

November 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.....

The man who revolutionised public transport in Nottingham is to retire. Mark Fowels joined *Nottingham City Transport* in 1994 and took over as MD in 2001 and following a successful bid, also assumed the role of the Chairman of the Arrow Consortium which re-introduced trams to Nottingham in 2004.

Flexible workspace provider *Cuba* has opened a second venue in Nottingham. The latest is on King Street providing office space, co-working space with hot desks, designated desks, meeting rooms and an in-house barista over four floors.

Work to maintain and enhance the look of Trent Bridge – one of the key gateways to the city – has been completed.

Nottingham's *Business Improvement District* has secured a new five year term. It has received backing from the businesses of the city to continue its work over the next five years from 2021-2025.

More city centre living opportunities. Part of the conference facilities of the St James Hotel in the city centre are to be converted into 14 apartments.

***Vertu Motors* has added to its portfolio in Nottingham with the acquisition of the Kia Nottingham dealership in Old Basford from Sandiccliffe. The transaction will bring the number of outlets operated by the Group in Nottingham to nine.**

The new Broadmarsh Car Park development is on course to open in the spring or summer next year.

Last month *BioCity*, the pioneering life science incubator and business collective, supported by education charity *Ignite!* brought together ninety students from five local secondary schools, to celebrate the legacy of the celebrated Nottingham mathematician, Ada Lovelace, to inspire young women into STEM careers.

It is thought that intu Victoria Centre will be re-branded now that new management has been appointed. *Global Mutual* has become the new asset manager and *Savills*, the new property manager.

Building work on Nottingham College's new £58.5 million state-of-the-art City Hub campus, in the city centre, is now complete. Work now begins to relocate more than 2,000 students and 200 staff into the building.

Work has begun to transform an empty property in George Street, Hockley, into an epic 18-hole crazy golf course, complete with a clubhouse diner and bar.

Car retail giant *Pendragon* has enjoyed a stellar third quarter of the year after revealing results that will almost wipe out its losses for the first half of 2020.

Oakbrook Finance who is based on Wollaton Street has won a national award for the continuing strength of its workplace culture. They had to switch the 140-strong team from being office-based to home-based almost overnight when lockdown was introduced earlier this year.

A Nottinghamshire fitness equipment business, which has seen record sales over the summer following the pandemic, has agreed a major partnership with US gym equipment giant ForceUSA.

Royal Mail will hire 13,000 more temporary workers for the Christmas shopping boom. This is in addition to the 20,000 employed in a normal year.

Homewares giant Dunelm is handing back £14.5 million in furlough money on the back of a post-lockdown sales surge. Sales have jumped more than a third to almost £360 million in the three months to 26th September.

There is a population of approximately 1.1 million within the City and County.

City Hospital is the only hospital in the UK to have gained the accreditation for the globally-recognised Magnet Recognition Program. This is the most prestigious distinction a healthcare organisation can receive for nursing excellence and quality patient outcomes.

John Lewis has applied for planning permission as a part of efforts to enter the 'affordable' rental accommodation market and is testing furniture rental. They have also said they want online sales to make up between 60% and 70% of department store revenues.

KICKSTART SCHEME

The £2 billion Kickstart scheme will create thousands of new jobs for young people. Youngsters on Universal Credit aged between 16-24 will be offered six-month work placements – with wages paid by the government.

Fu+ures
FOR BUSINESS

FUTURES, who support people and businesses to develop, grow and be the best they can be, are acting as a gateway body for organisations who are looking to utilise the Kickstart scheme.

Employers can find more information about the Kickstart scheme via: gov.uk/kickstart

If you are interested and would like to move forward then please contact

Maddi Seeley, Futures Business Engagement Manager - 07918 943031

The City Council's Bike Aid Scheme has been particularly successful and that has delivered more than 160 reconditioned bikes to key workers and people on low incomes.

Mitrefinch, who has an office in Nottingham One on Canal Street, provides its Workforce Management Solutions company with 4,400 customers in over 80 countries.

Toton and Chetwynd Barracks is scheduled to close, opening the opportunity for major developments along with those in the adjacent area. These have been identified as priorities by the Development Corporation and it is suggested the development schemes could create 84,000 jobs.

Nottingham has taken delivery of the world's first electric bin lorry. The two purchased will save the taxpayer £32,000 per year in running costs.

Deloitte, one of the big four accountancy firms, has announced it will close its Nottingham office to move to working from home practices. The company said approximately 160 employees who work at the office, based in Woodborough Road, will move to a permanent home working contract.

On the 31st March 2019 the value of the City Council property investments was £284.6 million. The rental received for the last financial year was just over £24 million. The predicted rental income for the current financial year is £18.3 million.

A Filipino multi-national chain of fast food restaurants is set to open a new restaurant on Clumber Street in a move which will create 70 jobs.

Nottinghamshire based *Whitemeadow Furniture* has taken a new 78,000 sq ft unit to use an additional manufacturing base. Operations director Peter Garnett has said: "*We currently find ourselves in the enviable position of a very healthy order book, which has led us to look for additional manufacturing space*".

New 'pop-up' cycle lanes are in place across the city. The latest cycle route has been installed in the Carlton Road area.

Sales of home fitness equipment have doubled since lockdown with people using garages and spare rooms in case gyms may have to close again.

***Octopus Energy*, the utilities supplier, is set to create 1,000 tech jobs. The company says it will employ graduates to help it develop its new green energy technology platform and make the UK "the Silicon Valley of energy".**

A Nottingham man with a passion for selling comics has been appointed the next Comics Laureate. Stephen L. Holland is the co-owner of the Market Street bookshop Page 45.

***Nottingham Castle* is a step closer to becoming a world-class visitor destination and heritage site following the completion of major improvement works.**

The *Theatre Royal & Royal Concert Hall* has been awarded £851,604 as part of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund. *Nottingham Playhouse* receives £789,000.

The leader of Nottinghamshire County Council, Cllr. Kay Cutts, is set to step down from her role at the next election.

Subway sandwich outlets were set up in 1965 by a 17 year old student to help him pay his college fees. A friend loaned him \$1000. There are now 44,000 franchises around the world.

The *University of Nottingham* has a total student population of 35,000 and a staff population of 10,000.

The Nottingham life sciences company, *Source BioScience*, has been involved in processing thousands of daily Covid-19 tests is now set to unveil plans for a £130 million flotation. They employ 200 people and have their main laboratories on Nottingham Business Park.

Paul Smith celebrates the 50th anniversary of his brand this year. His first shop was on Byard Lane. He now has 215 worldwide.

An Uber-style bus service is being relaunched in Nottingham. *Snap* is a bus and coach crowdsourcing platform. The Nottingham to London service is operated using small, independent and local companies

Ruddington based *Ideagen* counts almost 6,000 global businesses as clients and they say that the demand is growing. They develop software solutions to help businesses operating in highly regulated markets and are looking to create 150 jobs over the next 12-18 months.

East Midlands Airport's cargo facility is bracing itself for possibly the busiest ever Christmas. There are about 9,500 people employed across the airport site.

Hornsby has enjoyed a lockdown boost as housebound families turned to hobbies to entertain themselves. The owner of brands such as Airfix and Scalextric say 'things are nearly back to normal'.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has confirmed that Nottingham's two hospitals will benefit from a huge billion-pound programme. Funding from a national programme worth £3.7bn will go towards a *"rebuild of both the Queen's Medical Centre and City Hospital sites"* with *"a range of new build and refurbishment"* options.

Over 200 electric scooters are available for people living and working in Nottingham. On-street rental can be activated using an App, with short and long term hire options.

The County Council has a significant property portfolio, owning more than 900 buildings with development land holdings exceeding 330 hectares.

Car retailer *Motorpoint*, says it expects its half year results to the end of September to show strong year-on-year sales growth. The firm says that since its sites reopened in June, demand levels have exceeded management's expectations.

According to data from games specialists, *Liberty Games* , Nottingham was found to have 260 pubs in total.

A pub is set to open within a vacant unit next to Brown Dog Interiors in Derby Road if planning permission is gained.

The number of council-owned social rent properties managed by Nottingham City Homes is just under 25,500.

St Stephen's C of E Primary School in Sneinton has been provided with much-needed funds to support children with online learning, after the developer behind The Island Quarter site donated £2,500.

Fisher Gate - men who fished the Trent and Leen made their homes in this city centre street. It still exists and is near to the Motorpoint Arena.

The Statement of Accounts 2019/20 for Nottinghamshire Police & Crime Commissioner shows Nottinghamshire Police (including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner) employs approximately 2,115 police officers, 181 PCSOs, 157 specials and 1,317 staff in full-time and Part-time positions.

The Nottingham City Transport fleet currently has 315 buses (including 6 training buses), with the majority (73%) double deckers.

According to the current Zoopla estimates the average price for property in Nottingham stood at £214,435 in October 2020. This is a rise of 0.73% in the last three months (since July 2020) and fall of 0.75% since 12 months ago. In terms of property types, flats in Nottingham sold for an average of £148,094 and terraced houses for £137,749.

A recent survey shows that there are over 34,000 registered boats plying the rivers and canals and perhaps another 5,000 used as static homes or not in use.

George Africanus (1763-1834) was the founder of what many think was the first employment agency in Nottingham, called the 'Africanus Register of Servants'.

