



*taking business to new heights*

Dear Members

Welcome to our March Newsletter

It has been an eventful few months and I have endeavored to capture the events with photos from our wonderful, award winning photographer, Martin Hambleton.

Whilst its great to be resuming business as usual, many of our members and guests are still very nervous about large groups and we are therefore hosting a number of smaller events and restricting numbers to breakfast matters for the time being.

All our thoughts are with the people of Ukraine and their bravery during this unprovoked invasion. If there are any initiative in aid of the Ukrainian people which you would like the Chamber to help support, please contact the Chamber Office

Best wishes

Sue

**CEO**  
**Altrincham & Sale Chamber of Commerce**

## Market News

**1<sup>st</sup> March 2022.**

*Courtesy of TorFX*

- **Pound open to losses in absence of data** – Russia-Ukraine talks help limit downside.
- **Euro mixed as war negotiations begin** – EUR unable to fully recover sanction-induced losses.
- **US Dollar slips as risk appetite improves** – Peace talks spark modest recovery in market mood.
- **Russia-Ukraine war in focus today** – Missile strikes continue despite ongoing negotiations.

### **Pound (GBP) Muted amid Lack of Data**

The Pound (GBP) was subdued yesterday as a lack of UK economic data left Sterling vulnerable to losses.

Meanwhile, markets took a breather as Ukrainian and Russian diplomats met on the Ukrainian-Belarusian border to negotiate. This may have helped to limit the Pound's downside.

The Russia-Ukraine war is likely to remain foremost in investors' minds today. If both sides agree on a ceasefire, then Sterling may find some support. However, analysts believe this is unlikely.

### **Euro (EUR) Struggles to Regain Losses**

The Euro (EUR) was mixed during yesterday's session, edging higher against the Pound and the US Dollar (USD) as Russia-Ukraine negotiations began.

However, the single currency was unable to fully regain the heavy losses it suffered when markets reopened on Sunday evening GMT. The crippling economic sanctions on Russia announced over the weekend will likely have a particularly damaging effect on the Eurozone economy.

Turning to today, Germany's latest retail sales and inflation reports could impact EUR, although investors will likely be more focused on the situation in Ukraine.

### **US Dollar (USD) Falls as Peace Talks Begin**

The safe-haven US Dollar softened yesterday amid a cautious recovery in risk appetite.

Markets welcomed the peace talks between Ukrainian and Russian delegates. Although many think a ceasefire is unlikely, the opening of diplomatic channels is definitely a positive development in the ongoing war.

Risk appetite may continue to drive USD movement today. Later in the afternoon, the US ISM manufacturing PMI could also impact the 'Greenback'.

### **Canadian Dollar (CAD) Strengthens ahead of BoC Decision**

The Canadian Dollar (CAD) firmed against many of its peers yesterday as markets expect the Bank of Canada (BoC) to raise interest rates at its meeting on Wednesday.

Canada's GDP data this afternoon could impact the 'Loonie'. Analysts expect growth to have picked up modestly in the fourth quarter of 2021, despite a slowdown in December.

### **Australian Dollar (AUD) Gains on Australian and Chinese Data**

The Australian Dollar (AUD) ticked higher overnight, despite the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) striking a fairly dovish tone following its latest interest rate decision.

The upside came on the back of strong Australian manufacturing data and better-than-expected Chinese PMIs.

## EVENTS

Date	Event	Venue	Presentation
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2022	Breakfast Matters	Cresta Court 8.30am – 10am	Alex McCann Altrincham HQ
8 <sup>th</sup> March 2022	International Womens Day	RIVA Hale	Social
7 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Budget Breakfast	Cresta Court 8.30am – 10am	Lyndsey Roll – Truity Wealth Mgt Ltd Neil Jones – Bennett Verby

**To book events please contact Helen**

**0161 941 3250**

**Or**

**[helen@altrinchamandsalechamber.co.uk](mailto:helen@altrinchamandsalechamber.co.uk)**



## BREAKFAST MATTERS

Our Breakfast Matters meeting this Thursday, 3rd March, which is being presented by Alex McCann, Altrincham HQ, who will be talking about all things to do with Social Media. Social Media has become an integral part of most of our businesses and Alex has over 15 years experience of Social Media and 21 years experience of online marketing in other companies.

This in person networking event is being held at 08.30am at the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham and is a great way to engage with other local businesses, re-energise and share best practice.

Members and non-members are welcome.

To register, please click on the link below:-

<https://lnkd.in/dveQjgg5>

[#networking](#) [#socialmedia](#) [#businesssupport](#) [#altrincham](#) [#sale](#)

## MEMBER OF THE MONTH March 2022

### ALTERED SPACES Sale

**<https://www.altered-space.dev>**

Altered Spaces have been Chamber members for many years, contributing with help, ideas and sponsoring events. The team is Michael Brown and Mark Rebbeck who many of you will know as the team behind 'Uniquely Sale' or otherwise known as Sale Regen. The team have transformed Sale Town Centre and attracted many new independent businesses to the Town Centre. The guys lobby Trafford BC and organised all the Christmas Lights for the centre.

Altered/Space currently own and manage two exciting mixed use regeneration projects in the North West of England. The Square, Sale in Greater Manchester and Cockhedge in Warrington have the potential to deliver up to 900 much needed new homes in sustainable site locations alongside a strong mix of modern retail, office and leisure space, and aspirational public realm. Both projects are underway and we are passionate about delivering change.



**Chamber News**

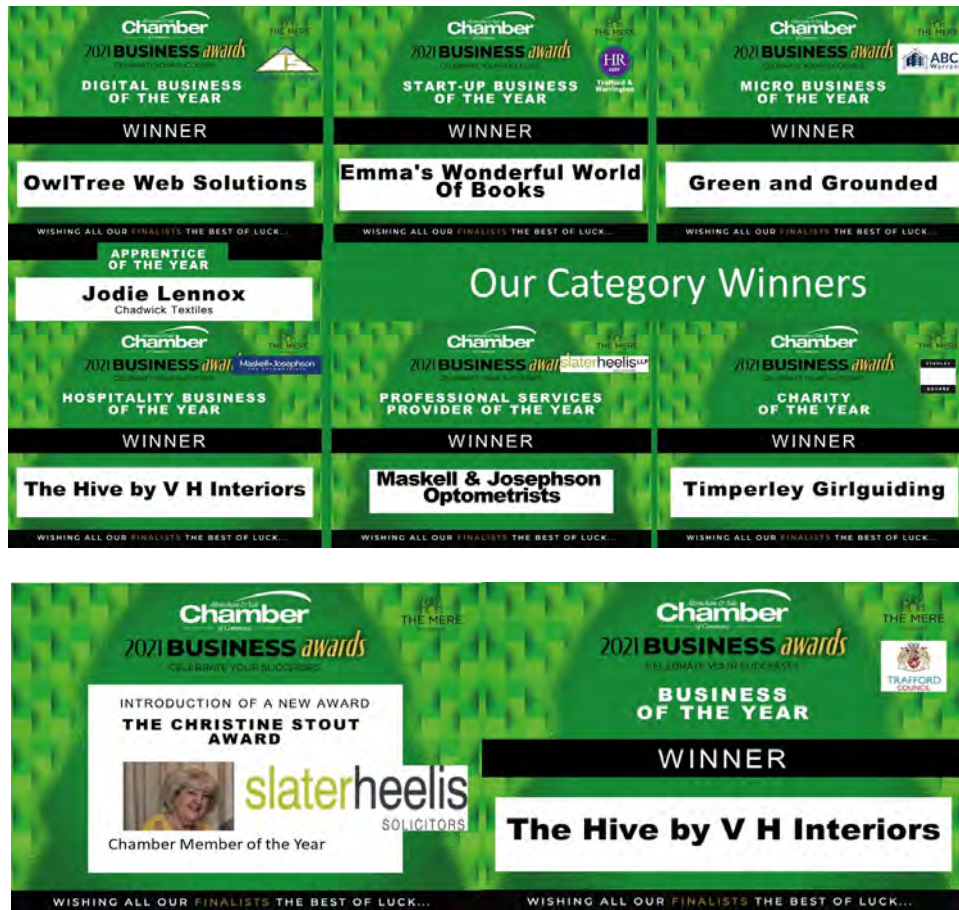
**28<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

**The Mere Hotel & Golf Resort**

We love being able to support local businesses and one of the best ways of doing this is through our Chamber Business Awards.

This year we held the awards on the **28<sup>th</sup> January 2022** at **The Mere Hotel & Golf Resort**. **Darren Proctor** was our fabulous host and **Keyteq** worked their magic with the lights and sound.

It was an amazing night and a great excuse to get dressed up as you can see from the photos. Martin Hambleton, our award winning photographer has created a great montage which is on linked in and shows the evenings highlights wonderfully.



**Congratulations to Our Winners**

<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Connor McCarthy</b> <small>JK Law, Birkenhead</small></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>MICRO BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>DJM Dairies</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>2021 BUSINESS awards CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESSSES</p> <p><b>BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</b></p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Maskell &amp; Josephson Optometrists</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK...</p>	
<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>DIGITAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Altrincham HQ</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Our Category Runners Up</p>		
<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDER OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Wellington School</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>START-UP BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Into The Wild Pizzas</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>HOSPITALITY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Gran T's</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>CHARITY OF THE YEAR</p> <p>RUNNER UP</p> <p><b>Care 4 Calais</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>

<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>Jack Fairlie</b> <small>JK Law, Birkenhead</small></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>DIGITAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>Keyteq</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>2021 BUSINESS awards CELEBRATE YOUR SUCCESSSES</p> <p><b>BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</b></p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>One Central</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK...</p>	
<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>MICRO BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>Batch Bottlestore</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Highly Commended</p>		
<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>START-UP BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>The Edit (Altrincham)</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>CHARITY OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>CAFT</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDER OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>Learn North West Education LLP</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>	<p>Chamber XVI BUSINESS awards</p> <p>HOSPITALITY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR</p> <p>HIGHLY COMMENDED</p> <p><b>Riva (Hale)</b></p> <p>WISHING ALL OUR FINALISTS THE BEST OF LUCK.</p>



**28<sup>th</sup> January 2022**  
**at The Mere Golf & Spa resort**

**Altrincham & Sale Chamber of  
Commerce**

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Awards**



**Alex Evans**  
President of Altrincham & Sale  
Chamber of Commerce  
(ASCC)  
2021 - 2023







Sir Graham &  
Lady Victoria  
Brady



Anthony Josephson  
Maskells Opticians



David  
Menon  
  
Informed  
Solutions



G-Force



- Alex Evans – President ASCC
- Kasey Gorton – Mrs President (Lady in Red!)
- Lady Victoria Brady
- Sir Graham Brady MP
- Laurance Walsh – Mayor of Trafford



Laurance Walsh, Mayor of Trafford  
Darren Proctor – Host for the evening  
Sue Aldridge – CEO ASCC

Photographs courtesy of the fabulous **Martin Hambleton**

## Presidents Inauguration Cresta Court Hotel 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022



### The Chain Gang!

Alex Evans – Present  
ASCC

Martin Buckle –  
President Elect

Laurance Walsh –  
Mayor of Trafford

Rachel Walsh – Lady  
Mayoress





Sir Graham Brady MP  
Patron of ASCC



Our New Years Lunch was held at the Cresta Court on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February. It has always been the Chamber tradition to inaugurate our President at this event. I was absolutely delighted to grant Alex Evans his second term as President. Alex has worked hard to promote the Chamber in the Sale area, together with the support of his lovely dad, Dave. Dave is the Chambers secret helper and we are very grateful. The Evans Family operate their business, Cornerhouse Design & Print Ltd in Carrington and have always been active members of the business community.

The event was attend by Laurance Walsh, The Mayor of Trafford and his wife and Lady Mayoress, Rachel. I was very jealous of her bling, you could actually wear it going out, apart from its worth a lot of money! It is tradition for the serving Mayor to inaugurate our President, and as you can see we continued this valued tradition with both our President and President elect being inaugurated into their roles for this coming year.

Our President elect, Martin Buckle of Atlantic Timber is a well know face in the Altrincham area. The business has been trading in Altrincham since 1981 and Martin has helped develop the business since his arrival and rose to the challenge of COVID by expanding into online sales.

I'm really looking forward to seeing how 'my boys' shape up this year. Both are full of amazing ideas to move the Chamber forward and to promote members and their businesses.

## Altrincham v Cancer

Here is a photo of the heroes who took part in the 5k leg of the fundraiser which is an annual event. Local businesses physical pushing themselves for the Christie

Some participants undertook the 5k leg and many others did 10k and Half Marathons in their own time



Alex McCann once again organised the Altrincham V Cancer event held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February at Puregym, Altrincham. Our very own President Elect, Martin Buckle of Atlantic Timber, took part on behalf of the Chamber and raised a whopping £947 for the Christie, inspired by a member of staff. One of their longest serving members of staff has a 16 year old granddaughter, Maddison, who's been battling cancer for the last 3 years and has just been told there is nothing more the doctors can do for her. As a company, Atlantic Timber are going to match any sponsorship they get and give it to her as a gift so she can enjoy the time she has left with her family.

Please dig deep and support [The Christie](#)

At the time of writing the event raised £3500+  
with more coming in  
Please donate here



<https://www.justgiving.com/.../altrinchamvscancerinyourrow...>

## Latest News & Information:

### **Manchester Metropolitan University Help to Grow Programme**

Trafford SMEs are invited to give their business a boost by signing up to the government backed, 90% funded, Help to Grow Management course.

Work with small business and enterprise experts at Manchester Metropolitan University to enhance your business's resilience, recovery and long-term growth, following the impact of COVID-19.

Tapping into MMU's networks, experience and unique small business research, you will be provided with the management tools needed to drive growth, upskill your workforce and protect jobs!

Designed to be manageable alongside full-time work, the 12 week programme will cover financial management, strategies for growth and innovation, leading a high-performance workplace and digital adoption. By the end of the course, you will develop a tailored business growth plan to help lead your business to its full potential with access to our mentoring and an alumni network.

For further information, click [here](#).

### **Safe Urban Driving Training**

Do you employ HGV, LGV or PCV drivers? If so, you can equip your drivers with the training to share the road safely with vulnerable users. TfGM are working in partnership with Nationwide Cycling Academy who provide this course for £10.

This course is designed for professional **HGV, LGV and Passenger Carrying Vehicles** and offers the following accreditations:

- Fleet Operators Recognition Scheme (FORS) approved
- Meets the requirements for managing Work Related Road Risk (WRRR)
- Meets the requirements for the Construction Logistics and Cyclists Safety (CLOCS) scheme

- Counts towards a driver's CPC

The Safe Urban Driving courses will run throughout the year, with [bookings now available for February through to April](#).

For further information and to book your place, click [here](#).

### **Developing Your Social Enterprise**

Calling all social enterprises in Trafford! The Growth Company is launching its new Developing Your Social Enterprise Programme in Trafford, offering Trafford based social enterprises the first opportunity to participate.

Using a dynamic combination of trainer input and participant interaction, attendees will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of some key aspects of managing a successful social enterprise.

The programme consists of four sessions delivered over four weeks during which attendees will gain insight into some key aspects of running a social enterprise such as business planning, marketing, basic financial management, partnership working, appropriate legal structures.

Programme dates are as follows:

Session 1: March 10th 2022, 10:00 - 13:00

Session 2: March 17th 2022, 10:00 - 13:00

Session 3: March 24th 2022, 10:00 - 13:00

Session 4: March 31st 2022, 10:00 - 13:00

For further information and to book your place, click [here](#).

### **Call For transport Leaders to help supercharge skills & build future workforce**

The government is calling for industry leaders and the wider public to help find and train the next generation of transport leaders. A [12 week consultation](#) will help to better understand the future skills needed to boost diversity, plug the skills gap and promote careers across the industry, with participants able to post their views and ideas.

A new taskforce, launched during National Apprenticeship Week 2022, will lead the

charge on promoting careers and aims to create thousands of opportunities for the next generation of talent.

### **Business Conditions, Employment, Skills & Training Monitor Survey**

UK firms face an unprecedented business environment with high energy prices, supply chain disruption and severe labour shortages. GM BEST is a collaboration between GM Chamber and the GM Learning Provider Network (GMLPN). To inform the work of the Chamber and help learning providers plan training to address labour shortages, we are gathering business views through this survey. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. By filling in the survey, you will automatically enter a draw to win a £100 John Lewis voucher or one of two £50 John Lewis vouchers. (Please make sure you fill in your e-mail address. Your survey responses will still remain confidential).

Link to survey: [http://GM Business Conditions, Employment, Skills & Training Monitor Survey \(surveymonkey.co.uk\)](http://GM Business Conditions, Employment, Skills & Training Monitor Survey (surveymonkey.co.uk))

### **Reminder - Clean Air Financial Support Scheme now open for HGVs**

Greater Manchester's Clean Air Financial Support Scheme is now open for applications from locally-registered heavy goods vehicle (HGV) owners who could be affected by the introduction of the city-region's Clean Air Zone.

The Clean Air Zone will come into effect for these vehicles on 30 May 2022. Greater Manchester has been awarded £120m of government funding to help eligible businesses, organisations and people to move to cleaner, compliant vehicles, including £7.6m for HGV owners. Owners of private cars, motorbikes and mopeds won't need to pay a daily charge to drive in the Zone.

Funding will initially be targeted to support micro-businesses, self-employed people, sole traders, charities, social enterprises, and private owners and registered keepers of a non-compliant vehicle. Subject to available funding, there will be a second round open to all eligible owners of a non-compliant vehicle, including small businesses.

Letters are being sent to Greater Manchester-registered HGV owners that would be subject to Clean Air Zone daily charges to notify them directly about exemptions and the funding support that will be on offer.



For further information, click [here](#).

## **Reminder - EnterprisingYou: Fully Funded Support for the Self-Employed of Greater Manchester**

EnterprisingYou has supported over 1,800 self-employed business owners across Greater Manchester since last February. It will now be extended until March 2023. This programme was the first of its kind in the country when it launched just before the pandemic hit and proved a lifeline for many small business owners by helping them to adapt and grow their business or retrain.

*“Everyone has different needs, and you can get whatever help you require and since it’s available for free you should go for it!”* - Dina Mistry from The Playful Indian, a Stretford based business. If you want to read more about how EnterprisingYou has supported her, click [here](#).

Sign up now if you are:

- Aged over 18
- A resident of Greater Manchester
- Registered as self-employed with HMRC
- Earning less than 27k (pre-tax profit)
- Trading for a minimum of 4 months

For enquiries, please visit: [www.enterprising-you.co.uk](http://www.enterprising-you.co.uk) or call **0161 667 6900** for more details.

## **Reminder - Trafford Business Start-up Network meetings for 2022**

Why not come along to meet with other start up business owners and self-employed residents in Trafford?

The Trafford Business Start-up Network is organised by Trafford Council working with business support partners which include People Plus, Momentic, the Growth Company and Enterprising You. At each meeting we will have a speaker on a topical subject as well as an inspirational speaker. You will have ample time to chat to business start up advisers and lots of opportunities for building your own networks and talking to other businesses.

All the Trafford Business Start-up Networks take place at Urmston Library, 34 Golden Way, Urmston, England, M41 0NA on a Thursday morning at 10.30am.