



DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



It's been a busy year for us all at BBi Group, with lots of positives occurring, such as the news that BBi Group has been acquired by Jensten.

We are very pleased to be ending the year on such a high and look forward to the adventures that 2024 has to bring.

It is safe to say the Christmas season is upon us and we would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our clients, colleagues and partners a very happy, healthy and safe Christmas & New Year.

Thank you for your custom and loyalty throughout 2023, we are much looking forward to working with you as we head into 2024.

BBi GROUP FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

Throughout the festive season our office will be open as much as possible in order to support any of our clients who need advice between Christmas & New Year.

Please see below our opening hours over the festive period.

22nd December: 9am to 2pm

25th - 26th December: closed for Bank Holidays

27th - 29th December: 9am to 5:30pm

1st January: closed for Bank Holiday

2nd January: back to normal hours (9am-5:30pm)



For any support you may need or enquiries you may have over the festive season please contact your usual account manager or email enquiries@bernsbrett.com and a member of the team will get back to you.

www.bbigroup.com

BERNS BRETT ACQUISITION ACCELERATES JENSTEN GROWTH IN REGIONS AND SPECIALISMS



We are very pleased to share that at the end of October, following FCA approval, Jensten completed the acquisition of Berns Brett, in a strategic move which strengthens both its regional and specialist centres of excellence. The deal brings a team of 40, and more than 5,000 clients to the group. Since 2021, Jensten has acquired 20 brokers as the business pursues a strategy of building and growing strong regional and specialist centres of excellence. The addition of an Irish business marks Jensten's first acquisition outside of the UK. We are looking forward to this next chapter as we head into 2024.

RETIREMENT OF BERNS BRETT CEO ANDREW WALES



Berns Brett have recently announced the retirement of its Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Wales, effective October 2023. Andrew has led the BBi Group throughout for more than 30 years.

Andrew played a critical role in the development and success of the organisation and its various divisions, and while we will miss him and his leadership, we wish him the best of luck in his retirement and his new ventures.

Andrew's retirement marks the end of a remarkable career. Under his leadership, The BBi Group has implemented critical changes to its strategy, systems, structure, and organisation that have positioned it strongly for success. This work evolves following the acquisition by Jensten and continues with the existing management team and staff led by the group's Managing Director, David Skinner.

We want to thank Andrew for the years of dedicated service which involved many significant accomplishments.



WINTER TIPS



With winter now here in full force, safeguarding your business and your employees against the diverse challenges posed by heavy snowfall, storm damage, slippery conditions, flooding risks, winter weather driving hazards, and potential water leaks becomes paramount for maintaining the integrity and functionality of your premises and staff.

Read below to understand some areas you should be aware of to effectively prepare and mitigate the impact of winter weather on your business and employees.

Buildings:

- Heavy snowfall, freezing temperatures, and strong winds can damage buildings.
- Fresh snow can cause roofs, walls, and canopies to deflect or collapse.
- Snow can impair ventilation systems, block drainage, and freeze fluid-filled equipment.
- Unheated buildings are vulnerable to freezing, and melting snow combined with rainfall can lead to flooding.

Storm Damage:

- High winds and heavy rain can damage properties and pose risks to buildings, vehicles, and employees.
- Skilled building maintenance helps prevent elements from causing further damage.
- Regular maintenance prevents exterior fixtures like tiles and signage from becoming flying debris during storms.

Slips, Trips, and Falls:

- Winter increases the risk of slips, trips, and falls inside and outside the workplace.
- Injuries from these incidents impact individuals and businesses through claims, employee absence, and bad publicity.

Flooding:

- Flooding poses risks to property, stock, and equipment, disrupting businesses and supply chains.
- While the risk can't be eliminated, steps can be taken to reduce risks, limit damage, and recover more quickly.

Winter Weather Driving:

- Winter conditions increase driving hazards with icy roads, heavy rain, low sun, and extended darkness.
- Understanding driving hazards is crucial to implementing measures to reduce accidents and business losses.

Water Leaks:

- Water leaks are frequent and can cause significant damage to businesses.
- Knowing how to respond to leaks or frozen pipes can mitigate damage.
- Regular checks, maintenance, understanding leak detection technology, and ensuring accessible plumbing can all help prevent major incidents.

For more information, please contact us via email on enquiries@bernsbrett.com or call +44 (0)20 8559 2111 and a member of the team will be in touch.

WHY IT IS CRUCIAL TO HAVE CYBER INSURANCE

In today's dynamic digital landscape, the importance of cyber insurance for businesses cannot be overstated. As technology advances, so do the sophisticated threats that pose risks to the integrity and security of sensitive information. See below just 5 reasons why it is so important to ensure you have cyber insurance in place for your business.



- **Widespread Vulnerability:** All businesses are potentially at risk, with 32% of UK businesses having suffered a cyber attack or breach in the last 12 months, as revealed by the [2023 Cyber Security Breaches Survey by DCMS](#).
- **Human Error:** Mistakes are inevitable, and employees may not always be able to identify cyber attack attempts, providing openings for criminals to exploit vulnerabilities.
- **Time Sensitivity:** The speed at which a business reacts to a cyber attack is crucial, as a prompt response can significantly mitigate the lasting effects on the business.
- **Operational and Reputational Protection:** Inaccessibility to vital IT systems due to a cyber attack or data breach can lead to significant business interruption and reputational damage, emphasising the need for protective measures.
- **Reassurance for Third Parties:** Cyber insurance provides reassurance to customers and other stakeholders, demonstrating a commitment to protection and readiness in the event of a cyber attack. For more information, please

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TRAVEL INSURANCE

Whether you are embarking on a quest for winter sun or starting to plan your exciting holidays for 2024, BBi Group stands ready to ensure your travel experiences are safeguarded. Our commitment to travel insurance extends to leisure, business, and sports travellers alike.

At BBi Group, we can arrange Holiday Travel+ and Sports Travel+ insurance policies to cater to the diverse needs of individuals, families, groups, and sports teams. Whether it's a quick getaway or a series of adventures throughout the year, single trip and annual multi-trip insurance covers a vast array of destinations worldwide, spanning the UK, Europe, and beyond.

Making the right choice for your travel insurance is made convenient through our user-friendly online quote and buy platform. Embark on your travel plans with confidence, knowing that BBi Group has your back. For more information and personalised assistance, connect with our team at <https://www.bbikorsham.com/holiday-sports-travel-insurance/>. Your worry-free and well-protected travel experience awaits..



For more information on any of the above topics please contact a member of the team on any of the below details:

 enquiries@bernsbrett.com



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