

# The Winners



## Gosport Business Awards 2024



# They're the business!



Revealed: Who's won in each category at our inaugural event





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# Gosport Business Awards 2024



## Our overall winners have Blitz-ed it to take home the night's top prize

Gosport heralded its best and brightest businesses at an awards ceremony celebrating those that have made a big impact in the community.

The first ever Gosport Business Awards 2024 took place at the Jervis Gallery, St Vincent College.

Hopeful nominees from businesses across the borough turned up to network and celebrate the achievements of local businesses that have thrived in the past 12 months.

From breweries to baby clothes and book shops to bike repairs, the night demonstrated the diverse offering that local businesses provide in Gosport. Local entrepreneurs were able to mingle, network and celebrate what the local area has to offer.

Gosport Borough Council staged the awards in partnership with 22Midnight, St Vincent College, *The News*, and headline sponsor StandardAero.

*The News'* publishing editor, Mark Waldron, hosted the awards.

He said: "*The News* enjoys nothing more than celebrating the successes of our local communities and that includes shining the spotlight on those businesses which are really



David Steer (right) from StandardAero with winners Steve and George Reid from Blitz Photography who are the Overall Business of the Year award

“

We are delighted to be bringing that focus right into the heart of Gosport

making a difference.

"We are delighted to be bringing that focus right into the heart of Gosport to showcase the incredible businesses it has to offer."

There were nine awards handed out celebrating independent businesses.

That included an overall business of the year award which was selected from the night's winners. That accolade went to Blitz Photography owned by husband-and-wife team, Steve and Georgina Reid.

Steve said: "We were blown away to be honest.

"We entered the creative category as that's what we do, but to win the overall business of the year, when there are so many amazing businesses here in Gosport, that just completely blew our minds. We are so happy and so grateful."

### Sponsors

The News



StandardAero



## Our headline sponsor explain why they wanted to be involved

Here at StandardAero we were delighted to support and celebrate our local community and business neighbours as the primary sponsor of the 2024 Gosport Business Awards.

We believe these businesses, that are the pride and joy of their owners and employees should be celebrated as pillars of the community, delivering goods and services that benefit not only the residents of Gosport, but also the economic prosperity of the area. These companies showcase the best of human spirit to succeed, innovate, provide and progress and by celebrating these achievements together, we can inspire lots more of all of that for the coming year.

We would like to thank all the businesses that participated, all whom

deserve recognition and praise for their efforts over the past year. However, in the spirit of friendly and supportive competition, we would like to send our sincere congratulations to all the category winners who stood out amongst the very worthy and strong competition. Our special congratulations of course are extended to the overall GBA 2024 winner, Blitz Photography. Well done!

StandardAero, located on the Fleetlands site off Fareham Road is the largest employer in Gosport and a global, world leading aviation Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) company. Our work at Fleetlands includes depth maintenance support to the RAF Chinook helicopter fleet and MRO activities of a range of gas turbine engines from all

over the world. The site has a rich heritage and history of community engagement and aviation engineering, beginning life as the Royal Naval Air Yard in 1940. We will continue to be socially responsible and actively engaged in our community, supporting local businesses, charities, education establishments and welfare groups. We will champion our hometown on any stage we can and endeavour in the future to bring even more jobs, investment and success to the Gosport area.

Our final thanks go to the organisers of the GBA 2024. To the teams at St Vincent College, 22 Midnight, The News and all the sponsors who contributed time, effort and finances. We look forward to the ongoing success and growth of this event for years to come.



From left, StandardAero's Simon Jones and David Steer, with Kate Stanley-Harrison and Bev Flanagan



# Gosport Business Awards 2024

StandardAero



## Independent Small Business of the Year: Indelible Ink Custom Tattoo

Worthy winners of this award are the Indelible Ink Custom Tattoo Studio, of whom our judges said: "A well-established and award-winning business which is inking the name of Gosport on the international map." Also commended in this category were My First

**The News**

Steps. Judges said: "One to watch! Fairly new kids on the block but an expanding, environmentally conscious business selling sustainable

and ethical baby products." And P&J's Cash and Carry were also singled out for a commendation in a busy field.



## Commitment to Supporting Talent in Business: Chill and Charge

Chill and Charge were picked as winners because of their "involvement with the Kickstart program, offering an opportunity to a young job seeker with no office experience. Subsequently, they were considerate around her and other employees childcare needs, supporting and progressing their careers

**StandardAero**

whilst offering flexible working." Langdale Nursing Home were commended for supporting and up-skilling staff gaining QCCF levels 2-5 and becoming a 'Real

Living Wage' employer in 2023. Also commended were Wickham Micro Ltd for their apprenticeship program with HSDC including winning Apprentice of The Year Jordan Richards - making history as first apprentice to receive a promotion while still completing his studies.

[WWW.POWDERMONKEYBREWING.COM](http://WWW.POWDERMONKEYBREWING.COM)



## There's no monkeying around for this fine craft beer brewery

This marriage of tradition and creativity is reflected in our range of beers as our Head Brewer Mark Hamblin enjoys delving into the history of different beer styles before re-imagining them with modern twists utilising a background in biochemistry under the ethos: 'Great beers are

born where science meets creativity'. Our core beers focus on styles that bring bold flavours while retaining drinkability for beers that are 'sessionable with substance'. This core range spans hop-forward IPAs and pale ales as well as lagers and

stouts. We also produce an ever-changing range of speciality beers that allow us to push the boundaries of beer styles, developing beers that has been brewed with ingredients such as osmanthus flowers, pine needles and hibiscus to list just a few!



# Gosport Business Awards 2024



## Best Use of Heritage in Business: Powder Monkey Brewery

Judges said of the winners, Powder Monkey Brewery: "Heritage is the DNA of this business as demonstrated by its name, branding - both for the company and its beers - and choice of buildings for its Gosport base. Two nationally important buildings, one Grade II\*

and one Grade II have been repurposed into a brewery, visitor centre and tap house to become significant additions to the heritage destination offer at Priddy's Hard. "The ethos of the company's brand and the names of its beers proudly celebrate the

naval history of Priddy's Hard and Gosport and are an innovative way of promoting both, particularly to new audiences."

Also commended were Lightship Restaurant and Portsmouth Historic Quarter (Adventure Prospect).



## Independent Retail Business of the Year: The Book Shop, Lee-on-the-Solent

Winners, The Book Shop, took the prize according to judges, because: "They are a historic landmark in Lee-on-the-Solent and a business which creates community and reminds people of the importance

of reading and community spirit. They donated 800 books last year to encourage children to read. "This company are innovative in their approach to competing

with big online retailers such as Amazon and have grown a strong customer base who support and promote their growth." Also commended were GC Bike Repairs and The Bridal Hall



## Frost Creative celebrates Gosport's business excellence

At Frost, we're passionate about helping businesses, of every scale tell their stories - that's why we're thrilled to be a sponsor of the Gosport Business Awards, celebrating the town's vibrant community and the exceptional

companies that drive its success. These awards shine a light on innovation, dedication, and creativity - qualities we value deeply in our own design process. We're inspired by Gosport's businesses, both

established and emerging, who push boundaries and leave a lasting impression. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners! Your achievements are a testament to the exciting potential of Gosport's business landscape.

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## The value is in the difference

Every brand has a unique story to tell. We'll help you to define yours.

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# Gosport Business Awards 2024



## Independent Hospitality Business of the Year: **The Four-Ale Taproom**

The Four-Ale Taproom Ltd took the trophy home, as judges said: "The Bull family won for their impressive growth from a modest start to a multi-venue business in a short space of time, as well as for their connection to the community's heritage with their Hovercraft seat booths, and wide range of non-alcoholic beverages."

### DAEDALUS WATERFRONT

Powder Monkey Brewery was commended for "their impressive, international growth while keeping their heart in Gosport through involvement in community events and connection to community heritage." Sisters Inn Arms, T/A

The Alverbank were also commended for "their rescue of an historic building, their resilience through the challenges during Covid, and clearly providing an excellent service to their clients."



## Independent Cultural Business of the Year: **Blitz Photography**

The first of two awards for Blitz Photography, who also took the overall Business of The Year title. Judges said: "An impressive husband and wife team providing a great photography service to the people of Gosport



and surrounding areas. They have won impressive photography awards and work in a culturally diverse

environment. They are actively involved in the Gosport community with organising and being part of local activities." Also commended were Jones' Creative Services Ltd and Imagistic.



Daisy First Aid, highly commended in the Start Up Business of the Year award



C2U Gosport CIC highly commended in the Start Up Business of the Year award



The Sister Inn Arms highly commended for the Independent Tourism & Hospitality Business of the Year award



P&J's Cash and Carry who were highly commended for Small Business of the Year award.



# Gosport Business Awards 2024



## Commitment to Sustainability Award: My First Steps

Judges singled out My First Steps as winners "for their dedication to sustainable practices throughout their business. "They prioritise ethically sourced, eco-friendly products for babies and the planet. "From GOTS-certified organic cotton clothing to FSC-managed wood toys,



they champion responsible materials and production methods. "They also actively promote

the local high street, reducing unnecessary deliveries and packaging. Furthermore, their focus on quality and longevity encourages reusability and reduces waste. "Their commitment to sustainability education through local outreach further strengthens their positive impact."



## Start-up Business of the Year: Anchored In Gosport

Judges selected Anchored In Gosport as Start-up Business of The Year with less than two years under their belts because of their "overall approach and growth – bringing something to all of the community and opening up opportunities for other businesses to engage."



Also commended were Daisy First Aid Gosport & Fareham for their

"targeted approach, bringing specialist skill sets in an under resourced area." And C2U Gosport CIC were commended for "Making a difference in the community and supporting those that need it, focusing on healthy eating for families."



## A site brimming with history – and looking towards a bright future

Daedalus Waterfront is a 17 hectare former naval barracks in the heart of Lee-on-the-Solent. For nearly 70 years HMS Daedalus was a source of extraordinary pride, energy and innovation. This prominent military base played a crucial role in the Second World War – most notably as the busiest airfield on D-Day. Throughout its active life, HMS Daedalus was home and workplace to thousands, the engine of an entire community and a point of pride for the nation.

Now, Daedalus Development Company is seeking to once again make Daedalus a crucial part of Lee-on-the-Solent, offering a link to its military history, and providing a world-class leisure destination celebrating 100 years of innovation and ingenuity. The first phase of this jobs-led, mixed-use masterplan generates around 240 full-time jobs to the area, through the creation of new, modern employment, industrial space and commercial space. Another priority for the project is to save

the heritage buildings and bring much needed homes to the area. The whole masterplan will create 270 new homes and refurbish the heritage buildings into a further 76 homes. The project will open up new public squares and parks, adding over five acres of new public space to the area. Daedalus Development Company is delighted to sponsor the Gosport Business Awards and support the local, growing businesses that will be key to future of Daedalus Waterfront.

# DAEDALUS WATERFRONT

Bringing innovation, energy and pride back to Daedalus



For more information, please visit [daedaluswaterfront.com](https://daedaluswaterfront.com)



# Gosport Business Awards 2024

## What an amazing night!

Here are a few more pictures capturing the evening's atmosphere at the awards, which took place in the Jervis Gallery at St Vincent College in Gosport. We hope this will become a regular fixture in the local business calendar and we hope to see you all again next year, celebrating the amazing businesses in the region. All pictures: Sarah Standing

