

Q





# CONTENTS

## Q MAGAZINE



### 4 WHO WE ARE

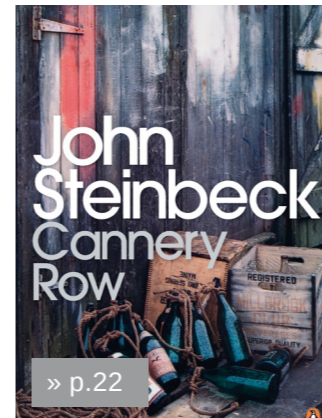
A brief introduction to the Quattro Club.

### 7 FILM CLUB

Come and join us for our Film of the month, as chosen by you!

### 10 PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Fabulous photos from our latest tour of MediaCity.



### 16 BOARD GAME CLUB

A night with the board game club, as narrated by Rachael Smith.

### 22 BOOK CLUB

All about the book club and our secret santa book swap!

### 24 WHATS GOING ON

The latest developments around Manchester.

### 30 GET INVOLVED

Join our clubs or even start your own, all you need to know to get involved with the Quattro Club.





# OH, HELLO.

■ WELCOME TO QUATTRO CLUB! ■

It's certainly no secret that us AutoTrader employees absolutely excel in finding ways to really let our agile locks down and enjoy ourselves as well as explore ways of how to make our working environment exciting and enticing.

For those of us with long-standing careers and for those of us to whom working for AutoTrader is a new adventure, this has always been an integral part of our fabric, which is what has seen us take this ethic by the proverbial wheel and steer us in a new direction.



## So... What is Quattro Club?

The Quattro Club, inspired by our beloved 4th floor Audi and following in the footsteps of the astounding success of London Kings Cross' sports and social-esque phenomenon, aptly entitled 'The Mini Club' (if you haven't seen the ceiling-suspended Mini Coopers in our London office, then you are certainly missing out on a visual treat!), formed in the early parts of 2016, bringing together eager individuals across our Manchester office to encourage our colleagues to meet new people, informally network and become involved in a number of extra-curricular activities.

## What have we achieved so far?

Well, judging by the introduction of our new Quarterly publication, the consensus would imply this year has gone very well indeed – better than anticipated, and with plenty room for growth in 2017!

We've seen the birth of well-established clubs, such as Film Club, Board Game Club and the newly anticipated Book Club. And with plans to offer more expansive activities, such as Dinner Club – having the potential opportunity to enjoy the fruits of Manchester's finest dining and enticing street food restaurants at a discounted rates, Walking Club – offering excursions to all employees on a first come first served basis, we are excited to see this publication grow from strength to strength.





*As a huge movie fan, I absolutely loved the idea of a film club at work, and as a new apprentice I thought of it as a good way of meeting new people across the business. The first movie we went to see was Dr Strange, and what a movie that was, with its mind-blowing visual effects coming to life in 3D. Although it's a superhero movie, it didn't follow the concept of traditional super strength that other heroes have or seek to achieve to overwhelm their adversaries. But that doesn't mean that I didn't enjoy the traditional Marvel easter eggs and the final cut scene, which links Dr Strange to the Marvel Universe. Overall, the movie was amazing and was portrayed perfectly by Benedict Cumberbatch.*

*- AHMAD ALOMARY*

# FILM CLUB

## WHAT DO YOUR COLLEAGUES THINK OF FILM CLUB?

The film club is a great way to spend time with colleagues outside of work. Since joining I have found that not only do we go to the movie together, we usually find ourselves hanging out beforehand, going for food or drinks, occasionally heading out afterwards together as well. I love being able to watch the latest releases with my team, and since it's started they have had some great films on the line up. The last film we went to see was Fantastic Beasts. It was a truly phenomenal film that leaves you questioning reality for a little while afterwards. Easily one of the best releases of the year (after Bridget Jones' Baby of course) and it was amazing that we were able to get tickets from work to experience it when we otherwise might not have.

*- JENNI FOSTER*





Hello everyone, as some of you may know I'm disabled so socialising has been quite difficult in recent times, but joining the film club has really helped, and getting the opportunity to go to films I want to see with my friends has got me out of my flat of an evening and cheered me up. We went to see Star Trek Beyond in July and I really enjoyed it, I've been a Star Trek fan for as long as I can remember, we went to the AMC cinema which is not that far from work and has good facilities. The film stars Chris Pine (Kirk), Zachary Quinto (Spock) and Zoe Saldana (Uhura). It's the third film since the JJ Abrams reboot. The film is dedicated to Anton Yelchin who played Chekov and sadly died in a freak accident shortly after the film was finished. I watched it again last night on DVD just to refresh my memory, Idris Elba is the protagonist though you wouldn't know under all the makeup, it's action all the way moving quickly from one dire situation to the next and filling the screen with big visuals like you tend to get in big budget Hollywood movies these days. I liked that they reference the passing of Leonard Nimoy, but it doesn't add anything much to the Star Trek mythology.

- ANDY SHAW





# PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

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A few of us went to Media City with our cameras and tripods on a cold evening in early November.











## Upcoming photography events

Monday January 9th @ 1900 for 2 hours, in First Street, we are welcoming the renowned Landscape Photographer Simon Kitchin to talk about his work and give useful tips on how he achieves his amazing images.





# BOARD GAME CLUB

## A NIGHT WITH THE BOARD GAME CLUB

Board Game Club was one of the earliest social groups to come out of the Quattro Club. We are a bunch of people who, every other Thursday evening, get together on the 6th floor with pizza, snacks and board games. It's not the same group of people every time, it's not the same games, and it's never the same experience.

There are a couple of common misconceptions about the Board Game Club. The first misconception is what board games actually are. Either they are something family destroying like Monopoly or are only for D&D playing nerds. The second misconception is that you have to know anything about board games to join in the board game club. This article

should dispel you of both, and maybe convince you to join us at our tabletop.

Monopoly, Connect 4, Snakes and Ladders... that's not us. We are living in the Golden Age of Board Games, and tabletop gaming has surged in popularity. Modern board gaming is all about enjoyable, accessible games. Games like Monopoly pit you against each other, are boring if you're not winning, and simply aren't fun. Our club is all about making sure everyone is having fun, even if they're losing, – and trust me, I know a lot about losing!

The club now owns a good collection of games, ranging in theme and playtime, with people often bringing in their own games in for us to try out.

Our current list includes: Catan (2-6 players), Pandemic, Ticket to Ride Europe, Betrayal at House on the Hill, 7 Wonders, Cash & Guns, Zombie Dice and Sushi GO! Don't worry if this list means nothing to you, everybody has to learn how to play, and very few members of

the club have great experience with many or all of these games.

A list of games is all well and good, but what does a night with the board game club actually look like? Well...





It usually starts with pizza and snacks, we agree what we want to eat or dive in to some tasty Domino's. People drift in around 5:30 - 6, and we chat about what we want to play that night. If we're waiting on people or food, we'll play a quick game like Zombie Dice or Sushi Go!

For a long time, all we ended up playing was Settlers of Catan. It was the first game we got, and is often held up as the game that sparked the Renaissance of Board Games. Even now, we play Catan a lot, there's no better game to dip your toe in with. For 2 - 4 people, with an expansion for up to 6 players available, you play as a band of settlers on the island of Catan. You build roads across the varying terrain, collect resources and build settlements and cities as your culture grows.

Catan is a Eurogame, which means it's easy to learn, difficult to be terrible at, and great to socialise over. The resources you collect include Sheep, Wood, Ore and Brick, with your share determined by the roll of the dice and where you position your settlements. You'll never have the exact resources

you want, meaning you'll need to trade with others. Balancing the need for resources, with not giving your opponent too much help, and trying not to laugh at the phrase "Does anyone have wood?" is what makes Catan so enduring and fun to play.



Our most recent game purchase, was for our Spooky Halloween night. In Betrayal at House on the Hill, you are a group of people exploring a haunted house at night. As you move your character around the house, you reveal new rooms with spooky omens or nasty surprises

that can effect Might, Speed, Knowledge or Sanity levels. Once enough omens are revealed, the haunt begins...

One player (who finds the last bad omen) turns traitor, their character is now working for the dark side, and the rest of the group must defeat them. In our Halloween game, I had the great honour of becoming the traitor. My character became possessed by the spirit of an evil Mummy, trying to kidnap a little girl that was to become his bride in the afterlife. I got to control my character and the Mummy monster, which both went on a murdering spree trying to get through the good guys to the little girl.

It was their job to protect the little girl until they could find the items they needed to banish the evil spirit from this world. I didn't know that, and they didn't know what I needed to do to win. It was great fun trying to figure out what 'we need to get 'that' item' meant.

In the end, all the good guys had died except for one, who was cornered with



the little girl by my character and Mummy. It was very close, as the hero read the sacred text to banish the Mummy, and rolling the dice to check they had a high enough Knowledge stat to win. If they failed, it would be my turn, and my Mummy would smash the hero and take the girl back to be his bride. But fortunately for the good guys, the dice roll was in their favour, and they defeated the evil Mummy.

All this took place in the space of a couple of hours, and was a lot of fun. Board games provide an amazing space to socialise and get to know people (eg, how evil I can be when the villain). In this modern, digital world, board games are something tactile and real. The people you're playing with are sat in front of you, not hundreds of miles away. More than anything, it's just fun. It's always a laugh. We aren't serious and we don't judge people who haven't played games before. One of the most fun things is introducing a game you love, to somebody who hasn't played it before. We aren't secretive either, we'll be a regular feature in the Q-Mag, and we have a fairly noisy Yammer group you should check out. Failing that, just join us. Sit and watch, eat our food, and maybe give the tabletop a chance.





# BOOK CLUB

YAMMER GROUP

## Book Swap!

Over Christmas we organised a Book Swap! Here is what one swapper thought of the swap:

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I have never been part of a book club and to be honest was not sure what to expect or have any great expectations, when the suggestion was raised on the secret santa “book swap” I wasn't sure this would be something I would take part in as I am really picky on what I read due to hectic lifestyle, I was a bit nervous but decided to go ahead with the swap curiosity got the better of me.

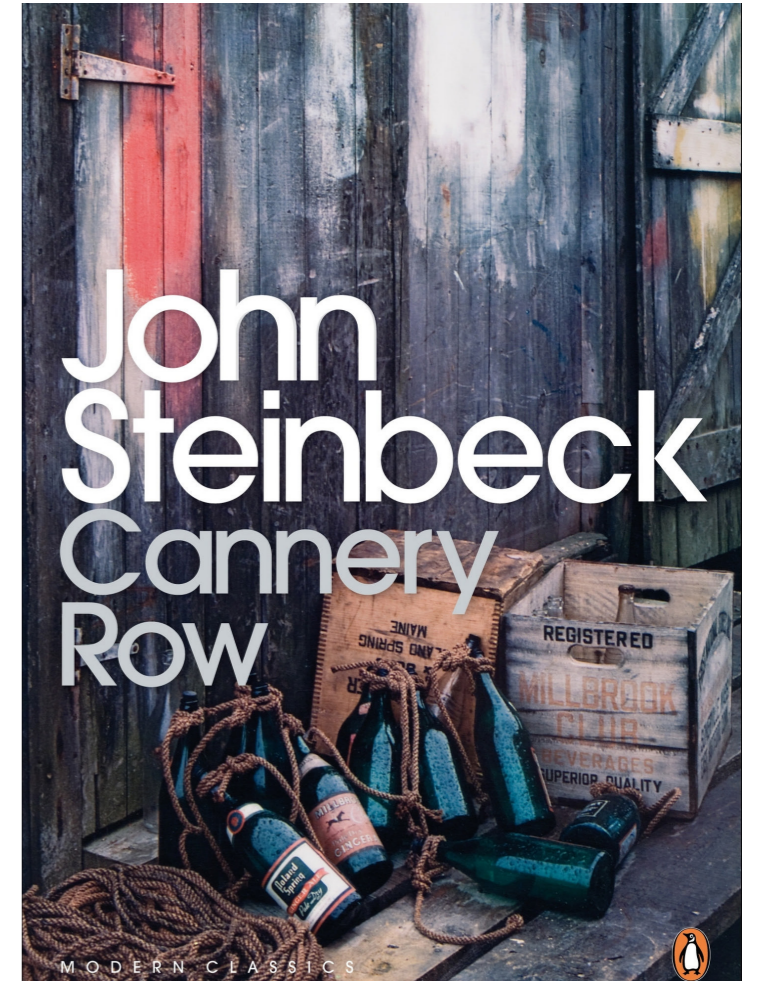
I exchanged my book and recieved a neatly wrapped book once opened it was “About a boy: by Nick Hornby still a bit nervous as this is a genre I don't read however I decided to try one chapter and to my absolute delight I am loving the book so much so that I am now finding it hard to put down. Thanks to the club if it was not for the book swap idea I would never have touched this genre and not realised what I was missing.

## About the Book Club

Our aim within the book club is to help people get into reading more. Whether you love to read and want to discover something new, or if you don't read but want to start we aim to cater for you!

We are aiming to read a book a month, starting with Cannery Row by John Steinbeck.

If you want to join the book club, find us on Yammer today!



## The Duo Behind the Club



**Jemma Millman**

**Favourite Book:** Perks of Being a Wallflower

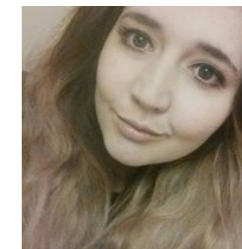
**Currently Reading:** Modern Romance by Aziz Ansari

**Favourite Film:** Pulp Fiction

**Favourite Food:** Salt & Vinegar Crisps

**Favourite TV Show:** 30 Rock

**Favourite Band:** The Smiths



**Jenni Foster**

**Favourite Book:** American Psycho

**Currently Reading:** The Psychopath Test by Jon Ronson

**Favourite** Trainspotting

**Favourite Food:** Steak & Ale Pie

**Favourite TV Show:** Sex and the City

**Favourite Band:** The Modern Lovers



# WHAT'S GOING ON

A LOOK AT THE DEVELOPMENTS AROUND US

Artist impressions of 'Gazprom towers' -  
Coming soon next door to our office





## Great Jackson Street

Plans have now been lodged with Manchester's town hall for the cluster of four residential towers that will transform the city's skyline, situated on Great Jackson Street site. This ranks as the most ambitious of several proposed schemes that could turn Manchester city centre into a high-rise residential area.

CQ Investments, part of construction group Renaker Build, aims to build 1,400 flats on the site between Owen Street and Deansgate. The four towers will range from 37, 44, and 50 storeys to a massive 64 storeys high, overshadowing Manchester's present tallest building the Beetham Tower at only 47 storeys.

Designed by Simpson Haugh & Partners, with Beetham Tower designer Ian Simpson, the glazed towers will feature unusual inverted facades on each face of the buildings. If this ambitious plan gets the go-ahead, the residents will have access to an indoor tennis court, swimming pool and spa, as well as a gym, beauty treatment

facilities, cinema and rooftop bar.

Developers are also planning three levels of basement parking, complete with a pick-up and drop-off zone.





## Axis Tower - Approved and underway

This 27-storey skyscraper, in the shadow of the Beetham Tower, was granted planning permission in 2014. Sandwiched on the smallest bit of land on the edge of Deansgate Locks – bounded by Albion Street and Trafford Street – it will feature 174 apartments and a massive illuminated advertising screen facing towards the south.



## Whitworth Street

Situated on Whitworth Street, and just across the road from the Axis Tower currently under development, but still in the shadows of the Beetham Tower lies the next development.

Not to be outdone, the developers of 10-12 Whitworth Street West, want to make their skyscraper even higher than Axis – at 35 storeys.

Work has now started with the demolition of the original buildings.





# GET INVOLVED

■ ALL OUR CLUBS ARE FREE TO JOIN! ■

## What's in it for me?

Everything!

In most cases to date, all you need to do is register your interest by joining the groups you really want to join in Yammer and keep posted for updates. Groups like Film Club will use their yammer group to announce the film pick of the month along with a screening date and time, then it's fastest finger on the buzzer (by buzzer, we mean yammer or email to the group leader) and the ticket is yours! Other groups, like Dinner Club, will follow a similar suit and may ask for a small contribution (let's call it £5 for 3 courses, for example) and then we pay the rest!

So, if you're a social butterfly lacking wind in your wings then browse the groups and see what interests you. If you are interested in something more specific, such as playing Netball, reading, writing, walking, eating, but don't have a group in which to partake with, feel encouraged to register your interest directly for updates on what's coming next!

You're truly missing out on being part of great activities, new, exciting and often free ways to integrate and network with colleagues and peers alike who share similar interests!

## I'd like to be more involved with Quattro Club - How can I get started?

Quattro Club hold regular meetings to ensure we are being as inclusive as we can be, welcoming new members to the group as well as discussing ideas and practicalities for new cubs and activities.

If you have an idea for a group or a club in mind that really has some gumption, we actively urge you to get in touch – we'd love to hear from you and really make your idea become a reality!

Alternatively, you may be looking to express yourselves more creatively from an editorial perspective.

We are always on the hunt for new talent, new perspectives and a new voice. Should you want to write for us or being involved in our magazine production in any way, please don't hesitate to contact Quattro Club on Yammer directly and one of our team will be in touch to invite you to one of our meetings.

Here, you'll get to 'meet and greet' with the team and work through your ideas collaboratively.

Whether you'll be donning those 3D specs at our next Box Office smash showing or demonstrating your effortless Goal Defence skills at a local netball tournament, we look forward to seeing you soon!





Following on from the success of Netball Club, in the new year we will be forming a **Netball Team**

- Regular league games
- Suitable for all levels
- Fun way to improve fitness
- Regular social events
- Auto Trader kit

Everyone welcome to come along, the more the merrier.

We plan to play matches in a league suitable for all abilities, in the Manchester area local to the office.

**To register your interest email  
Polly Caldwell**



Are you interested in sports and social events?

Would you like to see and create more clubs in Auto Trader

- Help run these and take ownership?

Then you are looking in the right place.

We are currently recruiting for more Auto Trader staff to be part of the Quattro Club.

Each member of The Quattro Club will be responsible for representing their department with ideas for office wide social events. The calendar of events will include seasonal, cultural, sporting and charitable events.

We currently have a number of clubs, ranging from Cinema Club to Board Game Club. We are really keen to get more Sports games up and running, so if this is your forte, please let us know.

If you'd like to join, please e-mail Helen Robinson, and you can join the regular monthly meet ups, and discuss new ideas.

During our regular monthly meet ups, you will get the opportunity come up with great, new ideas in which you will also be responsible for helping plan and execute. Please discuss with the rest of your team if you would like to put yourself forward as we'd like to have an equal number of representatives across all departments.





**QUATTRO  
CLUB  
NEEDS  
YOU!**