

# Northwich BID News Bulletin



### Programme of future Events & Training

To help enlighten, educate and entertain the people of Northwich, the town plays host to numerous events, training courses and seminars throughout the year.

From Extravaganzas throughout the seasons that provide fun for all the family to workshops and help sessions, there is always something to look forward to in Northwich.

For a full list of events, courses and workshops, see right:

- Visit Northwich Website Training session Tuesday 22nd March
- Northwich Easter Extravaganza -Saturday 26th March
- Social Media and SEO for your Business Seminar - Wednesday 20th April
- One Day Emergency First Aid at Work training course - Wednesday 27th April
- Northwich Teenage Market -Saturday 14th May

- Northwich Summer Extravaganza - Saturday 11th June
- One Day Emergency First Aid at Work training course - Monday 13th June
- Northwich Independent Retailer Association Meetings – Held every Friday at Kanya Café Bar & Bistro from 5:30pm – Contact Gaynor Sinar on cheadle799@aol.com for more information.

### Easter Extravaganza set to return to Northwich

Northwich is set to come alive on Saturday 26th March when the town plays host to the Easter Extravaganza.

The event, organised by the Northwich Business Improvement District (BID) and Northwich Independent Retailers Association (NIRA), will be even bigger and better than last year's, with a range of exciting activities happening throughout Northwich.

The day will see the return of the muchloved Easter Egg Hunt Competition, where children will turn detectives for the day, following a trail of eggs through the town centre - all situated in some of Northwich's Independent Retail stores.

Once kids have located all of the eggs they'll go on to win a chocolatey prize - a tasty way to enjoy the Easter weekend.

As well as the Easter Egg Hunt, Northwich will play host to an array of fun offerings designed to captivate, excite and entertain people of all ages.

A touch of the exotic will be brought to Weaver Square from 11:00am-



3:00pm with a Mini Exotic Zoo Exhibit and Brunner Court will also be transformed into an animal haven with an Easter Petting Zoo featuring Rabbits, Chicks and a Free Easter Egg Hunt which will be perfect for the kids.

Vale Royal Falconry will be in town too with a stunning collection of owls outside New Look and Pound Bakery between 11:30am-1:30pm, guaranteed to enthral and exhilarate the crowds.

Visitors can enjoy crafts and face painting as well, which will add a wonderful touch of creativity to the day.

ArtWork Studios & Gallery will be manning an Easter Craft Tent outside Barclays from 11:00am-1:00pm and they'll be joined by the Cheshire Cats Face Painting Team and Glitterized Glitter Tattoos from 11:00am-2:00pm who will be on hand to provide a splash of colour.

### Significant Investments into Greener and Cleaner

The Northwich BID, along with Northwich Town Council (NTC), are constantly striving to improve the town's image and how it is perceived by visitors.

With this in mind, the start of 2016 has seen two significant developments announced with the intention of boosting Northwich's aesthetics, helping ensure people who visit the town like what they see.

The first of these is a major landscape improvement project which will see 'Pocket Park' developed at the bottom of the High Street.

The funding for the project, successfully won by the BID and Cheshire West and Chester Council from Central Government, was announced in mid-February and was met with jubilation by the town. Complementing the High Street, the revamped Pocket Park will feature trees, ornamental shrub planting, gravel, box seats and two beautifully crafted curved timber seats, adding a leafy and tranquil touch to that area of Northwich.

The works are scheduled to be completed by Thursday 31st March.

As well as Pocket Park, the BID and NTC have also teamed up to help provide a cleaner town centre.

Since the beginning of the year extra street cleansing works have been taking place throughout Northwich, most notably on Witton Street, and feedback has been very positive.

Indeed, the marked improvements were so great that the BID, along with NTC, have further committed to additional funding to allow even more areas of the town to be cleaned regularly; great news which should ensure the added footfall leaves the town with a positive impression.

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Those impressions will be further enhanced as a result of yet more investments into Greener and Cleaner in the summer.

Hanging baskets will be installed onto lighting columns throughout the town, bringing beautiful splashes of colour to main shopping walkways and paths.

Make sure you keep an eye out when you're in and around town for the new planting and landscape improvements!

Our town, our vision



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Music will be provided by Cockney Carol and the Ageless Ukes in Weaver Square and if you're feeling hungry then don't worry; there will be an Easter Bunny and Funky Chicken walking throughout the town from 11am handing out Easter Eggs.

To cap off an enchanting day, the event will culminate with an Easter Bonnet Parade organised by ArtWork Studios and Gallery, which will see children from local schools walk through the town centre wearing their handmade Easter Bonnets from 2:00pm, culminating in a display on the library steps at 2:30pm; the perfect way to sign off the Easter Festivities.

For more information about the day please call the Northwich BID Team on 01606 723175 or email Stephanie. Leese@groundwork.org.uk

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### Northwich Teenage Market wows the town

Northwich was alive with vibrancy and creativity in February when the year's first Teenage Market rolled into town.

Held in both Meadow Street and Witton Street on Saturday 13th, the event provided the platform for youngsters to wow the crowds and they didn't disappoint.

18 traders manned stalls selling beautifully bespoke items while bands and singers from the Amplify Youth Music Project provided tuneful tones.

Last year's events were very successful but 2016's maiden market managed to surpass it with Northwich packed full of shoppers enjoying the Teenage Market's special atmosphere.

Of course the traders and performers

deserve the utmost credit for their hard-work and passion but a lot of planning and diligence went into the organisation of the event too.

Special mentions must be reserved for main event organisers the Northwich Business Improvement District, Denise Valente from the Market Co and also to Paul Barratt from the Amplify Youth Music Project who coordinated all of the performers.

Northwich BID Manager, Jane Hough, was in Northwich for the event and was amazed by the talent on show.

"February's Northwich Teenage Market was the best to date. The unique products made by stall-holders were so beautiful and the musical performances had everyone



captivated too – I can't thank those involved enough for making the event so special."

The next Northwich Teenage Market will take place on Saturday 14th May 2016, make sure you've got it in your diary!

## ArtWork Studios & Gallery switch homes

One of Northwich's best-loved businesses has switched premises with a view to making full use of the Barons Quay development.

ArtWork Studios & Gallery, who have called the Printworks in Navigation Road home for the last three years, have moved into Witton House on Leicester Street Roundabout.

Carolyn Shepherd, Studio Director, is sad to be leaving the Printworks but is extremely excited about the possibilities offered by ArtWork's new home and Barons Quay's benefits.

"We love the Printworks where we've been for 3 years and were preparing to stay for many more years to come but became aware of a great new venue that offered several advantages so we decided to go for it.

"When the roundabout is remodelled it will give us high visibility on the main route into Barons Quay from all surrounding directions and we're expecting that the multi-million pound retail and leisure development will bring in visitors from far afield."

As well as benefitting from the increased traffic and visibility the new site will generate, it will also



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> allow ArtWork Studios and Gallery to expand, giving more artists the chance to operate from the studios.

"Moving into Witton House means we can create extra studio space for more artists to work and we can offer full or part time flexible, affordable packages.

"New artists wishing to join us will benefit from luxury studios, exhibition and retail space, a pottery kiln and even a classroom space, meaning artists have the potential to run classes in order to generate an income from their work – it's so exciting!"

However the benefits of the new building don't end there, with Carolyn going on to praise the structure further



Our town, our vision

#### Town infrastructure updates

Many developments in and around Northwich have been gathering pace since the turn of the year, helping transform the town into the destination of choice for people in Cheshire.

The main project, which is starting to dominate the town's skyline, is Barons Quay and progress continues on schedule.

February saw the installation of glass panels on the building which will house Asda and a 900 space multistorey car park, and the uniquely designed roof has become even more established as spring gets under way.

There have also been significant



developments at the South Western edge of the site where the eye-catching five-screen Odeon cinema is being created.

Ornate black cladded brickwork, which really stands out from Town Bridge, continues to be fitted to the side of the structure and glass panels are being installed.

A number of units that are set to house a series of restaurants continue to be developed too; the whole site is really starting to take shape now.

Just down from Barons Quay, at the development's North-Western edge, works have also begun on Leicester Street, which is seeing beautiful new paving laid down.

Existing flagstones are being replaced with new granite paving, adding a



transformational dimension to that end of town.

The works, which are scheduled to be completed by the end of April, will ensure that particular approach to Barons Quay is in-keeping with the new development, both in terms of functionality and aesthetics.

For the latest infrastructure updates from around the town make sure you head to the Visit Northwich Facebook page: www. facebook.com/visitnorthwich and the Visit Northwich website: www. visitnorthwich.co.uk

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and outline yet more advantages that will come as a result of the move.

"The gallery is larger meaning more room for exhibitions, there is brilliant natural light and we also have a private car park allowing customers and artists to park right on the spot – it really does give us so many positives."

ArtWork Studios and Gallery is open on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 12pm-4pm – why not pop in to see how they're getting on following the move?

If you'd like to get in touch with a member of the ArtWork Studios and Gallery team please call 07848 008145 or email artiepartie@mac.com.