

December 2020



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

Interesting to Know.....

There has been a rise in start-ups during coronavirus lockdown. That's the finding from analysis of Companies House data. In total, there were 95,395 new businesses added to the Government's Inter-Departmental Business Register in the third quarter.

After a quarter of a century of service, Nottinghamshire YMCA's joint CEO Will Wakefield has retired to pave the way for the regional charity's next chapter. Craig Berens takes on the role as leader of the charity.

Halfords will be taking on 1,500 staff to service electric cars, bikes and scooters as their popularity booms.

The City Council's recently appointed chief executive, Mel Barrett, says his role falls in to two parts: firstly providing policy advice to the elected councilors who set the council's policies and secondly, providing effective and visible leadership for the council's 6,000 staff who deliver the council's services.

Addo Food Group, the Nottingham-based chilled savoury pastry producer, makes more than 297 million own brand and branded products every year and has some of the UK's best-known brands, such as Pork Farms, Wall's, Bowyers and Millers Bakery. Across the UK they have about 2,500 employees.

Stone Soup Academy, on High Pavement in the Lace Market area, was crowned *Alternative Provision School of the Year* in the annual Times Education Supplement Schools Awards. The school is where vulnerable children are shown a future of positive aspirations.

Phase 3 of the Trent Basin development project is already in construction and the following stages will see another 200 homes, plus a new school, built at the location over the next few years.

The City Council has opened applications for financial support for businesses affected by the tiered lockdown system and national lockdown.

Amazons sales are up 40% this year and it makes £1.6 billion profit every month.

Jules Sebelin has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of *Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service*. NCVS is committed to improving the quality of people's lives in Nottingham by strengthening the voluntary and community sector.

***Conygar*, the firm behind the huge *Island Quarter* redevelopment in Nottingham, says in a recent statement to the London Stock Exchange that the sheer size of the *Island Quarter* development will mean it will have to seek either debt funding, joint venture partners or to sell assets to "take best advantage of the opportunities presented by this development".**

Bingham-based protection specialists, *Octavian Security UK*, has been chosen to deliver safety and security for Covid-19 test centres across multiple locations, including Nottingham, creating 150 new jobs in the process.

The City Council has increased the number of staff working with the *Nottingham Economic Recovery Unit* to support businesses.

Law firm *Shakespeare Martineau*, who are based on Station Street, has outlined plans to more than double in size by 2023 and "*pursue bigger ambitions*" beyond that.

Nottinghamshire based *Deanestor*, one of the UK's leading furniture and fit-out specialists, has announced a 12.5% increase in turnover, which is a rise of £2 million.

Offices only account for around 11% of all addresses on British high streets.

Fantasy games company *Warlord Games* has moved into new Nottingham headquarters to ensure the business can expand and grow in line with its forecasts for the next five years.

CityFibre has chosen Nottingham for £117 million gigabit city investment. They have taken on a 20 year lease of a Nottingham unit. *CityFibre* has opened up a next-generation full-fibre internet network across Nottingham enabling it to join the growing ranks of '*Gigabit Cities*'.

Nottinghamshire-based construction firm *nmcn* has won a £40 million contract from *CityFibre*.

Parts of Nottingham's *City Hospital* could be demolished and new facilities built as part of plans being developed by the Trust responsible for the site. Nottingham University Hospitals is working on a scheme known as '*Tomorrow's NUH*', and has received an initial share of £100 million in Government funding to look into how facilities could be improved.

Engineering consultancy *Dice* has unveiled a new city centre office to accommodate its growing East Midlands-based team.

The first accurate atomic clock was built by Nottingham-born physicist Louis Essen in 1955 – and it was accurate to one second in 300 years.

Four nationwide operators have signed contracts to open new premises at a new £30 million mixed-use site off the Colwick Loop Road,

Nottingham Castle will not reopen its doors to visitors until 29th March 2021 '*at the earliest*' due to the coronavirus situation.

The country's first children's library was founded in Nottingham in 1882.

Nottingham Trent University are opening a '*dynamic and innovative centre*' for both entrepreneurs and growing enterprises that want to work and co-locate with them. It will be the new home for local businesses, start-ups, students, graduates and local entrepreneurs.

Nottingham's *Emmanuel House Support Centre* has launched its winter appeal by telling the people of Nottingham '*You Can Make the Difference*' in supporting homeless, vulnerable and isolated adults across the city.

Stoney Street headquartered managed IT and cyber security services provider, *Littlefish*, says 228 new members of staff have been recruited since September 2019. The company says "*With so much uncertainty we feel privileged to be in a position to continue growing our team and all without having to furlough a single member of staff*".

The UK's first radio phone-in was on *Radio Nottingham* on 4th February 1968.

Nottingham is to receive a further £2 million to deliver measures to make walking and cycling around Nottingham easier.

The *National Churches Trust* report estimates that churches and other places of worship contribute £12.4 billion p.a. in terms of economic and social value to their communities. They are linked closely to the 49,000 faith-based charities in Great Britain that represent 27% of the whole charity sector.

Clare Hartwell's revision of the *Pevsner Guide to the Buildings of Nottinghamshire* is now available and revealing so much about a county of which it has been said either that "they don't know what they've got" or, perhaps more kindly, "they know what they've got but they don't know what to do with it."

A 2.2 acre site in Lenton previously occupied by a Willbond depot has been sold paving the way for a 703 bed student scheme.

***Just for Pets* is to open a 4,500 sq ft store in East Bridgford as a part of its expansion plans.**

Researchers at the *University of Nottingham* are part of a new national initiative to make self-driving cars a reality in UK cities.

The Friar Lane headquartered executive recruitment firm, *Forsyth Barnes*, has unveiled a new £1million office and plans to create 100 jobs throughout Europe and the US. They say the Nottingham base will provide home for their continued global growth.

Construction works are "progressing well" at the Yacht Club – the 81-home development on the banks of the river Trent. The developers say they "remain completely committed to the Nottingham market".

Educational supplies firm *RM Resources* is to consolidate its presence in Nottinghamshire by moving its UK headquarters into a new 200,000 sq ft unit. *RM Resources* is part of *RM plc*, a leading supplier of technology and resources to the education sector, supporting schools, teachers and pupils across the globe – from pre-school to higher education – including examination boards, central governments and other professional institutions.

LexisNexis® Risk Solutions, a provider of data, analytics and technology to insurance providers in the UK and Ireland, has moved into the newly-regenerated City Buildings on Carrington Street in the southern gateway. The firm will be home for 95 employees currently working from home with room for 20% growth as the business expands over the next few years.

The vast structure is now in position for the £45 million York Place student accommodation building on Mansfield Road. Construction will be completed by the summer of 2021.

More patients and healthcare staff at *Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust* will benefit from single electronic hospital patient records and the introduction of e-prescribing. The Trust will receive £1,485,000 to support the project.

There are 126,100 properties in Nottingham City. 65% are in Council Tax Band A compared to 25% of properties nationally.

During the last three months suburban shops, shopping centre's, restaurants and pubs have substantially benefited at the cost of city centres.

Figures suggest that garden centre's sales are up 50% on the same time last year.

A reported statistic shows 18% of men do not have a close friend, and as many as 32% of men have no one they consider to be a best friend.