



WV ONE logo revealed

WIN CHRISTMAS

In a unique joint promotion, visitors to the city centre will have the chance to win their best ever Christmas and enjoy a shopping trip of a lifetime with fantastic prizes worth £5,000 and £1,000 in cash to spend in the city centre.

The 'Win Christmas' promotion has been put together by retailers, businesses, partners and the City Council, the amount and generosity of the prizes demonstrates this project has been a true partnership and together we want to make it a real success for all our businesses.

The competition is open to all, but the entry forms have to be posted in city centre locations and so will increase footfall from launch date **October 24th** right up to December. The deadline for entries is **12 noon on December 5th**.

All the details about the campaign including the prizes, contributors and how people can find the post boxes, can be found in the leaflets which have been distributed around the city centre or from the following link for online readers: www.wvone.co.uk/win-christmas



Moving with the Times

Wolverhampton City Centre Company has always been a bit of a mouthful and with a heightened focus on the city centre strategy, regeneration and investment we felt the time was right to refresh our image and name.

Chair, Peter Cutchie said: "WV One is more distinctive and memorable whilst the logo reflects a modern forward-thinking company with respect for the historical importance of Wolverhampton."

The Company will continue to work closely with local retailers, property companies, the police and Wolverhampton City Council at both a strategic level and around the day to day management of the city centre.

Kim Gilmour, Operations Director said: "WV One has a unique role as an independent, not-for-profit organisation. We also have specific tasks to play in running the CitySafe Business Crime Partnership, Radio Link and Pub Watch, as well as monitoring vacant premises, coordinating city centre marketing and Business Improvement District development."

For the latest updates visit: www.wvone.co.uk

More Listeners for City Radio Stations

In the latest set of listener figures, the city's major radio stations have both had very good news.

107.7 The Wolf is reaching 49,000 listeners weekly, an increase of 29% since this time last year. Richard Dodd, Programme Manager said: *"We are the station that's Proud to Be Local and is committed to support Wolverhampton. Whilst other stations are taking network programming during the day (peak time) 107.7 The Wolf continues to broadcast live from Mander House with local news and information each and every day."*

Meanwhile, Beacon now attracts 266,000 listeners; a 15% increase in the number of weekly listeners compared to the last quarter and the highest number of listeners in four years. Matt Ramsbottom, Managing Director, said: *"This is a fantastic performance for Beacon and testament to the great team working here. These figures have reaffirmed our commitment, more than any other local or national radio station, to being more in touch with our listener's lives and providing people across our region with a valuable and entertaining service."*

City is curry Capital of Midlands

Wolverhampton is consistently good at making curry! For the second year running the city has come third in the **Curry Capital of Britain** competition.

The announcement was made on November 1st, with Bradford coming first and Glasgow second - a reverse of last year's results. **Peter Grove**, organiser of the competition which is now in its 12th year, commented: *"In most other years the performance by **Kim Gilmour** and the **Wolverhampton Team** would have won the title easily. They held a great launch event, voted in a good team and built up a huge body of support from Mayor Bert Turner and local media Express & Star, Wolf and Beacon Radios, to thousands of Wolverhampton curry lovers."*

Peter also praised the **Wolverhampton for Curry Capital** rap performed by city talent **Amy Goodall** and **'Snoop Dicky Dodd'** aka **Richard Dodd** of

107.7 The Wolf, to the tune of 'California Girls' with words written by **Kim Gilmour**.

Marianne Carter, Marketing Officer for WV One, praised the partnership working of the Team members, and hoped that this award would bring much deserved recognition for the City's restaurants. She commented: *"With rivals Leicester coming 4th and Birmingham 7th, Wolverhampton can proudly call itself the Curry Capital of the Midlands."*

Next year's competition will bring a huge challenge to improve on number three position, but having such great restaurants to work with the experience



Team Wolverhampton

*will be enjoyable. Watch out for a bigger campaign in 2012, getting more city centre businesses involved. Perhaps we will have **Curry Capital Rap Version 2** by then!"*

For full details of the 2011 Curry Capital Competition visit: www.currycapitalwolves.co.uk

Lucy Sleeps Rough for Charity

Project Officer, Lucy Bickley, the action-girl of WV One, has been at it again! Not content with abseiling down the city's highest building, this time she slept rough on the Civic Centre Piazza, along with seventy other individuals on a Friday night in October, to help P3 charity raise funds for homeless people in the city to make a new life for themselves.

P3's **Big Sleep Out** aimed to raise awareness of homelessness and the impact that it has on individuals and the wider community. The money raised will be used to start a furniture project that will collect unwanted furniture donated by members of the public and recycle and renew it for people leaving temporary accommodation.

Bacon and sausage baps were handed out the next morning - kindly supplied by the **Litten Tree** and **Lady Wulfrun** (owned by **The Stonegate Pub Co. Ltd**) and cooked by the P3 kitchen staff. Lucy said: *"A good night was had by all who got involved and slept out. It was a real eye-opener on how rough sleepers have to cope with the cold and without any real protection from the weather. This will hopefully become a yearly event and raise more awareness of homeless people and the difficulties they face especially in the coming winter months."*



Lucy braves the cold in aid of P3



Models bring Wolverhampton to a standstill

Mannequins on the Move

CityStyle 2011 brought the **Mander** and **Wulfrun Centres** to a standstill when six gorgeous models dressed in their catwalk fashions, paraded from the Piazza StyleArena to the Mander StyleHub, and posed in the shop windows as live mannequins.

Over a thousand people attended the city's second fashion and style event in September, which saw catwalk shows draw the crowds, whilst people queued to take advantage of free hair styling, make up, nail-art, holistic therapy sessions and massages. Organisers, WV One said this totally free event had grown this year with even more retailers and businesses taking part, with plans to repeat the event next year.

This year's autumn ranges from leading retailers **Beatties**, **Dorothy Perkins**, **Bhs**, **Wallis**, **New Look**, **Peacocks** and **Primark** were showcased, whilst **Boots**, **Francesco Group Wolverhampton** and **Regis Salons** gave shoppers beauty and hair makeovers.

WV One had also made a point of working with local independent traders such as **Bags of Luggage**, **Ultimate Hairdressers**, **R.J Hair and Richard & Co**, **Complexions Gym**, **Rejuvenate Beauty Salon** and six therapists from **Equinox Therapy Centre**.

The event was sponsored by **Eat Wolverhampton** along with the city's two principal shopping centres, the **Wulfrun Centre** and the **Mander Centre**. See www.citystylewolves.co.uk for photos from the day.

Support for City Centre Regeneration

Agents, developers, planning consultants, property owners and stakeholders all got together at the **Wolverhampton Development Forum** last month and there was a definite buzz in the room as proposals for the regeneration of the city centre were discussed.

The event came hot on the heels of the news about the three supermarket developments and the announcement that **Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)** is to invest over £300m and create up to 750 jobs at a new factory on the **i54** site on the edge of Wolverhampton.

It was encouraging that proposals centred on retaining the existing retail core and anchor stores. Issues that came up were the need to attract more family friendly and leisure attractions, the requirement for

quality modern offices, improving the flow of traffic and pedestrians, ensuring sufficient car parking for developments and support from the council in preparing sites.

The city centre is one of the key priorities in the newly published **City Strategy** (available from the Wolverhampton Partnership website: www.wton-partnership.org.uk)

The next stage is for the City Council to produce a **City Centre Prospectus** and look to target new investors and developers. WV One will be supporting the City Council, retailers and developers at every opportunity.



New Lettings at Interchange

The successful completion of the new £22.5m bus station, **Phase 1** of the Interchange development, saw it officially opened in September. The building came in on time and on budget, despite a few minor delays with highway works, and minor changes to services, the facility has provided the city with a much improved travel amenity.

Rob Mason, Development Director of Neptune, the company behind the Interchange scheme, commented on how plans were progressing. *"Bus operators Centro have new offices there and Sainsbury's supermarket has also opened their 400th convenience store, a Sainsbury's Local."*

Other new residents include **Unite the Union** and Mr Mason revealed the company are close to agreeing an 11,000sq ft letting for the entire upper floor. He added: *"This latest letting will be with a Pan Asian buffet restaurant operator and is planned to open in the spring of 2012. The Queens Building has also been let to WH Smith."*

Focussing on the future of **Phase II** of the Interchange, which includes the planned re-development of the railway station and the rejuvenation of the canal-side area, Neptune are currently re-working their plans with the bidders for the West Coast Mainline franchise and National Railways.

Permission Granted for Supermarkets

Three supermarkets have now been granted planning permission to build on the edge of the city centre following a decade of legal issues between rivals **Sainsbury's** and **Tesco's**. Both companies will now create multi-million pound stores and create hundreds of full and part time jobs for local people. Owners of the **Peel Centre** in Stafford Street were also granted permission for a third supermarket and are in talks with **Morrisons**.

Sainsbury's are set to transform **Raglan Street** with a new 90,000 sq ft store with restaurant, petrol station, housing and gardens along with new pedestrian links across the ring road and improvements to the market car park.

Tesco will create a £60m supermarket at the **Royal Hospital Site** in All Saints which could include a museum celebrating the former hospital's heritage as well as housing, shops, offices, restaurants and bars.

Spotlight on WV One Board Member

Kath Rees, Chief Executive of **The Haven Wolverhampton**

Kath has worked in the City for just over 14 years, predominantly in the Voluntary Sector as **Chief Executive of The Haven Wolverhampton**. The Haven is an independent charitable organisation which provides emergency refuge accommodation and community support services to women and children affected by domestic violence, helping them feel safe and move on to a life free from violence.

Recently becoming a Board Member of WV One, Kath hopes to use her skills to help the team improve the City Centre, saying: *"When business suffers it has an impact on us all, with the global economic position currently challenging all to work differently, I believe that it is through partnership working we will start to see improved outcomes for business and citizens of Wolverhampton. I feel I have something to contribute - time will tell!"*



CE of the Haven & WV One Board Member

What's New!

Past Times

Mander Centre Gallery - see right for more information.

Sleep 'Welcome to the World of Sleep'

Bed shop in Victoria Arcade Mander Centre.

Sakana Spa

Fish pedicure and beauty salon in King St.

Internazionale

Ladies fashion shop in Mander Centre Gallery next to New Look.

Numa

Stylish bar offering great music and live entertainment (ex-Little Civic) in North St.

5 Stars Nails

Nail & beauty shop Lichfield St.

Mama

New African-Caribbean food shop in Market St.

Spar

Queen St convenience store re-opens following closure for Interchange development.

Just 99p

Bargain shop in Wulfrun Centre near to Piazza.

Starbuzz

Shisha cafe in St. George's Parade.

Uberra Night Club

This ex-Canal Club venue has had a £1million makeover.

Tropicano Foot Spa & Coffee Lounge

Relocated from Queen Square now operates as a fish pedicure and beauty shop in St John's St.

The Billy Wright

Amber Tavern's new cask ale pub in Princess St.

State Bank of India

Queen Square now has the only branch in the Black Country.

Sainsbury's Local

New foodstore at the Interchange has created 29 jobs.

Divine Bar

Wolverhampton's newest gay bar has opened at 77 Darlington St.

Select

Ladies fashion shop (ex Oasis unit) on Dudley St.

LifeStyle Express

Convenience store on corner of Princess St and King St.

Wilf Gilbert

New betting office in Queen Square for Midlands-based agents.

Darlington Street Post Office

Has moved closer to Beatties into the ex Darlington St Newsagent.



Sales assistant Stephanie

Spotlight on new city centre business

Past Times is celebrating its 25th year in business and what better than to open a new store in a city celebrating its 10th anniversary?

Manager Ruth Bell gave WV One a tour of the Mander Centre shop, which sells the most amazing range of beautiful retro gifts, vintage jewellery and accessories, toys and books, in fact everything to make gift buying for ladies, gents, teenagers or children a pleasure.

What's Going On: 2011 Christmas Highlights

23rd Nov - **Christmas Light Switch On**, Queen Sq 5.30-6.45pm

23rd Nov to 24th Dec - **Toy Themed Grotto** at the Wulfrun Centre

30th Nov - **Seasonal Sensations Craft Fair**, Civic Centre 9.30am-4.30pm

3rd Dec - **Santa Comes to Town Parade**, Market Sq 11am-3pm

3rd Dec - **Christmas Carol concert**,
St Peter's Church 1-3pm

9th Dec - **Grand Charity Christmas Dinner**,
Mayoral Suite 7.15pm (booking essential)

9th to 18th Dec - **Christmas Market**,
Queen Sq & Dudley St daily 9am-5pm

10th Dec - **Choir & Brass Festival**, Queen Sq 9am-5pm

10th Dec - **Queen Vic Festive Fair**, Art Gallery 11am-4pm

10th Dec to 22nd Jan - **Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs**, Grand Theatre

14th Dec - **Christmas Coffee Morning**, Mayoral Suite 10.30am-12noon

15th to 18th Dec - **8 Pantos in 80 Minutes**, Arena Theatre

17th Dec - **Christmas Steam Festival**, Market Sq 9am-5pm

17th December - **Handel's Messiah**, St John's Church 6.30pm



Sons & Daughters Awards

Wolverhampton honoured five of its famous sons and daughters at a celebratory award ceremony organised by Partners in Progress at the Molineux Executive Suite.

First to receive the award for Education was Sir Geoff Hampton, followed by Lisa Potts (now Webb) for Outstanding Contribution; for Sport, cyclist Hugh Porter received the honour whilst the award for Entertainment went to soul-singer Beverley Knight; finally for Business, Sir Jack Hayward was honoured, with the award collected by Rachael Heyhoe-Flint and Jez Moxey.



What's On Where

The latest issue covering council supported live music, film, theatre, art, workshops, family/outdoor events and sports events is available from WCC Tourism Dept on 01902 552055 or see www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/whatson



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