

June 2019



**Chaplains visit people in their place of work to offer friendship and to listen. Their support is unconditional, non-judgmental, independent and confidential.**

## Interesting to Know.....

Amazon has announced plans to open a new fulfillment centre at SEGRO's East Midlands Gateway development at Kegworth and has begun recruiting for more than 500 new permanent jobs.

**817,000 people live in Nottinghamshire.**

There were 273,000 working days lost due to labour disputes in 2018, the sixth-lowest annual total since records began in 1891. The education sector accounted for 66% of all working days lost, due mainly to disputes involving employees of universities.

**Landlords have been hammered as retailers shut stores and seek rent reductions amid rising costs and competition online. Britain's are world leaders for shopping on line.**

Since a change of rules, full business rates must be paid on empty premises (including the High Street) after six months.

**There are more buildings used as churches in the UK than pubs research from the National Churches Trust shows. There are 40,300 buildings used for worship and 39,000 pubs. 16,600 of the church buildings are Anglican.**

Sales of low emission plug in hybrid cars are falling. Less than 2,000 were sold in April. SUV sales increased by almost 20% to 40,580. Electric cars account for only one in a hundred new car sales.

**The tallest building in the city centre is the Victoria Centre which stands at 256 ft / 72m. It was built in 1972. Above the shopping centre are 464 flats built on a 99 year lease from the shopping centre developers. They are no longer subject to the 'Right to Buy' due to the remaining length of the lease.**

Nottinghamshire's Army Cadet Force has over 850 cadets and 170 adult volunteers in 30 detachments right across the county.

**Europe's largest education union, the National Education Union, has expanded its Nottingham presence after taking a 6,000 sq ft office building in the city.**

Plans for a new business enterprise hub in Nottingham have been approved by city planning chiefs. The City Council hopes to turn the historic People's Hall on Heathcoat Street into a 10,000 sq ft business incubator.

**The City Council's current debt is more than £1 billion.**

Student accommodation in the major regeneration zone in the city centre could be turned into a hostel for homeless people. Lago Estates wants to convert the current student accommodation in Portland House, Carrington Street, into a hostel that would be run by the YMCA.

**A recent report from Grant Thornton UK LLP in partnership with the CBI finds that East Midlands SMEs have battled recruitment problems and a sustained shortage of skilled people since 2016.**

**You are welcome to join us at the next  
Nottingham Workplace Chaplaincy *INSIGHT* Meeting**

These meetings have the objective of informing people about different aspects of the day to day workings of the city. Key people join us to give an *INSIGHT* into their areas of responsibility and interest.

**Wednesday 19th June - Noon to 1.30pm  
at the Park Plaza Hotel on Maid Marion Way**

**NSPCC**

*'EVERY CHILDHOOD  
IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR'*

Every day the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, are here to protect children against abuse. They are 'Fighting For Childhoods' and 'Protecting Those At Risk' - 24/7. This is your opportunity to gain an *INSIGHT* into their work, some of their campaigns and how they give a voice to children when no one is listening.

**A buffet lunch is provided.**

To help with the catering arrangements please email: [lensimmonds@aol.com](mailto:lensimmonds@aol.com) to confirm your attendance.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE

**The Queens Drive Park and Ride site will be served by Nottingham City Transport's Navy 49 service from 23 June 2019 and they will be operating the service on a purely commercial basis, which reduces costs for the City Council.**

The Cassidy Group wants to build a scheme that will house 730 students on Deakins Place Road near to The University of Nottingham's Jubilee Campus. .

**Councillor David Mellen is the new leader of Nottingham City Council and Councillor Sally Longford is Deputy Leader. Labour have 50 of the 55 councillors elected last month and for the first time, a majority of councillors are women. The cabinet is also the most diverse cabinet in the council's history. Of the 10 top jobs, seven are held by women.**

Some of the city's trams are to have major refurbishment because of an investment of £3.5 million by operators NET.

**Nottinghamshire headquartered retailer Wilko is back in the black after posting impressive profits. Wilko says it opened eight stores and closed seven underperforming stores last year, leaving it with a "strong" portfolio.**

There are 40,000 gully drains in the city roads and the city council has a programme to see they are cleaned every 12 months as a minimum.

**Regenerating the Waterside of the city is a priority for the council and as part of this funding has been secured to improve the connection with the city centre. The area concerned is sandwiched between the River Trent to the south and Daleside Road to the north.**

Nottingham City Transport is the second largest of 11 municipal owned bus companies left in the UK.

**Nottingham is the second-best place in the UK to start a business, according to a new study by Paymentsense. It says the Creative Quarter and Enterprise Zone are big pluses for start-ups. The survey also indicates Nottingham has a 5-year start-up survival rate of 43.4%.**

The City Council has committed £4 million towards preventing and tackling homelessness and rough sleeping. It has also been given up to £160,000 by the government to fund 'navigators' to work in city and county hospitals and prisons to direct people to the services that they need. Two thirds of rough sleepers have a history of being in hospital, prison or care. The average number of rough sleepers on city streets in April hit an all time high of 55.

**A recent Office for National Statistics report says that one in every 29 adults in the East Midlands during the two year period to July 2016 was a millionaire.**

Work to build more aircraft parking space to accommodate the cargo growth at East Midlands Airport (EMA) is underway. EMA says it is improving its infrastructure so that aircraft can load and unload more efficiently at busy times. EMA says the 10% year-on-year growth in cargo volume at EMA is being driven largely by people's changing shopping habits.

**The Government's Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, has urged town halls to stop stinging drivers with high parking fees that are pushing people to out of town centres where parking is often free.**

Citizens UK, that organises communities to act together for power, social justice and common good, says that private companies, local councils and schools that run canteens for secondary pupils are pocketing £65 million a year off of children who rely on Free School Meals by keeping the 'change' from pupils unspent daily lunch money.

**A new 100,000 sq ft Grade A office development in Nottingham's Southside has been proposed by the City Council for a site on the south east junction of Arkwright Street and Crocus Street.**

Nottingham's City Centre main Post Office on Queen Street has closed and services relocated to within WH Smith in intu Victoria Centre. Post Office management says the decision to move "*will ensure services would be sustained for years to come*". The service is now operated by WH Smith Ltd.

**Nottingham is the third worst city in the country for employing people with disabilities. In 2017/18, just 16,800 people out of around 47,900 people aged between 16 and 64 who were recorded as being disabled had jobs.**

The owners of the Broadmarsh shopping centre, intu, says it now has occupiers or is in advanced negotiations for 70% of the units once its regeneration is completed.

**An RAC study informs that the average car is used for only 4% of the time.**

Employers with a payroll of £3 million or more made their first monthly apprenticeship levy payment in April 2017 and those that did not use it by the end of April 2019 lost it forever. Employers are expected to lose around £12 million.

**This year the hosiery and underwear company, Pretty Polly, celebrates its centenary. At its peak it employed a thousand Nottinghamshire people.**

A new 58,500 sq ft mixed-use building which could totally transform the entrance to Nottingham's Sneinton Market area, has been given the go-ahead by City Council planning chiefs.

**Nottingham leads the way as the area with the highest percentage of innovative businesses across the East Midlands nine unitary authority areas. The latest figures released by HMRC indicate that there were 220 successful claims made by Nottingham companies for R&D tax relief.**

Plans to turn part of one of Nottingham's most striking buildings on the corner of King Street and Queen Street into student flats have been revealed by developers. They wish to turn the upper floors of what was once the Prudential Assurance Building into 23 apartments.

**About 605 acres of farmland to the east of Clifton on the A453 is to be used for 3,000 homes and 100,000 sq ft of employment space. It is a 10 year £800 million project.**

The Education Secretary has written to 23 Universities telling them they must end 'pressure selling' of courses to students. Nottingham Trent alone made 8,380 conditional/unconditional\* offers to 18 year olds last year. (\*a conditional offer is converted to unconditional if the student makes the university their first choice).

**The private rented sector is no longer a market just for students – the fastest growing group of private renters by age is the 35-44 and 45-54 year age groups. And more and more, those households are made up of families with children (38%).**

The human population has doubled in fifty years.

**One of the past ministers of the Congregational Church on Castle Gate was the Revd Elsie Chamberlain who every Sunday, well into her eighties, used to take morning service in Nottingham and evening service in Plymouth.**

There are 478 residential properties in the city council area that are currently subject to the Council Tax Premium as they were empty and unfurnished for over two years.

**234,000 customers have been lost by British Gas owner, Centrica, so far this year.**

Dutch company, Abellio, says it will invest £600 million now it has the franchise for the East Midlands Railway.

**The D2N2 (Local Enterprise Partnership) Accountable Body status for Growing Places Fund and Enterprise Zones is being transferred to Derbyshire County Council from Nottingham City Council. D2N2 ran a tendering process for the managing of all funding streams from April 2019 and Derbyshire County Council were successful and will now be the single accounting body as required by Government.**

In 2018 25% of children in Nottingham City were eligible for free school meals

**Three floors above the Antayla Turkish restaurant on Forman Street are to be turned into a 13-room boutique hotel.**

