

"The new **voice** of  
**Asian** owner-manager"

**Chairman's welcome**

It's my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of the asian business announcer. Through this new publication, we the Asian Business Association (ABA) hope to keep you up to date with the latest developments and new initiatives over the forthcoming year.

It is very important to us to keep our members and potential new members informed on what services are available to them. Over the last year we have taken note of what our members want and what issues are important to them. Throughout this year we will be communicating with you through various means in an attempt to keep you up to date and well-informed of ABA services and initiatives.

However, we want this to be a two way process. Thus if you have any success stories you would like us to publish or any feedback about the services the ABA provides, or suggestions on how we can improve, then we want to hear from you.

Tariq Amin, Chairman, Asian Business Association



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SERVICE AVAILABLE FROM THE ABA

2002  
Inaugural **Business Awards** declared a success



**The first Asian Business Association (ABA) dinner and awards ceremony was held back in March 2002 at the Pennine Way Hotel in Oldham. The Borough's most successful individuals and companies from the Asian community were recognised for their achievements.**

The ABA, a business led organisation was established in 1998 to help and support Asian owned-managed businesses in Oldham. Its main focus is to improve the business performance of existing enterprises and to assist those seeking self-employment opportunities by providing business advice, training and guidance.

The organisation also organises business seminars and events to help businesses to manage them-

selves better and provide the opportunity for networking. The ABA provides most of its business support services in conjunction with Oldham Chamber of Commerce.

Leading figures from local businesses including Peter Morton, Chief Executive of Business Link North Manchester were at the event to hand over the awards and give presentations. Speakers on the night included Stuart Able, Business Manager Royal Bank of Scotland and Tariq Amin, Chairman of the ABA. Guest speaker was Adeeba Malik, Board member of DTI Ethnic Minority Business Forum who spoke about the contributions the ethnic minority businesses have made in the UK and to its economy. She also discussed how organisations like the ABA can help businesses.

The event was a huge success as more than 300 guests from around Greater Manchester attended the dinner and awards ceremony.



**New Business Start-up of the Year**  
CTI Technologies

The winner of this award is a partnership between 2 brothers. The business was started in November 2000 with the help and support of Chamber's business start-up team and Prince's Business Trust.

In the first 12 months, this new business achieved sales of more than double the forecasted figures. 1st quarter of the 2nd year's trading they have already achieved 73% of the 1st year's sales.

**AJIT MEDITIA**  
receiving the award on behalf of  
**CTI Technologies**  
for new Business Start-up of the year



**Technology Business of the Year**  
Gio Internet Limited

A young Oldham entrepreneur started this business 2 years ago. Early this year the Sunday Times voted his business as the best ISP in the UK for small businesses and 5th overall. This young man sought advice from the Oldham Chamber and attended its Business Start-up Programme to assess the viability of his business idea. In fact, he got his 1st order whilst on the training course.

**Abdul Khaliq of Gio Internet LTD**



**Young Entrepreneur of the Year**  
Topaz Publications

The winner under this category is a young lady who identified a gap in the market whilst working as a lecturer and consultant and launched Today's Therapist in October 1999. Through her publication this young lady communicates the latest news and developments and links conventional and complementary therapies/treatments for the practicing therapists.

**Angela Mahandru of Topaz Publications**  
for Young Entrepreneur of the year



**Business of the Year**  
Jamal Jewellers

The winner of this award is a young man who learned his trade under his father's wings and moved to Scotland to seek his fortune. But he came back to his roots in Oldham and invested his money in starting a jewellery business in Coppice in 1999. Since then he has seen a number of other jewellery businesses being started in the area. But despite the increase in competition his business has prospered.

**Jamal of Jamal Jewellers**  
for Business of the year



**Business Woman of the Year**  
Precious Beauty

In judges opinion a really worthy winner for this award is a young lady. She attended the business start-up training to assess the viability of her proposal. There were a number of factors holding her back, but in particular it was her self-confidence. But with the right advice and encouragement she overcame all the barriers and took the plunge and started her business over 2 years ago. She is now looking to expand her business and is in the process of acquiring her own premises.

**Gita chundasama of Precious Beauty**  
for Business Woman of the year

**Anwar Choudhry, Business Support Manager for the ABA said "we have been able to organise more events because we were successful in securing additional funds from the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund to undertake activities until 2004.**

**The event was great success, we couldn't physically have fitted more people in. We hope to make this an annual event and next year plan to incorporate it with a business exhibition. The way we see it, working closely with other organisations in the borough and forming relationships where they currently don't exist is the way forward".**

Each winner was presented an individually designed glass trophy

## 2003 ANNUAL DINNER, BUSINESS AWARDS & EXHIBITION

The Management Board of the ABA is delighted to inform you that the 2003 annual awards and dinner will take place on:

**Date:** Wednesday 12th March 2003  
**Venue:** Pennine Way Hotel, Oldham  
**Time:** 6.30pm-11.30pm

We are also staging a first 'business-to-business' exhibition in the **Penthouse Suite** of the Pennine Way Hotel, showcasing the business support available to businesses.

**Time:** 11.00am-6.30pm  
**Official opening:** 1.00pm by Mayor of Oldham, Councillor Riaz Ahmed  
Light refreshments will be available.



SPONSORED BY

For further information about 2003 Annual dinner, Business Awards & Exhibition, Please contact **Anwar Choudhry** on **0161 615 5034**.  
Email: [anwarchoudhry@aba.me.uk](mailto:anwarchoudhry@aba.me.uk)



Oldham is designated as a UK Intermediate Area and can offer a range of financial incentives to stimulate an existing company's growth and encourage private investment into new developments.

# Training Business Grants

## WOMEN IN BUSINESS LOAN FUND

The fund is designed to encourage entrepreneurs who are seeking to start a new business or expand an existing operation located in North Manchester. It is available to sole traders, partnerships, limited companies and social enterprises who are unable to raise all the necessary finance from traditional sources, for start-ups and business trading less than 12 months loans range from £1,000 pounds to a maximum of £10,000 pounds. For businesses trading for 12 months or longer loans range from £3,000 pounds to a maximum of £20,000. The fund is a joint venture between the Small Business Service, Bolton Business Ventures Limited, The Co-Operative Bank and Barclays. Contact: Bolton Business Ventures Limited Tel: 01204 391400 www.bbvonline.net

## THE BUSINESS TRAINING PROGRAMME

A comprehensive range of open short business training courses covering office skills, finance, sales, marketing, management development, health and safety IT, quality and export. The Business Training team at Oldham Chamber also specialise in the design and delivery of bespoke courses for individual organisations that

can be provided on site within a company or in the training rooms at Oldham Business Centre. Details of the open courses can be found on the Oldham Chamber website where courses can be booked on-line. A printed programme can be obtained by contacting the team. Contact: The Business Training Team at Oldham Chamber of Commerce

Tel: 0161 615 5017  
E-mail: [businessstraining@oldhamchamber.co.uk](mailto:businessstraining@oldhamchamber.co.uk)  
[www.oldhamchamber.co.uk](http://www.oldhamchamber.co.uk)

## PRE-START BUSINESS SUPPORT

Pre-start business support is available to anyone thinking of becoming self-employed or setting up a business in the Oldham area. The services include business skills training such as bookkeeping, sales and marketing, and offers business advice and guidance in the production of a business plan.

## NEW BUSINESS SUPPORT

A weekly grant to help new businesses during the first few months of trading. Available to residents and new businesses within particular areas of Oldham. The grant is administered by Oldham Chamber of Commerce and funded by the Single Regeneration Budget and New Deal Communities. Assistance and guidance is available for up to two years after start up

# Clean sweep on course

The Asian Business Association working together with Pakistani community Centre, Oldham Business Management School delivered a number of Basic Food Hygiene Courses As A Result some 28 people have been successful in three foundation certificate in food hygiene courses run by Oldham Business Management School. Many of them received their certificates from Chris Wigley, the schools company secretary, who was accompanied by Anwar Choudhry, Business Support Manager from the Asian Business Association.

The successful candidates were, course one: Foysal Miah, Adbus Salam, Mdabdul Matin, Fakrul Islam, Joynal Miah, Dobir Miah.

Course two: Haji Matloob Hussain, Shabir Hussain, zafa Akram, Mohammed Jamroze, Ali Umer Salamat, Tariq Mahmood, Azaz-Ur-rehman Peerzada, Zahid Hussain, Asif Hussain, Akil Younis, Zahir Younis.

Course Three: Abdul Halam, Babul Hoque, Jamshed Ali, shuba Begum, Juleka Begum, Ajmil Miah, Abdul Alim, Rofique Miah, Rafique Ahmed.,



# Oldham Initiative

## A day to change your life or the performance of your business?

Saturday **5th April** could be just the day!

A fantastic opportunity for people in Oldham to spend a day with one of the country's top Motivational Speakers Jack Black.

Mr Black work's with blue chip companies such as Motorola, Glaxo Smith Klein Beecham, Marks and Spencers and many others where he charges substantial amount for one of his seminars. He has agreed to come to Oldham and give the people of Oldham one of his much appreciated and highly popular seminar on the 5th April 2003 at cost. The event will start at 9.00am and finish at 5.00pm with lunch for one hour.

This will be a full day seminar MOTIVATING peo-

ple, and to teach them how to set their goals and help them to ACHIEVE whatever it is in life they want to..... for virtually nothing!.

### What's the catch? NOTHING.

This is probably a once in a lifetime chance for the PEOPLE of Oldham (every man women youth and community) to share in something usually reserved for the Business Community.

## A REAL CHANCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF OLDHAM TO MOVE FORWARD IN THEIR LIVES

Due to the demand for such an event (which is the first of its kind in Oldham) there are limited numbers of people who can attend. At present we can only accept on a first come basis (maximum of 1000). This event is being funded privately and we are looking to cover the cost of the event by charging a nominal entrance fee.

<b>Students/Unemployed/OAP</b>	<b>£ 5.00</b>
<b>Employees/Self-Employed</b>	<b>£10.00</b>
<b>Business Sponsorship (includes 5 tickets)</b>	<b>£99.00</b>

The event is being organised by Mr Artingstall, a solicitor for over 25 years, along with Mr. Shafaat A Chaudry or Noir Solutions Limited and Mr. Paul Vincent of Wrigley Claydon and Armstrong Solicitors. The event is fully supported by the Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council. The mayor of Oldham Cllr. Riaz Ahmad, and many Voluntary Organisations from Oldham.

It's time to move forward and a life time opportunity to improve your future life and that of OLDHAM.

So if you want to move on, or know people who think could benefit from this opportunity, book your seats now by collecting a booking form from the reception of :-

Any branch of **NATWEST BANK** in Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside, **BARCLAYS BANK** in Oldham, **ODACA and most community centres in Oldham** and by telephone on **07976645343** to book your place.

Note for the Business kindly let us know as to number of tickets (5 per Sponsorship) are required cheque to made payable to OLDHAM INITIATIVE.

### Send your reply slip back to:

Rt Rev. Ronald Brown. Mr. David Artingstall.  
Mrs. Janet Artingstall  
Kelsey House, Light Alders Lane, Disley, SK12 2NQ  
T: 01663 762 485 F: 01663 766 173  
E: [david@artingstall.fsbusiness.co.uk](mailto:david@artingstall.fsbusiness.co.uk)

If you wish to see as to what Jack Blacks can do for you then check his website [www.mindstore.com](http://www.mindstore.com)

Name .....Number of people under 20 years of age.....

Company.....

Address.....

.....Post Code .....

Tel.....Email.....

I/we enclose a Cheque for £ .....for.....(Number of Tickets) .....£ 5.00  
(Number of tickets) .....£10.00  
(Number of Sponsorships) .....£99.00



# "The Asian Business Association (ABA) aims to enhance the business support structure to enable the ethnic minority owner-managed businesses to improve their business performance".

## Organisation Background

The ABA is a business led organisation that was established in May 1998 to help support the Asian owner-managed businesses in Oldham. It is primary organisation in the borough that represents this particular business sector.

Its main focus is to improve the business performance of existing enterprises and to assist those individuals looking to explore self-employment opportunities by providing them with pertinent business advice, training and guidance etc. The ABA also organises business seminars and events to help businesses to manage their enterprises better and provide the opportunity for networking.

Since the formation of the ABA it has made considerable advancements in helping and supporting Asian owner-managed businesses, creating new businesses, jobs and increasing the membership of the organisation. In addition, many seminars and events in business related topics, for example Health & Safety, Food Hygiene, Information Technology have been organised and delivered.

## Organisation Ownership

A democratically elected Management Committee (MC) presently manages the Asian Business Association. It has a Constitution, which governs the way the organisation should conduct its routine business activities. Regular monthly meetings are held to discuss business, check progress of the organisation and deal with issues as they arise.

## Organisation Location & Facilities

Since its inception, the Oldham Chamber of Commerce has provided the ABA with office and other support facilities. Most of the business support services provided by the ABA are in conjunction with the Oldham Chamber. The only exception being multi-lingual business advice, training and support etc.

## Membership of the Asian Business Association entitles you to ESSENTIAL SERVICES THAT COULD MEAN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE.

- £££'s Discounts on products and Services
- Chamber Legal Insurance (up to £50,000 cover p.a.)
- Unrivalled Networking Opportunities
- Member Representing and Lobbying
- Financial and Practical Support
- Technological and E-Commerce Support
- Comprehensive Business Information, Research and Documentation
- International Trade Services
- Business Development and Training Services
- FREE business advice support and information
- Legal Expenses Insurance
- FREE 24 hour legal helpline
- FREE magazines-local and national
- Free business diary and directories
- Seminars and events on business related topics
- Business training opportunities
- Networking opportunities and Social Events
- Representation and lobbying
- Money saving services
- Local meetings

FUNDED BY

**Neighbourhood  
Renewal Fund**

All of the above services are available to ABA  
For Further details please contact: **Anwar Choudhry, Business Support Manager**  
**ABA, Oldham Business Centre, Cromwell Street, Oldham OL1 1BB**  
**Tel: 0161 615 5034, Fax: 0161 620 0030**  
**Web: www.aba.me.uk Email: anwarchoudhry@aba.me.uk**

**PLEASE SEND BACK THIS REPLY SHEET TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE**

Request an appointment  Would like to become a member  Further Information on ABA

Name.....Company.....

Address.....

.....Post Code .....

Tel.....Fax.....Email.....



SUPPORTED BY

