

# Update

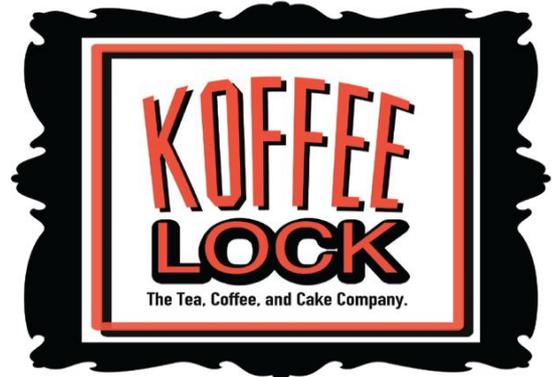
Winter 2012/13



Ancoats

## ANCOATS NEW CAFE OPENS

January 2012 has seen a new Café open in Ancoats which caters for both Manchester's cycling population, visitors to the area and local residents and businesses. This new facility aims to create a hub of activity for the neighbourhood and aspires to become the coolest café in Manchester. Overlooking Ancoats attractive new Cutting Room Square, the facility also comes with dedicated free cycle parking for patrons and commuters. The Ancoats Bike Café is an environmentally sound and exciting shop front for Ancoats which provides a multi-purpose space, a journey's end, a place where a range of events and meetings can take place - and all whilst you fix your puncture and sip some of the best tasting coffee in Manchester. The café will become a focal point for the community and visitors alike and a space that can provide a variety of functions for a wide range of people. Koffee Lock owner Alistair Bradbury has also opened a MACE convenience store next door to cater for villagers day to day shopping needs. To collect a free introductory coffee, simply present a printed copy of this newsletter at Koffee Lock – offer available up until 25<sup>th</sup> January 2013, subject to availability.



## BRIDGE NAMING

The New Islington Project Group have recently run a competition to seek views on naming the new pedestrian bridge over the Rochdale Canal which connects Ancoats and New Islington. A ballot box and voting slips were located behind the reception at the Old Mill Street Health Centre during December 2012 for those wishing to vote. Five possible names were suggested:

1. Jim Bailey's Bridge

*(Recognising Jim and his wife Sarah, the last lock keepers)*

2. Bailey's Bridge

3. Bengal Street Bridge

4. Jubilee Bridge

*(Recognising the fact that the bridge opened in the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee)*

5. Ancoats Jubilee Bridge

The winning name with the most votes was **Ancoats Jubilee Bridge.**

## ANIMATING ANCOATS

Proposals to Animate Ancoats continue to press forward. Following on from the new bike café, new street signs have been erected, the first of a series of murals has been painted on the Fairbairn building, and a program of roaming gardens has been commissioned. New trails and events are planned, plus works are also due to be commissioned in the Spring to refurbish the former St. Michael's Church.

## NEW APARTMENTS

There are now over 700 apartments provided under the Ancoats regeneration project, which are starting to give the place a very different feel. Some 221 more apartments are due for delivery between Christmas 2012 and year end 2014: 93 units at the Bengal Mill site, and 128 units at Royal Mills. This builds further on the 10% growth of residents living in Manchester over the past 10 years.

## RETAIL PARK PROPOSALS

December 2012 saw Henderson Global Investors unveil its plans for the redevelopment of Central Retail Park, which include:

- six new retail units and the refurbishment of four existing units
- a cinema
- a 50,000 sqft net sales supermarket
- new landscaping
- new pedestrian areas
- Improved access and car parking



## NEW BUSINESS FORUM CHAIR

Jackie Sweeney, co-director of Ancoats based business, Wigs Up North, has just become the new Chairperson of The Ancoats Business Forum. Said Jackie "I am delighted to have been asked to take on this role. I really hope I can encourage other businesses to join us in making this area of the City a vibrant place to be through its continued regeneration." The next meeting of the Business Forum will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and further details will be sent out to businesses nearer to the time.

### Useful Contact Numbers:

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If you have a good news story you want to share call Mark Canning on 01925 644637 or email [Mark.Canning@gsi.hca.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Canning@gsi.hca.gov.uk)

