

ET Business Daily

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SHARES

Closing prices on London Stock Exchange 09/12/11

MARKETS

Name	Change	% change	High	Low	Close
FTSE 100	45.440	0.829	5540.520	5440.860	5529.210
FTSE 250	44.500	0.441	10177.430	10022.020	10130.57
FTSE Allshare	24.300	0.862	2844.630	2800.640	2842.750
AIM 100	16.460	0.525	3150.100	3114.740	3150.100

Foreign Exchange

Sterling/Euro	0.0020	0.201	1.174	1.168	1.170
Sterling/Dollar	-0.0007	-0.069	1.573	1.558	1.565

Commodities

Gold	2.445	0.223	1727.900	1704.900	1709.800
Oil (Brent Crude)	-0.163	-0.235	108.750	106.980	107.810

Fixed Interest

	Price change	% change	Yield to maturity	Close
5 Year UK Gilt	-0.433	-0.377	0.913	114.288
10 Year UK Gilt	-0.450	-0.394	2.178	113.830
25 Year UK Gilt	-0.715	-0.597	3.155	119.012

TOP 20 Stocks By Market Cap

Name	Price change	% change	High	Low	Close
Vodafone	0.017	0.986	1.753	1.721	1.742
BP	0.010	0.211	4.592	4.464	4.521
Lloyds TSB	0.016	6.519	0.268	0.243	0.267
HSBC	0.032	0.638	5.058	4.925	5.049
Shell (B)	0.435	1.933	22.990	22.395	22.935
Rio Tinto	0.290	0.902	33.274	31.500	32.455
GlaxoSmithKline	-0.160	-1.111	14.377	14.178	14.240
Banco Santander	0.150	3.032	5.126	4.874	5.098
BHP Billiton	0.270	1.396	19.680	19.010	19.610
British Am Tobacco	-0.165	-0.547	30.135	29.845	29.985
Astrazeneca	0.310	1.060	29.630	29.015	29.545
BG	0.165	1.239	13.623	13.320	13.485
Xstrata	0.215	2.172	10.297	9.734	10.115
Standard Chartered	0.240	1.673	14.685	14.105	14.585
Anglo American	0.490	2.042	24.575	23.765	24.490
Barclays	0.098	5.432	1.916	1.753	1.902
Tesco	0.018	0.453	4.019	3.943	3.990
SABMiller	-0.160	-0.727	21.930	21.560	21.840
Diageo	-0.110	-0.802	13.690	13.500	13.600

Local Peterborough stocks

Name	Price change	% change	High	Low	Close
ARM Holdings	0.000	0.000	5.766	5.600	5.700
Aveva	0.090	0.604	15.140	14.870	15.000
CSR	0.008	0.482	1.687	1.642	1.668
Johnston Press	-0.003	-5.000	0.053	0.048	0.048
Kier	-0.020	-0.146	13.915	13.620	13.700
Pursuit Dynamics	0.068	3.439	2.115	1.928	2.030
Thomas Cook	0.003	2.086	0.161	0.142	0.152

Shares provided by:


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Rates correct as of 09/12/11

Supplied by Travelex

AUSTRALIA dollar	1.5010
CANADA dollar	1.5430
SWITZERLAND franc	1.3970
EUROZONE euro	1.1445
DENMARK krone	8.4887
NORWAY krone	8.65998
NZ dollar	1.9649
SWEDEN kroner	10.2444
TURKEY lira	2.7745
US dollar	1.5230



BEST EMPLOYER: Managing director Simon Chaplin is presented his award by host Gyles Brandreth and Ewa Stefanska, senior manager professional services for Marks Sattin.



INDEPENDENT FIRM OF THE YEAR: Simon is presented with the award by Gyles Brandreth and Nick Willis, of George Hay, incoming vice-president of the UK200Group.

GreenStones sees double on awards night

PETERBOROUGH accountants GreenStones was doubly pleased at the prestigious British Accountancy Awards 2011.

Firstly, it picked up The Best Employer Award. This is a joint venture between Accountancy Age and Best Companies Group and identifies the best accountancy firms to work for in the UK. Having been nominated in the top 10, GreenStones was declared the winner at the recent awards ceremony.

Managing director Simon Chaplin said: "We are incredibly proud to win this award. We focus on two areas in the business, these being customer service and team happiness. To be named as the best in the UK in one of those areas is absolutely fantastic.

"I know it's a corny thing to say, but it couldn't have been achieved without having a brilliant team. Some of the things that we've implemented over the last five years have been

very radical and wouldn't have happened without their support and enthusiasm.

"The best example of this is the introduction of the results-only work environment in the early part of this year. This means that the team can work wherever they like, whenever they like as long as they achieve their results."

On the night, GreenStones also won the Best Independent Firm of the Year Award, for the South-East and East England

region. The two awards add to a successful year for the accountancy firm which had already been runners-up in *The Evening Telegraph's* Workforce Development Award, AccountingWeb's Practice Excellence Awards and the UK's Best Accountancy Practices Award.

To celebrate its success, GreenStones is giving away three free business builder reviews in January next year.

■ For more details, call Simon Chaplin now on 01733 372682.

Offering a ray of Earthshine

THE desire to be working at the heart of the sustainable, low carbon economy has led Earthshine Solutions to relocate to the Eco Innovation Centre in Peterborough.

Fronting the company dedicated to delivering sustainable business solutions, CEO Michael Townsend has called for a new approach to business - finding the "sweet spot" between competitiveness, sustainability and job creation.

He said: "The world of business is changing beyond recognition. Rising energy prices, resource scarcity, major economic shifts, and increasing regulation, not to mention the impacts of climate change, are all affecting the ways in which we run our businesses and make money. Fairly soon, becoming sustainable will be our licence to operate."

But more than that, a number of leading organisations are

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also taking advantage of the opportunities that integrating sustainability principles can offer. Not just the right thing to do, sustainability can also provide an effective route to deliver rapid business benefits, with up to 40 per cent operational cost reduction, increased sales, as well as managing long-term risks, to ensure greater resilience and continued profitability. What is there not to like about that?

But, according to Mr Townsend, it is important to avoid "greenwash" and to develop approaches based on real substance, to deliver a real impact and lasting business benefits. Integrity of your approach is also important for your people, your customers and investors alike.

He said: "Earthshine has been working with a wide range of businesses, large and small, in all sectors in the UK, Europe

and North America. We have a broad range of services available, from the strategic end of the spectrum, right through to operational delivery. Our focus is always on making you more profitable, as well as more sustainable.

"We also developed an affordable sustainability service with SMEs in mind; to help businesses understand in easy terms what is possible, and how they can make a practical difference today, while capturing tangible business benefits, and building towards a longer-term sustainable future. Becoming sustainable should not cost the earth. In fact, it should always deliver a healthy return."

"Working with Earthshine you can make the transition, better, faster and more cost-effectively," added Mr Townsend.

■ Visit the website www.earthshinesolutions.com, its online community at www.sustainable-businesslab.org, or call for an informal chat on 01733 294552.

Local order books buck downbeat trend in contracts

PETERBOROUGH is bucking the downbeat national trend in manufacturing by showing healthy order books into the first quarter of 2012.

That's the view of Mark Smith, manufacturing specialist, Barclays Corporate, Peterborough, when he reflected on November's PMI manufacturing figures.

He said: "With global manufacturing giants including Coca-Cola and Toyota announcing major new investment in the UK, it is disappointing that the sector as a whole remains so subdued.

"This lack of confidence and the situation in Europe is now so entwined that despite some positive news for UK industry in the Chancellor's statement, it is difficult to see the mood amongst manufacturers budging much. Until we see major contracts awarded to UK companies and new infrastructure projects under way, this is unlikely to change."

On the local front, Mark was more upbeat, saying: "Here in Cambridgeshire, we are however seeing a good number of our manufacturing clients still with healthy order books holding up into the first quarter of 2012.

"Whilst it is still very competitive, the success seems to be down to having a good niche product with good value and processes which lead to improved gross profit margin. Additionally, manufacturers have to keep looking forward and be close to their clients to understand their ever-changing needs and buying patterns for the new year."

Mind how you go with mental health

CHARITY Peterborough & Fenland Mind is offering mental health awareness and stress management training to local businesses.

Poor mental health is currently the second biggest health problem in the workforce with recent studies demonstrating that one in six workers is

currently experiencing depression, anxiety or stress. This is estimated to cost British businesses an estimated £26 billion every year.

The charity, based in Lincoln Road, Peterborough, is aiming to play a leading role in reducing this drain on the local economy by both reducing the stigma

attached to these problems and by training businesses on how to recognise and deal with issues amongst their workforce.

■ To find out how these courses could benefit your business, call Emily Gray on 01733 758211 or e-mail emily.gray@pfmind.org.uk