

# SALE NEWS

Town Partnership

Town Centre Update Issue 7 WINTER 2009

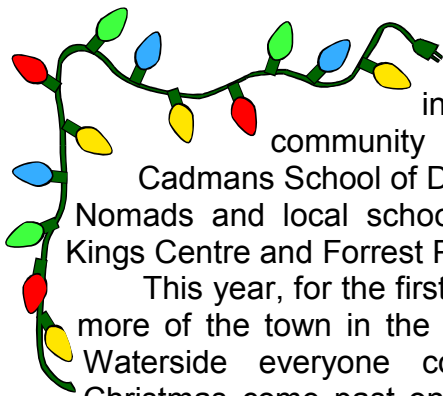
## NEXT PARTNERSHIP MEETING — TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY 2010

at the Waterside Arts Centre, Sale Waterside

**AGENDA:** Update from the Police, car parking, street cleaning, new membership benefits, town centre trends .....and anything you want to talk about!

## CHRISTMAS IN SALE

Switch on event took place on  
Saturday 28th November at The Square



The programme included local community groups including Cadmans School of Dance, Sale Nomads and local school choirs from the Kings Centre and Forrest Park.

This year, for the first time, we included more of the town in the action. From Sale Waterside everyone could see Father Christmas come past on a flotilla of boats and join in with other festive activities.

The Christmas Wish Bookmark competition has been run again this year and the winning entry will be made into bookmarks and distributed to the schools and libraries.

If you have any ideas as to how we should supplement the Christmas programme next year, let us know!

A huge thanks to everyone taking part in the Christmas activities and to The Square for their continuing sponsorship.

Christmas competition prizes were donated by Wilkinson's and Marks and Spencer.

## Christmas Trading Hours

The Square Shopping Centre and a number of the smaller shops will be opening on Sundays in the run up to Christmas.

### Sunday Trading

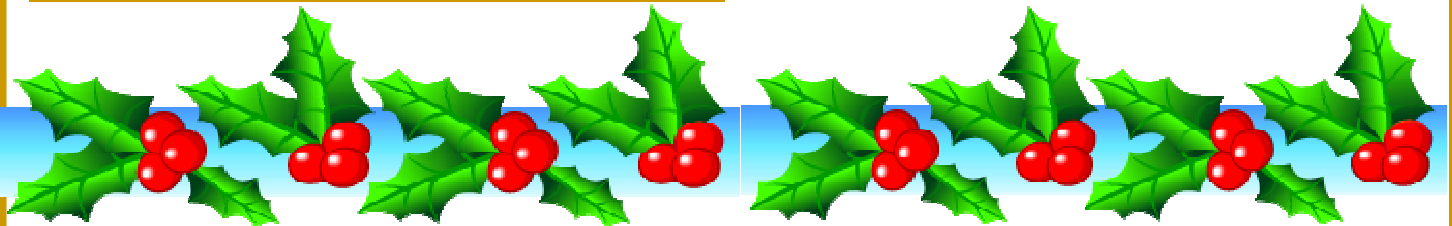
6th Dec  
13th Dec  
20th Dec

### Late Night Trading

Thurs 10th OPEN until 8pm  
Thurs 17th OPEN until 8pm

## FREE Parking after 3pm

Don't forget to tell your customers that parking is FREE after 3pm – Monday to Friday and all day Sunday in the Council owned car park on Oaklands Drive and Council owned, on street parking bays.



### In this issue:

VAT Holiday to End  
Business Rate Revaluation  
Help with Business Rates

Membership Benefits  
Free Training  
Free Business Advice

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

## Help with Business Rates

The government have introduced a scheme for most ratepayers to defer 3% of their total rate bill for 2009/10 —the Business Rates Deferral Scheme.

The deferred amount has to be paid back over the next two financial years in equal portions; half during 2010/11 and half over 2011/12.

All traders will receive a letter from Trafford's Revenue Services inviting them to apply. However, in the meantime all ratepayers should carry on paying their existing rate bills.

## Rates Revaluation

Rate revaluation for all commercial property will take effect on 1 April 2010 and is based on market rental valuations as of April 2008. Most businesses will see increases in their rateable value and it is recognised as a serious cost issues for businesses.

Business rates are set by the Valuation Office Agency, collected locally, but redistributed by central government.

Therefore, we recommend that all businesses investigate the ways rate bills can be reduced, including transitional relief. Information is available at [www.trafford.gov.uk/business](http://www.trafford.gov.uk/business).

More information and to appeal your new valuation visit [www.voa.gov.uk/2010](http://www.voa.gov.uk/2010).

## Membership Benefits

**Don't forget that Sale Town Partnership is here to represent you!**

As a member you can make use of the following:

- ◆ Presence on [www.saletowncentre.co.uk](http://www.saletowncentre.co.uk) where you can also promote your special offers
- ◆ First refusal for Trafford Today editorial, promotions and PR
- ◆ Direct contact with Hazel Kimmitt / Penny Bell as Council officers to act on your concerns
- ◆ The Partnership as a collective voice in lobbying for changes

## VAT Holiday to End

**The standard rate of VAT will return to 17.5 per cent on 1 January 2010.**

For any sales of standard-rated goods or services that you make on or after 1 January 2010 you must charge VAT at the rate of 17.5%.

## Training Opportunity Not to be missed!

Firms in Sale now have the opportunity for **FREE** training specifically designed with retailers in mind.

Sessions in customer service, sales training & team leading can help boost your staff's motivation, increase customer satisfaction and your business performance. Staff could also gain qualifications.

Sessions will be run locally in February by the Manchester College as part of this ATCM Project to help small retailers in the North West.

To find out more, contact Angela Lofters on 0161 935 4068/0161 920 4466 or e-mail [angela.lofters@themanchestercollege.ac.uk](mailto:angela.lofters@themanchestercollege.ac.uk)

## Free Business Advice & Support

BusinessLink have lots of practical advice, information and support for all businesses. Including information on how to manage during the recession, marketing and business efficiency, training and how to look after those staff working alone.

Their website has lots more information — [www.businesslink.gov.uk/northwest](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/northwest)

**Sale Town Partnership**—Chair-Jessica Reece    Area Coordinator—Hazel Kimmitt  
Area Services, Room 28, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford, M32 0YT  
Telephone—0161 912 1173 Email—[hazel.kimmitt@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:hazel.kimmitt@trafford.gov.uk)