



BUDGET SPECIAL 2021

We look at the October budget with contributions from a range of B4 members giving you their take on every aspect and lots more inside...



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With Rebecca Stein
of Charles Stanley

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Reducing your carbon footprint

With Richard Dorey of ESOx

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6 ways your website is driving customers away

With Alex Sayers of XIST 2

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Fit for purpose;
Fit for life
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WELCOME

In this issue we focus on the October budget with contributions from a range of B4 members giving you their take on every aspect of the budget.

We also look inside the mind of an investment manager with Rebecca Stein of Charles Stanley and get a glimpse inside Grant Thornton's next generation hybrid office. We meet Christina Irons of Courtyard City Centre, find out how to reduce your carbon footprint with Richard Dorey of ESOx and much more.

There's also a recap of our increasingly popular weekly Digests which cover a range of topics from sustainability to sales & marketing.

Enjoy Issue 3.

Best wishes



Richard Rosser, CEO, B4



BUDGET SPECIAL 2021

Chancellor Rishi Sunak last week delivered his autumn budget as the nation recovers from the COVID pandemic, growing uncertainty about future lockdowns, supply shortages and with a growing cost of living crisis looming.

B4 Members provide their expert professional and personal comments on this year's Autumn Budget.

We've got insight from accountancy firms Wenn Townsend, Wellers, Whitley Stimpson, Grant Thornton, CRM, The M Group and

Seymour Taylor but also a legal perspective from Freeths, Blake Morgan and BHO. Charles Stanley Wealth Managers give an account of the impact on personal finances and investments and we have Rowan Waller analysing the impact of the budget on property.



READ / WATCH THE SPECIAL HERE

NEWS



Go Meet Abingdon, at The Lambourn Business Centre

Go Meet networking breakfasts are coming to The Lambourn Business Centre this November. The first event is taking place on Tuesday 23rd November, 8am to 10am. Tickets are just £15 (including breakfast) or free to attend for Mantle tenants. Our guest speakers on 23rd November are Katrina Sargent and Gill Gayk. To book, visit eventbrite.co.uk and search for 'Go Meet Networking'...

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Team spirit drives return to offices at Jennings Monument Park

Return to the office driven by strength of staff fervour for return.

Jennings reports a return of tenants to serviced offices and a doubling of footfall to its on-site restaurant as a sense of normality returns to office life in Oxfordshire.

In one such example, Cadonix took on serviced offices at Hampden House in April 2020...

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Corporate team advises on major cross-border life sciences transaction

The Penningtons Manches Cooper corporate team has advised the shareholders of ATDBio on its sale to NASDAQ Stockholm listed Biotage AB. The purchase price was approximately £45m on a debt free and cash free basis.

ATDBio was founded in 2005 by Professor Tom Brown (Snr)...

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for purpose
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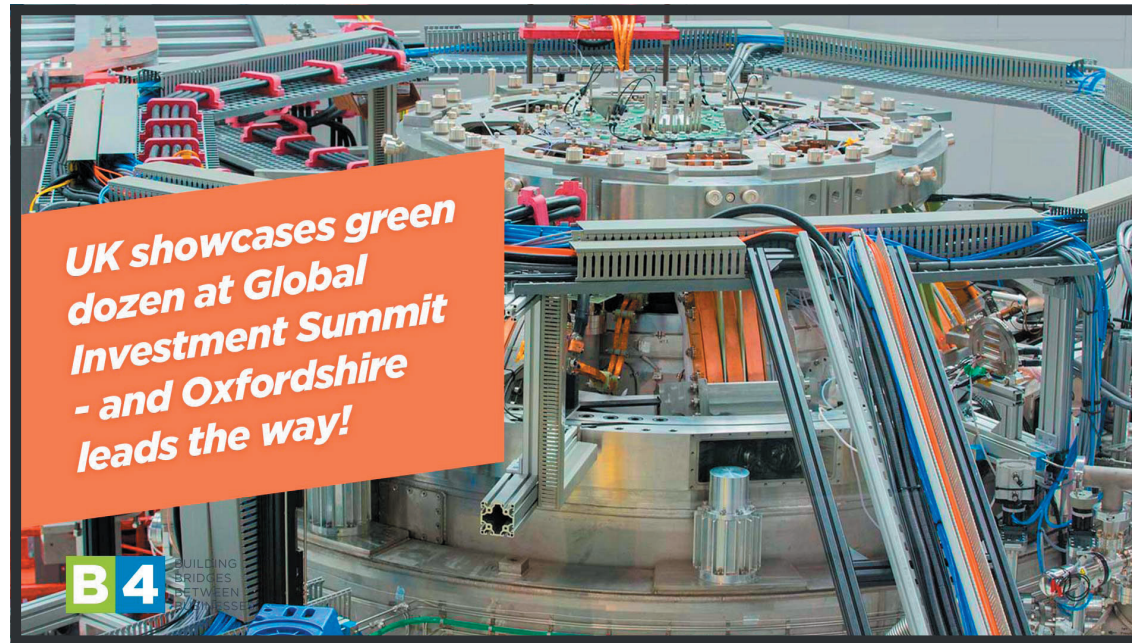
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NEWS



UK showcases green dozen at Global Investment Summit - and Oxfordshire leads the way!

UK showcases green dozen at Global Investment Summit – and Oxfordshire leads the way!

The UK Government has this week revealed 12 businesses from across the UK who will showcase their green technology and innovations at the Global Investment Summit. And Oxfordshire businesses will be leading the charge.

The Government-hosted Global Investment Summit, which takes place on 19 October...

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'Bus driving provided me with the perfect career change,' says former Army driver

'Bus driving provided me with the perfect career change,' says former Army driver

A Thames Travel bus driver who served in the British Army for more than two decades has described her career change as the “perfect way” to balance civilian life.

Claire Kelly-Parkin served as a driver in the Royal Logistics Corps, touring Afghanistan, Iraq, The Balkans and Northern Ireland until 2012...

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Activate Learning appoints new chief executive

Activate Learning appoints new chief executive

Sally Dicketts CBE will be succeeded by Gary Headland DL as the new CEO of Activate Learning on 1 April 2022.

Sally Dicketts informed the Activate Learning Corporation Board in May, that she will be stepping down after 18 years at the helm. Sally has worked in further education for more than 35 years...

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Local rugby club teams up with Oxford Brookes

A new partnership is giving students valuable hands-on experience alongside their physiotherapy studies at Oxford Brookes University.

The University has teamed up with Oxford Quins RFC to give ten final year BSc and MSc Physiotherapy students thirteen weeks of practical experience at the sports club....

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Perfect storm of supply chain issues threatens a winter of discontent, says UK mid-market

As major disruption to supply chains continues across the country, Grant Thornton UK LLP's latest Business Outlook Tracker* finds that a perfect storm of temporary and structural supply chain challenges, from changing Brexit regulations to production delays, are threatening to create a winter of discontent for UK businesses and consumers alike...

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Sustainability in the medical device sector: Owen Mumford's journey to B Corp certification

Sustainability in the medical sector. Sustainability is no longer a mere buzzword and is now increasingly a mandatory feature in corporate decision-making.

In the healthcare sector, ESG (Environmental-Social-Governance) credentials are becoming a fixture in tenders, pushing the supply chain to review operations...

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INSIDE THE MIND OF AN INVESTMENT MANAGER

REBECCA STEIN, INVESTMENT MANAGER AT CHARLES STANLEY TELLS US WHY AN INVESTMENT STRATEGY PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN MANAGING MARKET RISK.

Each client has a unique desired outcome from their investment portfolio. It could be investing to provide growth for retirement or future generations, or to provide an income to fund day-to-day living.

It is important that your investment manager has a deep understanding of your individual investment needs and aspirations. Risk comes in many forms and may mean different things to you as it does to your family and friends.

We specifically need to understand your personal risk appetite and capacity for loss so that we can create an investment solution which produces the appropriate risk-adjusted returns...

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CHARLES
STANLEY

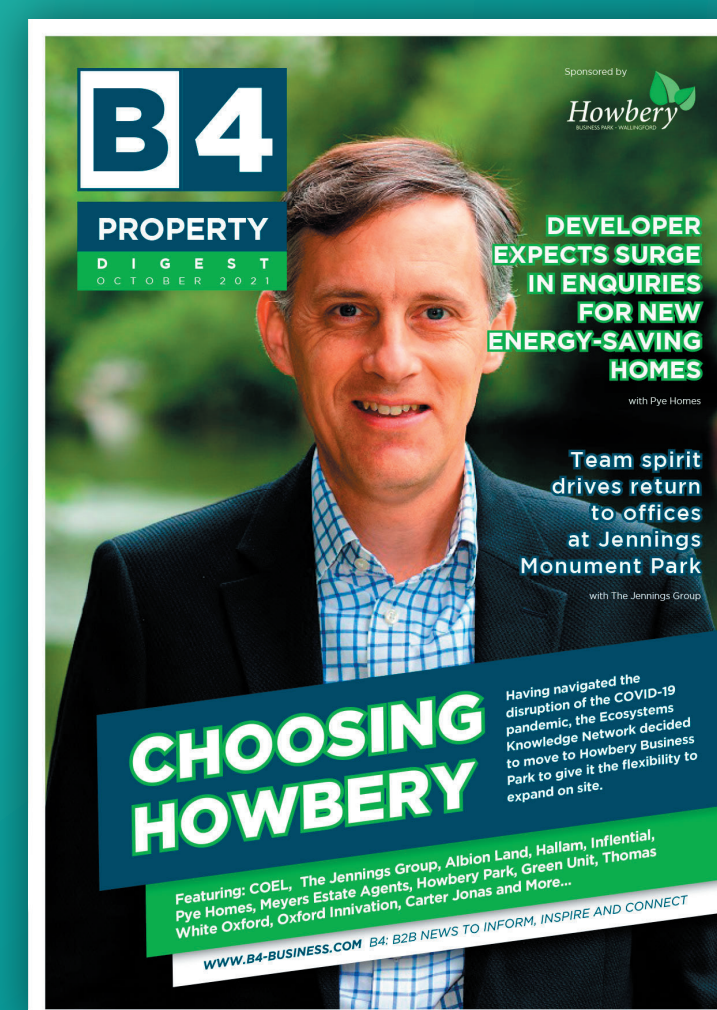


STEW GIBB

YOUR FOCUSED BUSINESS ROUND-UP

Our regular digests feature content already on the B4 website but delivered under a variety of topic headings.

Click on the covers to Read / Watch



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GRANT THORNTON DEBUTS NEXT GENERATION HYBRID OFFICE

ONE OF THE UK'S LEADING BUSINESS ADVISORY FIRMS IS LEADING THE WAY IN THE WORKPLACE EVOLUTION AS IT REVEALS A NEW FUTURISTIC OFFICE IN OXFORD FOR ITS THAMES VALLEY TEAM.

According to a recent survey by CIPHR, 72% of people would like to split their time between the workplace and working from home; Grant Thornton UK LLP's new Thames Valley base caters exactly for that change.

The 4,276 sq ft office based in Seacourt Tower was designed by Peldon Rose, which specialises in creating dynamic and collaborative workplaces. The project has had a collaborative approach from the outset, with Grant Thornton incorporating the opinions of its entire team, from trainees to partners, and then working with Peldon Rose to bring their vision to life...

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CHOOSE COURTYARD IN OXFORD CITY CENTRE

WITH MARRIOTT SALES MANAGER CHRISTINA IRONS

Christina talks to B4's Richard Rosser about this magnificent hotel located in the heart of Oxford City Centre.

With first class facilities and 151 bedrooms, this is a great choice for both leisure and corporate guests. Christina also points out the sustainable priorities of the hotel and the importance of working with local partners who share their sustainable vision.

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THE VIDEO](#)

IAN TRUESDALE APPOINTED UNIPART LOGISTICS MANAGING DIRECTOR

IAN TRUESDALE HAS BEEN APPOINTED MANAGING DIRECTOR OF UNIPART LOGISTICS, THE LOGISTICS AND SUPPLY CHAIN ARM OF UNIPART GROUP, ONE OF BRITAIN'S LARGEST INDEPENDENT COMPANIES IN THE SECTOR.

He succeeds Frank Burns, who has been named Executive Vice President, Unipart Group.

Truesdale joined Unipart in April as Managing Director, Group Strategy. He has more than 35 years of experience in operations and supply chain, with the last 16 years in senior international leadership positions within the logistics industry.

Most recently, Ian developed the integrated physical and digital supply chain and logistics strategy for NEOM, a state-of-the-art future smart city/region in Saudi Arabia...

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REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

WITH RICHARD DOREY OF
ENERGY SOLUTIONS OXFORD

Richard gives an overview of ESOx's services and how he and his colleagues can engage with you to help you reduce your carbon footprint.

Richard has a passion for introducing new and innovative technologies and solutions to the European market which drives his enthusiasm for the communications and IT market place...

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RISING TAX BURDEN THREATENS THAMES VALLEY GROWTH

ONE IN THREE (31%) MID-MARKET BUSINESSES BELIEVE THE INCREASED TAX BURDEN IS A TOP THREAT TO FUTURE GROWTH, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY AHEAD OF THE CHANCELLOR'S AUTUMN STATEMENT.

The findings from business advisory group Grant Thornton show that the increased tax burden is considered as big a challenge as digital security and cyber risk. They are based on the views of 605 businesses around the country.

Businesses have already been hit this year with the upcoming rise in corporation tax to 25%, announced in the March Budget, and the recent announcement of a rise in National Insurance from April 2022 to help fund the health and social care sectors...

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HELP YOUR BUSINESS TAKE OFF

WITH VERITY BLAKE, MANAGING DIRECTOR AT HEADON PR

Verity talks about the services provided by HeadOn PR and how businesses are having to become much more creative in gaining potential and existing customer's attention.

Off-line Verity is also seeing an increase in events including awards ceremonies and conferences, but clients realise they can't have a live event without on-line support, so, website, social media, video, podcasts and all of the other digital tools are being fully utilised to support physical events.

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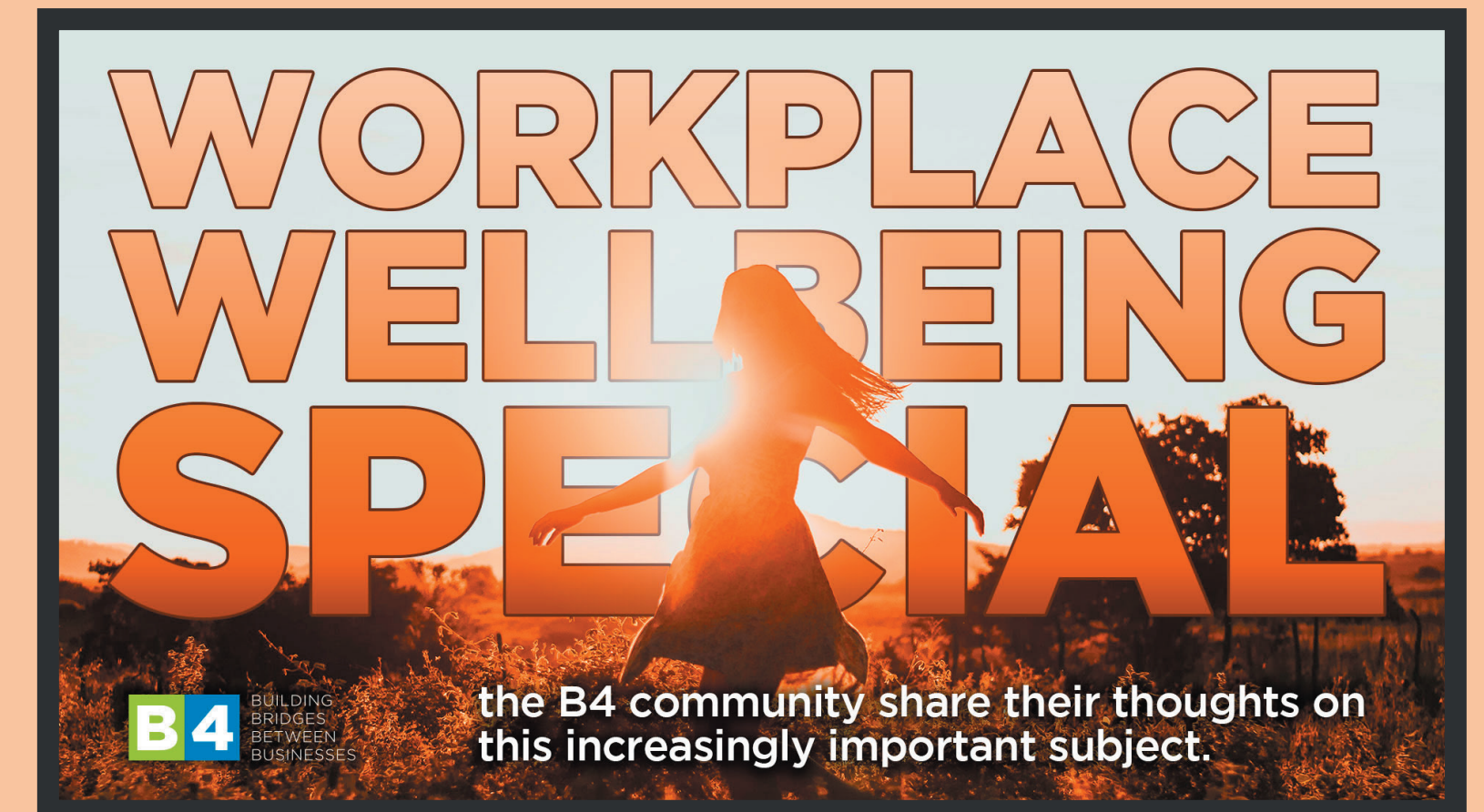
B4 WORKPLACE WELLBEING PODCAST

In this episode of the B4 Podcast we'll be discussing the increasingly important topic of Workplace Wellbeing with B4 Members, each offering their own unique perspective.

We're joined by Natalie Davis of The Wellbeing Generation, Frank Nigriello of Unipart, Mel Noton of 4Thought, Jackie Jarvis aka The Walking Business Coach, and Darren Aston of Aston & James.

[LISTEN HERE](#)

[CLICK TO LISTEN TO THE PODCAST](#)



OXFORD BROOKES WELCOMES AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG TO BRING BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2021 EVENTS TO A CLOSE

Politician, diplomat and activist Ambassador Andrew Young, will be delivering an online public lecture to conclude the University's celebration of Black History Month 2021.

Beginning his career as a pastor, Ambassador Young became an early and prominent leader in the civil rights movement in the USA, and was a close confidante to the late Martin Luther King Jr.

In the decades since, he has built a remarkable legacy as a civic activist, elected official, ambassador, social entrepreneur, and adviser to presidents...

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Contact the B4 team at info@b4-business.com for more information about cover features, video interviews, articles and advertising.

Issue 4 copy deadline date: Tuesday 30th November

OUTSOURCED FINANCIAL SERVICES

WITH MICHAEL PAWLEY OF
PROFICIO SOLUTIONS

Michael Pawley is the founder of Proficio Solutions which provides outsourced Finance Director/Chief Financial Officer services to a number of entrepreneurs and ambitious businesses, partnerships and LLPs who operate mainly in the professional service and legal sector, across the UK as well as in Europe, Hong Kong, USA and South America.

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The new Databasix UK catalogue... It is not just that!

As the final Quarter of 2021 is upon us and the Databasix team is delighted to provide you with visibility of our latest portfolio of products, services and free support and guidance on all things data protection.

And, to introduce you to their data management service. If you're scoping for data protection services with your budget in mind, this is a very helpful read!

Download, have a look around and don't hesitate to contact them.

[Download Here](#)



dbxuk.com



INTERVIEW

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WITH BLAKE MORGAN LLP

WITH BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER SAM PEERS

Sam is an experienced business development professional, with experience in a top accountancy firm and globally listed real estate business.

He now leads the business development in the Thames Valley for top 50 law firm Blake Morgan and is responsible for new business opportunities and expanding Blake Morgan's market presence across the Thames Valley.

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LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELLBEING

AS WE HEAD BACK TO A NEARLY NORMAL LIFE, WHILST LIVING WITH COVID-19, WE'RE ON A MISSION TO HELP OUR CLIENTS.

The statistics are worrying:

- People with Type 2 Diabetes have experienced deteriorating glycaemic control and weight gain.
- 41% of children reported feeling more stressed about schoolwork and exams.
- The UK's death rate from cancer could rise for the first time in decades according to 47 charities.

With this in mind, we wanted to let you know how the team at FOCUS can help you and your family. If you were diagnosed with a medical condition, would you want access to a second opinion from a specialist?

According to recent studies some patients claimed to have waited longer than two weeks to see their GP. You'll be pleased to know that your insurance policy could allow you access to a 24/7 virtual GP, 365 days a year. Furthermore, the 24/7 GP service may be able to issue private prescriptions. Easing your wait time to get professional help...

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CAMBRIDGE BUSINESSES CHAMPIONING COMMUNITY ACTION

Two huge packages arrived by express delivery at a local charity based in Milton recently. The Phoenix Trust supports people with learning disabilities and complex needs, through the provision of a meaningful experience of work and the development of social and life skills.

Phoenix is both a charity and a social enterprise, making a wide variety of products on site to sell to the public, from concrete paving slabs, garden ornaments, arbors and mud kitchens, to bird boxes, planters, trellises in all shapes and sizes.

When Neil Cook, Group Director at COEL (local design and fit-out company) and long-time volunteer and trustee at Phoenix, learnt that Martin Mace from Supplant (a plant tech company based at Cambridge Science Park) one of COEL's clients, no longer needed two storage cabins, he looked to find a way to put them to good use. Neil knew that the Phoenix required storage to keep their materials and products, secure, dry and protected – the cabins were the perfect solution...

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TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE

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BUILDING
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W E L C O M E T O A R T I C L E

CAN YOUR BUSINESS AFFORD CONFLICT IN THE OFFICE?

WILL COMPANIES FACE AN INCREASE IN CONFLICT AND DISPUTES NOW EMPLOYEES ARE FACING A RETURN TO THE WORKPLACE POST-COVID-19? WHAT IS THE COST OF CONFLICT IN THE WORKPLACE AND CAN WE REALLY AFFORD IT?

As the world starts to return to normal and organisations are starting to implement a return to the office, workplace conflict is on the rise. What are the issues for your people and how can these be positively addressed?

Conflict is defined as a clash of interests. Examples of conflict in the workplace include:

- Any form of bullying behaviour or harassment
- Any form of discriminatory behaviour
- Poor performance
- Poor attendance and timekeeping..

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6 WAYS YOUR WEBSITE IS DRIVING CUSTOMERS AWAY

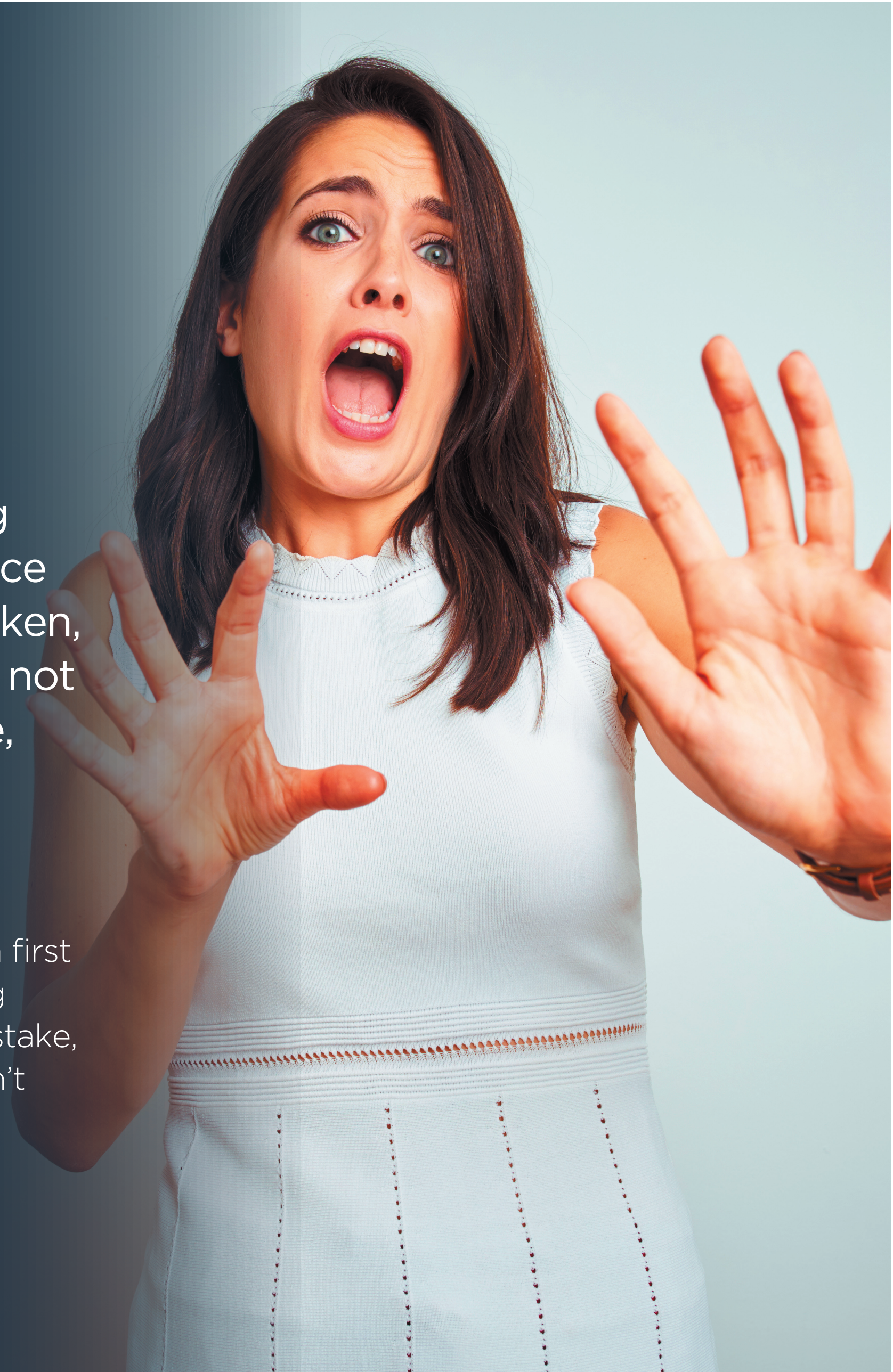
When it comes to websites, a lot of people make the mistake of thinking that their design and functionality are good enough to last for years. Once you become complacent with your website and adopt the 'if it's not broken, why fix it' mindset, you risk losing out on potential customers. If you are not always striving to improve your pages and optimise the user experience, you could be driving leads to competitors.

Why don't your customers trust your website?

Outdated Design: When it comes to websites, a lot of people underestimate how powerful a first impression can be. If your website gives the impression that it hasn't been updated for a long time, you're in trouble! Old fashioned and out-dated design can really put your credibility at stake, as new visitors will assume your business is behind the times. Whilst we all know you shouldn't judge a book by its cover...

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XIST²



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