



At The Hollin House Hotel, Jackson Lane, Bollington, SK10 5BG

2026 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Weds 18th March
Weds 24th June
Weds 30th September
Weds 18th November**

The Business Club's quarterly lunches, hosted by Harts Chartered Accountants, North Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and Orbit Developments, bring local professionals together for networking, discussions and expert insights.

Each event includes a fabulous 2-course lunch with speakers that promotes valuable connections and helps attendees stay informed, inspired and better prepared to lead their businesses.



To book your place just scan the QR code below



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items for the next issue of Chamberlink should be sent to
reception@northcheshirechamber.co.uk by 27TH March 2026

North Cheshire Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise

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NORTH CHESHIRE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Chamber patrons



WELCOME TO THE AUTUMN EDITION OF CHAMBERLINK

Welcome to the NEW YEAR edition of ChamberLink Magazine, the dedicated publication for members of the North Cheshire Chamber of Commerce.

As always, it is inspiring to open the year with so many positive stories from across our membership. The breadth of achievements featured in this edition once again highlights the resilience, creativity, and innovation that define businesses in our region. Whether adapting to new markets, investing in people, or pushing forward with bold ideas, our members continue to demonstrate why North Cheshire remains such a vibrant and thriving business community.

This year also marks an important milestone for our area. Following last year's decision by all three councils to support Devolution, we will begin to see the first tangible benefits emerge in 2026. The new Joint Committee, established ahead of the Mayoral Elections in 2027, will provide a stronger, more unified voice for our region—helping shape investment, infrastructure, and opportunities that will benefit businesses of all sizes.

We were also delighted to see the North Cheshire Business Awards firmly back on the agenda in 2025. What a fantastic celebration it was of local talent and enterprise. With that momentum, we are already looking forward to an even bigger and better awards evening in 2026, where once again we will recognise everything that is outstanding about businesses in North Cheshire.



On a personal note, I will be retiring later this month. It has been a privilege to serve this remarkable community. I leave you in the exceptionally capable hands of Paul Colman and our dedicated team.

Wishing you all a successful and prosperous 2026.
Terry Hayward
Deputy CEO

UPCOMING EVENTS

Network Knutsford
14th January & 11th February

Leaders Circle - Accountability & Resilience
14th January

Kick-off Networking at Macclesfield FC
20th January & 17th February

Young Professional Network
21st January & 25th February

Leaders Circle - Diversity & Inclusion in SMEs
28th January

Visit www.northcheshirechamber.co.uk/our-events for further information about all NCCOC events and how to make a booking or contact reception@northcheshirechamber.co.uk

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

2025 has been another dynamic and transformative year for the North and South Cheshire Chamber of Commerce. With the support of a dedicated Board, I am proud to have helped guide the Chamber through a period of significant change.

This year's merger of the North and South Cheshire Chambers has enabled teams across both regions to share best practices and build on existing successes. While each Chamber will continue to maintain its own identity and event programme, our combined team is now better positioned to support members across Cheshire East more effectively.

Looking ahead, devolution is firmly on the horizon, with the new combined authority expected to launch in early 2026 and mayoral elections scheduled for May 2027. Member views on these changes vary widely, from strong support to scepticism and indifference. Be assured that the Chamber team is actively engaged to ensure the voice of business is heard clearly and consistently throughout this process.

Ongoing trade challenges, tariffs and recent government policies have created real pressures for many members. Rising employment costs, changes to inheritance tax and business property relief, business rates revaluations and new



employment legislation are all having an impact. As the owner of a family business employing 45 people, I understand these challenges first-hand. It remains vital that the Chamber continues to lobby strongly at both local and national levels.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Terry Hayward for his hard work and leadership in recent years as he prepares to hand over the reins in the new year.

I wish everyone a successful 2026.

Robert Parton
Chairman

LOOKING AHEAD FOR NORTH CHESHIRE CHAMBER

As we move into 2026, I would like to acknowledge Terry Hayward for his time as Chief Executive of North Cheshire Chamber of Commerce over the past four years. Terry has supported the organisation through a period of change and played an important role in helping both Chambers work constructively together during the merger process. I thank him for his professionalism and wish him well for the future.

Looking ahead, 2026 presents a real opportunity for North Cheshire businesses. With the South and North Cheshire Chambers now fully aligned, we are in a strong position to provide even greater value to our members—combining resources, influence and networks to better support business growth across the region.

Our focus for the year ahead is clear: stronger lobbying, more meaningful business connections, and practical support that helps members navigate economic uncertainty. We will continue to invest in



high-quality events, targeted business support, and proactive engagement with local and regional decision-makers to ensure the voice of North Cheshire business is heard.

As I take over the role of Chief Executive for North Cheshire Chamber from Terry, my focus is firmly on continuity and progress. Building on the strong foundations already in place, the Chamber will continue to evolve as a forward-looking, member-led organisation, focused on delivering real, tangible benefits for businesses across North Cheshire throughout 2026 and beyond.

Paul Colman
Chief Executive

Making Tax Digital

HMRC's programme to bring tax administration into the digital age

Harts Chartered Accountants

harts-ltd.com



You may have seen or heard that HMRC is rolling out something called Making Tax Digital next year and be wondering whether it affects you. Well, having been delayed by a number of years, it looks like it is finally coming in from April 2026. So, what does it mean?

Does it affect me?

If you have gross income of more than £50,000 from self-employment and property income (combined) in a tax year, then YES you are affected. The threshold will reduce in future years.

What does this mean?

It means that you will have to electronically submit a return each quarter for each source of income. A sole trader with £40,000 of turnover and a rental property with £20,000 of income will be required to submit two returns each quarter. And we are talking turnover not profit! The quarters are the calendar quarters.

Does that mean 4 (or 8) returns a year?

Actually, it's more than that as you will still have to submit your self-assessment return too. The final return will include any tax or year-end adjustments as well as your other sources of income.

Will I need to get software for this?

Yes and HMRC are not providing any free software. Most of the major software providers are gearing up for this but it will cost you more to do than previously, especially if your accountant is going to make the submissions for you.

What information will I need to submit?

There are just three figures to provide. Income, expenses and profit. What if I am late in submitting a return? There is a new penalty regime which will apply to late submission of the quarterly returns.

Will I need to pay tax each quarter?

Thankfully No! HMRC will just give you an estimate of any likely tax liability. The payment dates for tax will remain the same. However, interest rates on late paid tax will increase for tax more than 30 days late, the rate will be base plus 14% per annum.

I am in a partnership, am I affected?

No. MTD for partnerships is not coming in just yet. I have a limited company, will this affect me? No, MTD for companies has been scrapped.

The above is just a brief summary of what is involved and it can get very complicated. You may wonder why this is being imposed on small businesses just now, especially when there is no change to the tax payment dates. Publicly, HMRC have said MTD is about making sure businesses benefit from digital ways of working and reducing mistakes. Benefits to HMRC include receiving information on a real time basis from those affected.

As you can see, this is a major change to the way information is submitted to HMRC and if this applies to you, you need to start to prepare for this now.

Contact us!

As always, if you need any more help with this, please get in touch. You can call the office or email us to arrange a call back. You can also visit our website for more information.

Visit us at: harts-ltd.com

WELCOME TO NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

The Tatton Park Charitable Trust

Knutsford

tattonparktrust.org.uk

The Tatton Park Charitable Trust is dedicated to preserving the historic Tatton Park estate, its gardens, and its rich heritage for future generations. Through community support, the Trust funds vital conservation, education, and restoration projects that keep this treasured landmark thriving for visitors of all ages.



Tatton
Park
Charitable
Trust

Maguire Family Law

Altrincham

family-law.co.uk

Maguire Family Law is a specialist family law firm providing expert guidance on divorce, children matters, financial settlements, and international family law. With a highly experienced team, they deliver clear, compassionate advice to help clients navigate complex situations with confidence.



Holmes Chapel Zoo

Holmes Chapel

holmeschapelzoo.co.uk

Holmes Chapel Zoo is a family-focused zoological and educational centre committed to animal welfare, conservation, and inspiring the next generation of wildlife enthusiasts. The zoo offers immersive experiences, educational visits, and the chance to learn about species from around the world.



Cheshire Grounds

Macclesfield

cheshiregrounds.co.uk

Cheshire Grounds provides professional grounds maintenance services for commercial and domestic clients. Their expert team offers landscaping, lawn care, estate upkeep, and outdoor space management, ensuring high-quality results year-round.



The Bollington Brewing Co.

Bollington

bollingtonbrewing.co.uk

Bollington Brewery is an award-winning brewery known for crafting high-quality, flavourful ales using traditional methods. With a passion for exceptional brewing and community heritage, the brewery supplies pubs, venues, and customers across the region.



Helios Global

Macclesfield

heliosglobalgroup.com



Helios Global provides specialist consultancy and technology-driven solutions that support businesses in improving efficiency, compliance, and operational strategy. Their expert guidance helps organisations navigate complex challenges in an evolving global environment.

Diamond Engravers

Congleton

diamondengravers.co.uk

Diamond Engravers specialises in precision engraving for commercial, industrial, and personalised projects. Using state-of-the-art equipment and skilled craftsmanship, they deliver high-quality engraving solutions tailored to client needs.



PROFESSIONAL ENGRAVING SERVICES

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Organic Product Engraving

Wood & Leather

Plastic Products

Card & Fabrics

Happy New Year Everyone

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sales@diamondengravers.co.uk

www.diamondengravers.co.uk

Benefits of Being a Member of an Accredited Chamber

As a member of an Accredited Chamber of Commerce, you're not just signing up for a membership—you're unlocking a powerful business network designed to help you grow, connect, and succeed. Here's why it's a game-changer for your business:

1. **Instant Credibility & Trust** – Being part of an Accredited Chamber means you're aligning with a network that meets the highest standards of professionalism, governance, and business support. That's the kind of backing that builds confidence with customers, partners, and investors.
2. **A Bigger Voice for Your Business** – Your challenges and opportunities matter. Accredited Chambers have a direct line to government and policymakers, ensuring your business interests are heard loud and clear at local, national, and international levels.
3. **Connections That Open Doors** – Meet the right people at the right time. Whether it's new clients, suppliers, investors, or collaborators, your Chamber membership gives you access to an influential network of businesses and decision-makers.
4. **Exclusive Support & Business Perks** – From targeted business advice and funding guidance to member-only discounts and resources, Accredited Chambers provide real, tangible benefits to help you grow.
5. **Expand Locally & Globally** – Thinking big? Whether you're looking to scale up in your region or take your business international, Accredited Chambers offer trusted trade support and connections to global markets.
6. **Stay Ahead with Expert Insights & Events** – Get access to high-impact events, industry-leading insights, and expert-led workshops that keep you informed, inspired, and ahead of the competition.
7. **Be Part of Something Bigger** – Joining an Accredited Chamber means becoming part of a powerful, nationally recognised business movement—a community that's dedicated to driving success for businesses just like yours.

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES TO SUIT YOUR BUSINESS

ESSENTIAL	SIGNATURE	EXECUTIVE
<p>Online membership</p> <p><i>Essential features:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Access to a business support package valued at £1,400+ a year + List your business in our online Members Directory + Enter the North Cheshire Business Awards + Access our online Members Area. Promote your news, events and offers + Regular newsletters covering the latest local, regional and national business news + Free digital copy of each Chamberlink magazine issue + Member certificate and digital badge 	<p>Our most popular package</p> <p><i>All Essential features plus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Access to the best attended networking events in North Cheshire + Get North Cheshire's most complete business support package + Promote your business through all of our online and offline marketing channels + International trade support and discounted export documentation + Access to the BCC Global Business Network 	<p>Maximising your membership</p> <p><i>All Signature features plus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Access to Executive Insights - our monthly peer-to-peer support group. <p>Topics include: HR Forum, Health & Wellbeing, Digital Edge, Grow Your Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Roundtable event with local MP / senior council leaders + Develop your young staff with discounts on the Next Gen Network + Invitation to the bi-annual South & North Cheshire business network + One-On-One annual business review

Join today at www.northcheshirechamber.co.uk/become-a-member/ or scan the QR code:

To discuss membership, contact us on 01625 665940 or reception@northcheshirechamber.co.uk





Historic moment for Macclesfield Forest as Forest Distillery releases its first 5-Year-Old Single Malt

Macclesfield Forest, Cheshire | 27th November 2025

Forest Distillery, based at the iconic Cat & Fiddle in Macclesfield Forest, has launched its first ever 5-Year-Old Single Malt English Whisky. With only 200 bottles available, the release celebrates local craftsmanship, natural resources and the continued revival of one of the Peak District's most recognisable landmarks.

Distilled in 2020 using Cheshire barley, wild yeast and fresh spring water from the surrounding hills, the whisky was matured beneath the restored Cat & Fiddle -now the UK's highest-altitude distillery. The climate played a key part in developing the whisky over its five-year rest in two small English oak casks handmade in Yorkshire from timber grown in Staffordshire.

Every aspect of the release highlights local skill and creativity. The bottles are handmade porcelain, gilded with artwork by papercut artist Georgia Low. The presentation boxes are crafted from the same English oak as the casks and reflect the natural character of the wood. Each whisky also comes with a hand-signed Certificate of Authentication featuring original watercolours by the distillery's in-house artist.

"This is the fruit of our first ever whisky distillation experiments, combined with years of patience. We've hand-bottled this whisky into our porcelain bottles, and presented it in a box made from the very same English oak as the casks that nurtured it. We are so proud to share this milestone." - Karl & Lindsay Bond, Co-Founders, Forest Distillery

About Forest Distillery

- The UK's highest altitude distillery, owned and operated by husband-and-wife team, Karl and Lindsay Bond, since 2015
- Currently exporting to high-end bars, restaurants and hotels in Japan, Hong Kong, Canada, New Zealand, and Germany
- Makers of multi award-winning Forest Gin

CEO: Karl Bond

karl@theforestdistillery.com
+44 7899 074440

Marketing Manager: Melanie Selstrom

melanie@theforestdistillery.com
+44 7749 725104

Forest Distillery

The Cat & Fiddle
Macclesfield Forest
SK11 OAR
theforestdistillery.com



A close-up of a wooden surface featuring a golden cat illustration with the text "FOREST DISTILLERS" below it. Below the illustration, the text reads: "One of just 200 bottles, this first edition of Forest Whisky 5-Year-Old was distilled in 2020, matured in English oak casks beneath The Cat Fiddle, and hand-bottled in 2025 in porcelain bottles." At the bottom, it says "1. From the very same".



CAVENDISH GOLF CLUB: A PEAK DISTRICT GEM



Few golf clubs in the UK blend heritage, scenery and community quite like Cavendish Golf Club in Buxton. Set on the edge of the breathtaking Peak District National Park, the course is a masterpiece of natural beauty and thoughtful design. It is widely regarded as one of the finest examples of Dr Alister MacKenzie's early work—crafted just before he went on to design Augusta National. That pedigree alone places Cavendish among golfing royalty, but its story goes far deeper than a famous name on the blueprints.

Founded in 1925, Cavendish was created to offer an enjoyable yet challenging course that used the natural contours of the Derbyshire landscape to full advantage. Nearly a century later, the layout remains remarkably faithful to MacKenzie's original intentions. Strategic bunkering, undulating greens and sweeping fairways that flow seamlessly through the hills make every round an engaging puzzle. Golfers often describe the course as "Augusta in miniature" thanks to its subtle beauty and masterful design.

Over the past decade, Cavendish has earned a growing list of accolades that celebrate both its history and its contemporary excellence. It has frequently appeared in national course rankings, been praised for its sustainable greenkeeping practices, and recognised for delivering extraordinary value and quality throughout the year. Visiting golfers travel from across the UK and beyond to experience a course that feels both classic and fresh—a timeless piece of golf architecture that continues to surprise even regular players.

More Than a Course: A Community of Golfers

While the course itself is undeniably special, the heart of Cavendish Golf Club lies in its welcoming membership. Joining the club means becoming part of a vibrant community where camaraderie and encouragement thrive. Whether you're an experienced golfer or new to the game, there is always someone prepared to share a round, offer guidance, or simply enjoy the social side of club life. Membership at Cavendish brings benefits far



beyond access to an outstanding course. Regular play provides significant boosts to physical health—improving cardiovascular fitness, balance, flexibility and overall mobility. Just as importantly, the mental wellbeing benefits are profound. Time spent outdoors in the fresh Peak District air, surrounded by beautiful scenery, is a welcome escape from daily pressures. Many members view a round at Cavendish as their reset button: a chance to unwind, reconnect with nature, and enjoy uplifting social interaction.

The club's active sections ensure there's always something happening. Gents, Ladies, Seniors, Mixed and Juniors all enjoy full schedules of competitions, friendly matches, coaching sessions and social events. Whether you thrive on competitive golf or prefer relaxed, social rounds, the club caters for every style of play. Juniors, in particular, benefit from a nurturing environment where they can develop their skills, confidence and love of the game.

A Dining Experience to Savour

Cavendish Golf Club is also home to one of the area's most acclaimed restaurants, making it a favourite spot for both golfers and local residents. The clubhouse serves hearty, traditional fare perfect after a round on the hills, but the real highlight is the influence of the club's Italian chefs. Their homemade specialities—fresh pastas, authentic sauces and indulgent desserts—have earned an enthusiastic following.

On sunny days, nothing beats dining on the club's superb outdoor terrace. Widely praised as the best in the region, it offers panoramic views across the course and surrounding hills. It is the perfect place to relax with a drink, enjoy a family lunch, or swap stories after a memorable round.

A Winter Membership Offer Worth Grabbing

For anyone considering joining, there has never been a better time. Cavendish Golf Club's winter membership offer is exceptional value: join now

and you'll lock in 2025 prices, with no renewal required until March 2027. That means 15 months of golf for the cost of 12—a rare opportunity to enjoy a premier course at a significantly reduced rate.

Even better, you can try the course before committing. The club's best green fee rates are always available online at www.cavendishgolfclub.com, and if you decide to join afterwards, your green fee will be deducted from your membership price.

Discover Cavendish for Yourself

Cavendish Golf Club offers everything a golfer could want: a world-class course, a warm and inclusive membership, superb dining, and a thriving programme of golf for all ages and abilities. Whether you're seeking improved wellbeing, competitive opportunities, or simply a beautiful place to spend time outdoors, Cavendish delivers it all.

With its unmatched winter membership offer, now is the perfect moment to become part of this remarkable club's next chapter. Come and experience the charm, challenge and hospitality of Cavendish—you may just find your new golfing home.

W | www.cavendishgolfclub.com
 E | admin@cavendishgolfclub.com
 T | 01298 79780.

BOLLINGTON PRINTSHOP LTD: A BIG YEAR FOR OUR SMALL BUSINESS



It's been an unforgettable year at Bollington Printshop Ltd, and we're still buzzing (and not just from the smell of fresh ink). We are delighted to share that we've been crowned Small Business of the Year 2025 at the recent Crème de la Crème Awards. For a local printshop that still gets excited every time a new paper stock arrives, this recognition means the world to our team. It celebrates our commitment to quality, creativity, and supporting businesses and local communities.

Continuing with community spirit, we were honoured to be invited by Bollington Town Council to host the market at the Bollington Christmas Fayre. Despite weather that could best be described as "character-building", nearly 30 incredible stallholders braved the elements to showcase their crafts, bakes, artwork and gifts. Even Father Christmas made an appearance—though we suspect his beard dried out faster than we did.



The event was a brilliant reminder of why we love what we do: helping our local creatives and entrepreneurs put their best foot forward, whether that's through beautifully printed branding or a festive stall lit by fairy lights and sheer determination.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue expanding our services, champion local makers, and bring more community-driven initiatives to life: get in touch if you have an event idea but don't know where to start. If this year has taught us anything, it's that talent shines—rain, wind, or shine!

Here's to more creativity, collaboration, and celebrating the brilliant businesses around us!



BUSINESS TIPS FROM CHESHIRE MARKETING

Cheshire Marketing wanted to share some top business tips going into 2026. Businesses have been telling me it has been a difficult year. 2 tips below to add growth to your business without spending.

1] Track your clients

If you don't track where your clients come from, how are you going to know which marketing efforts are working, and which ones are wasting money? When you do know which marketing is working best, you can focus your time there and hopefully win even more clients!

2 Contact old clients

How many times have you returned to a business to buy their product or service? Probably quite a few times - and the same could be said for your past clients. Remember, very rarely does business come to you. You need to be proactive. So, pick up the phone, send out a few messages or create a monthly newsletter to remind previous clients that you're still here.

DIAMOND ENGRAVERS - COOL LASER TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT

Traditionally, laser engravers generate a fair amount of heat and can severely impact the finished quality of the engraving especially with sensitive electronics, precious metals and in particular most organic materials.

Diamond Engravers has commissioned and installed the build of a new laser that uses a cool marking process to deliver high-precision, damage-free engraving and marking on a wide variety of heat-sensitive materials like glass, plastics, and silicone, as well as metals and organic substrates like leather and wood.

This laser breaks down the molecular bonds directly using photochemical ablation, rather than the traditional melting or vaporizing of the material, resulting in minimal heat-affect to the part. This prevents cracking, melting, or warping of delicate materials and can even engrave fruit, leaves and vegetables without damage for barcoding etc.

Looking for leaflet distribution?



Now taking 2026 leaflet distribution orders, if you are looking at advertising your business in the Handforth, Wilmslow or Alderley Edge area, do not hesitate to email Kerry@cheshire-directory.co.uk for a advertising quote and prices start from £225.

We offer a range of services including leaflet distribution, online advertising packages and networking opportunities to grow your business. We work with local businesses, charities and the councils.

For updates feel free to join the Small Business Community Facebook group where we share the highs and lows of running a business.



The accuracy is far superior to traditional engraving machines as the configured wavelength is much shorter resulting in a significantly smaller, more focused beam spot. This allows for extremely fine details and intricate patterns with ultra fine detail to 0.002 mm.

The machine has been installed because of it's versatile material compatibility that other lasers struggle with, including transparent or highly reflective surfaces like glass and crystal, as well as various plastics (PE, PVC, ABS, etc.), silicone, ceramics, and even certain metals. The process produces clean, high-contrast, permanent marks with no surface residue or yellow tinting, making them ideal for medical devices, cards, fabrics and many other products not possible by conventional means.

IS XERO YOUR SECRET BUSINESS HERO?



You paid for it. You got onboarded. Then life happened.

Most SMEs get demos and buy software with good intentions and then promptly use a small percentage of what it can actually do. The rest? It becomes expensive background noise while you're still manually entering invoices at 9pm on a Thursday. You don't know it's a problem, because it's not really a known problem.

Sound familiar?

Here's the thing: Xero isn't just accounting software. Its automation, its insights, its hours of your life back. But only if you're using it to its full potential.

Our experience? Most businesses aren't. They're still typing in receipts when technology could capture them automatically. They're missing reporting features that could flag problems before they become crises. They're paying full price for a fraction of the benefit.

At Matix, our Management Accountant Liz has seen it all. She helps business owners unlock the hidden capabilities already sitting in their Xero account. The automation you didn't know existed, the reports you haven't discovered, the integrations that could save you hours every week.

Xero connects with dozens of tools designed to make your life easier. The question is: which ones would proactively help your business overheads and productivity?

Take one of our clients. They handle monthly and annual billing for services - taking two full days every billing cycle manually creating invoices. After review we set up a range of bespoke automations. Now they just check, tweak the handful with variable costs, and send. Billing time? Two days down reduced to two hours. That's valuable time back for running their business or not burning the midnight oil.



Matix is offering a Xero Systems Reviews to show you what you're missing and how to fix it. No pressure, no jargon - just honest advice on whether your setup is working as hard as you are.

Because paying for software you're not fully using? That's not smart business. That's just expensive.

Matix Accounts - we make your accounting software work harder, so you don't have to.

Xero review is £100 + VAT for a one-hour review. This is redeemable against a (no obligation) booking for two x two-hour training sessions £342.76 +VAT

If you are ready to make your accounting software work for you, free up your time from doing admin & accounts, please contact us on office@matixaccounts.co.uk or call the office on 01565 625615 and ask for Katie or Liz

And did you know you can ask Xero to show a unicorn dancing across your screen - there's a little-known gem and a fun, but useless, one!

KING'S £5M SPORTS PAVILION OPENING 2026



The King's School has announced the opening of a brand new sports pavilion at its 80-acre Prestbury site in 2026, which will provide a first-class facility for the school and wider community partnerships.

Forming part of the school's original '2020 Vision' for the campus on Alderley Road, the pavilion plans were brought forward due to a substantial legacy left by a former pupil and benefactor. In recognition of Roy Forster's affection for King's and his desire to see future generations benefit from a world-class environment for sport and community life, the building will be named the Forster Pavilion.

Marking another important step in delivering the school's strategic development plan, Forster Pavilion will be a £5m investment in the already impressive King's campus. It will provide a two-storey sports hub with a wrap-around spectators' balcony, located at the centre of the school's hockey, netball and junior football pitches. Downstairs, two large and two smaller changing spaces with shower facilities will accommodate up to 200 pupils, with five further individual changing rooms for match officials and staff. The 250 square metre, open-plan hospitality suite situated on the first floor, will include full audio-visual capability, two separate meeting rooms and comprehensive kitchen and catering provision, to create a venue for formal and casual dining occasions.

The building is fully accessible throughout, including

a lift and accessible changing facilities. The roof of the building will also see a full array of solar panels, reinforcing the school's commitment to sustainability and adding to the solar panels already installed on the academic building and sports centre. Due to be opened in September 2026, the pavilion will provide flexible and much-needed high-quality sports and events facilities for the local community. Current regular users of the school's Astro pitches include both Macclesfield and Alderley Edge Hockey Club, as well as Alderley United FC and many other local sports clubs.

Jason Slack, Head of King's, commented on the plans. He said: "We are delighted to complete our original development plan with Forster Pavilion. It is testament to our ongoing commitment to providing state-of-the-art facilities for our school and wider communities. We look forward to opening the pavilion in the name of our extremely generous benefactor, who was a talented cricketer and rugby player whilst at King's before going on to a successful career as a Vet."

Endorsing the investment in new Sports facilities in Macclesfield, Dame Sarah Story, said: "I'm excited to see the plans for the new King's sports pavilion. Sport has played a huge role in my life, and is a really important part of the holistic development of children. Sport plays a powerful role in children's development of a wide range of life skills that go far beyond physical fitness, including teamwork, cooperation, confidence, resilience, and respect. This new eco-friendly sports pavilion will be a

fantastic addition to what is already an incredible campus at King's. Not only will it be a fantastic space for King's pupils, but it will also provide the local community with additional facilities, including the many local sports clubs that regularly train and hold fixtures on King's Astro pitches and netball courts. This project is a fantastic investment in sports education and facilities for the region."



HOGBENS SURVEYORS: A YEAR OF GROWTH, INNOVATION AND NEW BEGINNINGS

As 2025 draws to a close, Hogbens Surveyors is delighted to share a significant milestone in our continued growth. From 1st January 2026, our practice will be moving into a new office at Grain & Graft in Brook Mill, located above the Bollington Brewery Tap. This vibrant and creative workspace marks an exciting new chapter for our expanding team and the enhanced services we are proud to bring to our clients across Cheshire, South Manchester, and the High Peak.

Expanding Our Reach Across the Region

In response to increasing demand for accessible, high-quality property advice, we are pleased to announce that from 2026 we will also be extending our service area to cover the whole of Derbyshire and North Staffordshire. This expansion allows us to support an even wider community of homeowners, developers, and property professionals with the trusted expertise Hogbens Surveyors is known for.

A Growing Team Supporting a Growing Practice

The past year has seen rising demand for survey and property services across the region. To meet this need, Hogbens Surveyors is strengthening both its team and technical offering. We are delighted to welcome two experienced surveyors, Jack and Michael, who will be focusing on delivering RICS Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Surveys. Their experience ensures we can continue to provide clear, reliable assessments for properties of all ages, construction types, and complexities.

Alongside this, our established team will continue to offer expert support in residential construction project management, helping clients navigate renovations, extensions, and refurbishment projects with confidence and clarity.

Introducing Our Structural Surveying Services

We are also proud to announce the introduction of our new Structural Surveying services, which will



be led by Mike Lally, a highly experienced, time-served structural engineer. This specialist service is designed to support clients dealing with structural concerns such as subsidence, movement, cracking, alterations, and complex building defects. Mike's technical expertise brings an added level of assurance and depth to our reporting, ensuring clients receive accurate, practical guidance on the condition and stability of their property.

Introducing Our New Pre-Sale Survey for Vendors

One of our most exciting developments for 2026 is the launch of our new Pre-Sale Survey, designed specifically for vendors preparing to bring their property to market. As sellers know, issues highlighted during a purchaser's survey often lead to delays, renegotiations, or unexpected stress.

Our Pre-Sale Survey helps vendors identify potential issues early so they can be addressed proactively ultimately supporting a smoother, more predictable sales process with fewer unwelcome surprises.

New Property Consultancy Service

We are also proud to introduce our Property Consultancy service, giving clients the opportunity to discuss their property plans, aspirations, and

concerns directly with our expert team. Whether exploring improvements, investment opportunities, or seeking guidance in a challenging market, our consultancy service offers tailored, practical advice to help clients make informed decisions.

Exclusive Offers for Chamber Members

As active members of the Chamber of Commerce, we are committed to supporting our business community. We are pleased to offer:

- ☒ 10% discount on all residential surveying services for Chamber members
- ☒ £25 Marks & Spencer voucher for every successful business referral

Free consultation service, available in person at our new office or by phone, offering you the chance to discuss your property needs with our team at no cost

We hope these benefits encourage local businesses and homeowners to access high-quality professional advice when they need it most.

Looking Ahead

Our move to Grain & Graft represents more than a change of address, it reflects our commitment to long-term growth, innovation, and deeper engagement with the communities we serve. We look forward to welcoming clients, collaborators, and partners into our new space as we enter 2026 with renewed energy and ambition.

Hogbens Surveyors extends warm wishes to the Chamber of Commerce community for a prosperous year ahead. We thank everyone who has supported our journey so far and look forward to supporting homes and businesses across Cheshire, South Manchester, the High Peak, Derbyshire, and North Staffordshire in the years to come.

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Shaping tomorrow's workforce, together

We bring Cheshire & Warrington's businesses, educators and local leaders together to align skills with growth.

By turning employer insight into action, we're building a future-ready workforce, supporting real industry needs, improving access to good jobs and helping our region thrive in a changing economy.

Businesses play a vital role, your voice ensures training and skills development truly meet local needs, helping your organisation and our business community grow stronger.

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NEW! Apprenticeship Levy Transfer Service



If you pay the Apprenticeship Levy, you can transfer up to 50% of unused funds to another employer or training provider.

We help match businesses, manage the process, and ensure transfers support local growth and skills needs in key sectors like digital, health, manufacturing, and low-carbon industries.

LSIP are here to simplify the process - scan the QR code or get in touch to find out more.



Benefits to transferring your Levy pot:

- Make every pound count
- Keep skills investment local
- Build your brand impact
- Create opportunities
- Shape the region's talent pipeline



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DAVID LEWIS ANNOUNCED AS CHOSEN CHARITY FOR HAPPY RADIO UK

david•lewis

Happy Radio UK is proud to announce North West - based charity; David Lewis as its chosen charity for 2026 — marking a heartfelt commitment from the station to champion the organisation's life-changing work through its airwaves, digital platforms and live events.

David Lewis is a long-established UK charity supporting children, young people and adults with autism, epilepsy and complex needs. The organisation provides specialist education, residential care, day services, medical support and therapeutic programs that help individuals develop skills, independence, confidence and a better quality of life.

As Happy Radio's chosen charity for 2026, David Lewis will receive dedicated support throughout the year, including increased awareness, promotion of fundraising initiatives and regular features designed to encourage listeners to get involved and help drive vital donations including the launch of Happy Radio's Christmas Jumper Day with Franklyn, which supported David Lewis with a text to donate fundraising initiative as it launched on December 11th.

Happy Radio UK currently attracts more than 760,000 monthly listeners across the North West, supported by a popular presenter line-up including Steve Penk, Chelsea Norris, Spence Macdonald, Darren Proctor and Paul Crone, among many others — providing a powerful platform to champion the charity's mission.

Station co-founders, Max Eden and Darren Proctor, said: "We are absolutely delighted to name David Lewis as our chosen charity. Their dedication to empowering people with complex needs is truly inspiring. We're excited to use our platform — both on air and at events — to help raise much-needed funds and awareness for this incredible organisation both on air and with our clients."



"For us, choosing a charity is about giving back. David Lewis is a cause close to our hearts, and we are committed to helping make a real and lasting difference to the lives of the people they support."

Sarah Johnson; Head of Fundraising and Communications at David Lewis added: "We are honoured to have been chosen by Happy Radio UK, their reach, energy and passion for community will help introduce David Lewis and the people we support to thousands of new listeners. Together, we can raise awareness of our fantastic charity, help to remove barriers, create new opportunities, and give more people the chance to thrive. Whether it's raising funds, providing resources, developing skills, or creating spaces that inspire, each contribution helps to empower every journey and celebrate every success. David Lewis is a place like no other - it's a vibrant, inspiring community where people can realise their full potential and live the lives they want to!"

Throughout the year, Happy Radio UK and David Lewis will launch a series of fundraising campaigns, on-air features and community-focused events — all aimed at supporting people with autism, epilepsy and complex needs.
<https://www.davidlewis.org.uk/>

OUT AND ABOUT WITH THE CHAMBER

2025 has been packed with fantastic events, bringing members together for meaningful conversations, business development, and plenty of networking along the way. Here's what we've been up to this quarter:

The HR Roundtable - 4th September - One London Road and 25th November - Adelphi Group Ltd

Both sessions of our quarterly HR Roundtable were extremely successful, with local HR experts sharing insights and advice on emerging workforce trends, regulations, and best practices. Co-facilitated by Marie and Yasmin from Synergy Recruitment, the open forum encouraged collaboration, idea-sharing, and professional growth. Our next event is on 26th February 2026, and HR specialists are encouraged to book early.



Economic Update - 1st October - Jodrell Bank Businesses from North and South Cheshire Chamber came together at the iconic UNESCO World Heritage site for networking and insights in the Space Dome. Thomas Barker and Daniel Mahoney from Handelsbanken provided practical forecasts and analysis for the economy over the next 6-12 months, while Charles Jarvis from Cheshire East Council shared plans to support local business growth.



NCBA Winners, Sponsors and Patrons Lunch - 17th October - Shrigley Hall Hotel & Spa Winners, sponsors, and patrons of the North Cheshire Business Awards were treated to a complimentary two-course meal with fizz on arrival at the stunning Shrigley Hall. It was an excellent opportunity to celebrate achievements, connect with peers, and show appreciation for all involved in this prestigious event..



Be part of the action - the 2026 Awards are coming, will your business take part?

Monthly Network Knutsford

Held every second Wednesday of the month in collaboration with Matix Accounts, these events provide a regular and supportive networking opportunity for local businesses. This quarter saw hosts including Tatton Park, Terry Lifts, and Gusto, creating a vibrant environment to showcase businesses, make connections, and strengthen the community.



Monthly Kick-Off Breakfast - Macclesfield FC

Our energetic monthly breakfast at Macclesfield FC continues to bring members together on the third Tuesday of each month. With updates from the club and ten-minute business spotlights, members share their expertise, insights, and advice, creating a lively forum for learning and networking.



The Business Club - Hollin House

Our quarterly Business Club event, delivered in collaboration with Harts Ltd and Orbit Developments, welcomed two fantastic speakers. Tommy Taylor from Sale Sharks shared fascinating insights into his transition from professional rugby into the world of business — highlighting the surprising parallels between high-performance sport and commercial success. We also heard from James Ellson, former Detective Inspector turned novelist, whose stories brought a unique perspective to the room. This two-course networking lunch is one not to be missed, and we're already lining up some brilliant speakers for 2026!



Young Professional Network – Various Dates –
Glasshouse, Alderley Park and Macclesfield
College

Seven sessions spanning seven months, our Young Professional Network covered topics ranging from confidence in the workplace to financial awareness. These sessions provide practical skills, career development advice, and a platform for young professionals to grow, connect, and thrive.



Jingle & Mingle Chamber Christmas Lunch

Our festive Christmas Lunch was a wonderful way to close the year, with members enjoying fizz and canapés on arrival, a two-course Christmas meal, Santa hats and crackers, a fun Christmas quiz, and prizes. The day was full of festive cheer, celebrating the successes of 2025 and setting the tone for a successful 2026.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR 'CHARITY OF THE YEAR'



Tatton
Park
Charitable
Trust

A huge thank you to Chamber members who have generously raised over £500 from raffles at recent events for the Tatton Park Charitable Trust. Every contribution, big or small, makes a lasting difference, supporting vital conservation and education projects, helping protect the treasured estate and its special places for generations to come.

A big thank you to Handelsbanken for kindly donating surplus computer equipment to be reused at Tatton Park - it is much appreciated.

You can support Tatton Park Charitable Trust by purchasing a bottle of Tatton Park Gin (made from botanicals found on the estate) or through the 'Adopt a Rare Breed Animal' scheme, which includes a soft toy and adoption package - a great idea as a special gift for a loved one.

You can also get involved and support our work by volunteering, providing 'in-kind' donations,



visiting our pre-loved bookshop, leaving a legacy gift, or donating directly at <https://tattonparktrust.org/>.



GROWING WITH MACCLESFIELD IN MIND



As we welcome in a new year, we at Gumpo Digital Marketing are reflecting on what has been an exciting 2025. It has been a year of growth and connection, and we are proud to have expanded our team with six talented people. This growth has not only strengthened our services, but has also allowed us to deepen our ties to our home town of Macclesfield, and the community around us.

One of the highlights of this year has been welcoming our new Head of Operations and Delivery, Denise Timmis, to the team. Born and raised in Macclesfield, Denise brings a wealth of experience in digital marketing leadership, along with a genuine passion for supporting local businesses. For us, having a team leader who understands the community firsthand is incredibly valuable. Denise's insight and local perspective ensures that the work we do will continue to resonate with the businesses and people around us.

Our growth is about more than just expanding the team; it's about contributing positively to the

community that supports us. Being a local company means we feel a responsibility to give back. In 2026, we are excited to be planning a fundraising event for a local charity and committing time to volunteer schemes.

We have seen first-hand how the Macclesfield business community thrives when people support one another, share ideas and collaborate. Our own projects, such as our Business Diaries series, have shown the power of telling local stories and celebrating the unique strengths of small and growing businesses in the area. It's a philosophy that guides everything we do, from digital campaigns to charitable initiatives.

Looking ahead, our goal is to continue growing, providing support for local businesses and remaining active participants in the community we are proud to be part of. We believe that by investing in people and meaningful connections, 2026 will be a year of opportunity, growth and shared success for Gumpo and for Macclesfield.

A DECADE OF DIFFERENCE

Helios Global Group was founded in August 2015 with a bold vision: to do healthcare communications differently. Ten years on, our ethos, 'aim for excellence' and 'be a great place to work', continues to guide everything we do.

From our global headquarters at Alderley Park in Cheshire, we have grown into a group of communications agencies - Helios, Selene, Apollo and Cogentia - and added office locations in Manchester, Oxford, Cambridge and in Connecticut in the USA, across which we now employ more than 300 people.

We deliver impactful, scientifically driven healthcare communications that educate, change behaviour, and shape the future of patient care. Our work spans strategic consultancy, medical and scientific communications, commercialisation solutions, and evidence, value and market access.



Every project we deliver benefits from our deep scientific expertise, over 70% of our client-facing team hold PhDs or advanced degrees, and our retention rate exceeds 90%, ensuring consistency of team and quality in our project delivery.

Our clients are leading global pharmaceutical and biotech companies who trust us to work on therapies that address areas of high unmet need, and we are proud to play a role in improving global health outcomes.

As we celebrate our Decade of Difference during 2025/2026, we remain committed to our ethos and sustainable growth.

If you are looking for a healthcare communications partner who blends scientific excellence with creative execution, get in touch. Visit our website www.heliosglobalgroup.com or contact Helen.Hey@heliosglobalgroup.com, Head of Global Partnerships.

CONTEXT PARTNERS WITH LOCAL DISABLED CHILDREN'S CHARITY FRIENDS FOR LEISURE

[Context Public Relations](#) and [Friends for Leisure](#), a Cheshire East charity supporting disabled children and young people, have announced a pro bono partnership to promote the work the charity does in the local area.

Originally founded by a group of parents in Macclesfield who wanted to provide friendship and leisure opportunities for their disabled children, the charity now has two full-time, four part-time and five casual members of staff and is supported by a network of up to 100 volunteers.

“We're proud of our Cheshire heritage, so the opportunity to support a local charity that does such incredible work in our community is something we're very passionate about,” said Jenni Livesley, Managing Director at Context. “We look forward to working with the team at Friends for Leisure to raise awareness of their work and help generate vital funds for the charity.”

Amanda Hunt, General Manager of Friends for Leisure said: “At a time when securing funding is more competitive than ever, having the support and expertise of an organisation such as Context is vital. We're extremely grateful to Jenni and her team for the work they've already done and look forward to a bright future together.”

The charity is appealing to 30 local businesses to each donate £1,000 with the goal of raising £30,000 in extra funding to support the wide range of activities. If your organisation is interested, please get in touch on 01260 275333 or email info@friendsforleisure.org.uk



Amanda Hunt, General Manager at Friends for Leisure

The Hidden Reason Burnout Is Rising AND What Businesses Can Do About It

Burnout isn't rising because people are weaker. It's rising because workplaces are running on outdated assumptions about how humans function.

Most organisations still approach burnout through training sessions on stress, resilience, and time management. Useful in theory but ineffective in practice. Not because the content is wrong, but because it doesn't address the real driver: **the behaviour patterns running quietly in the background.**

Every business is powered by humans, and humans operate from subconscious habits, especially under pressure. When stress increases, people fall back on old safety patterns:

- High performers stay silent to "hold it together."
- Insecure managers tighten control to hide their own uncertainty.
- Senior leaders delay difficult decisions to avoid conflict.

These patterns collide and create the perfect conditions for burnout, miscommunication, and psychological tension long before anyone realises what's happening.

The good news?

When people understand *why* they behave the way they do, everything changes. Communication becomes cleaner. Decisions become clearer. Pressure drops. Teams move from firefighting to functioning.

This is the foundation of my **LEAD from WITHIN™ Method**. An approach grounded in behavioural awareness and nervous-system literacy, designed for modern workplaces where old leadership models no longer fit.

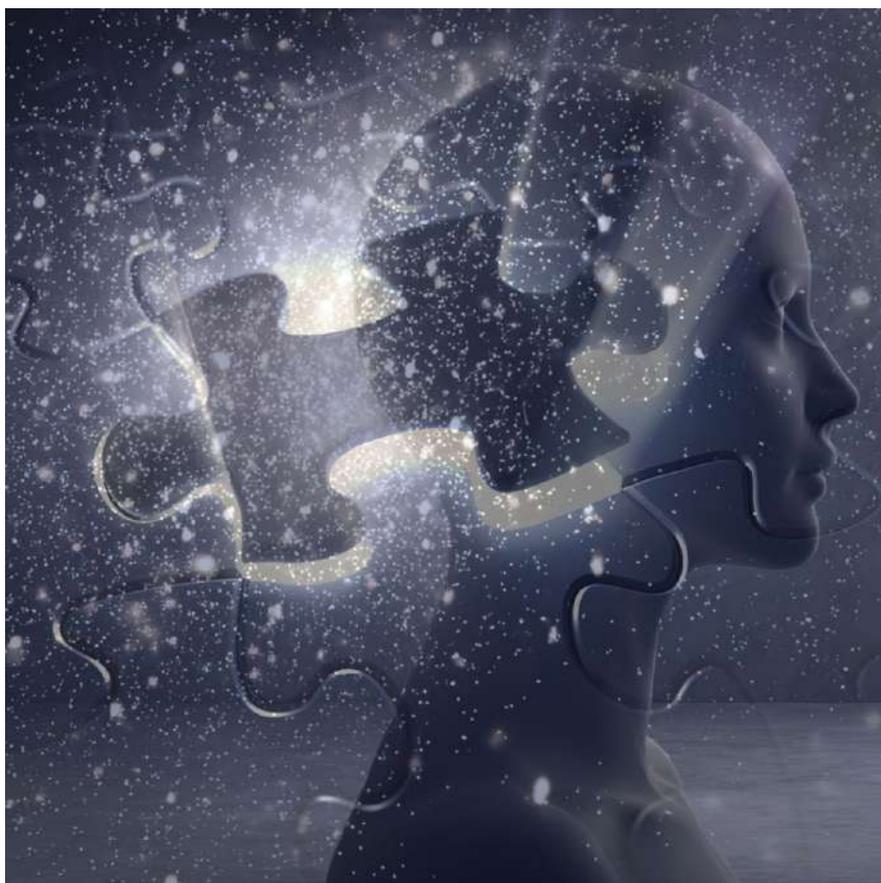
The shift is simple:

Instead of teaching people to *cope* with stress, we help them recognise and adjust the patterns creating it.

Businesses that adopt this approach see stronger self-trust, healthier communication, and far more stable performance.

Burnout isn't inevitable. It's a signal that the way we lead needs to evolve.

And now is the perfect time to start.



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ELEVATING ACCESSIBILITY WITH A NEW ERA AT TERRY LIFTS

Terry Lifts

◆ THE ONE TO TRUST ◆

This year marks an important milestone for Terry Lifts as we proudly announce our acquisition by Bruno Independent Living Aids – one of North America’s leading accessibility providers. This partnership opens the door to fresh opportunities for innovation, stronger market reach and continued excellence in everything we design and manufacture.

Since 1948, Terry Lifts has been trusted for delivering safe, reliable and high-quality home and public access lifts. Our team remains committed to supporting people to live comfortably and independently in the spaces they love.

Bruno, a veteran-founded and family-owned organisation based in Wisconsin, brings a complementary range of mobility solutions and a

shared dedication to improving lives. Together, we are combining expertise, investment and innovation to enhance our offering and accelerate the development of new solutions for customers here in the UK and internationally.

As Managing Director, Tim Barrow shared: “The synergy between our companies creates significant opportunities for innovation and expansion. We’re thrilled to join the Bruno family and continue designing and manufacturing quality lifts to the highest standards.”

While this new partnership strengthens our global position, our roots remain right here in Cheshire. Our people, our factory and our focus on British-designed and manufactured products remain at the heart of what we do.

We look forward to continuing to support our customers, partners and communities—now with even greater capability. Our mission remains unchanged: to provide lift solutions that elevate everyday living.



A NEW CHAPTER IN OFFICE WORKSPACE



The office leasing market has undergone a dramatic transformation in recent years, evolving faster than in previous decades. Driven by occupier demands, landlords like Orbit Developments have reimagined how workspaces are presented, moving far beyond the traditional “blank canvas” approach.

Today’s offices are no longer just about location and square footage—they are about experience, functionality, and design. Landlords are increasingly delivering fitted and furnished spaces, offering occupiers a “show home” finish that is ready to move into. This trend, once confined to city centres, has spread across business parks and suburban locations, reflecting a broader shift in workplace expectations.

Orbit Developments has embraced this evolution considering not only aesthetics but also the practical and environmental needs of occupiers. From exposed finishes to suite-specific sustainability improvements, every detail is carefully curated to meet modern demands.

Springwood Court in Tytherington exemplifies this new era of workspace. Its ground floor, spanning 6,458 sq. ft, is a fully fitted office complete with a modern kitchen, four meeting rooms, open-plan office space with desks, and even a shower. With on-site parking and proximity to amenities such as a Premier Inn, Harvester, café, and nursery, it offers convenience alongside comfort.

Orbit further enhances the workplace experience with community-focused initiatives—regular food trucks, free yoga and mindfulness classes, and summer barbecues. The result is a workspace that goes beyond functionality, creating a vibrant hub where businesses and people thrive.

www.orbit-developments.co.uk/property/springwood-court/



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE - SUE HEAVEN HEAD OF P.R & FUNDRAISING



As we reflect on another successful year at Rossendale Trust, we extend our heartfelt thanks to the outstanding businesses, organisations, and individuals who continue to support our mission. Your involvement has created real opportunities, built confidence, and enriched the lives of the people we support every single day.

To our valued WorkTaste providers, thank you for opening your doors and offering meaningful workplace experiences. Your willingness to mentor, guide, and welcome participants into your teams not only builds practical skills but also fosters personal growth. These placements truly change lives, and they are possible because of your commitment.

To our event sponsors and attendees, your generosity enables us to continue innovating, developing new opportunities, and expanding the

reach of our activities. Funds raised at our events strengthen the foundation of our work and allow us to plan ambitiously for the future.

To our dedicated Make a Difference volunteers, you genuinely live up to your name. By giving time, skills, and enthusiasm, you bring energy and warmth to our community. Your contributions help create and maintain a welcoming environment where everyone can flourish.

Together, you form a remarkable network of partners, and we are deeply grateful for your continued involvement and collaboration. Thank you for standing with us, for investing in our vision, and for helping make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

If you would like to discover how you can support us in 2026, please email hello@rossendaletrust.org



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