

King's Road Retail Forum Newsletter June 2014

Visit Britain Film Clip

The film clip to promote the King's Road in Visit Britain's international marketing is being funded by Cadogan, Peter Jones and Sloane Stanley.

The script will be confirmed in mid June but the production company are recommending that about three shops, two restaurants, two pubs and the Saatchi Gallery are featured. At the May Retail Forum meeting including the local police and the No. 11 bus were also suggested.

Chelsea Christmas

Yes it is already time to start planning for Christmas! At the May Retail Forum we discussed how there is an opportunity to make 'Chelsea Christmas' a real differentiator for King's Road – as a relaxed, chilled shopping space. Cadogan and Sloane Stanley are already progressing plans for events and it is likely that there will be a late night shopping event for the eastern end of the road on 20th November.

Christmas Lights

Ellie Ruddock and Sarah Farrugia will be contacting businesses in June to ask for contributions to this year's Christmas lights and to talk about how businesses can get involved in promoting Chelsea Christmas.

Re-launching Kensington High Street Retail Forum

Jason Window, Chair of Kensington High Street Retail Forum came to the May King's Road meeting to talk about how he is transforming that forum into a networking and Business to Business marketing group. As he works for the Roof Gardens he was able to host the first evening networking event, providing drinks, canapés and a fabulous venue for businesses to get together. The next meeting, hosted by the Kensington Close Hotel, was attended by the Mayor of the Royal Borough.



Networking at the Kensington Close Hotel

We think it might be a good idea for the King's Road to hold a similar event to get businesses together before Christmas. Is there anyone who would be interested in hosting this event? We will discuss this idea at the July meeting.

Sharing footfall data

At the May meeting we discussed sharing footfall information. Duke of York reported footfall is currently 12% up, but others were reporting less good performance, particularly on Saturdays when Sloane Square Tube station was closed. If anyone has any other data they can share please email Jo Hammond.

Retail Forum meeting

The next meeting will be held on 31 July at 10am at Peter Jones. Please let us know if you are attending so that we can confirm numbers.

The next meeting will be about planning Chelsea Christmas.

King's Road Shopping Guide



www.rbkc.gov.uk/visit

Stay in the loop

If you would like to receive future newsletters via email, please email your name, position and shop name to joana.hammond@rbkc.gov.uk and we will make sure you keep up to date!

Information about King's Road Retail Forum activities, future meeting dates and previous newsletters can be found at www.rbkc.gov.uk/kingsroad

Chelsea Flower Show, Chelsea Fringe and Chelsea in Bloom

Chelsea Fringe put on 200 events this year see www.chelseafringe.com/ for details, and are planning to put on even more events next year.

Chelsea in Bloom, organised by Cadogan, had 30 businesses participating officially this year. The event is judged by the Flower Show judges, gold went to Kate Spade, Liz Earle silver and LK Bennett bronze. The People's Champion got 4,000 votes through social media and the award went to LK Bennett. Other retailers in the King's Road are keen to participate next year and this is being investigated.

The weather was kinder this year and footfall in King's Road during the Flower Show was up 30% on the previous week and 26% up compared to last year.

Peter Jones Employee Ownership Day – Invitation

Peter Jones are celebrating Employee Ownership day on Friday 4 July. They are inviting businesses in the King's Road to an event share their staff ownership story, have a short tour of the building followed by an exhibition on the seventh floor with brunch. Please meet at 10am in the Partners' Entrance on Cadogan Gardens. You may bring a guest. To book a place RSVP to events_peter_jones@johnlewis.co.uk (NB gaps are underscore not spaces)

Chelsea Society Exhibition – Chelsea in the Great War 2 June – 15 June Duke of York Square

The exhibition looks at the impact the Great War had on Chelsea and its residents – the young men who joined up and the contribution of local women like Katharine Furse who founded the WRNS and the women who built aircraft wings in Manresa Road. See

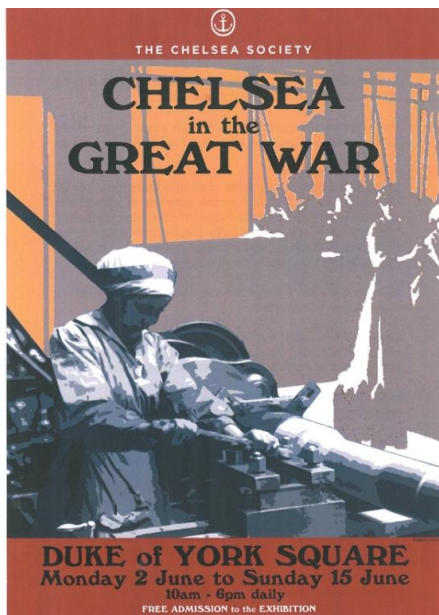
www.chelseasociety.org.uk for further information.

RIDE London 10 August

Residents and businesses are being warned to expect severe traffic and public transport disruption on Sunday 10 August. The RideLondon-Surrey 100 will attract approximately 24,000 amateur riders and the RideLondon-Surrey Classic is for 150 professional riders. The route enters the borough in Knightsbridge and travels along the route of the A4. It heads out to Surrey before returning back into the borough via King's Road, Ashburnham Road, Cremorne Road, Cheyne Walk and Chelsea Embankment. Many local roads will be closed to traffic from the early hours of Sunday 10 August to allow the event to pass safely through the borough. A map of the route is available at www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk

Free RideLondon Directory

This year Prudential RideLondon will be hosting a free online business directory showcasing businesses along the route. The directory will be live from 23 June to 22 September if you are interested in creating a listing contact Jo Hammond by 16 June.



Business Crime Reduction Partnership - Police report

PC Dave Cale reported to the May Retail Forum meeting.

Begging

There have been reports of a group of people begging outside Waterstones and McDonald's. One was arrested this week. Police are continuing to monitor this and will look to deal with any beggars robustly.

World Cup

All licensed premises in the area have been visited by police, with extra police resources deployed on those evenings when England are playing. No disturbances are expected in the neighbourhood.

Handbag theft

Thieves have been targeting people in shops - particularly while trying on shoes. Staff should be extra vigilant and warn customers if they are not keeping an eye on their possessions. One male was arrested recently and charged with several offences, resulting in a 20 month prison sentence.

Shoplifting

Jack Wills had a shoplifter come in and grab a pile of t-shirts. Staff identified where he had gone, called police and pointed him out in a local cafe. This is a good example of where an immediate response from police was required - always dial 999 if the suspect is known to be nearby.

Police recruitment

There will be a number of new police officers joining the borough over the coming months, giving a boost to patrols in the areas.