

City Centre Retail News

December 2010

Store news



We would like to extend a warm welcome to the new stores which have joined us recently – it is great to see more and more new stores opening, helping us to increase our fantastic offer. These include Fenchurch, Internacionale and Coco Accessorise on The Horsefair, Tesco Phone Shop and The Discovery Store on Broadmead West, Blue Star on Broadmead East and The Gift Shack on Union St.

Cabot Circus is 97 per cent let after securing several new brands in time for Christmas. Sanctuary Spa located in Quakers Friars includes five treatment rooms and is one of the only branches outside of London. Harvey Nichols' Christmas Shop has returned along with a new Carluccios Deli in Cabot Circus for the Christmas period. Other openings include Quiz Clothing and the card retailer Scribbler.



The food offer in Cabot Circus has also been added to with the opening of Spudulike on Level 3 which will shortly be followed by KFC. Chandos Deli have relocated to a new unit opposite Sanctuary Spa.

We're delighted to announce that vacant units in Broadmead are currently at an all time low – excellent news!

New centre director at Cabot Circus



We're delighted to welcome Kevin Duffy, the new centre director at Cabot Circus. Kevin comes with a wealth of shopping centre experience, having worked in many major UK cities. We are looking forward to working closely with Kevin and his team going forward to realise our shared aspiration to market Bristol city centre as a fantastic shopping and leisure destination.

Christmas in the city 2010 campaign

Destination Bristol has been working hard to ensure that as many people as possible hear about Bristol's fantastic Christmas shopping offer this year. Our campaign includes a radio ad on Heart which was aired in Wiltshire, Bath, Gloucestershire and Somerset as well as in Bristol.



Our "Win Christmas in the City" shopping competition begins in the Evening Post on 6th December. For 12 days, a lucky person will each win a goodie bag full of at least £500 of prizes each day

We're also featuring a separate competition on our website in order to drive traffic through to the Christmas section of the website. Over 1,000 people have already entered the competition to win £1000 of shopping vouchers! This competition runs until 15th December.

And to get the message out loud and clear, we've also distributed 50,000 leaflets detailing Bristol's Christmas offer to many hotels, attractions and other organisations in the region.

Visit www.visitbristol.co.uk/winter for full details.

Christmas markets

Bristol's Christmas markets are now well underway, providing a great festive feel to the city centre retail area. A fantastic range of traditional German gifts, local crafts and a whole host of edible delights are on offer.



The German market will operate until 22nd December with the Bristol market, on Broadmead West, running until 19th December.

Please let us have your feedback – we're keen to hear your views about the markets and the Christmas lights in the retail area.

Christmas trading hours

Cabot Circus is now trading until 9pm on Thursdays and Fridays in the lead-up to Christmas (8pm on other evenings, except Sunday which remains as 11am-5pm).

We urge all other retailers to follow the core city centre retail hours and trade until at least 7pm every evening and until 8pm in the week before Christmas. We don't want customers to be disappointed by finding stores have closed early. Please note that we will be trading on Boxing Day. For full details visit www.bristolbroadmead.co.uk

Free Coach parking on Castle St for Christmas 2010

We're delighted that we have a free coach parking facility on Castle Street until Friday 31st December. This is situated alongside Castle Park, just a 2 minute walk from the shopping area. Please help us to spread the word – we are keen to welcome as many coach parties into the area as possible.



A location plan is on the Bristol City Council website www.bristol.gov.uk Just type "Coach parking" into the search bar.

Cop Shop returns to The Mall Bristol

The police team will once again be taking a unit in The Mall Bristol this December. After a successful trial last year, they will once again be working with The Safer Bristol partnership.



Experts will be on hand to offer advice and safety tips to the public relating to how they can keep their possessions safe during the festive period. Do visit the team from 6th December on the ground floor of The Mall Bristol opposite The Bear Factory.

Bristol's top Christmas gift ideas

To promote Bristol city centre's great offer, we've put together a list of fantastic gift ideas ranging from glitzy and glamorous to quirky and fun. Included on the list is a voucher from Dr Spafish in The Mall Bristol (for those who like to have their feet nibbled in the name of beauty!), a Judas Sinned T-Shirt from Colonel Mustard and even unique designer underwear for men from The Package in The Arcade. To view the whole article, please take a look at www.visitbristol.co.uk/winter/top-christmas-gifts



Thank you to all of you who participated in this press release – we hope to include even more retailers in future promotions.

Skating Rink

Due to popular demand the skating rink in Quakers Friars will be open until Sunday 27 February 2011



Opening Times

Monday - Saturday 10am - 9pm

Sunday 10am - 6pm

Prices

Adults £6 / Children £4

Family Ticket £17

Book online by visiting www.cabotcircus.com.

Santa's Grotto

Santa is now in residence in the grotto on the ground floor of The Mall Bristol and will be there until Christmas Eve.



The Mall Bristol is offering all Reward Me card holders £1 off the cost of entry until 5th December so be quick and tell Santa what you want for Christmas.

Please call 929 0569 for further details.

Cabot Circus launches Christmas TV ad and a new style blog

The exciting new Cabot Circus Christmas TV ad launched on Monday 22 November and will be playing on ITV for three weeks.

You can view the ad on You Tube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xg-i5TpHka4>.



The Cabot Circus style blog has also just been launched. This is a great platform for product placement and helps us to promote specific retailers. This is updated with fresh and timely content on a weekly basis. The blog can be found at <http://cabotcircus.wordpress.com/>

Dedication Tree

The Mall Bristol and Macmillan Cancer Care invite you to remember a loved one who will not be with you this Christmas by sponsoring a light on their dedication tree. For a donation of £5 shoppers can sponsor a light on the tree and in return will receive a pair of remembrance ribbons; one to tie on their own tree and another to tie on the dedication tree located by the Ask Me Point on the ground floor.



For more information or to sponsor a light on the tree, visit the Ask Me Point. All proceeds will go directly to Macmillan Cancer Care.

Christmas message from Andy Sewell, city centre retail chaplain

"The run up to Christmas is for everyone a busy time of preparation and expectation. Retail life is no different. In fact in the retail world, we share in that task of serving those preparations and expectations. However at its heart, Christmas carries a message of hope and love into the world. I do hope that in the hustle and bustle of a "retailers Christmas" you can all find the time for some relaxation with your friends, family or on your own.



May I take this opportunity to thank those of you who have made me welcome since I started as retail chaplain in September and I look forward to meeting more of you in due course. Have a very happy Christmas."



Holiday Inn city centre

Work is well underway on a new hotel which will be located on Bond St, across the road from the retail area. The hotel will include 155 bedrooms and is expected to be completed at the end of January 2011. We will keep you updated on this new addition as work progresses.



St James Barton

There is a real interest in improving this area. The “Bear-pit Improvement Group” is keen to make the area a more pleasant place both to pass through and to spend time in. It is hoped that stalls and refreshment facilities will be located on this site as well as improvements made to the green areas. The group comprises representatives from Bristol City Council, UWE, Bristol Civic Society and other interested parties. To find out more or to become involved please visit: www.the-bear-pit.org.uk



Fairwear Fashion Show at The Mall Bristol, 5th March 2011

The Fairwear Sustainable Fashion Show is Bristol's major event to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight 2011 and will be presented by Lisa Butcher, ex super-model and TV presenter.

The event is a partnership venture between Bristol Fairtrade Network, The Mall Bristol, the Soil Association and UWE, whose fashion students are designing and modelling their own Fairtrade range.

As well as the Fashion Show, there will be a large exhibition of other Fairtrade items, from beauty products to jewellery to showcase the range of Fairtrade goods available in Bristol stores. If your store sells Fairtrade items and you would like to become involved, please contact Jenny Foster at bristolfairtradenetwork@gmail.com

Have a clear out for St Peter’s Hospice.

Bristol’s only local adult Hospice is encouraging people to clear out their lofts, wardrobes and cupboards and donate any unwanted items



Jenny Wilby, Manager of the City Centre shop on St James Barton said: “If everyone took just one or two items to their nearest St Peter’s Hospice shop they could help provide vital funds to enable the Hospice to care for people in the area with terminal illnesses.”

To make a donation visit your local shop or alternatively call the free collection hotline on 0800 5830015. www.stpetershospice.org

Useful contact details

The city centre retail police team (non-urgent issues) – 927 3958

Police (to report a crime) – 0845 456 7000 / Police (urgent) 999

Help & advice related to refuse – Colin Owen, 07974 233085

Dates for your diary

Security meetings – held on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30am in Cabot Circus management suite – all store managers and security staff welcome.

Police management meeting – Friday 7th January 2011, 9.30am, venue tbc

BID 2 marketing meeting – Tuesday 11th January 2011, 10am, venue tbc

Invitation reminders will be sent out prior to these meetings by email. Please let me have your email if I do not already have it - jo.hawkins@destinationbristol.co.uk