

# NEW ISLINGTON TON

Dear Resident

We, the team delivering New Islington, Manchester's Millennium Community, thought it was about time we let you know what we're up to as we work hard to turn our vision into reality.

You will have already seen a lot of the progress made so far: the new canals; Cotton Field, the new park; the new houses at Islington Square and Guest Street; the new health centre; the changes to Old Mill Street and Chips, the new building along the Ashton Canal.

There's a lot more to come and we want to keep you informed. New Islington is a massive building project and we would like to thank you for your continued support and patience.



### Old Mill Street

The good news is that Old Mill Street will be open to traffic before Christmas on a temporary basis, although the junction with Weybridge Road will have to remain closed for now.

Old Mill Street has been closed to traffic as we've been widening the road between Ancoats Hospital and Weybridge Road, while at the other end of the street we've been modifying some of the features to make it better for everyone when it reopens.

There's still a fair amount of work to do on Old Mill Street and in the spring work will be carried out at the Weybridge Road junction and possibly further up Old Mill Street. We will be working with the Highways Department to try and ensure that (by using temporary traffic management) vehicles will still be able to travel down the street.

When all the roadworks are complete and the road fully reopened, a bus service will be reinstated in both directions.

### Chips

Chips, the first building for private sale being constructed at New Islington, has now reached its full height of nine storeys. To mark this exciting milestone in true building site tradition, Urban Splash held a "topping out" ceremony on Thursday 29 November 2007. Urban Splash battled the winds on the roof and enjoyed hot chips, whilst Nick Johnson smashed a bottle of tomato sauce to officially mark the occasion and local singing postie Dominic Collins provided the entertainment.

Now that the building has taken shape the two tower cranes will be taken down. The cladding work is underway, windows are going in and the parts of the building where the "chips" stick out are now self-supporting so the props have been removed. The next stage is to get on with the internal fit-out of the apartments.

### New Homes

We've just submitted a planning application to Manchester City Council for the next new buildings at New Islington. We plan to create 25 new houses and 35 apartments between the end of Downley Drive and St Vincent Street. We hope to start building these new homes in the spring.

Other new projects to look out for next year will include Tutti Frutti, an exciting assortment of new "self build" homes on the Cob O Coal side of the new canal arm in the central area of New Islington. Work on these distinctive new homes will hopefully start late in 2008.

Homes in Bryant Home's "The Botanic" development have been on sale since the autumn and public response has been extremely positive to its design and overall look. Work will start properly on site after Christmas to build the 200 one, two and three bedroom apartments overlooking a private garden along the new canal arm.

The Weybridge Road tenants of Manchester Methodist Housing Association who recently underwent stock transfer from Manchester City Council have been seeing lots of improvements carried out to their homes and have settled into a good relationship with their new landlord.

In the new year, Manchester Methodist Housing Association will be contacting previous Cardroom residents who want to return to New Islington to discuss timescales and preferences.

### Health Centre

The fantastic new Ancoats Health Centre will open early next year. Located on Old Mill Street with views over the new park, Cotton Field, the health centre will include a wide range of NHS clinical and therapy services, in addition to two local GP practices, a community pharmacy, a minor injuries unit plus a range of other health services including sexual health, foot care and mental health, all under one roof.



### **The Team**

New Islington is Manchester's Millennium Community and it is being delivered by property developers Urban Splash; national regeneration agency English Partnerships; urban regeneration company, New East Manchester Ltd and approved social housing landlord Manchester Methodist Housing Association.

If you have any questions about New Islington please contact Claudia Gilbert on 0161 839 2999 or: [claudiagilbert@urbansplash.co.uk](mailto:claudiagilbert@urbansplash.co.uk)

You can visit the website at [www.newislington.co.uk](http://www.newislington.co.uk)

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