

City Centre matters

The newsletter of the Wolverhampton City Centre Company



CityStyle Pleases the Crowds

The hottest weekend of June saw an extravaganza of fashion and beauty come to Wolverhampton. **CityStyle** featured fantastic catwalk shows of summer fashions, urban designers, bridal gowns and student designs to the delight of watching crowds.

The **Wulfrun Centre Piazza** was buzzing with hair and beauty make-overs and demonstrations. Goody bags gave visitors the chance to win fantastic prizes including ladies gold watches, beauty gifts, meal vouchers and tickets for shows and concerts and the Beacon radio thunder crew were on hand taking photos of the day.

The two day event was devised and co-ordinated by **Wolverhampton City**

Centre Company with sponsorship from **Network WM** and the **Wulfrun and Mander Centres**. Retailers, including Beatties/House of Fraser, Boots, Bhs, Wallis, Peacocks, New Look, Primark and Marks & Spencer all gave support along with the College Metro One Campus, University of Wolverhampton and hairs stylists from Francesco Group and Zaks.

Colin Quinton, Wulfrun Centre Manager, said: *"The CityStyle weekend was a great success - footfall increased significantly over the two days and it was great to see such a range of fashion, hair and beauty displays in one arena."*

For more photos of the event see: www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk or visit: www.citystylewolves.co.uk



Catwalk shows and hair make-overs at CityStyle

City Centre Manager's Update



Kim Gilmour

We have just launched our new web site: www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk which includes a lot more information about the city centre including events and attractions as well as our latest initiatives. And for the news

behind the news check out my Blog!

The landscape of part of the ring road is changing with the demolition of **Peel House** by owners **Wolves Football Club**. Initially this will be a temporary car park but longer term Wolves have revealed their vision for further development at the football ground. Could this include something more spectacular on the site of Peel House?

We will continue to keep you up to date on any new announcements on city centre regeneration and new shop openings.

See www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk for further information on WCCC's work.

NEW CITY CENTRE WEBSITE

WCCC now has a great new website to keep shoppers, visitors and businesses up-to-date on all that's going on within the city centre.



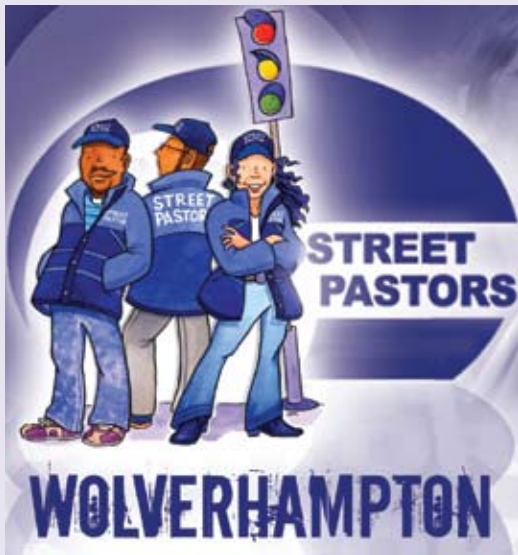
The website is updated on a daily basis by the team, and blogs and news items are added regularly with information on latest events to keep city workers and visitors informed.

The site will soon be launching a **Shopping Directory** - detailing all shops and businesses in the city centre - a first for Wolverhampton. In addition a Vacant Unit Register is under development, listing prime sites for occupancy with contact details as well as vacant units available for community use.

The site has much more information on the work of WCCC, our projects and stakeholder groups and you can see all the back copies of our newsletter in case you have missed an issue.

If you would like to share items of interest please send them to Marianne at: wccc@wolverhamptonccc.co.uk - we're always looking out for good news stories.

Check it Out! www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk



Patrolling in Peace!

Street Pastors - what are we, what do we do, how can we help? These are questions we often hear whilst out on patrol in Wolverhampton.

Street Pastors is a national organisation of trained volunteers from different churches who get involved in making their community a safer place.

In Wolverhampton you will often see **Street Pastors** out and about in the city centre on a Friday or Saturday night between 10pm and 3am (soon to be on a Thursday night too). Dressed in our distinctive blue jackets we hand out foil blankets in the colder weather, flip flops to the girls who have taken their shoes off and carry basic first aid kits. We even pick up bottles and cans off the street!

We assist people who may have had too much to drink, need directions or find a taxi and countless times we have found ourselves in the right place at the right time able to offer a helping hand.

We are not here to preach. **Street Pastors** just want to help people in Wolverhampton feel safer and be able to enjoy their night out.

For more information visit: www.streetpastors.co.uk

Bagging a Bargain

Incentives to stall holders at Wolverhampton's historic markets have seen a flurry of new traders, and shoppers now have the pick of over 140 stalls in the indoor market and outdoor market.

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays the market, operated by **Wolverhampton City Council**, is bustling with everything from sweets and spices to ethnic foods and gifts, whilst fruit, vegetables and flowers still dominate **Market Square**.

Due to its popularity, **Wolverhampton Farmers' Market** now takes place on the first and third Friday of every month from 10am to 3pm in **Dudley Street**, including gift and craft stalls, Fairtrade goods and fresh food from local producers and growers.



City 10

City 10 drop in space

A new exhibition space is giving people a taste of Wolverhampton's arts, culture and heritage through a series of events and activities.

City 10, the former Visitor Information Centre in **Queen Square**, opened earlier this year and has already hosted an array of free drop in activities such as T-shirt making, pottery, mask making and 'rag rugging'.

Recently the venue hosted **Home of Metal**, a region-wide campaign to celebrate the role of the Black Country in the development of heavy metal music.

Community groups, clubs and charitable organisations who would like to show off what they do to a wider audience are now being offered the opportunity to use **City 10**. Groups will also be able to tap in to the resources of the city council's **Arts and Heritage Service** to realise their displays and events.

City 10 is available for hire, for free, for a week at a time – organisations do need to ensure that the space can be manned. To find out more, call 01902 552050, email corinne.miller@wolverhampton.gov.uk or visit: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/city10 for a downloadable booking form.



A welcoming smile at Wolverhampton Markets

Operators **LSD Promotions** has also been running a trial summer market every Wednesday in **Queen Square** and **Dudley Street** which finishes in mid September.

Other specialist markets include a one day **Italian Market** which comes to **Dudley Street** twice a year, the next one is scheduled for Friday 23rd September. Its surely not too early to mention the **Christmas Market!** This 10 day market covers two weekends in the run up to Christmas; the 2010 market starts on Friday 10th December.

Happy bargain hunting!

NEW FORUM PROMOTES SECURITY

A new group has been created by **Wolverhampton City Centre Company** to support the night time economy in Wolverhampton.

Wolverhampton Door Watch Forum was set up in February this year to bring together the professional Door Supervisors who work in licensed venues or at events, private parties and music or sporting venues.

The group aims to work in partnership with all agencies and private businesses to provide a safe and more secure environment for people who visit Wolverhampton City Centre.

The Door Watch Forum has the full support of **KnightSafe Pubwatch Group, West Midlands Police** and professional security companies.

Lucy Bickley, WCCC project officer said: "The Security Industry plays a key role in the safety and security of our many visitors to the city centre whether in relation to football matches, pubs, clubs or music venues.

"Our aim is for the Forum to be the voice of the Security Industry at both a local and national level and promote the positive side of their work within the city centre."



If you are a door supervisor operating within the City Centre and want to get involved with the Forum visit our website: www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk with links to the **National Door Watch Forum** and **Working the Doors** websites.

Grants for City Centre Businesses

Wolverhampton City Centre is to benefit from a new grants package to help start-up and existing businesses in the city and to tackle empty units.

The Wolverhampton Business Grant Suite, launched by **Wolverhampton City Council** with funding from the **Working Neighbourhoods Fund**,

will be a shot in the arm for the local economy and is aimed at SME (Independent companies with less than 250 staff and annual turnover < €50m.)

The City Centre has a wealth of offices suitable for professional services companies along with prime retail units. Grants include:

City-Wide Start-Up or Existing Business Grants - up to £5,000 of matched investment (i.e. company match funds the amount awarded in grant money) for capital equipment that will help the business develop and grow. Start Up Grants are for businesses that are less than six months old whilst Wolverhampton businesses over six months old can apply for the Existing Business Grant.

City Centre Start-Up Grants - up to £3,000 of matched investment for capital equipment for new businesses setting up on the following streets - Snow Hill, Worcester Street, Darlington Street, Queen Street, Victoria Street, Salop Street, School Street and the lower level of the Mander Centre. Businesses would also be eligible for the city-wide start up existing business grant - so could get £8,000 in total.

Chapel Ash and Darlington Street Shop Fronts and External Repairs - between 70 and 80% funding toward cost of installing new shop fronts and building repairs on premises within this conservation area.

City-Wide Security Grants - up to £3,000 of matched investment to pay for security measures such as CCTV and alarm systems.

There are also additional grants for new High Growth Start Ups.

More information is available from the Business Solutions Centre via e-mail: enquiries@wolverhamptonbsc.com, on 01902 321 272 or by downloading the application form from our website.



Team5 – Black Country Young Enterprise Winners

TRADE FAIR FOR BUDDING ENTREPRENEURS

In December budding young entrepreneurs will be returning to the City Centre to hold fund raising activities for the **2011 Young Enterprise Programme**.

Schools from all over the region took part in the Programme earlier this year which involves young people between 15 and 19 forming and running their own companies.

For the first time, young entrepreneurs were given the chance to trade to attend the **Black Country Young Enterprise Trade Fair** and interact with the public in the **Wulfrun Centre**.

An award for the winners of the Best Trade Stand, **Team5** from **Colton Hills Community School** in Wolverhampton, was presented at the Young Enterprise Company Programme Area Finals. **Team5** went on to win the Black Country Finals but narrowly missed out on being West Midlands winners.

The **Mander Centre** will host the Christmas Fund Raising Fair whilst the Trade Fair will return to the **Wulfrun Centre** next spring

What's New!

Lots of new shops have appeared which is great news for the city:

The Card Tree - this beautifully fitted-out shop in the Wulfrun Centre has a huge range of cards and gifts at excellent prices.

& Skate - everything for skaters! Exclusive brands of equipment and clothing from UK, USA and Australia at 13 Princess Alley (off Princess Street).

Now - family-run ladies clothes shop occupying the former Dorothy Perkins unit in the Mander Centre.

Darlington News - This great little newsagent will be opening shortly in Darlington Street, ideal for all those catching buses outside Beatties.

Traditional Polish Bakery - great to see another independent business opening its doors in Worcester Street - wonderful array of foodstuffs on offer.

Blue Banana - clothing and accessories for all Newbies and Emos in this amazingly bright Wulfrun Centre shop.

Patisserie Valerie - formerly Druckers in Dudley Street - this continental patisserie was founded in Belgium in 1926 and is largely unknown outside London – an asset to our cosmopolitan city.

Fallen Saint - located in Lichfield Passage (near Royal London bar) is the place to find quirky and vintage handmade jewellery.

Beauty Queen Cosmetics - opening soon in Victoria Street this is a welcome addition to a recovering area of the city.

Fresher's Week - Wolverhampton University

The University will be welcoming new Students to the city on Sunday 12th September for Fresher's Week. Introduction to their accommodation, courses and the campus will be on the agenda - as well as sampling the delights of the shops, eating places and bars.

Keep your eyes open for these new residents - many of whom may be from overseas - and make sure they get a big Wolverhampton welcome to our fantastic city.



Stephen Fry Live: The Fry Chronicles - 13th September at Light House

Live from the Royal Festival Hall, this special event marks the publication of Stephen Fry's new volume of autobiography The Fry Chronicles.

Stephen will be beamed, direct

via satellite, onto the big screen at Light House, to give an exclusive preview of his hilarious, frank and uncompromising new book.

Book your tickets for this very special event on 01902 716055 or visit: www.light-house.co.uk

What's on Where: September/October/November

The new issue covering council supported live music, film, theatre, art, workshops, family/outdoor events and sports from will be available shortly from Emma Cleary at emma.cleary@wolverhampton.gov.uk on 01902 551069 or www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/whatson.

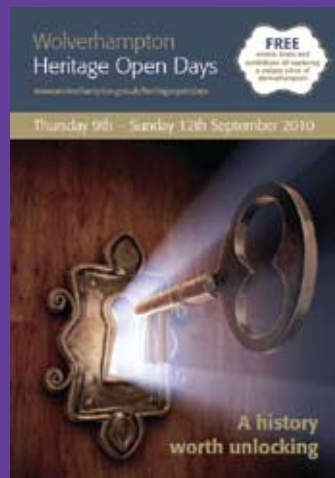
What's Going On

Heritage Open Days 9th to 12th September

Buildings across the city are throwing open their doors as part of this year's Heritage Open Days event, when people can go behind the scenes at some of Wolverhampton's important historical sites.

These free events include guided tours of Molineux Stadium, Banks' Brewery, Molineux Hotel Archives, backstage at the Grand Theatre, the projection room at Light House Cinema, Express & Star's print room, Wolverhampton Art Gallery's collection store and a private view of the Beatties Heritage Room.

For more information and to book your place visit:
www.wolverhampton.gov.uk and follow the link for Heritage Open Days or call Emma Cleary 01902 551069.



Just a few of the Highlights

The Caretaker - Arena Theatre, 21st to 22nd September

Music on Screen: The Threepenny Opera - Light House, 23rd September

Best of British Comedy - Wulfrun Hall, 26th September

Photography Walkabout - Art Gallery, 9th October

Chess the Musical - Grand Theatre, 12th to 16th October



Dirty Old Town: memories of an industrial past

- Art Gallery, 16th October to 13th November

UB40 'Signing Off' 30th Anniversary Tour

- Civic Hall, 26th October

The Importance of Being Ernest

- Arena Theatre, 27th October

Paloma Faith - Civic Hall, 1st November

Rupert Brooke - Arena Theatre, 7th November

I'm Sorry I Haven't A Clue - Grand Theatre,

12th November



For full details see www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/whatson



Kim



Lucy



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For further information contact:

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Wolverhampton City Centre Company Tel: **01902 551077**

Email: wccc@wolverhamptonccc.co.uk or visit: www.wolverhamptonccc.co.uk

Wolverhampton City Centre Company is an independent, proactive organisation working strategically and operationally with partners to identify and address key issues to improve the marketing, environment, safety and economy of the City Centre. Through a Board, an Executive Group and Stakeholder Groups and our Associate Membership Scheme WCCC works with a large number of private businesses representing the 'Voice of the City Centre'.

WCCC is funded by the public and private sector including Wolverhampton City Council and key organisations like the Mander and Wulfrun Centres, Hortons Estate, National Express, Sainsbury's, Boots and the University of Wolverhampton.