

Welcome

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Winter edition of Elements magazine.

It's been quite a busy period over the last few weeks. We've really enjoyed getting back to some semblance of normality and seeing actual people, rather than faces on a screen. Obviously working life is still a little different to how it used to be and much is still managed virtually, but it has been great to see people actually interacting with each other, and the pleasure it brings to everyone is clear.

First came ChemUK, the success of which you can read about inside the magazine. Equally, we held our first networking event, since lockdown, in October in Daresbury when we enjoyed some breakfast, some interesting presentations and members were able to chat about the issues that are on their minds at the moment. We'll be holding another in January, so do look out for the date on our social media posts and emails.

We recently had the news that Hynet has been awarded Track 1 status, ensuring that the North West will begin decarbonisation from 2025. Many of our member companies are involved in the project, which sees them employ really creative and innovative solutions to the issues around hydrogen production and storage, as well as carbon capture and storage, raising the prominence of the North West chemicals sector.

Also in this issue, we launch the Chemical Northwest Awards for 2022, which you will remember are taking place at The Point, Lancashire County Cricket Club, Emirates Old Trafford, Manchester on the 24th March 2022. We're currently planning the event to make sure it is the highlight of your social calendar!

Members have provided a range of articles and news stories for you for this issue, covering topics such as nurturing and rewarding talent, tips for those seeking patents or protecting those already in place, the value of data analysis and management through to managing risk and assets on sites. We hope you enjoy them.

Please keep an eye on our website for upcoming events, news, industry updates, careers information and the latest Elements magazine <https://www.cia.org.uk/chemicalsnorthwest/>

If there is anything else you need from us, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Fiona Hought - Member Services and Events

About us...

Chemicals Northwest is an established business network wholly owned by the Chemical Industries Association.

With around 160 members we actively promote this important regional sector and our objective is to help membership to grow through;

- **facilitating** networking events, common interest groups and interactive workshops, all aimed at covering topical industry issues.
- **supporting** projects and programmes that identify and enhance business performance and generally support continuous improvement across the sector.
- **promoting** science and engineering based skills, helping to address the region's future needs.
- **improving** the image of the industry overall, including generating a positive reputation, through communicating achievements and success.
- **contributing** to the industry's strategic voice and the national growth agenda aligned to the work of the Chemical Industries Association.
- **connecting** the community of chemistry-using businesses and the vital supply chains here in the Northwest.

Chemicals Northwest really does bring people together! It is an essential feature of successful networking strategies used by many organisations. We coordinate a range of meetings and events to enable 'face to face' networking for the benefit of all members. Every successful business networking organisation also needs effective communications channels.

As a result of gradual development over recent years, getting messages across, promoting member companies and reporting news, Chemicals Northwest has reached new levels of topicality and quality. Here are the the main features and benefits of membership...

