



**Did you know.....**

The CMK railway station 'starred' as the United Nations building in Superman IV and in the same film, the then Living Well atrium also featured as part of the offices of the Daily Planet.

**40<sup>th</sup> Celebrations**

In 2007 there will be a year long programme of activities across the city celebrating 40 years of Milton Keynes as a new City, starting on 23rd January with a celebratory breakfast at the City Discovery Centre, a civic celebration, an open exhibition at Middleton Hall programmed by Living Archive with memorabilia from over the years and commemorative activities. The day will culminate with a birthday celebration at Milton Keynes Theatre.

Party celebrations will continue throughout the year, hosted by local community organisations, such as a special birthday concert by MK City Orchestra on 27<sup>th</sup> January, OXDOX:MK documentary film festival in March and the opening of the MK Dons Stadium in July. All MK Birthday celebrations will show the new MK40 logo – see the winning design at <http://www.mkweb.co.uk/home/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=37612> A cultural calendar of activities is being drafted for public distribution, to have your 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday activities included please contact Lucy Bedford on 253379 or [culture@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:culture@milton-keynes.gov.uk).

**Out and About in Central Milton Keynes**

**Theatre District Wheel**

The 50 metre high wheel opened on 30 November and offers a fantastic opportunity to see Milton Keynes from above. The 40 gondola/240 person ride will be open daily from 12 midday until 11 pm. Ticket prices are £4 Adult, £3 Child & Seniors, with special offers for a full gondola of 6 people (£18), family tickets (2+2 £12) and it is even possible to book the whole wheel for corporate or promotional events. There is also the opportunity to sponsor a gondola and have your organisation promoted to the whole of MK until May 2007 - for further details contact Sara Mills, Marketing Manager, Theatre District – 07870 999 662 or through [www.theatre-district.co.uk](http://www.theatre-district.co.uk)

**Thieves want our Valuables, don't make it easy for them!**

Please remember when parking your car to REMOVE ALL ITEMS of value prior to leaving the vehicle – especially satellite navigation equipment, mobile phones and shopping bags. Placing your Sat. Nav. in the glove box is not good enough if the cradle is left on view or the sucker marks are visible on the windscreen. More than £13 million worth of sat nav equipment was stolen from vehicles in England in 2005 and car crime now accounts for 11% of all crime in the borough. Check out [www.secureyourmotor.gov.uk](http://www.secureyourmotor.gov.uk)

**Pride In MK** is about exactly that - nominating individuals, projects, parishes, organisations and businesses that give us pride in MK. These nominees are featuring in The Citizen every week, on their website providing ongoing positive press coverage and culminating in an awards evening on December 5th. The awards have been designed to support a number of important issues - Safer Neighbourhoods, Streetcare, Educational Attainment, Caring and Local Responsibility. Visit [www.miltonkeynestoday.co.uk](http://www.miltonkeynestoday.co.uk) for more information.

Two **Taxi Marshalls** have been recruited under a pilot scheme to facilitate fair queuing and to ensure the safety of passengers and Hackney Carriage drivers by directing the public towards these taxis rather than unlicensed and unregistered private hire vehicles. Authorised private hire vehicles still operate from the taxi pod in the same area. Milton Keynes Council, Milton Keynes Community Safety Partnership, Thames Valley Police and venues and licensed premises located in and around the city centre are working together to ensure more people enjoying evenings out in the city centre can get home more quickly and more safely. The Marshalls will initially be working at the taxi rank outside Xscape on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights between 11.00pm and 4.00am for an initial period of three months beginning 9th November 2006. The operation will be evaluated over this period to assist in future in decisions.

**Consultations**

Draft Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Housing and Social Care Strategy 2007- 2010 – for more information contact the Housing Research and Strategy Officer at Milton Keynes Council

Budget Consultation 2007/08: Phase 2 – for more details contact the Policy Officer at MK Council. For information on all consultations visit <http://www.mkweb.co.uk/council%2Ddemocracy/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=19046>

The Core Strategy is a key document that will replace strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan and set policies to help deliver other strategic plans, in particular the Community Strategy. It will be at the heart of all other new planning policies that the council will produce. Consultation on the Discussion Paper for the Core Strategy starts in December. For more information MK Council are running a briefing session at lunchtime on 7 December, to book a place contact [jill.dewick@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:jill.dewick@milton-keynes.gov.uk) or phone MK 253326

### **Milton Keynes Partnership Website** - [www.miltonkeynespartnership.info](http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info)

The new website has now been launched and provides information about the organisation and the work they do. For each development listed below you will now find a direct link to the website should you require more detailed information.

### **Developments**

**The Combined Heat and Power System (CHP)** which will improve carbon reduction and provide a more efficient use of energy in the West End (supplying the new hotels, CBX3 and thehub:mk apartments) is now being fitted out internally and major items of equipment are being installed. Watch out for the 40m high chimney, due to arrive on 5<sup>th</sup> December!

[http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP\\_Projects/project\\_detail.php?Key=10](http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP_Projects/project_detail.php?Key=10)

**CBX III** – The public Square behind the 2 hotels (Jury's and Ramada encore) is due to open mid 2007 and will offer 13 bars, restaurants and cafes on the ground floor with residential apartments above.

[http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP\\_Projects/project\\_detail.php?Key=9](http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP_Projects/project_detail.php?Key=9)

**Thecentre:mk** shopping centre situated between Silbury and Midsummer Boulevards will benefit from a £500m improvement programme over the next 10 years. The development will include 200+ new homes, 2 multi-storey car parks, an improved John Lewis and new House of Fraser, as well as 100 new shops and restaurants/cafes. Work is due to begin Summer 2007.

[http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP\\_Projects/project\\_detail.php?Key=6](http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/MKP_Projects/project_detail.php?Key=6)

**Leisure Plaza** – Located near the train station, between Elder Gate and Grafton Gate and Avebury Boulevard and Childs Way. The redevelopment of the Leisure Plaza is due to start in 2007 and will incorporate the refurbishment of the existing ice facility, and new retail and leisure uses.

### **Other Developments in Central Milton Keynes**

There is little or no change to information given in previous e-newsletters on the developments listed below but you can find details on the website [www.miltonkeynespartnership.info](http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info)

Campbell Park  
CMK Public Transport Improvements  
MK Theatre & Gallery Expansion  
Sainsbury's Store & Apartments  
Theatre District  
West End

**Central Railway Station** - Work begins early next year to install a new platform for fast trains ensuring that more trains will be able to use the station at peak times. This is an important part of the West Coast Main Line modernisation. The improved performance and shorter journey times will benefit rail users as well as making Milton Keynes a very attractive location to prospective new residents and visitors. The work is due to be completed by 2008 and should not cause any disruption to the public except for a short period over Easter 2008. Further details will be published closer to the time.

You can also find more information on Developments in Milton Keynes by visiting our Development Information Sites in Middleton Hall at thecentre:mk, and opposite the clock (next to Debenhams) in Midsummer Place.

### **What's on in CMK**

#### **Local Events Listing**

If you would like a copy of our Events Calendar which includes many MK 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebrations, e-mail [kate.wakefield@cmkpartnership.org](mailto:kate.wakefield@cmkpartnership.org) and we will forward it to you.

Whilst every care has been taken in putting together this e-newsletter any errors of fact or omissions are the author's. Please forward any corrections, suggestions and additional names and e-mail addresses to either Kate or Kay for anyone interested in receiving a copy.

***Kay Greenhalgh***

City Centre Manager

[kay.greenhalgh@cmkpartnership.org](mailto:kay.greenhalgh@cmkpartnership.org)

Direct Line: 01908 398133

***Kate Wakefield***

Communications Officer

[kate.wakefield@cmkpartnership.org](mailto:kate.wakefield@cmkpartnership.org)

Direct Line: 01908 398124