

19th September 2023

Introducing the AIM Chaos Blog

It is high time that I recommenced writing regularly and consistently on stock market matters.

Penning my thoughts and openly sharing them – beyond Twitter, in a more extensive blog format – is something that I have been contemplating for many months, years even... Yet I have procrastinated for absolutely no other reason than a shameful level of disorganization and laziness on my part.

For those of you who don't know me, I am a full-time equities trader and investor. I am now into the eighth year of managing my own money, having resigned from my role as a sell-side equity analyst at a small-cap-focused corporate finance house, back in 2016. I focus almost exclusively on micro-cap and small-cap companies listed on the London Stock Exchange (those with a market capitalization of less than £250m).

Over the years, my trading and investing styles have continuously evolved, due to a necessity driven by portfolio growth; due to external conditions such as market sentiment and dramatic swings in liquidity in my areas of focus; and in no small part due to several brutal losses, and a determination to cut them out in future!

So... Why the urge to write now, in blog format, as opposed to simply continuing with the long(-ish) Tweets (or 'Posts', as they're now called!) that I am accustomed to tweeting sporadically? There are numerous reasons. Firstly, it will enable me to document the continued evolution of my trading and investing styles from this point in time, hopefully for years to come. It will create a continuous and uninterrupted journal of my thoughts on the dozens of stocks that I watch and sometimes trade. It will become an extensive library of content, both for my own perusal and for the use of others.

On a personal level, I believe that it will greatly improve my discipline, and provide more structure to my working day. Most days consist of hours of research: why not subsequently convert those hours into a detailed, yet easy-to-digest narrative? It will also provide me with continued practice in *writing*, a skill that I will forever strive to improve.

Finally... I enjoy it! Writing research notes and articles on listed companies has been at the core of almost the entirety of my career so far. It's an incredibly fulfilling experience, writing about the prospects of a company just weeks before its share price soars. I love the research, but even more so transforming that research into words that are easy – even for those with very limited knowledge of the stock market – to comprehend.

In contrast to previous series of blogs and investment notes that I've published over the past seven years – which have been formal, lengthy and structured – the new notes will be short, snappy and colloquial.

They will also be much more regular and wide ranging, providing commentary on dozens of stocks (we can check back on this in a year's time, to see if I have met this pledge!); on specific sectors; on investing and trading strategies that I may be employing at the time; and on market mechanics and the various players within it.

However, I do *not* intend to provide in-depth coverage of my *executed* trades; nor of my portfolio composition. Over the years, I have found that it is very difficult to win with *all* readers on social media and other forums, when detailing exact entries and exits. Many want to know whether I'm holding a stock at a specific time; what my target prices are; whether I'm reducing or adding to a position...

Readers should consider this project as a regularly updated library that they can draw investment ideas from, on a broad array of companies. If I stay interested (or even invested) in a particular company, it may be that I write about it regularly for six months, a year or more. A written presentation of my own thoughts on said company, that readers can compare against their own views. It may be that I write on a company, offering a favorable view on its prospects over the long-term. Some readers may like the idea, but use it as a short-term trade. On the other hand, there will be many occasions when I see a good opportunity to trade the share price swings of a company that has excellent fundamentals; some readers may choose to delve into deeper research and take a long-term position in said company.

Readers should *not* consider this project as a method of following my trades, in and out. [Of course, any open position that I have in any company that I write about in a particular blog, will be noted in the disclaimer.]

Well, this is the plan. I've put it out there... Now time to write!