

WINTER 2022

REDISCOVERING THE UNDERBANKS

Newsletter

WINTER'S CLOCK CHIMES AGAIN!

The iconic clock has been restored to its former glory ahead of Bistro Marc's opening

The original clock featuring a Soldier, Sailor and 'Father Time' was manufactured by the Sainsbury Brothers, established in 1734 in Walthamstow. The clock is one of only two non-secular automaton clocks in the country.

Over the past six months, the clock has undergone a painstaking restoration by specialists at The Cumbria Clock Company. This has involved dismantling the clock and cleaning and repairing all of the components off-site before reinstating them at the historic building.

The three figures that make the clock so iconic – a Soldier, Sailor, and 'Father Time', have also been refurbished in a palette of vivid colours, staying true to the original colours which have faded over the years.

The iconic building will reopen soon as Bistro Marc at Winter's, a classy French Bistro in the heart of the Underbanks.

Follow Bistro Marc at Winter's on Facebook for updates.



15 LOWER HILLGATE NEARS COMPLETION!

Former Tudor Café set to open as a bakery and pottery studio

The building has been transformed by a team of experts using archive photographs from 1902. As part of the restoration, the mock Tudor frontage has been removed and the façade has been completely rebuilt. Although most of the building's original features were long gone, the corbels remained and have been carefully restored and reinstated.

Whilst the upper floors have been converted into modern apartments, the ground floor unit is set to open as a bakery and pottery studio called Yellow Hammer by Sam Buckley, head chef of the award-winning restaurant 'Where the Light Gets In'.

Follow yellowhammer_stockport on Instagram for updates.

NEW TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE ASSISTANT!

Rebecca has joined the Development and Regeneration Team

We have recently appointed a new Townscape Heritage Assistant, Rebecca Goddard, who started with us in January. Rebecca has recently graduated with a masters degree in Cultural Heritage Management.

She will be working with Peter, the Townscape Heritage Manager, to bring historic buildings in the area back to life. Using her heritage skills, Rebecca will also be developing a wide range of activities to increase public awareness of the Underbanks' unique history.

Whilst working on the project, Rebecca will be completing a Level 4 PM Apprenticeship to develop her project management skills.



HALL & CO DEVELOPMENT APPROVED!

Vacant sites will become mixed-use developments

In November 2021, local developers Hall & Co were granted planning permission to go ahead with the regeneration of three sites in the Underbanks, alongside a fourth site on Churchgate, transforming them into high-quality residential apartments and commercial units. The developments will be in keeping with the heritage of the area, supporting its future growth.

The project is the second of the family-run developer's in the town centre after they previously restored the Grade II listed Bank Chambers into 9 apartments and ground-floor co-working space, Profolk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Other things going on in the area

In December 2021, plans were approved to pedestrianise areas in the Underbanks and Market Place following public feedback. Work is set to start early this year and will see the closure of Bridge Street, Great Underbank and part of Little Underbank, from 10.30 am to midnight Monday to Sunday. A section of Little Underbank will become two-way for vehicles between 4 pm and midnight.

3 Little Underbank is set to be the next building restored under the project. A grant board meeting will take place at the start of the year to approve costs. Work will then start on site in Spring 2022.

Over Christmas, we launched the Tales of the Underbanks writing competition in collaboration with The Writing Squad and Rare Mags. Winners will be announced in February and the top stories will be published into a book! Follow us on Instagram and Twitter for updates.



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