

£1.00 OF COVER PRICE GOES TO THE VENDOR
PLEASE BUY FROM BADGED VENDORS ONLY

THE BIG ISSUE IN THE

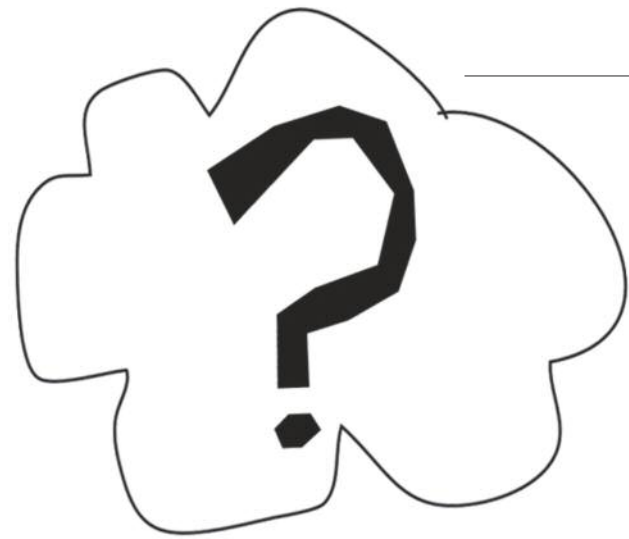
north



How come

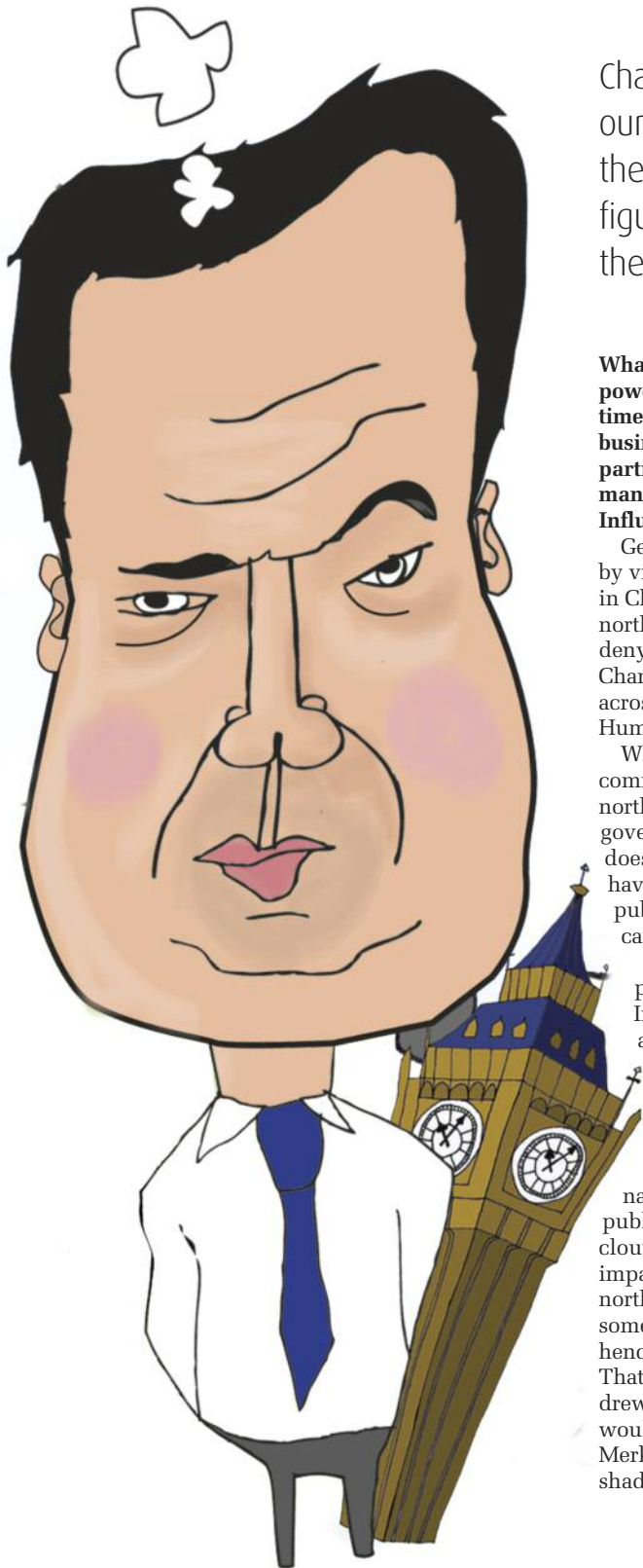
GEORGE OSBORNE tops our

50 Most Influential People in the North?



Who's r

Chancellor George Osborne – a Cheshire MP – is top of our 50 Most Influential People in the North because of the impact of his economic policies. But what do figures with that sort of influence owe us as a result of their position, asks **Kevin Gopal**



What responsibility comes with power? It's a fair question to ask at a time of disaffection with politicians, business and the media – and it's particularly pertinent to ask it of the man at the top of our 50 Most Influential People in the North.

George Osborne is that man, there by virtue of his Tatton constituency in Cheshire. It's a tenuous link to the north, perhaps, but there's no denying the effects of the Chancellor's economic policies right across the North West, Yorkshire and Humber, and North East.

Whatever your view on his commitment to deficit reduction, the north is bearing the brunt of government spending cuts. What does Osborne owe the people who have lost their jobs, opportunities, public services and homes? And can he pay it back?

This is the second time we have published The 50 Most Influential People in the North, a unique assessment of the individuals who have the greatest bearing on life in our region.

We do it by first researching and producing a longlist of names drawn from all aspects of public life – people with economic clout, political power or cultural impact. They don't have to be northerners by birth but they do need some sort of base in the north – hence the Chancellor's inclusion. That might seem arbitrary but if we drew the list from further afield we would probably end up with Angela Merkel at number one and the shadowy character Bond Markets at

number two, such is the financial crisis facing us.

We then ask our panel of shrewd judges to rank their top 50, combine the votes and, after some fascinating wrangling over their choices, come up with the final ranking. The result, perhaps inevitably in these times, is that politics and business dominate.

As well as Osborne, deputy prime minister Nick Clegg, with his Sheffield constituency, comes in at number three. But city council leaders Richard Leese (seventh in the list), Joe Anderson (35) and Nick Forbes (42) also feature, faced with finding the least painful way to do

Whatever your view on the deficit, the north bears the brunt of Osborne's spending cuts

central government's bidding and slash local authority headcount and services. Peter Marks (6) of the Co-op and Dalton Philips (15) of Morrisons are there – major employers and also purveyors of much of our increasingly expensive food. Many of our cheaper goods come from recession-busting discount store chains such as B&M Bargains, run by Simon Arora (25).

That's not to say we're entirely condemned to a future of stacking shelves. Trevor Mann (27) and Lord Haskins (50) represent electric cars and renewable energy – critical hi-tech industries of the future. University leaders Michael Arthur (20), Brian Cantor (33) and Dame Nancy Rothwell (35) have to ensure northern students get to compete for

responsible?

the hi-tech jobs that are created – not least so they can pay off their fees.

That focus on paying the bills means cultural figures such as Carol Ann Duffy (29) and Peter Kay (31) are few – and both of those have slipped down the rankings from last year. Worryingly, there are few women and minority ethnic figures. You could say we ought to have looked harder for them. You could say that more should be done to ensure diversity at

That's not to say we're entirely condemned to a future of stacking shelves

the top of public life. Which brings us back to responsibility – and Osborne. As we went to press his autumn statement was due, one that some commentators said

would include measures to get the economy growing again.

“With power comes responsibility,” says Ed Cox, director of the think-tank IPPRI North and one of our judges. “We recognise Osborne’s probably the most powerful person in relation to decisions taken on the economy and public services in the north. We’d expect him to have a much greater recognition of the impact his decisions have on the north but unfortunately that recognition’s not there.”

Public spending cuts have disproportionately affected the north, continues Cox, yet the Chancellor has failed to come up with a growth strategy. The idea was that public sector job cuts would be matched with “equal expansion in the private sector” but he’s only achieved “half of that equation”.

Cox urges Osborne to consider measures such as a regional investment bank, a promise to build more housing, and the Northern Hub transformation of the overcrowded rail network.

“He still has the opportunity to enable the north to be competitive.” ■

THE JUDGES

Mohammed Ali OBE is the founder and chief executive of QED-UK, a high profile minority ethnic community economic development agency set up in Bradford in 1990. He is a member of the Department for Work and Pension’s ethnic minority employment advisory group and many other boards and was a finalist in the personality of the year, lifetime achievement and principal of the year categories of the UK Charity Awards.



Broadcaster **Allan Beswick** presents the *Beswick at Breakfast* show on BBC Radio Manchester as well as other radio and TV programmes. Before he moved into radio he held a variety of jobs including apprentice electrician, soldier, psychiatric nurse, bus driver, driving instructor and Citizens Advice Bureau manager. He is a board member of the Big Life group, which publishes *The Big Issue in the North*.



Ed Cox is director of the Institute for Public Policy Research North – IPPR’s dedicated think-tank for the north of England. With bases in Newcastle and Manchester, IPPR North’s research and events seek to produce innovative policy ideas for fair, democratic and sustainable communities across the north. See www.ippr.org/north.



Anita Morris is managing director of Anita Morris Associates, a Yorkshire-based PR agency specialising in regeneration, property, architecture, tourism and the cultural and arts sectors that was second in one category and shortlisted in another in the CIPR’s Pride Awards 2011. Before setting up the agency in 1999 she was marketing

director of Photo98, the UK Year of Photography & the Electronic Image.



Fay Selvan is the chief executive of the Big Life group, which publishes *The Big Issue in the North*. She founded Diverse Resources in Manchester in 1991 as an innovative healthcare provider, merging it with *The Big Issue in the North* in 2002 to create the Big Life group of social businesses and charities. She is chair of Trafford Healthcare Trust.



Michael Taylor is on a mission to make the north think more. A sociologist by education, he practises his social observation and commentary through the events and publications of Insider Media, a business-to-business media company with offices in Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield. He also pops up on the BBC from time to time.



1 GEORGE OSBORNE

Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Cheshire constituency of Tatton, with its celebrity enclaves like Wilmslow and Alderley Edge, has a history of being represented by high-profile MPs.



After the Cash for Questions disgrace of Neil Hamilton and the white-suit wearing BBC reporter Martin Bell came a 30-year-old unknown, George Osborne, who since his election in 2001 has become one of the most recognisable faces at Westminster.

Osborne’s power and influence in the north as Chancellor during the worst economic crisis since the 1920s is undeniable, but other than by virtue of his constituency he has no discernible link with the north. He comes from a wealthy upper class London family, his father being Sir Peter Osborne, the 17th holder of a baronetcy which Osborne will one day inherit, and the furthest north he has lived is Oxford, where he was one of the infamous Bullingdon Club during his student days.

The austerity package Osborne announced a year ago slashed £81 billion of government spending and presaged an estimated 500,000 public sector job losses. This has been said by business information group Experian to be more likely to hit the north harder. A study of how the cuts would affect regions on each side of a line drawn from the Wash to the Severn showed that their impact would be greatest in areas with the highest concentration of public sector jobs. Middlesbrough was pinpointed as likely to suffer the most, while other areas at risk included Mansfield, Stoke-on-Trent, Hull, Barrow-in-Furness and Burnley.

Another survey, conducted by the

Manchester Evening News, showed that towns and cities that still hadn't recovered from the de-industrialisation of the 1980s – including parts of Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Newcastle and Hull – would be further ravaged by the spending cuts, while in the south all councils except some of central London remained relatively unscathed.

Osborne's own political backyard of Tatton, the wealthiest constituency in Britain outside London, has not escaped entirely, and there has been local controversy about some services disappearing. Wryly, it has been pointed out that while Knutsford can support Rolls-Royce, Bentley and McLaren showrooms, facilities for disabled people in the town are being closed by the Conservative-controlled Cheshire East Council.

Will this impact on Osborne's fortunes at the next general election? Probably not. He has a majority of 14,000-plus and even if Lib Dem voters deserted their candidate en masse and voted for Labour he could still expect to win comfortably.

2 JOHN WHITTAKER

Chairman, Peel Group

Bury-born businessman John Whittaker shies away from the limelight but through his Peel empire the 69-year-old holds immense sway over all aspects of life in the north. Salford's MediaCityUK, Manchester exhibition centre EventCity and Salford City Stadium all count among his company's assets, alongside numerous transport, real estate, retail, environmental, land and utility services. Peel is also Britain's second largest port operator, controlling Heysham Port, the Port of Liverpool and the Manchester Ship Canal. An ambitious £50 billion investment programme spanning Liverpool, Manchester, Cheshire and Warrington, entitled Ocean Gateway, is already underway, with multi-billion pound schemes to develop Ellesmere Quays and the Liverpool and Birkenhead Docks planned. The recent £1.6 billion sale of the Trafford Centre, meanwhile, saw Whittaker become the biggest shareholder in Capital Shopping Centres (owner of



13 UK shopping centres, including Manchester Arndale), further extending his reach into Britain's retail sector. His impact on the north has been slightly diminished by the sale of a stake in the airport group that includes Liverpool John Lennon Airport and Doncaster's Robin Hood Airport.

3 NICK CLEGG

Deputy prime minister

Sheffield Hallam MP and Liberal Democrat leader Clegg continues to see a decline in his popularity thanks to his party's coalition with the Conservatives. Liberals may be sitting round the cabinet table for the first time in a couple of generations but it's left them tarred with the blue Tory brush. He got off to a chronically bad start as David Cameron's deputy with the cancellation of Sheffield Forgemasters' £80 million government loan, and the ease with which he broke his pledge to oppose student tuition fees. 2011 has been even worse. His party got a thorough kicking at the Barnsley Central by-election in March, slipping to sixth place in a seat where it would normally have expected to score one of its famous by-election victories, and then losing over 700 councillors in the English local elections. With recent polls showing that the Lib Dem vote has slumped from 25 per cent to just 17 per cent, Clegg must worry what 2012 holds for his party, and himself.



4 PETER SALMON

Director, BBC North

The man in charge of the BBC's second largest production centre, Burnley-born Salmon has overseen Auntie's successful part-relocation to the north. Sure, there have been problems along the way – most notably the embarrassing revelation that Salmon would not initially be moving to the region – but now that MediaCityUK is up and running the former BBC One controller and Granada director of programmes is arguably the most powerful media executive outside London. BBC Children's, Sport, Learning, BBC Breakfast and BBC Radio 5 Live all



Salmon: 10,000 job applications

fall under his remit, as does the corporation's Future Media & Technology Division. More than 10,000 people have so far applied to work at BBC North.

5 SIR HOWARD BERNSTEIN

Chief executive, Manchester City Council



Few people have left their personal imprint on a city more than Sir Howard Bernstein. He joined Manchester City Council as a junior clerk and by 1998 had acquired the top job. His first big task was to head the public-private sector task force that oversaw the city centre's revival after the IRA bomb attack. He has also been closely involved in major projects like the Bridgewater Hall, the Velodrome, the MEN Arena and the International Convention Centre, and he played a key role in bringing the 2002 Commonwealth Games to Manchester. For a town hall careerist, has rare business acumen and is brilliant at forging links with the private sector. Manchester must hope there is another Bernstein waiting in the wings for when he retires.

For a town hall careerist Bernstein has rare business acumen and is brilliant at forging links with the private sector

6 PETER MARKS

Chief executive, Co-operative Group

Trading conditions in the UK are at a 40-year low, according to Marks. In response the Co-op's increasingly ubiquitous chain of



3,000 food stores – making it the country's fifth biggest food retailer – has cut prices but looks well placed to weather the storm. The Manchester-based group's signature brand of ethical capitalism fits the zeitgeist and with an annual turnover of £13.7 billion the conglomerate, which is owned by its nearly six million members and spans retail, funeral care and farming, also owns the Co-op Bank. Having joined the Co-op as a management trainee in 1967, Marks has increased profits while maintaining the Co-op's moral centre, becoming all-powerful within the group. It employs 110,000 people. A new £30 million programme will create 2,000 apprenticeships over three years and it is investing £800 million in a new HQ.

7 SIR RICHARD LEESE

Leader, Manchester City Council



At the heart of Manchester politics for a generation, Sir Richard Leese has weathered many storms, from opposing the attempt to cap local government funds by Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s to the failed attempt at persuading residents to accept a congestion charge scheme. His highly successful double act with Sir Howard Bernstein (see above) has made Manchester one of Europe's most prosperous and vibrant provincial cities. The great challenge now is to ensure that progress is not reversed by this year's loss of £110 million and 17 per cent of its workforce. Leese is spearheading local government opposition to the cuts.

8 JULIA UNWIN

Chief executive, Joseph Rowntree Foundation

The August riots and looting pushed the so-called "broken society" up the political agenda. Julia Unwin, head of York's influential social policy research and development charity, warned against hasty judgements until the causes were carefully researched. She has also raised the alarm about the financial



crisis seriously affecting long-term care of the elderly. A forthright and highly regarded expert on the vital role of the UK's financially squeezed voluntary sector, her voice is likely to be much heard – and hopefully valued – over the next few years.

9 ED BALLS

Shadow Chancellor

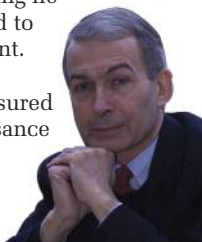
His reputation as Gordon Brown's rottweiler, especially among unforgiving Blairites, may ultimately put a brake on the career of the nakedly ambitious Ed Balls, MP for the Yorkshire seat of Normanton, although he has proved himself so adept at the political black arts no one should write him off. An MP only since 2005, there's no doubt his rise in Labour's hierarchy was down to 11 years as adviser to then-Chancellor Brown. However, a fall-out with fellow Brown acolyte Ed Miliband – Balls was passed over for the shadow chancellorship until Alan Johnson resigned the brief – seems to have strengthened his hand, especially in the light of questions about Miliband's leadership. But the fascinating twist to Balls's story is that his wife Yvette Cooper, MP for Pontefract and Castleford and currently shadow home secretary, is seen as a more electorate-friendly choice for next Labour leader. A future Labour government led by two M62 Belt MPs would undoubtedly be good for the north.



10 FRANK FIELD

MP for Birkenhead

A controversial figure, not least with his Labour colleagues, Frank Field was director of the Child Poverty Action Group and the Low Pay Unit before entering parliament. In 1997 Tony Blair made him minister of welfare reform but when he famously "thought the unthinkable" he resigned on learning he was being shunted to another department. His maverick reputation was assured by calling for nuisance neighbours to be housed in steel "container homes". To the



surprise of many, David Cameron appointed him "poverty tsar". He has recently won praise for blocking a Finance Bill loophole that would have seen 700,000 public sector workers miss out on a £250 pay rise.

11 DR JOHN SENTAMU

Archbishop of York

Riven by arguments and weakened by falling congregations, the Church of England's influence in the 21st century is debatable but there is no doubting the power and charisma of its second-highest figure. Ugandan-born Dr John Sentamu is Britain's first black archbishop and was subjected to racist hate mail when appointed in 2005. His high profile has endeared him to many and he is a master of headline-grabbing statements like cutting up his dog collar on live TV in protest at Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe and giving up his holiday to camp in York Minster while praying for peace in the Middle East. He skydives for charity but hasn't let his fame go to his head, turning down a place on *Celebrity Big Brother*.



The Church of England's influence is debatable but there is no doubting Sentamu's charisma

RISING AND FALLING

2011 has been a year of change as the country attempts to find its feet in the aftermath of the recession. This year's 50 Most Influential People in the North is a reflection of that, with no more than 20 people maintaining their place on the list.

Gone from the previous year are the likes of Paul Walker (Sage Group) and Ross Warburton (Warburton's), whilst philanthropists Sir John Zochonis and the Duke of Westminster have also dropped out. Given the much covered racism rows in football, it's interesting that Rio Ferdinand has slipped off the list.

The biggest riser is George Osborne after public scrutiny of his deficit reduction plan saw him shoot from 26th to first place. Another meteoric rise is Sir Howard Bernstein's 26-place jump to fifth. Of the notable sliders are Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy (nine to 29) and Ken McMeikan, who despite retaining lunchtime queues at Greggs has fallen 35 places to 39.

Of the 30 new men and women to break into the top 50, Peter Salmon is the highest at number four. Salmon is director of the newly established BBC North at MediaCityUK, a project developed by John Whittaker's (2) Peel Group. In a list dominated by political figures, shadow chancellor Ed Balls at nine is the highest newcomer.

Sir Richard Leese is the highest Labour figure, at seven. After the riots in Manchester this summer Peter Fahy, chief constable of Greater Manchester Police, is another high profile addition to the class of 2011.

TIM WOOD

12 MIKE OGLESBY

Executive chairman, Bruntwood

Having founded Bruntwood in the late 1970s, Mike Oglesby's business, cultural and charity interests stretch throughout the north and further afield. Bruntwood's property portfolio contains more than 100 office buildings in Manchester, Warrington, Liverpool, Birmingham and Leeds, housing approximately 1,000 businesses. He retains a hands-on role at the company although his son runs it day to day, and is a strong patron of the arts, founding the Bruntwood playwriting prize. Awarded the CBE in January for services to industry and charity, Oglesby also sits on numerous local boards, including development agency MIDAS, the Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership and the North West Business Leadership Team.



13 EMMA HARRISON

Founder, A4e



Chair of A4e (Action for Employment), the Sheffield-based multi-million pound training company, Emma Harrison was anointed "families champion" by David Cameron

last December. Charged with getting troubled families off benefits and into employment, Harrison is routinely described as one of the UK's most formidable female entrepreneurs. The organisation manages £300 million of government training contracts and operates in 11 countries. It has, however, attracted its fair share of controversy, facing fraud allegations some years back, and being criticised for the way it involves the voluntary sector in its big contracts. Unions have criticised the income of companies that receive large taxpayer-funded contracts – the *Guardian* recently estimated the Harrisons' joint income as exceeding £1.4 million, a percentage of which reportedly derives from leasing self-owned properties back to A4e.

14 SIR IAN WRIGGLESWORTH

Deputy chair, Regional Growth Fund

Not well known outside the North East but as deputy chair of the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) Lib Dem peer Wrigglesworth sits on a funding pot worth £1.4 billion designed to "drive sustainable economic growth and create new private sector jobs". With the north-south divide ever deepening, the importance of the RGF to the region cannot be underestimated. Unfortunately (yet much to the delight of the opposition), few businesses have yet to benefit from funding, to his frustration. How Wrigglesworth – who has long championed his native North East – chooses to distribute the rest of the fund will have a profound impact on us all.



15 DALTON PHILIPS

Chief executive, Morrisons

The son of a County Wicklow egg farmer, Philips, 43, was brought in last year to move staid Bradford-based supermarket chain Morrisons to the next level after a globe-trotting career in retail. He has been described as "almost impossible to dislike" but is known to be a tough manager. His job at Morrisons, following the retirement of founder Sir Ken Morrison, is to compete head on with Asda, Tesco and Sainsburys. Home shopping, new convenience stores and an expansion of the in-store fishmongers, bakers and butchers are his response.



Getting fresh: Dalton Philips of Morrisons

Mottram is responsible for serving the water needs of 2.6 million people in the north

16 HEIDI MOTTRAM

Chief executive, Northumbrian Water Group

A vocal industrialist, Leeds-born Heidi Mottram, 46, joined British Rail as a management trainee in 1986 before climbing to become managing director of Northern Rail, gaining an OBE along the way. Last year she was appointed chief executive at Northumbrian Water, becoming the first woman to head one of the country's big water companies and one of the youngest FTSE-250 bosses. Responsible for serving the water needs of 2.6 million people in the north (4.4 million people nationwide), Mottram's tenure has seen pre-tax profits rise, an improvement in environmental standards and a £2.4 billion takeover by Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings.



17 TOM RIORDAN

Chief executive, Leeds City Council



Few people have established themselves so quickly as one of the most influential movers and shakers in Yorkshire.

Northallerton-bred,

Oxford-educated Riordan led the regional development agency Yorkshire Forward for five years until its axing was announced and was much admired for adopting what he called "a Dunkirk spirit" to minimise the impact of a virtual meltdown of orders for Yorkshire industry. His new watch may prove to be a bigger challenge, with 3,000 council jobs being cut to tackle a £90 million funding black hole.

18 MARTIN AINSCOUGH

Property developer

Martin Ainscough amassed a personal fortune by growing Wigan-based Ainscough Crane Hire into the largest independent crane hire company in the UK and then selling it for £255 million in 2007. He describes his life now as "a mixture of business investment, philanthropic and charitable



activities". Chief among his business interests is Ainscough Strategic Land, which is investing heavily in property development throughout the north. Flourish Capital, industrial contracting firm Ainscough Vanguard and Burnhill Compliance Management also count among the group's portfolio. Charitable work includes a fund dedicated to helping disadvantaged people.

19 JESSICA ENNIS

Athlete



Many eyes will be on one of Britain's greatest hopes for gold at the 2012 London Olympics. What seemed like a career-threatening injury forced Sheffield's Jessica Ennis out of the Beijing Olympics, but in 2009 her triumph in the heptathlon at the world championships in Berlin was a strong declaration of intent, winning by a sizeable margin, and she confirmed her stunning form last year by taking gold at the European Championships in Barcelona. She largely shuns the role of celebrity athlete, however, preferring to live and train in her home city.

20 MICHAEL ARTHUR

Vice-Chancellor, Leeds University

Chair of the Russell Group, which represents the country's 20 leading research universities, Professor Michael Arthur has been a fierce critic of cuts in higher education funding. His stance on rising fees is unsurprisingly less critical. "We face the most turbulent period in higher education for some time," said Arthur when becoming Russell Group chair in 2009. His leadership has a profound effect not just on education but also the UK's economic stability. The total contribution of higher education to the economy in 2007/8 was estimated at £33.4 billion.



21 SIR ALEX FERGUSON

Manager, Manchester United



2011 has proved a strange year for Sir Alex Ferguson. On the one hand, Manchester United were crowned league champions for a record 19th time, surpassing arch-rivals Liverpool. On the other, their limp showing against Barcelona in May's Champions League final offered overwhelming evidence of where the true power base in European football lies. Finding a way to defeat the Catalans could arguably be Fergie's hardest challenge yet, while across Manchester another club is on the rise. Still, if anyone can do it, he can. This season may have seen a resolution to his bitter feud with the BBC, but Britain's most successful ever manager has lost none of his steel or appetite for success.

22 WILLIAM HAGUE

Foreign Secretary

He'll never shake off that TV footage of him wowing the Tory conference at Blackpool as a Rotherham schoolboy. Nor will he be forgiven by Tory traditionalists for wearing a baseball cap when he was leader. But for all that, the MP for Richmond, North Yorkshire, has become a likeable figure. Even his Labour detractors concede he is the best parliamentary debater for decades, always ready with a caustic and devastatingly funny putdown. Earlier this year, there were Westminster whisperings that Hague had lost his appetite for politics but his speech on the future of the Foreign Office to the Conservative conference in Manchester was said by political columnists to show that "William has got his mojo back".



23 AMIR KHAN

Boxer

Bolton's Amir Khan was the youngest British boxer to take an Olympic medal, winning silver in Athens aged just 17, and became the youngest British



Simon Arora runs recession-busting discount stores

world champion in 2007. Now 24, he has defeated five world champions, holds the WBA Super and IBF Light Welterweight titles and will be defending them against Lamont Peterson next month. The biggest match of his career, though, will be next year's fight against undefeated American legend Floyd Mayweather. Khan's place in Bolton's hearts is secure, however and he continues to donate large amounts of money to his hometown's Gloves community centre and boxing gym.

24 FRED DONE

Bookmaker



Founder and chairman of Betfred, the country's fourth biggest bookmaker, Fred Done has overseen the company's 45-year expansion from one shop in his native Salford to a country-wide network. Having won the race to buy the formerly state-owned Tote for £265 million this summer, Betfred now numbers over 1,350 shops, with an exclusive seven-year licence to operate pools betting on UK racecourses. The February opening of a new flagship shop in London's Chinatown suggests the Warrington-based chain targets further expansion in what remains one of the country's favourite leisure activities.

25 SIMON ARORA

Joint managing director, B&M Bargains

Discount stores have thrived during the recession with Speke-based B&M Bargains running up sales of nearly £500 million last year. Run by former Manchester Grammar School pupil Simon Arora and his brother Bobby,

Bookmaker Done is targeting expansion in one of our favourite leisure activities

Season's Greetings



Photography: Gudrun Nordlicht

"Selling The Big Issue in the North gets you out, helps you to get to know people, and stops you getting into trouble. The people in The Big Issue in the North office are great. If you have problems with your health or where you live, they do their best to help you out. They help you get a doctor, help you with warm clothes when you need them in winter, and check you're ok when you're selling the magazine. Next year I want to find my own gaff, stay healthy and try to get a permanent job..." **John**

Please support The Big Issue in the North Trust this Christmas, so that we can continue to help people like John to move on in their lives

I want to support The Big Issue in the North Trust...

Please accept my gift of £5 £10 £25 £50 £100 Other

Name
Address Postcode

Tel. no. Email

I enclose a cheque payable to The Big Issue in the North Trust

Please debit the amount specified above from my credit/debit card

Card No.

Start date Expiry date Issue No. (switch only)

Security code (The last three numbers on the back of your card)

Signature Date

Gift Aid - make every £1 worth £1.28

If you are a UK taxpayer and would like The Big Issue in the North Trust to reclaim the tax on all donations you have made as well as future donations, please tick here
Please remember to notify us if you no longer pay income tax (or capital gains tax).

Data protection. Please tick this box if you **do not** wish to receive any more information about The Big Issue in the North Trust.

How to donate

Post: To donate by cheque or credit or debit card, please complete this form and return it to:
**The Big Issue in the North Trust,
10 Swan Street, Manchester
M5 4JN**

Online: visit www.justgiving.com/bigissuenorth/donate

Mobile: text **BIGI22** and the amount you want to donate to 70070. (So text **BIGI22 £10** to donate £10) Texts are free and all the money comes to us

Telephone: Call 0151 707 9190 to donate by credit or debit card or to set up a standing order to donate regularly

who joint purchased the firm in 2004, the retail chain has undergone substantial growth, at one point reportedly opening stores at a rate of one a week. This year's *Sunday Times* Rich List estimated the brothers' combined wealth at £298 million. Its 280-plus stores provide employment for over 7,000 people, while over one million customers visit a B&M store each week. With no signs of financial recovery, expect those numbers to grow.

26 CAROLINE SHAW

Chief executive, Christie NHS Foundation Trust

Caroline Shaw has had a meteoric rise from midwife to chief executive for the past six years of Europe's largest cancer centre. She has implemented an ambitious five-year plan, strengthening the Manchester-based hospital's finances as well as transforming care for patients not just in the UK but globally through pioneering research and clinical trials. In 2007 Christie was granted foundation trust status. More recently, state-of-the-art radiotherapy centres opened in Oldham and Salford. Shaw, who has completed marathons and skydives for charity, was also behind the successful campaign to recoup the £6.5 million Christie lost with the Icelandic banking collapse. Last year she was honoured in the public service category of the First Women Awards.

27 TREVOR MANN

Senior vice-president, Nissan Europe

In charge of the UK's largest car plant and our biggest car exporter, Trevor Mann heads Nissan's Sunderland base and its European manufacturing division. A key employer in the North East, with 4,000 staff, Nissan is investing in green technology to become market leader in zero emission vehicles. It has invested £10 million in a skills academy specialising in low-carbon technology. From 2013 the 100 per cent electric Nissan Leaf will begin production at the plant, placing Sunderland, and Mann, at the forefront of the sustainable car industry.



Meteric rise: Caroline Shaw, head of Christie Hospital

28 GRAHAM HONEYMAN

Chief executive, Sheffield Forgemasters



Flouting predictions that the UK's steel industry is in long-term decline, Honeyman reversed the fortunes of the ailing dinosaur Sheffield Forgemasters when he joined in 2002, returning it to profit in just six months and establishing the company as a global force. He has been praised for boosting apprenticeships and for saving the company from closure when the 2007 summer floods wiped out much machinery. Even the coalition government's controversial cancellation of an £80 million loan that would have helped it become a leader in supplying the nuclear industry failed to knock Honeyman off course and he was the Institute of Directors director of the year last year. The loan's back on, too, although only £36 million.

29 CAROL ANN DUFFY

Poet laureate

Recently shortlisted for the Galaxy National Book Awards 2011, for her collection *The Bees*, poet laureate Carol Ann Duffy is enjoying a highly successful year. *Rings*, the touching poem she wrote for the marriage of Wills and Kate, was warmly welcomed, and she's been commissioned to write for the 2012



Olympics. She also successfully campaigned for the reinstatement of Judith Palmer as director of the Poetry Society. The highest ranking poet in the *Guardian's* books power list, Glasgow-born, Manchester-based Duffy (she is professor of contemporary poetry at Manchester Metropolitan University) rightly belongs at the vanguard of British modern verse.

30 PETER FAHY

Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police

Opinion is divided on how well Greater Manchester Police handled the riots. Some, such as local MP Graham Stringer are highly critical. Others point to the bravery of officers in an impossible situation for vindication of GMP's tactics. As the man in charge of Britain's largest police force after the Met, the buck stops with Peter Fahy, and he admitted his force lost control at one point in the riots. An already tough job is due to get significantly harder as 900 jobs are axed because of cuts. With no signs of civil unrest quelling, Fahy's ability to maintain morale while improving GMP's poor performance record will be crucial.



Kay's massive trek round the concert halls of Britain saw him perform to a record-breaking 1.2 million people

31 PETER KAY

Comedian



Bolton's Peter Kay is the most successful northern comedian of his generation – not a bad achievement for a lad who used to work in a toilet roll factory. His massive 2011 trek round the concert halls of Britain has seen him perform 120 shows to a record-breaking 1.2 million people. The tour's final show at the MEN Arena sold out in two hours and raised over £250,000 for Manchester's Christie cancer hospital. Kay has proved that you don't have to be rude to get laughs, and his affable style has inspired comedians like Michael McIntyre and Liverpool's John Bishop.



WINTER WARMER

Big Issue in the North vendors sell the magazine out on the streets in all weathers in order to earn an income. Help keep them warm this year with a donation of good quality hats, gloves, scarfs, jumpers and coats

Deliver your donations to:

The Big Issue in the North
10 Swan Street
Manchester M4 5JN

The Big Issue in the North
50-54 Mount Pleasant
Liverpool L3 5SD

www.bigissueinthenorth.com

32 JAMES NEWMAN**Yorkshire business leader**

There are few areas of life in Yorkshire that James Newman has not been involved with over the last 40 years. His titles have included Sheffield's Master Cutler of the Cutlers Company, governor of the Sheffield Hallam University and deputy chief executive of the Yorkshire Water-owning Kelda Group. But it's for his new job as chairman of Finance Yorkshire, overseeing a £90 million fund to help business growth in the region, that Newman has become one of Yorkshire's most influential players. Finance Yorkshire has been charged with completing a four-year investment plan by December 2013.

33 BRIAN CANTOR**Vice-chancellor, York University**

Has been in the top job at York since 2002 and has weathered problems like a porters' strike, accusations that the university



operates an unethical investment policy, and criticism of his "aloofness" from the 4,000 students and 1,000 staff, while recently he was asked to explain why he runs chauffeur driven cars at a time when the university faced huge spending cuts. But supporters say he must take a lot of the credit for the York campus being named university of the year in the 2010 Times Higher Education Awards.

34 ED MILIBAND**Leader of the opposition**

Red Ed's timid speech at the Labour conference generated little more than a bored sigh, but his stature has steadily grown in 2011. His critics, of which there are many both outside and within Labour, still claim that he is too weak, lacks gravitas and has a stupid voice. Fans point to his fresh thinking and political intelligence, increasingly strong performances at prime minister's

questions and the fact that he has years to grow into the role before the next election. Coined the slowburning "squeezed middle", announced last week as the OED's phrase of the year. Don't write off the Doncaster North MP just yet.

35 JOE ANDERSON**Leader, Liverpool City Council**

Former merchant seaman, pub landlord and social worker, Joe Anderson enjoyed a diverse career before entering local politics.



A councillor for Riverside – where he grew up – since 1998, Anderson was elected leader of the Labour group on the council in 2002 and became council leader last year. Placed in the unenviable position of having to axe 1,500 jobs due to government spending cuts, Anderson, who surprised some with his adept leadership, has taken the welcome step of webcasting council meetings, fostering greater public involvement in political affairs.

35 DAME NANCY ROTHWELL**Vice-chancellor, Manchester University**

Set the goal of making Manchester one of the top 25 universities in the world by 2015 by her predecessor Alan Gilbert, Dame Nancy Rothwell inherited an academic institution already on the way up. Based in Manchester since 1987 and one of the few women to head a major university, Rothwell leads by example. Her research in neuroscience has led to major advances in the understanding of brain damage in stroke and head injury. Three months into her reign as VC two Manchester scientists received the Nobel Prize for physics for their discoverer of graphene – the world's thinnest material.

**37 CHRIS PILLING****Chief executive, Yorkshire Building Society**

Although he doesn't take over until next month Pilling's appointment as head of the UK's second largest building society has created great

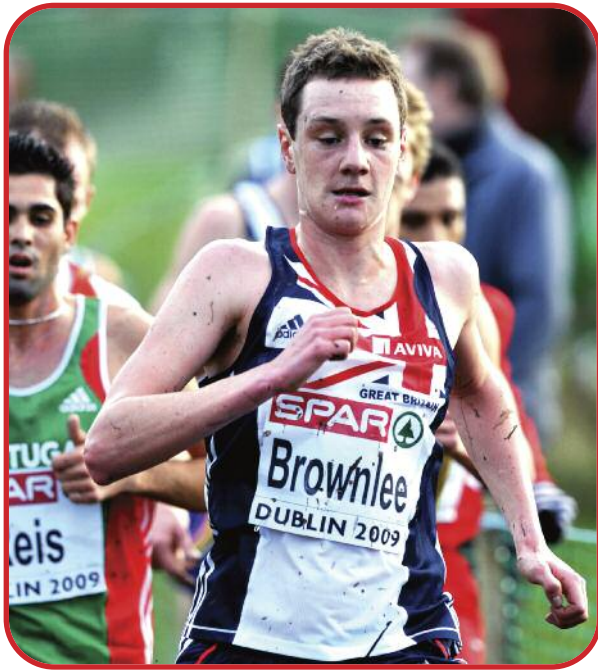
anticipation at its Bradford headquarters.

Pilling, 45, rose quickly through HSBC and joins YBS at a time of major expansion, after recent takeovers of the Chelsea Building Society and the Egg savings and mortgage business. Turning YBS into a big hitter without shedding jobs in the rockiest times seen by the financial sector for two generations will be quite a trick. One to watch.

**38 KEN MCMEIKAN****Chief executive, Greggs**

Greggs is a phenomenal success story. From one shop in Newcastle it has grown into Britain's largest bakery chain with over 1,500 outlets and another 500 planned by its dynamic leader Ken McMeikan plus a forthcoming trial at motorway service stations. Old-established rivals have been gobbled, to the dismay of customers who saw favourite cakes, pasties and sandwiches replaced by Greggs' standard lines, but lunchtime queues testify to the popularity of the brand. Aged 45, McMeikan, who chairs the North East CBI, is overseeing the chain's biggest-ever growth after working for Sainsbury's and Tesco. And under his leadership it raises millions of pounds for breadline charities in the north, and provides free breakfasts for disadvantaged schoolchildren. His former PA, Helen Milligan, came second in this year's *The Apprentice* and he welcomed her back with a big promotion.

**McMeikan: lunchtime queues attest to Greggs' popularity**



Brownlee: the world's finest triathlete

39 ALISTAIR BROWNLEE

Athlete

Reigning and back-to-back European triathlon champion, Dewsbury-born Alistair Brownlee was crowned ITU world triathlon champion in September, a title he previously held in 2009. He is quite simply the world's finest triathlete. Unsurprisingly, he's also a strong favourite to win big at London 2012, where his profile is certain to rise and he'll be even more of a sporting inspiration. His younger brother Jonathan won silver at this year's World Triathlon championships.

40 KHALID SAIFULLAH

Lancashire entrepreneur



Blackburn-based Khalid Saifullah runs Star Tissue, a leading maker of "hygiene paper products" and earlier this year won the Queens

Award for Enterprise Promotion. But it is for his work in the wider Lancashire economy that he is better known. He helped develop the Asian Business Federation and launched Enterprise4all NW, which helps the region's female and Asian business start-ups by teaching enterprise and management skills.

Botham will be thanked by many if the days of unreliable, overcrowded commutes comes to an end

41 MARK HENDERSON

Chief executive, Home Group

Home Group in Newcastle manages over 50,000 homes and provides care and support services to more than 20,000 people. It grew out of a small Newcastle project during the depressed 1930s to become one of the UK's biggest social housing landlords. Led by the energetic, motorbike-racing Mark Henderson, former chief executive of Northumberland County Council, in the past year it claims to have successfully housed over 22,000 and helped 5,000 more to start buying their own home. Henderson declared his goal was "to be outrageously better" and wants to fill a gap in the provision of affordable housing.



42 NICK FORBES

Leader, Newcastle City Council



In last May's local elections Newcastle returned to the Labour fold after the Liberal Democrats had been in charge since 2004. And with the victory came the elevation to local near-cult status of Nick Forbes who, at the age of 37, is the youngest leader of any big northern city council. Forbes – with a politics degree from Cambridge and two others – is a thoroughly modern politician with his own website and a strong presence on Facebook and Twitter, which he uses to good effect to blame nearly 700 job losses and £50 million spending cuts on central government and the council's previous leadership.

43 GRAHAM BOTHAM

Northern Hub boss, Network Rail

Network Rail's ambitious Northern Hub plan to revamp rail services in the north is headed by Graham Botham. If all of the requested £530 million investment package is forthcoming it would provide a 40 per cent increase in trains a day, amounting to 700 extra services in the north, and



promise quicker and more frequent services linking Newcastle, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield. Botham joined British Rail as a management trainee in 1987 and has worked on both freight and passenger services. He'll be thanked by many if the days of unreliable, overcrowded commutes come to an end.

44 LORD SHIPLEY

North East Lib Dem peer

John Shipley has been one of the North East's great and good for three decades. He led the Liberal and then Liberal Democrat opposition groups on Newcastle City Council from 1978 to 1998, and when the Lib Dems won control he was council leader from 2006 until last year, giving up his day job as regional director of the Open University. As vice-president of the Local Government Association and a working peer, he has been closely



involved with the Localism Bill, part of the government's flagship Big Society agenda, intended to devolve power away from Whitehall to local councils and neighbourhoods.

45 MATT RILEY

Chief executive, Daisy Group

Former Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Matt Riley's rise in the communications industry has been meteoric since setting up a small



consultancy in 1999. His client list soon included big names like Virgin Cinemas and Woolworths but he sold up to start Daisy Telecoms in his hometown of Nelson, taking much business away from BT by providing communications services to small and medium sized firms. By constant takeovers of competitors, today's Daisy Group has 75,000 business customers and 1,300 employees. In this year's *The Apprentice* Riley was enlisted to help interview contestants for Alan Sugar. Aged 37, Riley's is a name to watch.

46 PAUL ABBOTT**TV writer-producer**

Best known for creating *Shameless*, the critically acclaimed Manchester-set comedy-drama series, which celebrated its 100th episode this year, Burnley-born Abbott is one of the country's most celebrated television writers. *Children's Ward*, the BAFTA-winning *Clocking Off* and *State Of Play* are among his many credits, while a US version of *Shameless* (co-written and executive produced by Abbott) has proved an unlikely critical success. 2011 has also seen him produce BBC Alzheimer's drama *Exile*, written by protégé Danny Brocklehurst. A strong advocate of the north's cultural industries, Abbott's gift for crafting unforgettable television has indelibly changed the broadcasting landscape.

47 DAME JENNI MURRAY**Broadcaster**

Presenter of BBC Radio 4's *Woman's Hour* since 1987, Barnsley-born journalist and broadcaster Jenni Murray, 61, was made a dame in this year's Birthday Honours List. Famously Murray – who began her career in 1973 on local radio in Bristol and maintains a home base in the Peak District – once tackled Margaret Thatcher over her childcare policies and asked then Chancellor Gordon Brown if he would show his wife his tax forms. Her frank and honest discussion of being diagnosed with cancer in 2006, and subsequent treatment, won her many more admirers.

48 LORD KIRKHAM**Yorkshire billionaire and Conservative Peer**

Graham Kirkham made his fortune building up the DFS sofa group, which he sold last year for a reported £500 million to become the 67th

richest man in Britain. He started making furniture above a snooker hall in Carcroft, near Doncaster, and first came to national attention in the 1990s when he gave the Conservative Party a £4 million interest-free loan. His 1995 knighthood and 1999 peerage were said to be for his work as vice-chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh Award and other charity work. He has loaned William Hague his helicopter for electioneering, and his continuing support for the Conservatives makes him highly influential.

49 SIR MICHAEL BIBBY**Chief executive, Bibby Line Group**

The Bibby Line was founded as a shipping company in 1807 by an Ormskirk farmer's son but has diversified into everything from financial services and subsea construction to woodland burials and retail, including a stake in convenience store chain Costcutter. Sir Michael Bibby is the sixth generation to run the £1.15 billion turnover family firm, which has won awards for its astonishing growth, but also for its support for charities, such as the young people's training vessel Spirit of Fairbridge.

**50 LORD HASKINS****Chair, Humber Local Enterprise Partnership**

Well connected Labour-supporting peer who takes the chair of Humber LEP now the area has been given enterprise zone status for a huge site straddling the estuary. What that zone means in layman's terms is the possible creation of a renewable energy boom and potentially 5,000 new jobs, as the Humber is so well placed to service large new offshore windfarms. Haskins, former Northern Foods chair, picks up the reins following the hard work of his predecessor John Clugston in securing enterprise zone status.

**HAVE YOUR SAY**

What do you think of our list of The 50 Most Influential People in the North? Who's too high or low? Who shouldn't be there? Who have we left out? We'll publish your comments.

You can email us at letters@bigissuenorth.co.uk, reach us @twitter.com/bigissuenorth or write to us at Letters, The Big Issue in the North, 10 Swan St, Manchester, M4 5JN.



Jenni Murray has put prime ministers on the spot and won praise for battling cancer