

MANCHESTER AIRPORT

COMMUNITY flyer

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL



WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the first Community Flyer of 2026. As we look forward to another busy year, I'm also reflecting on the end of 2025. Christmas is one of the most exciting times of year to work here at Manchester Airport. I love walking through arrivals, watching those special 'Love Actually' moments, and seeing the departure lounge full of excited faces.

It's the kind of thing that really epitomises what we mean when we say we're proud to connect the North to the world – when I see those scenes I feel a personal pride in the part I've played and I know that's shared by everyone who works here.

Of course, the festive period is all about giving and Manchester Airport continued its 'Giftmas' tradition in 2025, with our colleagues donating around 1000 presents

and our Community team purchasing 1700 more. These were wrapped by staff volunteers and donated via children's centres, care homes, schools, food banks and community centres to members of our local community who might not otherwise have received a present at Christmas time.

'Giftmas' is a festive tradition I'm proud to support, but it's just one of many ways we support our local area and the people who live in it: in this issue, you can catch

up on recent initiatives by our environment, education and community teams.

On behalf of all my colleagues at Manchester Airport, I'd like to wish all our neighbours a brilliant 2026

CHRIS WOODROOFFE
Managing Director



CHRISTMAS GIVING

This year we repeated our pledge that no vulnerable person in our neighbouring communities should wake up on Christmas morning without a gift.

We were met with an overwhelming response from our incredible colleagues and on-site businesses who generously donated around 1000 gifts.

Our Senior Leadership Team stepped in to wrap and distribute the gifts in our local area. Beneficiaries have included care homes, sheltered housing, homeless shelters, schools, food banks and care leavers groups.



We believe that our airport should be a force for good in the communities we serve

LOCAL VOICES



BENCHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE AMONG THE RECIPIENTS OF OUR LATEST ROUND OF COMMUNITY TRUST FUND GRANTS

Groups including allotments, sports clubs and community centres are celebrating after being awarded a grant by [Manchester Airport's Community Trust Fund](#) at its latest meeting.

More than £24,000 worth of funding was pledged to a total of 18 groups at the latest meeting. These included the [David Lewis Centre](#), in Alderley Edge, who will get £1,000 to fund some new accessible picnic benches. The [Grafton Centre](#) in Hyde will receive £2697 for the purchase of new indoor bowling mat and [Benchill Community Centre](#) in Wythenshawe received £3000 to fund the creation of a sensory room.

Nicola Booth, an Assistant Centres Manager at Wythenshawe Community Housing Group, which manages the community centre, said: "We here at Benchill Community Centre are so very thankful for the grant. This money will help with the upgrade of our Sensory Room, making it a safe and enjoyable space for not only our many customers with additional needs but also as a place for parents and carers to bring their babies. The Sensory Room is a great community asset that will now be fit for the future."



CTF trustee Paul Andrews (L) and Benchill Community Centre's Vicky Burns (R) in the new sensory room.

PANTO – HO HO HO A PIRATE'S LIFE FOR ME

On Saturday 6th December some of Santa's Airport helpers popped into [Wythenshawe Forum](#) to spread some Christmas cheer.

We gave out 200 tickets to this year's Pirate Pantomime via community centres and food banks, to offer local families a fun festive day out. Santa was extra busy this year, but some of his elves were able to drop in to help us hand out refreshments and gifts to our local community.



OVER-65s ENJOY A MEAL AND ENTERTAINMENT AT OUR ANNUAL AUTUMN LEAVES EVENT

Around 200 over 65s from Wythenshawe enjoyed a free hot meal and an afternoon of fun sponsored by Manchester Airport in November.

The airport's annual Autumn Leaves Event is free for over-65s from Woodhouse Park and other wards neighbouring the airport.

Volunteers from Manchester Airport served up a three-course hot meal, plus an afternoon of entertainment.

Since it started fourteen years ago, almost 3,000 people have attended the event, which aims to tackle social isolation among older people in communities surrounding the airport.

This year's event had a 'magic of the movies' theme and was followed by bingo, a raffle, and a performance from The Lancashire Belle.

More than 40 airport staff from various departments volunteered to help out across the two days, as part of a scheme the airport operates which allows colleagues to claim up to two working days per year on full pay to volunteer for good causes that matter to them in the local area. Volunteers pitched in by waiting tables, serving drinks and handing out gift bags to attendees.



We aim for our airport to serve as hubs of opportunity

OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL



AEROZONE'S 10,000th VISITOR

In October, [Manchester Airport's AeroZone](#) proudly welcomed its 10,000th visitor since opening in 2022.

To celebrate, Outwood Primary School in Heald Green was invited for a special day of aviation-themed learning and fun.

Pupils explored AeroZone's interactive exhibits, toured Terminal 2, and discovered the wide range of exciting careers available at the airport. A custom cake added a sweet touch to the festivities, while guest speakers Neil Robinson, Chief Sustainability Officer,

and Adam Freeman, Decarbonisation & ESG Director, inspired students with insights into aviation and sustainability.

The children also heard from Lewis Hulmes, who completed work experience at Manchester Airport while studying at The Manchester College and now works as a Customer Service Ambassador. The day highlighted AeroZone's mission to spark curiosity and open doors to future opportunities in aviation.



LOCAL COLLEGES EXPERIENCE MANCHESTER AIRPORT AIRSIDE TOURS

Over the past three months, we have proudly welcomed students from several local colleges for a series of inspiring airside tours.

These visits offered a unique, behind-the-scenes look at airport operations, helping learners connect their studies with real-world aviation environments.

In October, Trafford and Stockport College Group students explored the baggage system, toured the airfield, and met EasyJet cabin services and engineering teams. November and December saw visits from Pure Innovations, The Manchester College and Tameside College, where observed aircraft movements, engaged with interactive exhibits, and discovered the many roles that keep the airport running smoothly.

These experiences highlight our

commitment to education, sparking curiosity, supporting inclusive learning, and opening doors to future careers in aviation for young people across the region.



HUGE TURNOUT FOR WINTER JOBS FAIR

The [Wythenshawe Forum](#) was buzzing with energy in November as nearly 1,000 jobseekers attended our highly anticipated Winter Jobs Fair.

The fair brought together over 20 employers, including MAG, Jet2.com, Avolta, HMSHost and First Call, offering a wide range of opportunities from customer service to technical roles. Attendees were able to explore careers suited to all backgrounds, skill levels and interests.

This year's event also welcomed our new food, beverage and retail partners who will be opening outlets in the new Terminal 2. Companies such as TRG, Blakemore Retail, Fever Tree, JD Wetherspoon and HMSHost showcased the hundreds of new roles being created as part of our continued growth.

The record attendance highlights the strong interest in aviation careers and our ongoing commitment to supporting local employment.



For more information visit www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community

To contact us email community@manairport.co.uk

FIND OUT MORE





We will safeguard the natural environment and promote resource efficiency

BASELINE BIODIVERSITY SURVEYS

We have recently completed a site-wide biodiversity baseline survey, covering all land we own.

This consisted of assessments of each and every habitat at the airport, classifying its type, condition, and noting any special features like rare or protected species.

This huge project will allow us to identify high-value ecological areas to focus our efforts on, and as well as areas where we can improve. It also gives us a robust baseline to mark our sustainability journey, which we can compare future assessments against to track our progress.

Already this has shown us uncommon habitat types which can help support a much wider network of ecological recovery, not just on our land. By working with local partners, we can link up efforts to ensure that we're protecting and enhancing the wider environment. These surveys are part of our soon-to-be published Conservation Strategy, which outlines key commitments MAG will adhere to ensure robust protection and enhancement of the environment through all aspects of our business.



NATURE BASED VOLUNTEERING

We are looking forward to a new partnership with [Lancashire Wildlife Trust](#) and [City of Trees](#) to deliver voluntary offsetting as part of our sustainable development goals.

As part of this huge offsetting package, we will be supporting tree planting across the wider Manchester region; hedgerow management at a local nature reserve; enhancement of ancient woodlands, and novel tree management techniques to support a wider range of species.

All of these initiatives will be supported by volunteering from colleagues and the local community.

On our own land, we will be improving the management of our own hedgerows, and training our colleagues and partners to better understand our natural environment so that we might protect it more effectively.

We are very excited to start these partnerships and hope to develop our biodiversity works as we grow.



PLANTING HAZELS AT COTTERILL CLOUGH

At Manchester Airport, we are lucky to be custodians of Cotterill Clough, one of Manchester's only Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

We have been working hard to survey this area to understand its current condition, and how we might improve it.

Whilst it is already classified as 'favourable, improving', we recently identified a rare plant known as Toothwort which hasn't been seen in this area for over 50 years! This plant lives solely on hazel plant roots, so requires hazel to survive. To support this rare species and the site as a whole, we have provided additional hazel within Cotterill Clough so that this small, rare plant might be able to spread.

At the same time, we also introduced

Dyer's Greenweed to the site – a small plant which is functionally extinct in the local area.

Through these efforts, we are proud to act against species decline and strengthen Manchester's ecological networks.





PROTECTING
OUR
ENVIRONMENT

manchesterairport.co.uk | PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

We will safeguard the natural environment
and promote resource efficiency

SWAP SHOPS

Encouraging our colleagues to recycle is a key part of supporting our new strategy, so we held open 'Swap Shops' in our office building, allowing our colleagues to bring in pre-loved articles and exchange them with each other.

This great initiative helps to break the cycle of 'fast fashion' and give pre-loved items a new home. We also asked colleagues who were able, to donate to good causes – raising almost £300 for [Children in Need](#), [Andy's Man Club](#) and [SmartWorks GM](#). All the leftover clothing was donated to [Oxfam](#), to go on and help those in need.



MAYORAL ROUNDTABLE ON AVIATION DECARBONISATION

Manchester Airport recently welcomed industry leaders and Mayor Andy Burnham for a discussion on plans to decarbonise aviation – and the opportunities this brings for jobs and growth in the North.

On Friday 21 November, Sustainable Aviation (SA) – a coalition that brings together all parts of the UK aviation industry to accelerate our sustainability journey – hosted a roundtable at Manchester Airport. Neil Robinson, MAG's Chief Sustainability Officer, is currently the chair of Sustainable Aviation and led the conversation which

explored how the sector can cut emissions while boosting the economy.

KEY TOPICS INCLUDED:

- **Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF):** Manchester Airport's partnership with NorthPoint aims to establish a SAF production site at Stanlow, Cheshire.
- **Hydrogen and Carbon Capture:** Our role in the North West's HyNet project, driving low-carbon hydrogen and storage solutions.



Mayor Andy Burnham joined Duncan McCourt (SA Chief Executive), Neil Robinson (MAG Chief Sustainability Officer and Chair of Sustainable Aviation), Chris Woodroffe (Manchester Airport Managing Director) and Adam Freeman (MAG's Decarbonisation & ESG Director) alongside other SA member

USEFUL CONTACTS

For general enquiries or complaints:

community.relations@manairport.co.uk / www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community or 0800 967 967

For information on the Community Trust Fund:

trust.fund@manairport.co.uk / www.manchesterairport.co.uk/communitytrustfund or 0161 489 5281

For information on accessing our educational resources:

www.manchesterairport.co.uk/education

www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community/aerozone

www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community/working-in-our-community/airport-academy

For Customer Services and Feedback: 0808 169 7030

To find out more about how we use and store data visit

www.manchesterairport.co.uk/privacy-notice

For more information visit www.manchesterairport.co.uk/community

To contact us email community@manairport.co.uk

FIND OUT MORE

