

April 2021



**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.....

*East Midlands Airport* and the *Gateway Industrial Cluster* will have *Freeport* status. The bid to government said it has the potential to create 60,000 jobs. Freeport's are a special kind of port where normal tax and customs rules do not apply.

**This year 90.1% of Nottinghamshire children have been offered their parents' first preference secondary school for this September (2021). That is 8,349 students out of a total of 9,266 that applied on time for a school place.**

*Nottingham Trent University* has revealed plans for a new 57,000 sq ft Art & Design building on the corner of Shakespeare Street and North Sherwood Street in the city centre. The university says the new development will place Nottingham as the centre for film, television, animation, UX design, games design and graphic design.

***Domestic & General*, which is currently based in Talbot Street, is to move its hub to Station Street, bringing £50 million of direct investment to the city. The new building will host up to 1,000 employees. Guess what - the company's current office is to be turned into student flats.**

Bingham is to get a £16 million leisure centre and the Moorbridge Industrial Estate in Bingham is to have 23 brand new commercial units that will provide considerable employment space locally.

**Almost a quarter of UK households have no savings at all.**

Construction has started on the 348-apartment *PRS* development on Queens Road in Nottingham. The 200,000 sq ft building is being developed through a joint venture between Network Rail and Bloc Group.

***Nottingham City Transport*, that operates one of the youngest and greenest bus fleets in the country, has picked up the *Environmental Improvement Award* from *The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport*.**

Nottingham's very own High Street is not very long at all. It is the short strip behind the Council House Exchange Arcade building. The only business that appears to have a High Street address is *Pret A Manger*.

**A 700-bed student complex is set to be built on the site of car showrooms on Derby Road.**

The largest building in the Lace Market has undergone a comprehensive internal makeover. The Adams Building, which forms part of Nottingham College's city campus, will house the College's hair and beauty salon facilities relocated from its Beeston and Clarendon campuses. Nottingham College operates nine sites across Nottinghamshire and has around 6,500 learners.

**Planning research group '*UrbInfo Nottingham*' said the preliminary designs for the former Base 51 site off Huntingdon Street and Glasshouse Street would make the skyscraper the city's "tallest building". The so-called '*Victoria Works*' development would be 40 storey's in height, towering above the Victoria Centre flats, and house more than 1,500 students.**

The Poultry in the city centre, was called the Women's Market in 1396 and the Hen Cross in 1416 and got its present name about 1800.

**Nottinghamshire and London-based landscape architect company, *Influence*, started the year on a high following a record 2020 which saw a 50% increase in projects compared to 2019.**

A London-headquartered recruitment firm is to move 30 staff into Nottingham city centre after taking space at serviced office space 'Cubo'. G2 operates in the technology, engineering, life sciences and public sector. It has offices in Bristol, London, Manchester, Birmingham, Amsterdam, Houston, Berlin and Brussels.

***Nottingham Castle* promises to be a must-see tourist destination for everyone. Once reopened it is set to become Nottingham's flagship visitor attraction and is anticipated to welcome in excess of 300,000 visitors a year.**

A design and delivery advice panel has been established for what is being called the 20-acre "*Greater Broadmarsh*" site. The City Council has also been awarded just under £8 million towards the demolition of the Broadmarsh Shopping Centre that will start 12<sup>th</sup> April and will continue until April 2022.

**Brand agency *Champions* says it wants to create more than a dozen jobs at its East Leake base. The firm says it will be looking to hire across the digital and communications arms of its business as confidence returns.**

ACAS have recently published new coronavirus advice for workplaces:  
*Getting the Coronavirus Vaccine for Work and Testing Staff for Coronavirus*  
This new guidance complements their existing working safely during coronavirus advice.

*Race Equality Justice Council Nottingham* (REJCN), is a new independent organisation to tackle racial inequality in the city. The REJCN aims to help people and communities to raise, respond and redress issues around racial inequality in Nottingham.

***Clean Champions* are getting out and about in the city. There are over 1,500 adult *Clean Champions* and over 500 junior members. All are volunteers.**

Information from the 1921 Census will be released on-line in early 2022. Taken on 19<sup>th</sup> June 1921, the census consists of more than 28,000 bound volumes of original household returns containing detailed information on close to 38 million individuals. It provides greater detail than any previous census as, in addition to the questions asked in 1911, the 1921 returns also asked householders to reveal their place of employment, the industry they worked in and the materials they worked with as well as their employer's name.

**Nottingham's very own pharmaceutical giant, *Boots*, became the most recent retailer to announce its store in Lister Gate would be closing. Half the 24 retail units on Lister Gate are empty.**

The "*Bell Inn*" on Angel Row is first mentioned as far back as 1638 although the present building is much later than that date.

**A *Nightingale Court* opened in Nottingham last month to deal with the backlog of cases caused by delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The location is *Mercure Nottingham Sherwood Hotel* in Mansfield Road.**

A Grade II listed two-storey building on St Peter's Gate which has had a former life as a bank and restaurant is to become the head office of Nottingham based *CPMG Architect*.

***Raleigh's* managing director said there are no plans to leave an NG postcode area. He said he is expecting 2020 to provide positive figures for the brand which still manufactures 100,000 cycle wheels in Nottinghamshire.**

*George's Great British Kitchen*, the seaside themed fish and chip restaurant in Queen Street, won't be reopening when lockdown restrictions are lifted after going into liquidation.

During 2021 Contactless payment is coming to every Nottingham bus and tram.

**The Nottingham *Business Improvement District* (BID) is moving into *Scale Space*, the new hub for innovative growth businesses which recently opened on Wollaton Street in the city centre. The BID is about to start a new five-year term in the city.**

The former *Clarendon College* site near Forest Fields is to be turned into a free school academy to address rising numbers of pupils in the city. The purchase of the Clarendon College site by the DfE from Nottingham College has now been completed.

**New plans for a huge city centre development, which would include 580 student beds, have been revealed. *Fusion Students* has released plans for the mixed-use development at King Edward Court, next to the nightclub *Pryzm* on Lower Parliament Street.**

More than 1,200 parking spaces, including charging points for electric cars and disabled parking will be provided at the city council's Broadmarsh car park. Work has also been taking place to transform the roads in the area.

**The latest position regarding Clifton Bridge is that full completion of all repair works is on track so that all lanes are expected to be reopened this autumn.**

Discount retailer *B&M* has reported "strong" growth and raised revenue forecasts for the financial year - despite the ongoing coronavirus lockdown restrictions.

***Hank Holdings* wants to renovate dilapidated space above the *Icon Bar* on St James Street in Nottingham into 11 one-bedroom apartments. The building is Grade II listed and is thought to have been built around 1870.**

Working remotely for a couple of days a week will become the new normal after the pandemic, according to office provider *IWG*. They say there was a 'decade of change in just 12 months'.

***Marks & Spencer* is converting most of its London Marble Arch store into offices following a dramatic shift in on-line shopping. *John Lewis* is converting the top floors of its Oxford Street store to offices.**

Investment in a 'future skills tech hub' at *West Nottinghamshire College*, in partnership with *Nottingham Trent University*, will lead to 2,285 educational places being created at the college.

**A planning application has been submitted to demolish *The Nottingham Legend* pub on Lower Parliament Street (next to the Motorpoint Arena) and the developers wish to replace it with 40 student apartments.**

The *YMCA Newark and Sherwood Community and Activity Village* is to be expanded by constructing a new state of the art home to sports and leisure facilities, music and art spaces, conferencing, wellbeing and health delivery service suite, culinary training, the largest outdoor skate park in the East Midlands and an Olympic climbing centre. The project is being supported by the government's *Towns Fund*.

***Asda* has increased its online grocery capacity by 90% since last March to 850,000 weekly slots and remains on course to fulfill one million orders per week by the end of the year. The supermarket now intends to expand its 'in store pick' model even further – creating 4,500 new roles in store-based online operations across the country.**

*Emmanuel House* has announced that because of the generosity of more than 1,000 people, their 2020-2021 Winter Appeal has raised £138,000 for the charity, marking the most successful appeal in their 45-year history.

**Nearly five million people volunteered for the first time in their lives last year.**

A new bakery will be opening in the Victoria Centre this month - just for dogs. *The Barkery* by *Frenchie Frenchie* will be selling dog-friendly goodies.

**The *Hockley Music & Arts Hub* is set to open at 14a Long Row. The new venture will be an education centre for music, arts and digital culture. The unit was previously a *Ladbrokes Coral* betting shop.**

In the East Midlands, 611 shops opened in 2020 according to *PwC* research compiled by the *Local Data Company*.

**The UK's largest newspaper publisher Reach (including the Nottingham Post) has set out plans for widespread newsroom closures with most of its staff to work mainly at home even after the Covid-19 crisis is over. The Reach changes will leave open 15 large offices, which it is calling "hubs", where staff can gather for meetings. Nottingham will be one of these.**

*Nottingham Citizens* members from all walks of life and backgrounds across Nottingham have launched their *#NCBetterBooks* campaign to acknowledge, recognise and celebrate children of all ethnicities and backgrounds. They are working to supply every one of the 76 primary schools in Nottingham with a set of books with diverse characters and stories.

**The land on which the *Château* restaurant on Wilford Lane, West Bridgford traded is set to become a £20 million retail park.**

The *Kadampa Meditation Centre* is moving from the city centre to Gedling House at Gedling so that participants can benefit from a quiet and peaceful environment. The House was built around 1780.

***Stone Soup Academy* on High Pavement in the city centre is an outstanding 11-18 Alternative Provision Academy meeting the needs of up to 80 young people who are either excluded or at risk of exclusion from school.**

At the *Global Wedding Awards 2021* the *Best Large CofE Wedding Venue in Nottingham* is awarded to St Mary's Church in the Lace Market.

**An £83 million package of Government funding has now been agreed to accelerate the delivery of 3,000 homes at *Fairham* which is a 606-acre mixed use development on the edge of Nottingham close to East Midlands Airport and M1. The funding will support the delivery of the infrastructure.**

The City Council is consulting on its proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit across the city centre.

**One of Nottingham's Video games developers, *Team17*, has reported record pre-tax profits and that their headcount has increased by 25% to 250. They also have operations in Wakefield and Manchester.**

Nottingham has an estimated population of 332,900 people. In Nottingham 20.7% (69,100) of the population are aged 0-17 years old, 69.6% (231,600) are working age, 16-65 years old and 11.6% (38,800) are over 65 years old.

***Cema Vending*, the Nottingham-based vending machine and workplace refreshment specialist, has secured three major contracts with businesses across the region, as it celebrates a strong start to the year. They say many businesses are now implementing plans to alter their catering facilities following the impact of Covid.**

From this month the names of both the mothers and fathers of a couple getting married will be included on the marriage register.