Community News.

05/26

electricworks

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Image: Ian Whitworth and Andy Tyas

Mercia welcomes Investment Manager joining the Sheffield team as valued colleague retires

Mercia Asset Management has operated out of Electric Works since September 2017. From its Sheffield base, a team of nine manage **The British Business Bank** investments in Small to Medium size Enterprises (SMEs) throughout South Yorkshire, with a remit to grow the regional economy through venture capital, private equity and debt funds.

Last month the Sheffield-based team welcomed new Investment Manager Ian Whitworth to Electric Works. Ian has 35 years experience in banking and finance and will be working with SMEs to access loans up to £2 million. Next month, Mercia will bid farewell to Andy Tyas who is retiring after six years working from Electric Works and a 43-year-long career in financial services. Andy plans to spend his time playing and watching sport, travelling and volunteering - which sounds pretty good to us! A warm welcome to Ian and all the best to Andy from Mercia Asset Management and the wider Electric Works community.

Recruitment & Retention Support in Sheffield

Recruiting and retaining great people is critical to business growth - and is often cited as a major reason for why businesses choose to locate at Electric Works. The central location, easy access to public transport, bike and parking facilities and proximity to cafe's, bars and shops are all magnetic factors for employees. In a city with two outstanding universities and a buoyant apprenticeship landscape, our workspace community also benefits from a rich pipeline of students and apprentices from across the region and from being plugged into a range of business support programmes and networks designed to grow businesses, deliver skills and support recruitment. Read on to learn more about some of the local networks and resources you can access to support business growth, skills development, and recruitment.

APPRENTICESHIPS

South Yorkshire Apprenticeships provide specialist help for businesses, with a particular focus on SMEs, to access talent across the region and address skills shortages - this includes providing bespoke advice and guidance for recruiting firms. Apprenticeships present an opportunity to attract new people and to upskill and retain existing teams, creating a skilled workforce for the future by ensuring employees are equipped long term for sustainable growth.

Learn more: https://southyorkshireapprenticeships.org/

Source: https://southyorkshireapprenticeships.org/employers

BUSINESS SHEFFIELD

Business Sheffield's Growth Advisors are matched with businesses based on their sector specialisms and the business needs. The Team support businesses to grow by accessing talent, upskilling teams and connecting in with regional and national funding and skills programmes. Learn more: **https://www.welcometosheffield.co.uk/business/help-for-local-businesses/meet-our-team/**

SHEFFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sheffield Chamber of Commerce is a membership organisations for businesses of all sizes. As well as representing Sheffield's needs at a national level with government, industry, and through the British Chamber of Commerce, the team invest heavily in building community locally; organising networking events, business showcases, trade fairs, skills and recruitment programmes. Specifically, their collaborations with sector groups, regional universities, schools and colleges are designed to unlock opportunities for local people and support regional business growth. Learn more: **https://www.scci.org.uk/**

SOUTH YORKSHIRE GROWTH HUB

The South Yorkshire Growth plan, produced and owned by South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority, sets our a clear ambition to deliver a bigger, better economy for South Yorkshire. The plan includes a number of services delivered by the Mayor's team at the South Yorkshire Growth Hub, designed to support businesses to access new talent and upskill employees. Services include the Skills Bank, Skills Bootcamp, Made Smarter, Pathways, South Yorkshire Apprenticeship Hub. Learn more: **https://business.southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk/**

ELECTRIC WORKS PUZZLE CLUB

SUDOKU RULES:

- If you crack the puzzle, you can pop down to reception and tell reception the answers.
- If you're correct, your name will be added to the prize draw along with all other winners.
- The more you participate, the more times your name will be added to the prize draw and the better your chances of winning.
- One lucky winner is picked randomly and announced in the newsletter each quarter. If it's your name called, pop to reception and claim your prize. The next prize draw will be in the June 2026 newsletter.

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6			1	9	5			
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4			8		3			1
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Sheffield Chamber Music Festival 2026

Join Music in the Round for this year's Chamber Music Festival in Sheffield taking place Friday 15 – Saturday 23 May, as they welcome some of the world's finest musicians and stellar guest artists. Guest Curator, and RPS Singer of the Year 2025, Claire Booth will kick off the 2026 edition with a one-woman opera retelling the story of ‘the last real Viking’, Harald Hardrada, by Judith Weir.

Additionally, the programme features a rich mix of beloved chamber works by Beethoven and Brahms, alongside more adventurous performances. Highlights include an opera for children, and a unique day of music and walking in the Peak District. The event will run from 15 May 2026 - 23 May 2026, so be sure to grab a ticket while you can!

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Click on events to see more

WHAT'S ON IN SHEFFIELD?

World Seniors Snooker Championship 2026

The World Seniors Snooker Championship returns in 2026 with many of the legends of yesteryear once again competing at the Crucible, Each year the tournament features an all-star field of household names and international qualifiers.

06 May 2026 - 10 May 2026

Quayside Market: May 2026

A street food market held at the heart of Sheffield's canal basin! Quayside returns to Victoria Quays. The market will also be taking place throughout 2026 on the second weekend of every month April - September.

09 May 2026 - 10 May 2026

Sheffield Fake Festival: May 2026

The Sheffield Fake Festival returns to Endcliffe Park with fake bands for Queen (Flash), Arctic Monkeys (Antarctic Monkeys), Fleetwood Mac (Fleeting Rumours), Green Day (Ultimate Green Day), INXS (INXS UK), REM (Stipe).

Saturday May 16th 2026

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Click on events to see more

WHAT'S ON IN SHEFFIELD?

Premier League Darts 2026

Premier League returns to Sheffield in 2026, as the Utilita Arena plays host to another night of top-class darting action. The 2026 Premier League will roll into South Yorkshire for the final night of league action on Thursday May 21st.

21 May 2026

Sheffield 999 Fun Day 2026

Taking place across The Moor in Sheffield city centre, the free event is held in partnership with the National Emergency Services Museum and brings together emergency services from across the region for an unforgettable family day out.

Sunday 10 May 10:00 - 16:00

Sheffield Food Festival 2026

One of the city's largest free to attend events for all the family, the festival is a bustling exhibition of Sheffield’s flourishing food & drink scene, with 90% of the traders taking part, based locally.

Sat 23- Sun 25 May

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