

CBD

digest



BUSINESS IN THE HEART OF BIRMINGHAM
Spring 2010 www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com

NEW TO THE DISTRICT
FACES AND PLACES

ANGLO-SAXON HOARD SAVED!
The Hoard comes home

CITY OF CULTURE 2013
BIRMINGHAM'S BID NEEDS YOUR HELP

WIN A MEAL FOR TWO
In our spot the difference competition

CRIME BEATING DISTRICT
How safe is the Colmore Business District?



WELCOME TO THE NEW LOOK CBD DIGEST



Published quarterly the CBD Digest aims to provide you with news from businesses and organisations located within Colmore Business District, as well as the latest updates on projects which are currently being worked on by the CBD team.

We also have a regular feature slot that looks further at the five key objectives of CBD as set out in the BID prospectus published in 2009. In this edition we look at the Safe and Welcoming objective and the projects that are currently being worked on or planned for implementation in the near future.

The latest crime statistics have confirmed that Birmingham is one of the safest cities in the UK and in our headline feature we interview Inspector Ed Foster from West Midlands Police about the figures and to find out more the work the police do in Colmore Business District to make it one of the safest areas in Birmingham.

At the time of going to press we received news from Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery (BMAG) that the £3.3 million needed to acquire the Staffordshire Hoard has been secured a month ahead of schedule. We discover the latest news from BMAG and look at the further funding needed for conservation and research work on the 1600 items that make up the Hoard.

Applications are currently being sought from senior-level and qualified BID members within the Retail/Leisure/Hospitality industry to join the Colmore Business District Board. Further information about this opportunity can be found on page 11 or on our website www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com.

If you would like to feature in the next edition of CBD Digest due out in the summer, please do send any news, features, and pictures for consideration to: marketing@colmorebusinessdistrict.com.

Finally we really welcome your views so please do contact us with any comments or feedback by emailing enquiries@colmorebusinessdistrict.com.

Gary Cardin
 BID Chairman
 0121 236 8777
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Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate, Colmore Business District cannot accept responsibility in respect of any error or omission which may have occurred.



ERG EXPANSION AT HIGHCROSS' LIVERY PLACE

ICT recruitment specialists, Executive Resource Group (ERG), has taken 2,400 sq ft of office space at Highcross' Livery Place, Livery Street, due to continued success and ambitious growth plans.

ERG has committed considerable investment by completely refurbishing the new ground floor accommodation, to meet its significant expansion plans. Additionally the company is actively seeking three new trainee recruitment consultants who share their vision and hunger for success.

Managing Director, John Morse, says the office accommodation provided a blank canvas, enabling ERG to fit it out to reflect the image of the business:

"We specialise in the professional ICT sector, with our targeted audience being at the middle to senior end of the market and we provide a very high quality consultancy service. Livery Place's location in the hub of Colmore Business District, the high specification and standard of the office and the increased space to meet our expansion plans was exactly what the business needed."

ERG has taken a five year lease at the 60,000 sq ft office building. The company previously sub-let un-refurbished accommodation at Livery Place and was looking for a longer-term quality business space solution.

Highcross asset manager, Joe Curlett, comments: "We are very pleased to have retained ERG at Livery Place. The ground floor suite, with its own facilities, offered great potential and we were able to offer ERG the flexibility to refurbish it to complement their specific business requirements." www.liveryplace.co.uk

ERG can be contacted on 0845 643 4242 or resources@erg-uk.com



ERG managing director, John Morse (centre) with his management team and Joe Curlett of Highcross (far right).

ICAEW MARKS OUT CATALYST AS ONE TO FOLLOW

Michael Izza, CEO of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales visited the offices of Catalyst, on Cherry Street, during a tour of the West Midlands in early March.

Catalyst was chosen by the local ICAEW regional team as an exemplar organisation for Mr Izza to meet, not only given its success in recent years but also the value it sees in training and developing its staff to the highest possible technical standards using the ICAEW qualifications as a base.

CATALYST

CORPORATE FINANCE

Tel: +44 (0)121 654 5000

For more information see www.catalystcf.co.uk

SENIOR PROFESSIONAL BACKS MENTORING SCHEME

HBJ Gateley Wareing's Finance Director, Martyn Finnigan is one of the latest senior professionals from Colmore Business District to support the Birmingham Future Mentoring Scheme.

The Mentoring scheme aims to provide networking opportunities and develop the leadership skills of Birmingham's young professionals. The scheme was first launched in 2002 and has since been awarded Life Long Learning status. The aim of the project is to match up professionals within the Birmingham marketplace into mutually beneficial professional relationships.

To find out more about the Birmingham Future Mentoring Scheme or to apply to be a mentor or a mentee please contact Lisa Clark on 0121 234 0189.

**CBD
SHOWCASE**

THE HUB IS THE ONLY SALON THAT SPECIALISES IN GENT'S HAIR STYLING IN THE CBD. WE WENT TO MEET THE OWNER, LEANNE MARTIN.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST REALISE YOU WANTED TO BECOME A HAIR STYLIST AND WHERE DID YOU START?

I studied at the College of Food, Tourism and Creative Studies in Birmingham. My first job was in the Jewellery Quarter styling gents and ladies and then I moved to London and got into the barbering trade.

Whilst in London I went to university, that's where the creativeness came back in. I did Public Art and Design at Chelsea University and then moved back to Birmingham after 18 years. I used my degree to develop my own business and opened my first salon The Village Barbers in Moseley. It was the first barber salon in that area. From that business model I felt confident to move into the city and set up on Colmore Row.

IF YOU HAD CHOSEN ANOTHER PROFESSION, WHAT WOULD IT HAVE BEEN?

As I am also a singer songwriter it would have been something related to art and design or singing. I also used to DJ at the London Hippodrome for a while so it would have definitely been something creative.

WHEN DID YOU OPEN THE HUB?

September 2006, the Lord Mayor at the time officially opened us.

WHY DID YOU OPEN ON COLMORE ROW?

I was advised to by a gentleman who worked at Eversheds LLP. I met him on holiday and was chatting to him about how highly skilled we all were doing some things that were a little 'outside the box'. During our conversation he said to me: "If you really are as good as that, why don't you check out Colmore Row to set up a business?"



39 Colmore Row, Birmingham, B3 2BS

HAS ANYONE FAMOUS EVER POPPED IN?

We've had Paul Trueman (Gary Beadle) from EastEnders. We've also looked after a lot of musicians, including one of the band members from Sterophonics.

WHAT IS THE STRANGEST REQUEST YOU'VE EVER HAD?

We've had the whole lot I think. It's hard to pick one from it all. We always try and accommodate any request. Some of our tourists have stranger ideas about hair but Brits are pretty much 'on trend' with what's in fashion.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT RUNNING A BUSINESS IN THE CBD?

Everything, it's fantastic! We get great customers; to have this type of business in such a prestigious location is like finding a gem. If you pop in and see us you'll find a laid back, friendly atmosphere and we always aim to attend to our customers within 10 minutes.

WESLEYAN ANNOUNCES STRONG SET OF RESULTS FOR 2009

Wesleyan Assurance Society announced a strong set of results for the full year 2009:

- 11% increase in new business sales*
- 59% increase in ISA and unit trust sales*
- 36% increase in income protection product sales*
- 11.7% increase in funds under management
- 20.1% gross investment return on the main with profits fund
- Only life office to have been awarded 10-out-of-10 for overall financial strength for five consecutive years in Cazalet Consulting's With Profits ratings

Craig Errington, Wesleyan's Chief Executive said, "These are very positive results set against the backdrop of a difficult year for the industry as a whole. The increase in ISA

and unit trust sales is particularly pleasing. Trust in financial institutions has been damaged after the events of the past few years and people are thinking carefully about where to spend and invest their cash.



Award successes include winning Best Use of IT in Insurance (Financial Sector Technology Awards); Winner – Business of the Year (National Business Awards regional finals). Also finalist at Life Insurer of the Year

British Insurance Awards); Finalist – Midcap Business of the Year (National Business Awards); Finalist Most Innovative Application of Technology and Most Effective Channels Initiative (ifs Financial Innovation Awards).

*New annual premiums plus 10% of single premiums.

For further information contact Wesleyan Press Office press@wesleyan.co.uk



EARLY ADVANTAGE FUND LAUNCHES WITH FIRST INVESTMENT

Business leaders have given the thumbs-up to a new investment fund created to support the West Midlands' brightest and most innovative companies. Dr Norman Price, who is also Chair of the Regional Finance Forum, said the fund was exactly the sort of support that SMEs and owner managed businesses needed. The £8m fund managed by Midven, located on Waterloo Street, is aimed at SMEs who could become leaders in their field as a result of investment.

At the official launch it was announced that Anaxsys Technology of Keele was the first recipient of funding. The company is developing a suite of devices which allow diagnosis and monitoring of a variety of diseases by analysing the humidity profile of the breath. The Early Advantage Fund is investing £125,000 as part of a £500,000



investment round that will allow the company to conduct clinical trials prior to launching their first product later in 2010. Backed by Advantage West Midlands and the ERDF, the fund is aimed specifically at early stage companies in the West Midlands across a wide range of market sectors.

The fund's investment must be matched by private investment. Midven the fund's managers will be looking to work closely with regional angel networks, and local and national institutional investors.

For more information Contact Midven on 0121 710 1990 or email: enquiries@midven.co.uk

JUST DANCE!

The International Dance Festival Birmingham 2010 (IDFB) begins 19 April and, to mark its role as principal sponsor for the festival, Brewin Dolphin will hold a mass public dance lesson led by dance instructors from DanceXchange, for willing volunteers from the Colmore Business District, on Wednesday 21 April at 12.30pm outside its office in Colmore Piazza. The details of the dance routine are yet to be revealed...

Paul Fielding, CBD Board Director and Brewin Dolphin Investment Manager said, "I'm looking forward to seeing Brewin's business neighbours showing their fancy footwork in the heart of Birmingham's business district."

All participants will be invited to join in the grand finale of the IDFB on Saturday 15 May – a mass dance extravaganza involving up to 500 people in St Martin's Square, Bullring.

For more information please contact: caroline.jepson@brewin.co.uk

HIGHCROSS ATTRACTS ACCOUNTANTS TO LIVERY PLACE, BIRMINGHAM

Highcross has let 2,450 sq ft at its Livery Place office building in central Birmingham, to Midlands accountancy firm, Smith Cooper, on a ten-year lease.

The long-term lease commitment reflects Smith Cooper's strategic growth plan to develop the practice within Birmingham and the West Midlands region. Jeremy Cope, partner in charge of the Birmingham office, comments: "The newly refurbished Livery Place provides the ideal environment for Smith Cooper, as a progressive professional services firm and we are delighted to be showing our on-going commitment to Birmingham as a vibrant and successful professional community."

The move marks an important development in our business and is testament to Smith Cooper's ability to continue to grow, even in the current extremely challenging business environment."



Jeremy Cope, Malcolm Jones and Mark Colder at Livery Place

Following extensive refurbishment, the Livery Place offices offer Grade A space from 950 sq ft – 60,000 sq ft in a city centre location. Highcross asset manager, Joe Curlett adds: "Smith Cooper is the third firm to choose Livery Place to meet its expansion plans, reflecting the building's flexible, high quality space and its excellent location in the heart of the city's business district."

Their office fit out has put the finishing touches to what will be a fantastic working environment for the firm."

CB Richard Ellis and GBR Property Consultants acted for Highcross on the letting to Smith Cooper. For more information contact Smith Cooper on 0121 710 1990 or email birmingham@smithcooper.co.uk

DRIVERS JONAS DELOITTE

ON PLAN AND ON TIME

Business advisory firm Deloitte and property consultants Drivers Jonas have merged to create Drivers Jonas Deloitte, a 700 strong specialist real estate advisory arm of Deloitte.

Nick Shepherd, managing partner of Drivers Jonas Deloitte, said: "We are extremely pleased with the progress we have made in bringing the two businesses together so quickly, while keeping a sharp focus on our clients and on the market.

"By combining the broad, market leading property and construction expertise of Drivers Jonas with the skills of industry and financial specialists across the whole of Deloitte, we have a scale and depth of operation few can emulate."

John Connolly, senior partner and chief executive of Deloitte, said: "We see a big opportunity for Drivers Jonas Deloitte to add value to our clients. We will connect the financial, tax and business insights of Deloitte with our comprehensive suite of real

estate solutions to help our clients address their business and property opportunities and challenges."

Drivers Jonas is one of the leading property advisory and consultancy firms in the West Midlands. The business will complement Deloitte's real estate practice in Birmingham and will enhance the firm's real estate services offering.

Richard Edwards, Midlands practice senior partner at Deloitte, said: "Now that the merger has been completed we are all very much looking forward to working together.

"We will be able to provide a more comprehensive property advisory service to our clients and continue to grow our real estate practice."

Gary Cardin of Drivers Jonas Deloitte added, "The merger has been delivered on plan and on time and this has kept staff focussed and momentum driving forward. It is a tremendous achievement and a credit to all



Richard Edwards and Gary Cardin celebrate the merger of Deloitte and Drivers Jonas

staff. Integration of the two businesses is very firmly underway and it is amazing how much immediate synergy there is."

For further details of the services provided by Drivers Jonas Deloitte, please visit

www.djdeloitte.co.uk

CBD INTERIM REPORT

Earlier this year we published the District's first interim annual review which provides an opportunity to reflect on the activity carried out since the launch of CBD, the initiatives introduced, key milestones that have been achieved and to introduce priorities for the future across all five working groups and objectives.

A major project carried out by the Network and Community engaged working group was the co-ordination of the feedback survey and the initial results were published within the annual review.

Early stage results from the Business Owner/Manager survey indicate the following:

- Key objective from an owner/manager perspective is Safe and Welcoming.
- Highest satisfaction level (59%) with the

quality of the environment in the District (Cleaner, Greener & Attractive).

- Lowest satisfaction level (38%) with regards to increasing the visibility and reputation of the District, in order to support local businesses and attract and retain staff and investment.
- Pleasingly (81%) of business owners/managers are proud of working in the District, at least some of the time.

Very early stage feedback from the staff survey shows the following:

- Satisfaction with access and connectivity of Colmore Business District (70%).
- Dissatisfaction with state of streets and pavements (30%).
- Most important CBD objective for staff is also Safe and Welcoming.

The lucky winners of the prize draw from the survey are published on page 13.

If you would like a copy of the interim report please contact the CBD office.

We want to engage with CBD members to review this document, so please contact us with your views: 0121 632 2208 enquiries@colmorebusinessdistrict.com



GIRL POWER RULES AT METRO BAR & GRILL



Karen Parris

One of the best known dining and drinking venues in the CBD, Metro Bar & Grill on Cornwall Street has a new General Manager at the helm.

Karen Parris who has worked at Metro, originally as a chef before moving to front of house, assumed her new role from 1st March. Karen is the longest serving employee of the Metro Group and is well known to regular customers for her can do – no nonsense approach and permanent smile!

Managing Director Chris Kelly said: "It's fantastic and rare in this industry to have such long term service and continuity, Metro is in very capable hands".

www.metrobarandgrill.co.uk

COLEY & TILLEY APPOINT A NEW SENIOR PARTNER



Grahame Griffiths

Coley & Tilley Solicitors have appointed a new senior partner Grahame Griffiths following the announcement of the retirement of Mr Peter Coleman, after 47 years with the firm, and 18 years as senior partner of the firm.

Grahame will head the firm from the 1st of May 2010. Admitted as a solicitor in 1978 and made a partner in 1980, Grahame specialises in commercial property and company/commercial law. He acts for businesses both in Birmingham and around the region. Coley & Tilley has been serving the legal needs of Birmingham for over 120 years of which over 70 years have been from their offices on Waterloo Street.

"I am delighted to be appointed senior partner of Coley & Tilley and to take on the role of leading the firm into the new future of legal services. Peter Coleman has set a high standard for the firm as senior partner and I hope to be able to continue to develop our standards of providing excellent legal assistance to all our clients. Peter Coleman will be greatly missed by colleagues and clients alike."

Coley & Tilley provide both personal and commercial legal advice. Details can be found on their website

www.coleyandtilley.co.uk

TRIO OF SENIOR RECRUITS AT GRANT THORNTON



L-R: Barry Brosnan, Cheryl Dove, Raj Mittal and Dave Munton (all from Grant Thornton)

Barry Brosnan joins the firm's award-winning private client services team as financial planning manager. Barry spent seven years in the personal financial planning team at PwC and is highly qualified, possessing a Diploma in Financial Planning and an MBA from the University of Nottingham where his dissertation focused on active and passive investment management. His extensive experience includes advising high net-worth individuals on all aspects of personal wealth planning, incorporating investment advice, inheritance tax and pension planning.

Also previously with PwC for six years, where she trained and qualified, Cheryl Dove is a new manager in Grant Thornton's growing audit team. In addition to her previous experience working with a range of automotive clients, Cheryl is now expanding her experience and working with housing associations, charities and a number of AIM and mid size corporates.

Joining from Ernst & Young, Raj Mittal has been appointed associate director in Grant Thornton's Recovery & Reorganisation department. Raj has spent his career to date focusing on all aspects of recovery work, including mid-market restructuring assignments, insolvencies and business reviews.

Dave Munton, office managing partner, said: "I am delighted to be welcoming Cheryl, Barry and Raj into the Birmingham team. They are joining a dynamic and successful office and I'm sure each of them will play their part in our continued growth in their respective fields in the coming years."

www.grant-thornton.co.uk



CRIME BEATING DISTRICT

Despite misconceptions often fuelled by the way that crime is reported in the media, Birmingham is one of the safest cities within the UK to live, work and visit and Colmore Business District, located in its commercial heart, is one of the safest areas of the city.

In this edition of CBD Digest we interview Inspector Ed Foster from West Midlands Police and a member of the Safe and Welcoming working group, which is responsible for delivering the Safe and Welcoming pledge.

“Crime has continued to fall in Birmingham and year to date from April 2009 to March 2010 total recorded crime in Birmingham City Centre is down 16% on the previous year.

“To give an example that may mean more to people, in 2009 just under 3 million people visited Birmingham’s Frankfurt Christmas Market and Craft Fair. The market has stalls filling the heart of CBD’s Victoria Square and spreading out on Upper New Street (part of Retail BID). During this month long period when approximately 3 million people visited the District, only 12 offences were recorded and most of those were thefts from bags and pockets.”

Inspector Foster also explains the importance that working together in partnership with other organisations has on the number of crimes committed:

“Making people feel safer is a crucial area of business for us and the entire city is working together on this vision to continue to make Birmingham the safest City in the country. Within Colmore Business District we work closely in partnership with the CBD Street Wardens and other agencies to help reduce disorder within the District.”

He explains: “Last year for example we launched a new initiative with staff at St Philip’s Cathedral and partnership agencies in a bid to help combat anti-social behaviour within the cathedral grounds. This collaborative approach to reduce disorder in CBD saw the launch of an acceptable behaviour contract that was put in place within the cathedral grounds and the young people who socialise within the area.

Since the contract was put in place last year, the lines of communication between the local authority and the young people who use the cathedral grounds have been opened up.”

Going back to the recently published Crime Statistics, Inspector Foster comments: “Our levels of Detected Crime are at 45% which most other areas within the UK can’t reach.

Detected Crime refers to the amount of crimes that we secure a conviction for and at 45% we as a city should be notably proud of this statistic.

“Put simply, we get an average of 11 crimes per day for the whole City. So this year (April 2010 – April 2011) the City will see less than 4000 crimes committed within the whole year. We as West Midlands Police continue to work towards the vision of reducing crime and disorder and making our communities feel safer within Birmingham, making it one of the safest cities in the UK to visit, work and do business.”

YEAR TO DATE FIGURES

April 2009 – present day

Total crime	16% down
Most serious violence (GBH)	22% down
Violent crime (assaults etc)	10% down
Robbery	20% down
Theft	20% down
Shoplifting	18% down
Vehicle crime	35% down
Burglary	15% down





CORE CITY	CRIMES PER 1000 RESIDENTS DECEMBER 2008 – NOVEMBER 2009
Manchester	153
Nottingham	144.7
Bristol	132.1
Liverpool	117.1
Leeds	102
Newcastle	100.1
Sheffield	94.8
Birmingham	89.6



ANGLO-SAXON HOARD SAVED!

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and the Potteries Museum and Art Gallery, Stoke on Trent are celebrating following the announcement that the £3.3 million needed to acquire the Staffordshire Hoard has been secured a month ahead of schedule – but the fundraising continues.

The announcement comes after news that the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) has approved a donation of £1.285 million to meet the initial target of £3.3 million needed to acquire the Hoard by the Birmingham and Stoke museums.

The new joint owners of the Hoard are now focussing their attention on raising a further £1.7million so that the full story of the Hoard can be told with a Mercian Trail and special individual displays. Working with Lichfield, Tamworth and Staffordshire Councils, our trail will take visitors on a voyage of Anglo-Saxon Discovery. However, before this can happen money is needed for essential conservation and research work to take place on the 1600 items that make up the Hoard.

The Hoard was discovered by a local metal detecting enthusiast in a field in Burntwood, West Midlands last July. It was declared Treasure in September and valued at £3.3million by the Treasure Valuation Committee in November 2009. The fundraising appeal fronted by the Art Fund with historian Dr David Starkey was launched on 13 January 2010 with the aim of keeping the Staffordshire Hoard in the West Midlands region.

Councillor Martin Mullaney, Cabinet Member for Leisure Sport and Culture said: "It is a great achievement to secure the hoard for the West Midlands Region. Not only have we managed to raise the necessary £3.3million to return the hoard to its rightful home a month ahead of schedule, but a staggering £900,000 of this has been raised by personal donations. I have been overwhelmed by the public response and can't thank enough everyone who has given and supported our campaign in helping us bring the Hoard home."

A selection of 120 items from the Staffordshire Hoard is currently on display at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke-on-Trent. Details on how to continue to contribute to the fundraising campaign are available on the Museum's website at www.bmag.org.uk/support-us or through the Art Fund www.artfund.org/hoard. For further information on Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery:



CBD OBJECTIVE IN ACTION

SAFE AND WELCOMING

As featured earlier in this edition of CBD Digest, the recently published crime statistics have confirmed that Birmingham is one of the safest cities in the UK and furthermore that Colmore Business District, at the commercial centre of Birmingham, is one of the safest areas of our city. Despite this news we are aware that there are important improvements to implement particularly around the perceived safety of the District.

By creating an environment that is Safe and Welcoming we hope to encourage inward investment, within the District, and to continue to establish CBD as the place to do business in Birmingham. One of our main priorities is to improve lighting in the District. An audit of 'dark areas' has been carried out and we are currently looking

at various proposals to implement an improved lighting scheme throughout the District, in particular within the Cathedral grounds and the Bridge Link to the Jewellery Quarter area.

In winter 2009 CBD Street Wardens were appointed. The Wardens are in the District from first thing in the morning until after the rush hour in the evening, working with the local police and other stakeholders to make sure that the area is as safe and secure as possible.

We really welcome your views and comments so please do let us know your thoughts.

Tel: 0121 632 2208
enquiries@colmorebusinessdistrict.com



David Bradshaw
Working Group Champion
Safe and Welcoming

COLMORE BUSINESS DISTRICT LIMITED

CALL FOR BOARD NOMINATION

Colmore Business District (CBD) is an independent 'not for profit' company which is responsible for delivering the BID. The Board of Directors for CBD has both Stakeholder and Business Directors. Stakeholder Directors are appointed by their respective organisations and number 8 in total.

To ensure the independence of the Board there are also 10 Business Directors selected from the businesses who were eligible voters for the BID and who become 'Members' of the BID Company.

Applications are currently invited from senior-level motivated and qualified BID members within the **Retail/Leisure/Hospitality industry** who feel that they have the time and commitment to help shape and develop the Colmore BID in line with the detailed Proposal published in December 2008 and the interim Annual Report published in April 2010.

To be eligible you must work for a member firm and your place of work should be within the CBD boundary.

If you would like an informal discussion regarding this vacancy, the appointment procedure and the likely time commitments, please contact either:

Gary Cardin on 0121 236 8777
gary-c@colmorebusinessdistrict.com
or

Michele Wilby on 0121 236 2211
michele-w@colmorebusinessdistrict.com

Applications should be received by May 15 and interviews will be conducted by a Sub-committee of the CBD Board.

**WHO MAKES UP THE CBD BOARD**

There are five categories of Business Directors.

These are:

2 x Major Corporates
defined as having a RV greater than £200,000

2 x Medium Corporates
Defined as having a RV between £50,001 & £200,000

2 x Independents/SMEs
Defined as having a RV below £50,000

2 x Property Owners/Developers

2 x Retail/Leisure/Hospitality



BIRMINGHAM UK CITY OF CULTURE 2013

In February this year, Birmingham became one of just four cities in the UK to make it onto the shortlist to be the first UK City of Culture in 2013.

This is an exciting time for the city because if we win, it will bring many benefits.

We will get an opportunity to host a range of high profile events such as the Brits, Turner Prize and MTV Awards. Additionally, a new Autumn Festival, an 8 - week long international festival, will enable the city to showcase talent from across the globe and will run alongside a variety of community based activities taking place across the city. During 2013 we will also see the launch of the new library of Birmingham, the largest cultural library in Europe.

Winning the title brings with it an estimated £200 million to the local economy, creating thousands of jobs up to 2013 and beyond.

It also gives us an opportunity to showcase the best of what is great about Birmingham – our wide range of diverse cultural highlights.

The Big City Culture theme of the bid reflects the city's combination of large scale major and international events as well as the more community based activities.

This is a city bid and the support of the business community is important. In this feature you will find a quick fix guide on how you can get involved until the close of the bidding process of 21st May.

The winning city will be announced in the summer. In the mean time you can find out more about Birmingham's bid at www.birminghamculture.org or by telephoning 0121 303 0458.

A Quick Fix Guide on How to Get Involved

1. Provide a letter of support from your Chief Executive or Director. This should be addressed to Councillor Martin Mullaney, Chair of the Birmingham Cultural Partnership and Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Culture, Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BD.
2. Provide a link from your website to the bids at www.birminghamculture.org
3. Include articles about the bid in your internal and external publications, and intranet systems. Copy can be provided on request.
4. Put copies of promotional leaflets in your reception areas.
5. Sponsor an activity e.g. competition prize, advert.
6. Back the bid by becoming a friend on Facebook or by getting involved on Titter, Flickr or Vimeo.



Birmingham
big city culture

MEET THE DISTRICT

We speak to three people who live or work in the district to get their thoughts on life in the CBD.



Man Yee Lee
CBD Resident

"Being within walking distance of the City Centre, the Colmore Business District is a great location as it is close to all the fantastic amenities the city has to offer, but also allows you to be away from the hustle and bustle during the weekend."



Thomas Jordan
Owner – Hey Pesto

"Running a business on Colmore Row is fantastic! It has great transport links, a wide selection of retail shops and some great leisure spots which me and the team often visit after work. But I'd have to say the best thing about the District is the people, we get such a diverse mix of customers popping in throughout the day."



Lisa Craddock – Trainee Solicitor
HBJ Gateley Wareing LLP

"The CBD is a sociable, close-knit community. Wherever you go, there is always a welcoming atmosphere and friendly face."

CBD SURVEY PRIZE DRAW WINNERS AND THE LUCKY WINNERS WERE...



Mike Harris
Cornwall St Chambers
Owner / Manager Survey



Neil Connolly
Turner & Townsend
Staff Survey



Sally Beavan
Alliance & Leicester
Visitor Survey



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED – WE REALLY DO APPRECIATE YOUR FEEDBACK.
EARLY STAGE RESULTS FROM THE SURVEY CAN BE VIEWED VIA THE WEBSITE AT www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com

RETAIL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Are you an existing independent retailer looking to improve, rebrand, or relocate your business in Birmingham?

Are you a new independent retailer looking to set up?

If so, then we may be able to assist you.

The Retail Development Programme is funded by the Working Neighbourhoods Fund and runs until March 2011. It is aimed specifically at supporting new and existing independent retailers, citywide.

Birmingham City Council will manage and deliver the programme, in partnership with Business Link West Midlands.

To find out more on the Retail Development Programme please contact Nigel Godfrey who can be contacted on:

07980 672338 or by emailing nigel.godfrey@birmingham.gov.uk

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A **STREET WARDEN**

Peter Willis has been a Warden for approximately 8 years. Over the past 4 years he has been working in Birmingham and before that he was a Warden in London.

Earlier this month we met up with Peter, to find out more about his work in Colmore Business District.



Why did you decide to become a Street Warden?

After working in an office environment for 20 years I decided that I wanted to do something completely different.

What time do you start work?

We have two shifts in the CBD, one shift is from 7.30am until 3.30pm and the other is from 10.30am until 6.30pm, but we also work additional hours on request.

What's an average day like?

There is no average day, each day is so different! Our role falls under the Safe and Welcoming pledge, so part of our job is to work closely with the local police force to help deal with any crime in the District through sharing information and supporting one another. The other part of our role is to welcome visitors, direct them to meetings, answer questions and to generally help them as much as we can. We also patrol CBD looking for any

environmental and highway defects that may need repairing and we report these to the relevant council departments. If there is an emergency situation, for instance a lorry colliding with a bollard, repairs are normally undertaken within 1.5 hours of the accident happening.

All the Wardens work with the homeless or people in need by acting as a 'signpost' and helping them get support through directing them to places such as Hostels, St Basils and Joining Post.

Since the CBD Wardens service started we have been trying to visit at least 2 businesses a day to meet with Owners, Building Managers and Security Guards.

If you would like a visit from one of the Wardens, please contact the CBD office on 0121 632 2208 or email enquiries@colmorebusinessdistrict.com

CBD IN **GOOD HANDS**



In January Keith Massey was appointed by the CBD team as the CBD Caretaker. Keith works alongside the Street Wardens to identify litter or cleaning problems within the District and to quickly resolve any issues.

Businesses within the commercial district are able to call on CBD caretaker services to tackle specific problems, like litter in doorways and alleys.

To contact Keith to arrange a 'spot cleaning' service please call 07889 648142 or visit www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com and click on 'Caretaker Services'.



DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT ■ **PAUL FIELDING** INVESTMENT MANAGER, BREWIN DOLPHIN

What do you do?

I am investment manager at Brewin Dolphin, the UK's largest independent private client stockbroker. I manage investment portfolios on behalf of individuals, trusts and charities.

Why did you get involved in the BID?

I am passionate about Birmingham and as the boards Birmingham Future Representative I felt that this was the perfect way to make sure the voice of young professionals is heard.

What you love about CBD?

I believe that the district is a truly world class place to do business and everything that you could possibly need business wise is right here on our doorstep.

What would be the one thing in CBD you would change if you could?

I would certainly like to see Snow Hill refurbished. It looks tired and is in need of modernisation.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG.... ALMOST!



Pan fried Lyme Bay scallops and Huntsham Court rare breed middle white belly of pork

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 8 scallops
- 8 pieces confit pork
- 1 Braeburn apple
- 25g each of carrot, leek, spring onion (cut into thin strips)
- Mixed baby leaves
- French dressing

Method

- Ask butcher to trim off bones of a 400g piece of pork belly
- Slowly cook in duck fat for 4 hours at a low heat (100 degrees)
- Once cooked, wrap in cling film, press between two plates and chill
- Once chilled, slice into 8 even pieces
- Lightly sweat carrot, leek and spring onion and neatly dice Braeburn apple into even cubes
- Lightly pan fry seasoned scallops and pork belly in a little olive oil for 2 minutes on each side

To serve

Dress the pork belly on top of the vegetables and place the scallops and apple neatly on the outside. Dress salad with French dressing and place onto pork belly to finish.

Stop Press

Opus restaurant is urging diners to pledge towards the £1.7m required for the final phase of the Staffordshire Hoard campaign. As the first corporate patron of Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Opus is a champion of the city's arts and culture scene. With £1.7m still needed to conserve, study and display the collection, diners will have the opportunity to back the campaign through a bespoke pledge form available at the restaurant.

COLMORE BUSINESS DISTRICT

FACTS



FACT 1

St Philip's is the third smallest cathedral in England after Derby and Chelmsford.

FACT 2

Completed in 1900, Hudson's Coffee House on Colmore Row was designed in an Arts and Crafts style by William Lethaby and Joseph Ball. Pevsner's The Buildings of England describes it as "one of the most important monuments of the Arts and Crafts Free Style in the country".

FACT 3

The site of SnowHill station was originally occupied by Oppenheims Glassworks. This was demolished, but many parts of the building and machinery are believed to be buried underneath the station and car park, and during recent development work alongside the station the area was designated as a site of archaeological importance by Birmingham City Council.

FACT 4

There is a short length of surviving Birmingham Corporation Tramways track, dating back to 1905 between the two Council House/museum blocks on Edmund Street.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INTERESTING FACTS OR INFORMATION ON COLMORE BUSINESS DISTRICT PLEASE EMAIL marketing@colmorebusinessdistrict.com

WIN A MEAL FOR 2



For the chance to win one of 2 complimentary meals for 2 on the 'du Vin or not du Vin Menu' kindly donated by Hotel du Vin, simply circle in pen on the right hand image the 5 differences between the images above, fill in your contact details, cut out this competition and send in your answers to: **'I've spotted the difference', CBD Digest, One Victoria Square, Colmore Business District, Birmingham, B1 1BD**

NAME

COMPANY

EMAIL

TELEPHONE

Offer available lunch & dinner Mon - Thurs (Excluding Friday, Saturday & Sunday dinner).

Winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Closing date 30/4/10. Winners will be announced in our next issue.

For terms and conditions, please go to www.colmorebusinessdistrict.com



www.hotelduvin.com

WINE TASTING DINNER Hotel Du Vin, Church Street	15 APR 10	BIRMINGHAM PRIDE Victoria Square	29-30 MAY 10
NATIONAL COUNTER TERRORISM SECURITY OFFICE PRESENTS PROJECT ARGUS Birmingham City Council House – www.birmingham.gov.uk	20 APR 10	LORD MAYOR'S SHOW Victoria Square	31 MAY 10
BREWIN DOLPHIN EVENT: INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL Colmore Piazza	21 APR 10	CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE: WARMING OCEAN CONTRIBUTES TO GLOBAL WARMING The Jekyll and Hyde, Steelhouse Lane	01 JUN 10
ERIC'S TALES OF THE SEA: A SUBMARINER'S YARN The Old Joint Stock Pub & Theatre, Temple Row	22 APR 10	CLIMATE CHANGE EVENT Victoria Square	05-07 JUN 10
ST GEORGE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS Victoria Square,	24 APR 10	WORLD CUP FIXTURES Televised at Hotel du Vin, Church Street	11 JUN TO 1 JUL 10
JAZZ IN THE BAR The Old Joint Stock Pub & Theatre, Temple Row	26-30 APR 10	CELEBRATING SANCTUARY Victoria Square	11-12 JUN 10
MORLEY HAYDEN HAINES The Old Joint Stock Pub & Theatre, Temple Row	01 MAY 10	ARMED FORCES DAY Victoria Square	26 JUN 10
UNITED COLOURS OF DANCE Victoria Square	01-03 MAY 10	MUSIC BUILDS BRIDGES Victoria Square	03 JUL 10
CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE: BRAIN BUTTONS The Jekyll and Hyde, Steelhouse Lane	04 MAY 10	LATIN AMERICAN FESTIVAL Victoria Square	04 JUL 10
DINNER WITH WAIRAU WINES FROM MARLBOROUGH, NEW ZEALAND Hotel Du Vin, Church Street	06 MAY 10	DANCING RINGS, TRACKING RHYTHMS Victoria Square	17 JUL 10
THE CHEEKY CHAPPIE The Old Joint Stock Pub & Theatre, Temple Row	08 MAY 10	JAZZ FESTIVAL 2010 Colmore Business District	JULY
COUNTY CADET FORCE Victoria Square	09 MAY 10		

RECENT EVENTS

Birmingham Future's 2010 events calendar kicked off in style at Metro Bar & Grill with a New Year's networking event hosted by the community development committee.

Attendees were treated to an inspiring and practical talk by former Birmingham Future Chair, Sarah Gee, about some of the great opportunities open to young professionals to get more involved in the Birmingham community and make a positive difference to our city.

Representatives from Birmingham Future's mentoring and diversity committees, as well as individuals from the NSPCC, Birmingham St Mary's Hospice, Birmingham Community Foundation, Thrive, Big Brum, The Prince's Trust, St Basil's, The Civic Society and Birmingham Children's Hospital were all on hand to talk about opportunities in their organisations.

The evening was a great success and once again Birmingham Future members were able to demonstrate their enthusiasm and determination to make Birmingham an even more fantastic place to live and work for all our community.



L-R Claire Molyneux, Laura Kealery and Rachael Walker (all from Mills & Reeve)



L-R Claire Varley (Birmingham City Council), Rachel Hearn (Glenn Howells Architects) and Chole Edward (Bevan Brittan)



L-R Richard Shawcross (NSPCC), Michaella Maryon and Hannah Proes (both Smarts)



L-R Matthew Cannon, Alex Lawrence and David Taylor (all from Anthony Collins Solicitors)



L-R Sarah Gee (Indigo Limited), Graham Nicoll (Barclays Wealth) and Claire-Elaine Arthurs (HBJ Gateley Wareing)



L-R Mark Yarnold (Wragge & Co), Matthew Broomhead (Birmingham Future) and Eve Smith (CBSO)