedy Electrical  
 Dawn Booth Life Coach  
 Deckhouse  
 Design Bean  
 Design Hive  
 Diversity Voice  
 Dough Bros.  
 Drive IT  
 Dryad Gin  
 Easy IT Solutions  
 eat the bird  
 Eden May  
 edge+  
 Ellisons Commercial Training Ltd  
 Ellisons School of Motoring  
 EMR Business Management  
 Ethical Sales Pro  
 Everyys Solicitors  
 E White & Son (Taunton) Ltd  
 Fabric Sewn Beautiful  
 Fifiels Construction  
 Frameworx  
 Free to Lead  
 Frethey House Care Home  
 Fusion Dance Circus & Academy  
 GD Media  
 Gecho Agency  
 Genius PR & Events  
 Gideon Amos MP  
 Ginger & Pink  
 Go Create  
 Good Times App  
 Great Western Hotel  
 Green Catalyst Business Solutions  
 Greenslade Taylor Hunt  
 Gurds Menswear  
 Hatfield White Ltd  
 Heat 24 Ltd  
 Heritage IFC Ltd  
 Hickleys Ltd  
 Honey Legal - Lee Harrison  
 Idea 4 You Body Shop & Car Detailing  
 Il Basilico Restaurant  
 Imperial Finishes Antiques & Restoration  
 Imprints  
 In House Training & Consultancy Ltd  
 Inicio Architecture & Design  
 Initiis Ltd t/a Vodafone  
 Inspired Partnership Limited  
 Inspiring Success  
 Introtweet Ltd  
 Islands Restaurant  
 IZZI Stockton Bridal  
 Jane Amour Trading  
 Jen the Celebrant  
 Jewells of Taunton  
 JP Rata Ltd  
 Just Ceremonies  
 Katie Thomson Marketing  
 Kingstanton Coaching and Consulting  
 K & J Hodge Contractors Ltd  
 Lentells Chartered Certified Accountants



Lloyd & Whyte Community Broking  
LRT Medical Solutions  
Ludacrust Ltd  
Lula Wellness  
MAD Community CIC  
Mailboxes (Taunton) Etc  
Mainline Spirits  
Matvertise Media  
Meadow Somerset  
Michael Spiers Jewellers  
Mihaz  
Milsted Langdon  
Mini First Aid  
Moore Scarrott Limited  
Mountstephens Electrical  
Mr Miles Tearoom  
My Carbon Coach  
New Look Cleaning  
Newton Design.co  
New You CBT  
Next Stage Somerset  
Nexus Commercial Ltd  
NFU Mutual Taunton  
Nine Springs Clinic  
Nova Vox AI  
OEDDA Ltd  
Oerton Simm  
Olive Rose Contemporary Jewellery  
Orchard Shopping Centre  
Oxfam Bookshop  
P & P Auto Services  
Pardoes Solicitors  
Parker Tree Care Ltd  
PCN Computer Services  
Pearce Practice, Architects  
The Pocket Strategist  
Porter Dodson LLP  
Portt & Co

Professional Apprenticeships  
Professional Cloud Solutions  
The Property Centre  
Prosper Events  
Quantock Ecology Ltd  
Queen's College  
Rae & Co  
Reminiscence Learning  
Richard Huish College  
The Royal Oak Hillcommon  
Sangha House  
Sciath Personal Protection Training  
Shirt Attack  
SHOUT Agency  
Smith and Evans  
Solace Bookkeeping & Management  
Somerset AFD CIC  
Somerset Chocolate Co  
Somerset Counselling Centre  
Somerset Hearing  
Somerset Jobs  
Somerset NHS Foundation Trust  
Somerset Web Services  
Somerset Youth Theatre  
Sophisticatered  
Spotless Too Cleaning Co  
SRD Technology UK  
Stella Creations  
Steph Baker Marketing  
Stephens Scown LLP  
Stone + Partners  
Stone Artisan Pizza  
Study Sharpe  
Style by Louise  
Summerfield Developments SW  
Sunflower Social Media  
Survey Solutions  
Swan Hub

Tacchi Morris Arts Centre  
Talking Stick Digital  
Taunton & Pickeridge Golf Club  
Taunton Carnival Committee  
Taunton Flower Show  
Taunton Home Tech  
Taunton Independent Market  
Taunton School Enterprises  
Taunton Team Chaplaincy Trust  
Taunton Town Football Club  
Taunton Vale Sports Club  
Taunton Workwear  
Timeforge  
Time for You Cleaning Services  
Townley Insurance Brokers Ltd  
Tregenna Group  
Trust Inventory Ltd  
UA in UK Ukrainian Cafe  
University Centre Somerset  
Utility Warehouse – John Holden  
UCS College Group  
Visit Somerset  
Viva Business Support  
Walker Family Law  
Walpole Dunn  
Welch & Co  
Wessex Commercial  
The White Horse Bradford on Tone  
White Knight Marketing  
Whittlesea Mortgages  
Whizzy Wordworking  
Wig & Hair Clinic Taunton  
Wilkins Safety Group Ltd  
Worshipful Mayor of Taunton  
WPA PMI - Jon Goss  
WSRA Steam Rally Ltd  
Zest Payroll Ltd

# CARLY PRESS ADVERT

## RICHARD HOLT

[creativeinnovationcentre.co.uk](http://creativeinnovationcentre.co.uk)

"With over 30 years expertise in design management and Higher education, I've developed skills and expertise nationally and internationally which I employ to support new business start-ups, enabling innovation and enterprise strategies and the creation of supportive and sustainable networks. Through various memberships in local and regional government 'think tanks' I am able to inform and facilitate development strategies to support private and public sector growth in the area. My expertise in the creative sector allows me to create collaborative platforms where individuals and organisations can build sustainable enterprises which in turn create role models for further development and unlock potential. I also have insight into the trends in, and issues facing the creative sector in Taunton and across the region which I use to inform sector development in the region.

I am the business owner of a number of social enterprises such as the Creative Innovation Centre CIC (CICCIC), Core Business design and Arts Hub Taunton. I am also a director of GoCreate Taunton and help, promote and support cultural development in the town."



## LIVVI GRANT

[daffodilpr.co.uk](http://daffodilpr.co.uk)

"As someone who lives and works in Taunton, I'm passionate about supporting local businesses to thrive and tell their stories well. Through Daffodil PR, I work closely with a wide range of organisations, from councils to creatives, which gives me a broad view of the challenges and opportunities facing small businesses in our area. I also bring a creative perspective from my work as a photographer, with a real interest in community, connection and the power of good communication.

I run Daffodil PR together with my business partner and mother, Sharon. We are a Taunton-based communications agency, founded in 2018. We work with purpose-driven organisations and small businesses across Somerset and beyond to deliver thoughtful, values-led communications, from strategy to storytelling, events to engagement.

Alongside this, I am a portrait and documentary photographer, working on personal and commissioned projects across the UK that explore place, identity and ritual."



## COLIN BARRELL

[mr-miles.co.uk](http://mr-miles.co.uk)

"I am able to bring insight into the hospitality and retail industry with personal day to day operational experience and regular communication with Town centre businesses. I instigate regular meetings with political leaders of the Taunton Town Council, the Unitary Authority and our M.P. I also set up meetings with Avon & Somerset Police, the regional Police & Crime Commissioner and other agencies to promote improvements in Taunton as a shopping, socialising and business centre.

I am the business owner of Mr Miles Tea Rooms, having operated in Taunton for the past 15 years and previously Franchisee of McDonald's for 17 years. I have experience and training in a wide range of disciplines including accounts, marketing, public relations, human resources, service procurement and many other business skills. We currently serve breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea, host parties, functions and business meetings. We also supply a huge range of teas, in-house roasted coffees, and other beverages both from our retail shop and to trade customers."



## ADAM FRAMPTON

[lloydwhytecommunity.com](http://lloydwhytecommunity.com)

"I bring a knowledge of the individual and company insurance market. I also bring insight into the trends in Private Medical Insurance (PMI), and the issues facing Taunton and across the region. I have lived in Taunton most of my life and have a family that was born and grew up in Taunton so have a real fondness of Taunton and the local area.

Lloyd & Whyte have been a mainstay of Taunton since 1973, offering insurance services to individual and companies alike. As part of the Benefact group our number 1 goal is to give and support charities and fundraising, we have given over £250 million to good causes since 2014.

I look after PMI for both individual and company policies, with over 24 years' experience in the industry, offering an expert, friendly and local approach to all of my clients. With the recent struggles and waiting time with the NHS, PMI can offer you the peace of mind by accessing quick and effective treatment, whilst also being a great addition to any employee benefits package, helping with the recruitment and retention of employees."

