

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Santa Express Christmas Adventure at thecentre:mk

From 07th November until 03rd January 2009 – Middleton Hall will be transformed. Look out as Santa arrives to open his Grotto on 17th November at 4:30pm, a giant magical train lantern will carry Santa through the malls and down to Middleton Hall to open his Grotto! Santa Claus has also launched himself into the digital age by opening his very own facebook account 'Santa Atthecentremk' log on to see all his friends. Tickets to see Santa or to book a trip on the train are available at <http://www.thecentremk.com/Christmas.aspx>

Contemporary White Wall – Nicola Donovan exhibition ?Cryptocephalu

From Thursday 20th November Nicola Donovan will exhibit six works which takes as its influence the Code Breakers of Bletchley Park, and the tradition of North Bucks lace making. To see the exhibition go to the Contemporary White Wall found on Midsummer Arcade (adjacent to John Lewis) at thecentre:mk.

Milton Keynes Gallery

Gilberto Zorio Exhibition started on 18 October 2008 concluding on 18 January 2009. His first solo exhibition in the UK includes new installations made specifically for Milton Keynes Gallery's spaces combined with works that trace the historical points of his practice. For more information see: <http://www.mk-g.org/index.php?id=392>

Gilberto Zorio, Germano Celant and Mark Godfrey in Conversation on Wednesday 26 November, 7:00pm - 8:30 pm. In this exclusive talk, Gilberto Zorio will discuss his work and practice with Germano Celant and Mark Godfrey. Booking is essential and attendance is free. Please call 01908 676 900 between 10am - 5pm Tuesday - Saturday and 11am - 5pm on Sundays. For more information see: <http://www.mk-g.org/index.php?id=91>

Milton Keynes Theatre

Peter Pan comes to Milton Keynes Theatre on 05th December until 18th January 2009. Starring Henry Winkler (The Fonz), Andy Ford and Louisa Lytton (*Eastenders*, *Strictly Come Dancing*, and *The Bill*). For more information on how to book and details of other performances call the Box office on **0870 060 6652** (booking fee applies) or visit www.miltonkeynestheatre.com

Milton Keynes City Orchestra

On Friday 23rd January 2009 Milton Keynes Theatre hosts Première Pictures at 7:30pm. A Pre-Concert talk is scheduled at 6.30pm featuring an interview with composer Hugh Wood led by Sian Edwards and Adrian Boynton. Followed by the main performance at 7:30pm. Tickets cost from £10 up to £30 and can be purchased from the Box Office contactable on 01908 558311.

OUT AND ABOUT IN CENTRAL MILTON KEYNES

CAGoT Report is published

The consultation results following the Transport Question Time that took place on 11th September as part of The Milton Keynes Citizens' Advisory Group on Transport (CAGoT) are now available. For more information see: <http://www.mkweb.co.uk/localnews/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=61332>

Xscape Milton Keynes

Xscape Milton Keynes has come top in a recent survey by Visit Britain to find the most visited free attraction in the UK. In 2007 the Xscape complex had a whopping 6.9 million visitors, beating rivals Blackpool Pleasure Beach and The British Museum.

Milton Keynes 40 Tower Receives top Award

Milton Keynes Gallery, Milton Keynes Council and dRMM architects were announced as the winners in the Best Structural Project category of the 2008 LABC National Built in Quality Awards for MK Forty Tower. The Award recognises either an individual or an organisation that has a new way of complying with Building Regulations with a new design or technological innovation. The tower structure is now in storage.

Launch of FringeMK (Fringe Festival of the Arts)

Three new art exhibitions have opened to launch Fringe MK. Permanent exhibition spaces can be found at Midsummer Place and the Theatre District. For more information see: <http://www.fringemk.com/20201/index.html>

Invest Milton Keynes (IMK)

Invest Milton Keynes (IMK) had logged a total of 45 investment successes for the current financial year. These account for 215 new and 730 safeguarded jobs. Enquiries were 22% up on September 2007.

International successes in September included companies from India, Japan, Taiwan and the USA. For further information on IMK please visit www.investmiltonkeynes.com

Christmas Shopper Park and Walk

Milton Keynes Council is running a promotional scheme, starting on Monday 24th November 2008, to encourage Christmas shoppers to 'Park & Walk'. The scheme will be launched by the Mayor on Monday 24th November and there will be manned stands at the centre:mk shopping centre by door number 1 (outside Marks and Spencer's and Costa) on Thursday 27th November and Friday 5th December, giving out free mince pies and leaflets explaining the promotion.

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/park&walk

Why Not Try the Walking Bus

Walking buses involve colleagues who finish work at the same time co-ordinating with each other to arrange to walk to their vehicles. The vehicles could be parked close by each other, or one of the walking bus members could drop colleagues off to their vehicles. For more information see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mkparking/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=61298>

ROAD WORKS & PARKING CHANGES

Avebury Boulevard and Witan Gate Closure

Temporary closure of part of Avebury Boulevard from its junction with South Fourth Street in an easterly direction to its junction with South Fifth Street, and for Witan Gate to be closed at both sides of the Avebury Boulevard junction. The closure is required to facilitate the installation for an electricity supply and district heating mains work commenced on Monday 6th October with anticipated completion on Friday 12th December 2008. Whilst the road is closed the alternative route will be via Grafton Gate, Childs Way, Saxon Gate and Midsummer Boulevard and vice versa.

Lower Second Street and Lower Third Street

Work continues on the Pinnacle Development. To ensure safety, the temporary closure of the footway, highway and parking bays on the land adjacent to Grafton Park between Lower Second Street and Lower Third Street will need to be extended until the site is completed in June 2009.

Closure of Parking Bays near Civic Offices for Redway Works

Construction of the CMK Redway continues and as a result the standard rate parking bays at the Civic Offices outside the staff car-park on the Saxon Gate side will be closed from Wednesday the 29th of October for around 5-6 weeks with anticipated completion the week commencing the 08th December 2008.

Temporary Car Parking Availability:

Milton Keynes Council website has created a map detailing car parking availability during the week, to find out where car parking spaces are see:

<http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mkparking/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=58337>

- ◆ Theatre multi-storey car park has an average of 300 unused spaces per day parking cost is £2 per visit but permits and scratch-card holders may use the parking without the need to make further payment.
- ◆ South Second Street car park is currently occupied between 50 – 75% daily, standard tariff pay and display applies to this area. For parking tariffs see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mkparking/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=36403>
- ◆ Car park off Avebury Boulevard / Secklow Gate is currently occupied approx. 10% of the time midweek this is a premium rate pay and display area.

South Second Street Car Park

On Avebury Boulevard opposite Toys R Us – landscaping and fencing alongside the footpath has been cut back and tidied to open up the area and provide a more pleasant route towards the city centre.

CONSULTATIONS

Milton Keynes Council

Transport Strategy – consultation began on 10th September and concludes on 5th November. For further information see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/transport/displayarticle.asp?id=60030>

Parking Strategy – consultation began on 17th September and concludes on 12th November. For further information see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/transport/displayarticle.asp?id=60029>

Bus Strategy – consultation began on 17th September and concludes on 12th November. For further information see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/transport/displayarticle.asp?id=60052>

Council Priorities 2009/2010 – consultation concludes on 10 December. For further information see: <http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/mkcouncil/DisplayArticle.asp?ID=60555>

DEVELOPMENTS:

We have four Development Information Sites located at thecentre:mk, Midsummer Place, Xscape and CMK Railway Station, managed by us to keep you up to date on the proposed and current developments within CMK. They contain details and illustrations of all the developments listed below and more. This information is also now available via our website at:

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/default.asp>

Network Rail to Create a National Centre in CMK

Milton Keynes Partnership (MKP) has announced that Network Rail is planning to build a new regional centre on the site of the former Hockey Stadium adjacent to the city's mainline railway station. The centre will provide office space for a number of key national functions that are currently based at various locations across the country. We will keep you updates as more details are released.

Redevelopment of City Square – near M&S and Costa at thecentre:mk

The application for the redevelopment of City Square is under consideration by Milton Keynes Council. The redevelopment includes a permanent kiosk to serve food and drink all year round with seating for 140 people. With the space to build two temporary event spaces during the summer season if needed and redesigned landscaping with triangular raised areas of grass incorporating seating along the edges.

Campbell Park – Phase 1 Residential Campbell Square

The first resident block towards the back of the development has been named Croft Court. Consisting of 29 1 or 2 bed apartments in total and 11 of them have gone to Housing Association, 16 privately sold and 2 still for sale; you can visit the sales office between 10am and 5:30pm for details. The total development will include 280 apartments, town houses (including 30% affordable housing) and a small amount of retail space. Construction of the remaining blocks is on hold currently. For more information see:

<http://www.georgewimpey.co.uk/newhomes/North+Thames/CampbellSquare/MapAndDirections/>
<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/CampbellSquare.asp>

Pinnacle – Central Milton Keynes – (Midsummer Boulevard Office Development)

The Pinnacle development by Hampton Brook has received a top award for BREEMA Excellence due to the high level of sustainable development. For more information see:

www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/media_centre/press_releases.php?ID=115. The building is due for completion in June 2009. For more information see the new dedicated website:

<http://www.pinnaclemk.com/default.aspx> or

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/pinnacleDevelopment.asp>

Sainsbury's Store and Residential

The Sainsbury's Store on Witan Gate opened on Tuesday 07th October. Store opening times are: Monday – Friday 7am till 11pm; Saturday 7am till 10:30pm; Sunday 11am till 5pm. The store is nearly double the size of the old one with one third designated to Sainsbury's home and clothing ranges, also included is a new 260 seater café. The store has 500 designated free (up to 3 hours) parking bays beneath the building with access from Witan Gate. Residents continue to move into the apartments in the development; in total there are 400 apartments. For more info on what is available for sale visit: www.barratthomes.co.uk or

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/Sainsburys.asp>

Infrastructure projects in Milton Keynes include:

Improvements to Junction 14 of the M1 – Monday 10th November will see the start of a short series of overnight closures and lane restrictions on the access slip-roads leading to and from the M1 motorway at Junction 14 for the installation of new upgraded safety barrier. For more information contact Carrilion plc 24/7 helpline 07880 788658 (chargeable) or by going to www.mkweb.co.uk/roadworks

Other Developments:

◆ **thecentre:mk – Redevelopment of Queens Court**

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/thecentremk.asp>

◆ **West End One Phase 1**

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/westEndCMKresidential.asp>

- ◆ **Xscape Expansion**
<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/Xscape.asp>
- ◆ **Leisure Plaza**
<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/development/CityCentre/leisureplaza.asp>

Local Events Listing

Our CMK Events Calendar which lists local events can be found on our website:

<http://www.centralmiltonkeynespartnership.co.uk/news/default.asp>

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 me for anyone interested in receiving a copy.

Carmel Blyth

Communications Officer

carmel.blyth@cmkpartnership.org

Direct Line: 01908 398124