Enterprising Futures Conference

PROGRAMME

Barnes Theatre & Hodgson Hall Friday 3rd May 2024 9.00am–1.00pm





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- 9.00am 9.15am Introduction, Chris Wain
- 9.15am 10:00am Keynote Speaker, Phil Carroll
- **10.15am 11.00am** Workshop One
- 11.00am 11.25am Break Time
- 11.30am 12.15pm Workshop Two
- 12:20pm 1:00pm
- Q&A with the speakers and closing comments





Introduction

'An *entrepreneur* is an individual who creates a new business, bearing most of the risks and enjoying most of the reward'.



You may have family members who run their own businesses. You may want to do this yourself one day. Even if you do not, the skills you need to successfully run your own enterprise are transferable to multiple professions; teamwork, creativity, problem solving, customer service, resilience, leadership, the list goes on.

Our annual Enterprising Futures Conference is an exciting programme for the Third Form, where business owners and entrepreneurs in the making are offering their valuable time to share their stories of enterprise and sow the seeds of what your future could look like in an ever changing workplace. Phil, our Keynote Speaker, will reflect on the challenges he faced and brilliantly overcame, and is joined by fourteen inspiring individuals who have designed workshops for you, to bring skills for the workplace to life.

The conference will conclude with a Q+A session, where you can discover how the speakers started their business journeys and learnt valuable skills along the way. What work experience did they do? What challenges did they face at school? Who inspired them? The conference is a chance to learn how to develop your own enterprising future. We are also delighted to welcome pupils from The Priory, William Brookes and Hadley Learning Community in what will be a fantastic event.

Come with a positive attitude, plenty of energy and be sure to thank our visitors for their valuable time.

Chris Wain, Head of Futures





Phil Carroll - Keynote Speaker

Phil always loved metals, especially when molten at 2000 Celsius. His academic background is a PhD in material science and for several years developed 3D printing materials and components for aerospace and F1. Realising that being told what to do wasn't working, he established LPW Technology to develop and sell metals for 3D printing. With factories in the U.K., US, and Japan, within 10 years LPW's metals were in rocket engines, hip implants, and F1 cars. They developed equipment and software that managed the printers and predicted the properties of the components being made. As CEO, new skills in developing strategies, inspiring employees, appreciating differing global cultures, and persuading investors to part with their cash were honed. Then deciding retirement by the age of 40 was the target, he sold the business in 2018 for \$81M.





Workshops

1. Saffron Sumner: Utilising self-employment to build the life you want

In this workshop pupils will learn about the key skills required to successfully run their own business, and work in groups for a series of interactive activities.

2. Hollie Whittles: Skills For Life

This workshop will help you to identify core skills needed to prepare for the world of work. We will also look at how to develop a growth mindset and approach to lifelong learning. These tactics will form part of your essential work-ready toolkit that will help you to stand out and impress future employers setting you up for success!

3. Ed Johnson: Speed Mentoring and Power of Knowledge Shared

Great entrepreneurs, business leaders and professionals have mentors, but what is mentoring and how can it benefit you? Explore an introduction to mentoring tips, tricks and recommendations, with a speed mentoring session to share knowledge, experience and ideas.



4. Kay Heald: Teamwork Challenge

Good teamworking skills are essential to the success of any group of people whether at school, playing sports or in the workplace. This session is all about understanding your teamwork preferences - you will be asked to take part in a timed team challenge and given an opportunity to reflect on the effectiveness of your teamwork skills and that of your fellow pupils!

5. David F George: AI & The Future of Work

This interactive workshop will allow pupils to explore the opportunities and threats that AI poses to the world of work. Pupils will work through, in small groups, a selection of scenarios to enhance their knowledge and understanding of the potential future impact of AI.

6. Charlie Thurstan: Founders Mentality

Do you like being told what to do, or do you prefer making your own decisions? Are you brave enough to do your own thing? Using true stories of men and women who rebelled, took insane risks and flatly refused to give up, Charlie will share some fundamental lessons that he wishes he'd known when he was a teenager.

7. Kaye Heseltine: Promoting a small business

In this session we are going to think like graphic designers. Graphic design is all about problem solving. With that in mind you are going to use your design skills to create a leaflet promoting the services of a small business in Shropshire. I will talk you through all the elements you'll need to consider then set you a brief. I'm looking forward to seeing what you produce!

8. David Farley: Developing your Character

To properly fulfil your potential, it helps to start by understanding yourself. Expect an interactive session to assist you in recognising the skills and qualities most sought after by employers; before considering how you can develop your own character to optimise your chances of success in your chosen path.

9. Chris Williams: An introduction to pitching and how to present your ideas with impact

The difference between a good and a great pitch or presentation is down to delivery. If you can't inspire the room, you won't be memorable. This practical session will empower participants to learn and practice what it takes to create a compelling, powerful pitch.

10. Theo Millward: Finding your Entrepreneurial Spark

Ever wondered where some of the most successful ideas in the world come from? In this session, you will be in the driving seat. Working together as a team with your fellow pupils, you will explore a variety of techniques to help you search for a hidden opportunity that might just be the next big thing!

11. Tom Fletcher Wilson: Effective Communication

Even in a world of AI and ChatGPT, communication skills are still vital for job interviews, to your teachers or classmates. This session will showcase critical techniques to inform, convince and describe your thoughts and ideas. You will learn how to communicate who you are, what you aim to achieve, and how you can add value in specific scenarios.

12. Hayley Yarnley: The Importance of Body Language and Non-Verbal Cues

In this workshop pupils will reflect on how they interact with their relationships around them and learn techniques to help support positive communication moving forward.



13. Ryan Smith: Be Money Wise

In this session we will be looking at the benefits of developing good financial habits early and looking at whether the students consider themselves to be savers or spenders. No matter whether you are a saver or a spender, budgeting is an important skill and this workshop will run an exercise around essential vs discretionary spending.

14. Charlie Rogers: Are You a Multipotentialite?

If you're unsure how to answer "what do you want to be when you're older?" and find that you have too many passions that leave you feeling like a jack of all trades, but a master of none, this is the workshop for you. In it you'll discover whether you're a multipotentialite, what your strengths are and how you can use them to shape a squiggly career in your 20s.





Our Speakers





Tom Fletcher Wilson (OS)

Tom Fletcher-Wilson is the founder of Lawyerism and BeMotu. In addition to his entrepreneurial ventures, Tom is a national title-winning hockey coach for universities and clubs in London, a competitive open-water swimmer, and was recognised as one of the top ten leaders in the UK by Deloitte.

Tom's expertise in leadership, business development, and communication is crucial to his mission of helping law firms and corporations grow their revenue and skills. By combining these skills, he assists businesses in thriving in today's competitive market.

■ lawyerism.co.uk

Charlie Rogers (OS)

Charlie is on a mission to empower individuals with many interests to thrive in the future of work. To do this, he works four days a week as a Founders Associate at The Portfolio Collective, where they help 10,000+ members create thriving portfolio careers, earning through more than one source of income. Then he spends his 5th, 6th and 7th days building the 50-member strong Undefinable Community and writing his newsletter 'So What Do You Do' to 900+ readers, while sharing all that he learns both offline through keynote presentations at conferences and online to his 10k LinkedIn followers.

He does all this while juggling his career as a sponsored endurance athlete, where he placed 33/1115 at Ironman UK and 396/3935 at Ironman 70.3 World Champions in 2023. In 2024 he's focused on running sub 2hr 30min at the London Marathon before preparing for the age-group European Triathlon Championships in September, where he will be wearing a GB vest for the first time.

linkedin.com/in/realcharlierogers



Charlie Thurstan

Different Dog is an online subscription business for handcooked dog food. Having visited factories where processed dog food was made, Charlie and Alex (and their dog Crumble) decided they could make it better. From day one their mission has been to change dogs' lives with real food, and they're now feeding more than ten thousand dogs every day.

Previously Charlie was a jungle warfare instructor, investment banker, strategy consultant, dog food salesman and European champion at 800 metres (over- 40s age group). He has led a hurricane relief programme on a Caribbean island, set up a T-shirt business at university, and launched a pirate radio station while still at school.

differentdog.com



Dr David F. George

Dr. David F. George, a startup entrepreneur, has a passion for adventure and possesses a diverse international career. As the Founder and CEO of choiceMaster, his mission is to simplify complex decision-making processes with a focus on enhancing the online shopping experience. His goal is to empower shoppers to make well-informed product purchase choices, which will also lead to benefits to the online retailer as direct result of enhancing their customers' experience.

David's professional journey includes roles at renowned global corporations such as IBM, BMW, Ford, Mercedes-Benz Group, and Barclays Bank. These experiences have enriched his expertise in AI and Knowledge Engineering, allowing him to demonstrate the practical and valuable applications of these technologies across a range of industries, including banking, insurance, and automotive.

choicemaster.org



Ed Johnson (OS)

Ed Johnson is the CEO & Co-Founder of PushFar, the world's leading mentoring platform. By the end of 2022, PushFar had enabled more than 1.5 million hours of mentoring to take place and in July 2023, PushFar was acquired by London-based private equity firm ScaleUp Capital.

Named as one of Forbes 30 under 30 for 2022 in Social Impact, Ed works with leading HR and learning teams, while mentoring startup entrepreneurs and speaking publicly about mentoring, coaching, entrepreneurship and online business growth. Ed's appearances include the BBC, Forbes, Telegraph, The Sun, The Mirror, Yahoo News, Metro and Huffington Post.

edjohnson.co.ukpushfar.com





Hollie Whittles

Hollie Whittles is an award winning TEDx speaker, author and Director of two digital companies - Purple Frog Systems and FraggleWorks. She is also the National Policy Skills champion for the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB). Spending more than 7000 hours speaking to audiences across the UK and internationally, she has helped hundreds of businesses to digitally transform.

In 2023, Hollie was nominated as a finalist in two categories of the Digital Women awards being held in October. In 2021, she was a finalist in the CompTIA UK Spotlight Awards for her work in the UK Business Technology Community by CompTIA. In 2020, she was named as one of the top 40 Women in Tech by Digital Women and won the national WomanWho awards in the business networking category. She was presented with a certificate from the British Computer Society for her work in the UK digital industry in 2018. In 2014, Hollie was voted one of the Top 50 Women in Tech by PCR Online and was Woman of the Year finalist.

purplefrogsystems.comfraggleworks.com





Theo Millward (OS)

Theo Millward is an Old Salopian (PH 98-03) and a graduate of Lancaster University with a BBA in Management. Since purchasing his first business in 2016, the UK's largest swim school, Swimtime, Theo has gone on to both start and acquire several businesses. There are currently six businesses in Theo's portfolio ranging from Software, Pet Care, Training and Children's Activities. Outside of business Theo is a keen amateur racing driver, skier, Theatre fanatic and avid traveller.

swimtime.org



Christopher Williams (OS)

Chris Williams is the founder of Tiggo Care, an awardwinning home care business in London that supports adults living in their own homes, and a Venture Partner at Pioneer Fund, one of the most active seed stage investors in the world. Previously Chris worked as a strategy consultant at Kearney and as a venture capitalist at Oxford Sciences Enterprises. He has a BA in Human Sciences and an MSc in Epidemiology from Oxford University.

■ tiggocare.com



David Farley

Based in Shropshire, David has been working as an independent Agribusiness consultant since 2017. Passionate about food and farming, he applies the knowledge and expertise drawn from working across UK and International supply-chains through his consultancy, AgriEnable delivering change for food and farming clients.

Specialising in the leadership and delivery of collaborative projects, he works with clients ranging from Agri-tech start-ups and family businesses to DEFRA, major retailers and FareShare, the UK's largest distributor of surplus food to those in need.

With food security, climate change and supply-chain transparency firmly on the broader agenda, David's approach is to work with clients in aligning their people with strategy and technology, enabling them to deliver the changes required to secure both an environmentally and financially sustainable future.

■ agrienable.co.uk





Kay Heald

Kay has over 25 years' experience helping businesses with their employment and HR (human resources) issues. Kay started her career in London and relocated to Shropshire in 2005, where she set up her own HR Consultancy, specialising in working with small, micro and family businesses. Over the last 19 years, Kay has worked with local organisations to find practical and tailored HR and training solutions to their personnel issues and problems, keeping them on the right side of employment law and promoting good HR practice. Kay is a keen supporter and advocate for small businesses, providing local commentary, talks and workshops on relevant HR and employment issues, including wellbeing at work, managing people and purpose driven business.

■ kayhealdhr.co.uk

■ linkedin.com/in/kay-heald-fcipd-97657214



Saffron Sumner

Saffron is the founder of hhac, a non-profit organisation that hosts fundraising events to raise money for charity work. They partner with charities to help vulnerable individuals and animals. She is also a freelance PR and has been running a business for the last 3 years.

Outside of work, Saffron loves health, fitness, and selfimprovement. She part-time home schools her younger sister (12), socialises with friends and family, and takes care of her Great Dane. Saffron enjoys travel and seeing the world!

■ linkedin.com/in/saffron-sumner





Kaye Heseltine

Kaye works with businesses to help them stand out and attract customers through the design of printed marketing material such as logos, leaflets, brochures, banners and packaging. Good design matters, it's more than just making something look 'pretty'. It takes strategy and a plan of how to use a company's brand to promote their product or services. Kaye believes in simple, clean, clear and effective design that helps build trust and create demand.

Having worked 'in house' as a graphic designer for over 20 years Kaye decided it was time to work for herself and Kaye Heseltine Design was born. Running her own business has been exciting, rewarding and challenging but she wouldn't change it for the world!

kayehdesigns.co.uk

linkedin.com/in/kayehdesigns







Ryan Smith

Ryan first moved into the Financial Industry is 2018 and is a fully qualified Financial Planner. Having initially studied engineering, Ryan brings that same analytical approach to financial planning, referring to it as 'financial engineering', the art of finding simple solutions to complex problems. He is passionate about applying his experience in coaching and finance to create effective, efficient, and relatable financial plans for his clients.

penneyfinancialpartners.co.uk



Hayley Yarnley

Hayley has had the privilege to support many children and families over 20 years in a number of settings. A few years ago, she felt it was time to take a leap of faith and set up her own business offering a holistic and unique package of support for each child and family. Yarnley Therapy Hub was born, still growing and, most importantly, still learning!

Offering a number of creative therapies, trauma informed techniques, therapeutic family support and trainings/ lectures for students and professionals. Hayley remains passionate about every child and their families having the fundamental right to feel safe, live in hope and find joy in their day-to-day life.

■ linkedin.com/in/hayley-yarnley-492733234





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