

NORTHAMPTON'S COMING UP ROSES

Northampton town centre will be blooming again this summer and for the third year running, horticulture students at Moulton College are supporting Northampton Town Centre BID as part of Northampton in Bloom.



Over 30 students are involved with the project and since March have been working hard to prepare the baskets, planters and troughs.

This year, Northampton BID will support Northampton in Bloom by funding 200 hanging baskets, 120 barrier baskets and 12 free standing three tier planters and by encouraging businesses in the town to display a basket at their premises.

Neil Bartholomey, deputy chair of Northampton Town Centre BID, said: "The baskets and planters make a real difference to the town creating a more pleasant and good-looking environment – one that people in Northampton can take pride in - and at the BID we hope that as many businesses as possible choose to display a hanging basket outside their premises to contribute to the overall effect."

SAFER STREETS

Recorded crime in Northampton town centre is down by nearly a fifth as compared to last year – Northamptonshire Police statistics reveal. This means 1,225 fewer crimes, with incidents of violence and thefts slashed by a quarter in the last 12 months.

To continue combating crime we fund our own dedicated Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), James Earl, and a town centre Ranger, Shawn Nickels, who patrols the town centre streets.



PCSO, James Earl

Town centre Ranger, Shawn Nickels

OUR TOWN CENTRE BID

When you voted YES to becoming a Business Improvement District (BID) in 2011 this is what you asked for:

MANAGEMENT

Improved daily management of the town centre, with a focus on cleanliness and safety.

PROMOTION

To raise our town centre's profile through coordinated marketing and promotion.

VALUE FOR MONEY

To develop and procure services to deliver cost and carbon savings.

Networking

Great to see so many of you at our latest networking event at 78 Derngate at which we launched our new Love Northampton Food and Drink Festival.

[Turn the page for more details](#)



A VIBRANT, EVENT PACKED SUMMER IS FAST APPROACHING

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Dozens of acts will take to stages across Northampton in June when the town's annual music festival returns – supported this year by Northampton Town Centre BID.

This year's festival will take place on Sunday 22nd June – so get the date in your diary now.

SUNDAY
22ND
JUNE

FREE PARKING

Businesses have told us time and again that they want more free parking and a simple offer, so here it is.

You can download this banner and add it to your email signatures. Just visit www.northamptonbid.co.uk

FREE parking on Saturday and Sunday and two hours free each weekday in St John's, St Michael's, Mayorhold & Grosvenor Centre car parks
FREE parking in all Borough Council car parks every Sunday and bank holiday



FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL

Our all new Love Northampton Food and Drink Festival will take place on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th July inside the courtyard area of The Guildhall.

Food and drink producers from across the county will be taking part, with the festival also set to promote our town centre's offer of food and drink businesses.

Check out our twitter feed for updates @NorthamptonBID

LOVE
NORTHAMPTON
FOOD AND DRINK
FESTIVAL 2014

4th & 5th
July

BUSINESS RATE RELIEF

Your property may be eligible for business rate relief if you pay business rates. Check out the Northampton Borough Council website for details and to find out if you are eligible. Or, if you are not receiving the relief and think that you are eligible, contact 01933 231691.

A CLEANER AND GREENER NORTHAMPTON

Check out our new Green Machine, our road and footway sweeper exclusively for the town centre's tight spaces and pedestrianised areas. We have funded this in partnership with Northampton Borough Council and street care contractors Enterprise to eliminate dirt, debris and litter from our streets.

Contact the Street Care Team if you have any issues or concerns about cleanliness in our town centre. Call 0300 330 7000 (Option 5), email at streetcare@northampton.gov.uk or download the Northampton Borough Council app.



TRADE WASTE COLLECTIONS

Northampton Town Centre BID are working with trade waste contractors already operating in the town centre to address issues with refuse and recycling collections. In particular we are looking at the problems caused by bagged refuse collections and the impact of having bags left out on the street during the day and night. Not only does this look unsightly and make the area look untidy, but it also causes issues for the Northampton Borough Council Street Care Team as it hinders their cleansing operations and results in additional litter when the bags are moved or ripped open by animals or late night revellers.

FILLING OUR SHOPS

Inspired Northampton, led by BID Directors Brendan Bruder and Alan Harland, has been working hard in recent months to help existing businesses grow and fill previously empty retail units. For the month of April, Unit 9 in Market Walk, an empty retail space, was brought to life again and occupied by two vibrant offerings from Northampton-based organisations, SeeNN and Array.

Brendan Bruder, said: "The occupation of retail units is crucial to the success of a town centre. The BID's Inspired Northampton project aims to fill vacant units by encouraging and supporting new businesses."

SeeNN, also known as NN's Youth Arts Collective, turned Unit 9 into a living studio with members of the group working on solo and collaborative projects as well as running workshops for the public.

Prior to SeeNN's studio, pop-up shop Array run by fashion marketing students at The University of Northampton occupied the unit for one week. Array stocked work from students along with a mix of British brands and designers with all of the products made in the UK or locally sourced from Northampton.



MEET THE NEW DEBENHAMS MANAGER

Dan Murphy, 31, is the new manager of Northampton town centre's Debenhams branch and has great plans for the years ahead ...



Dan Murphy

Q: What challenges do you think face you?

A: We are going through a huge period of change in retail, with technology and the internet playing an ever increasing role in shaping how people shop. So, it is vital we evolve with these changes and have the knowledge, understanding and capability to let people shop with us in the manner that is most convenient to them.

Q: Any highlights during your career?

A: I met my wife when we were both working in the Leeds Store. It has been referred to as a Debenhams romance and we got married nearly three years ago. We have a strict rule that we do not talk shop at home though!

Q: How do you unwind when you aren't working?

A: I have an eight month old daughter so I love spending time with my family and eating out as much as possible! I am originally from Reading but have been living in Leeds for the past 13 years. We have just bought a property in Towcester and are really looking forward to relocating to the area.

Q: Your career to date?

A: After graduating from university I got a temporary job with Debenhams and have thrived here since. I have worked in a number of roles and met some fantastic people along the way.

Q: What are your plans?

A: My team and I will be planning to deliver a customer experience that is unrivalled within the town. The service needs to be friendly and informed and the product needs to be presented to a high standard, easy to find and convenient to purchase. I will also be looking to expand the range of brands within the store.

ON YOUR BIKE

Gold Street is now home to a brand new business, cycle shop Velo Haus.

Get in touch if you have a story to share about your business ...

For more details on promoting your business please contact Julie Thorneycroft, Operations Manager email info@northamptonbid.co.uk



OUR DIRECTORS

Neil Bartholomey
Northampton Pubwatch

Michael Brennan
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The Richardsons Group

John Sheinman
Sheinman Opticians

Richard Clinton
Northampton Theatres Trust

Russell Hall
Grosvenor Centre

Cllr Tim Hadland
Northampton Borough Council

MEET OUR NEW PROJECT TEAM



Julie Thorneycroft, BID Operations Manager, pictured with Ian Ferguson (left) and Chris Barker from pfb UK, a company committed to ensuring our Northampton Town Centre BID achieves its full potential.

GET IN TOUCH

Our Northampton Town Centre BID only exists because of your support. The levy our town centre businesses pay each year is pooled into a collective pot which is worth around £2 million over five years. It is this pot of funding which is used to deliver the BID events, initiatives and projects. We encourage all businesses to take an active interest in determining priorities and planning projects to meet the aims of the BID plan. If you would like to attend any of our sub-groups or have suggestions for future BID projects then **please get in touch with Julie Thorneycroft, BID Operations Manager, at info@northamptonbid.co.uk**