

# Bedminster Traders

## Opportunity Knocks for Traders

Bent lamposts, overflowing rubbish, constant flow of trade refuse collectors, Christmas lights and hanging baskets, Bristol City Council have identified these as the traders priorities but are they right?

Bedminster was selected as one of the first retail centres to pilot Place Management, an initiative to develop a 'one-council' approach to deliver better outcomes for the retail sector. Each pilot area has a dedicated lead officer who is responsible for engagement with traders and other relevant stakeholders.



John Laite

John Laite is Bristol's Highway Network Manager and is the current lead officer for the Bedminster pilot. His main duties are to work with Neighbourhood Partnerships, local retailers, council teams, agencies including the police and other groups to develop action plans to deal with retail centre issues.

As co-ordinator, John will be the first point of contact for telephone and email enquiries from traders and councillors relevant to the pilot area, and attend community meetings such as Neighbourhood Partnerships and Partners & Communities Together. He will also carry out regular walkabouts in the area to monitor progress of actions and maintenance issues, and to liaise with retailers.

John said: "We are keen to establish a voice for the traders and a means of ensuring the right issues lead to actions in the action plan. With parking, traffic and street scene issues high on local traders' agenda, I hope they will find it useful to have a direct line to someone with the right experience."

It will be the actions developed during this pilot that will be prioritised for the initial phase of the £100,000 allocation. **This is your opportunity to have your say about your trading issues.**

*Together we have an opportunity to improve the public realm for shoppers in Bedminster. If you are interested in forming an East St traders group or highlight an issue or idea relating to where you trade or need support, email [placemanagement@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:placemanagement@bristol.gov.uk) or telephone John on 0117 903 6855 or mobile 07774 170107*

## News Flash

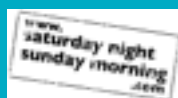
On Saturday 26th September from 10.30-3.30 Climate Action Bedminster is holding the third Best of Bedminster Show on North Street Green. Come along to show your support or get in touch if you would like to help out: [laura\\_murgatroyd@hotmail.com](mailto:laura_murgatroyd@hotmail.com)



**Sequelisim Part 3**  
*Possible, Probable and Preferable Futures.*  
This new exhibition showing at the Arnolfini until Sept 20th features large scale screen prints of shop fronts along East St and North St in various states of decay. Apparently a 'dystopian near-future caused by an economic downturn for businesses in the city', or a cheap shot at our retail streets - you decide!

**20mph speed limit proposed for Greater Bedminster.**

During September Bristol City Council are inviting businesses and individuals to comment on their proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit across a large area of south Bristol. For further information please visit: [www.bristol.gov.uk/20mph](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/20mph) or your local Library



This newsletter is supported by BCC, GBCP and SNSM. If you have any views or stories that you would like to share with other traders please e-mail Jess at [info@saturdaynightsundaymorning.com](mailto:info@saturdaynightsundaymorning.com)

# SOS - Trading Local

On 21 February Bedminster's Show Of Strength Theatre Company (SOS), with Southville Community Development Association, staged TRADING LOCAL: 19 pieces of new work by 19 local writers in 19 shops on North Street, Canon Street and East Street. All the plays were specially written for the shops and the event was a huge success, with 2773 people watching 57 separate performances throughout the day. The average attendance per show/per shop was 49 –quite extraordinary as many shops couldn't hold that many people!

We've since been approached by other areas –in Bristol and across the South West- to take the project there and several more events are now being planned. Bedminster publisher Fiducia Press want to publish the scripts together with a DVD of the event made by local professional cameraman Richard Clutterbuck.

To hear about future TRADING LOCAL events, details of the book, and for news of SOS's next theatre project on the streets of Bedminster, join SOS's mailing list: [info@showofstrength.org.uk](mailto:info@showofstrength.org.uk) [www.showofstrength.org.uk](http://www.showofstrength.org.uk)



Photograph by Rosie Tomlinson

## Free listing for your business!

SNSM want to update their South Bristol Business Directory. On average there are 1500 visits to the website as people search for shops, restaurants and trades in the area. To add your business please e-mail Jess at: [info@saturdaynightsundaymorning.com](mailto:info@saturdaynightsundaymorning.com) [www.saturdaynightsundaymorning.com](http://www.saturdaynightsundaymorning.com)

## POLICE BOX



Your local force have kindly agreed to deliver these newsletters to all the traders along North St, East St and West St and will be a point of contact for any issues you may have. You may have met some of the PCSOs already, as they have been handing out the new 'Policing Pledge' leaflet that outlines their aims to promote Safer, Stronger, Neighbourhoods. Please feel free to make any comments on this newsletter to them as well as the contact details overleaf. If you wish to contact the police or find out information regarding the neighbourhood teams please either:  
Telephone: 0845 456 7000  
E-mail: [NBHbishopsworth@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NBHbishopsworth@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk)  
Web: [www.yourpoliceteam.com](http://www.yourpoliceteam.com)

## From little acorns...?

'Small changes can make a difference, but only if lots of people make them.' This was a conclusion at a July meeting of Greater Bedminster Community Partnership with Cllr Jon Rogers, a Bristol Council cabinet member, and John Laite who is coordinating improvements on Bedminster's retail streets.

GBCP is one of 14 neighbourhood partnerships across Bristol. Represented in it are public bodies like the council and police along with local businesses and community organizations. The partnership is concerned to promote the streets by making them more attractive both to local residents and to customers from further afield.

'East, North and West Streets are at the heart of our community,' said local resident and partnership secretary Ben Barker. 'Their economic success is of concern to everyone.'

Among the ideas discussed at the meeting were improved street cleaning, future cultural events to attract visitors and the formation of one or more traders' associations so that local shop keepers could influence street improvements.

There was some concern about the long term commitment of the Council. At the moment, efforts to better coordinate the streets are rather short-term. The partnership pressed Cllr Rogers to commit to a longer term strategy, uniting diverse departments such as Street Scene, Planning and Traffic behind an agreed improvement plan. There was also discussion about the physical improvement of the so-called pedestrian area of East Street. The meeting was informed that Bristol Council was looking for ways to do both these things and that the position would be clearer later in the year. The partnership will keep a close eye on future developments.  
**For more info visit: [www.greaterbedminster.org.uk](http://www.greaterbedminster.org.uk)**

