

Jolife

MAGAZINE

ISSUE
12

Welcome back to the Jewellery Quarter

*As lockdown lifts, we look ahead to all
the exciting happenings in the JQ.*

*“I feel people who live locally have been really
supportive as they want us to be open when it’s all
over. We’re really grateful for that.” - Amy Seton,
The Birmingham Whisky Club and Grain & Glass*



Young or old, married or unmarried, you need to ensure that your loved ones are looked after if something happens to you.

We're here to help. Speak to Melinda who can advise you on what to do next and advise you on the things to consider including:

- Wills
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Probate and Administration of Estates



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JEWELLERY QUARTER
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Jewellery Quarter Business Improvement District (JQBID) provides a welcoming environment for visitors, keeps the streets clean and safe, and invests in projects to improve the area.

www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbid

Spring into the JQ



As we enter spring, there's a sense of optimism in the JQ air. A hope that the coming months may bring us closer to what life was like before. With the majority of sectors due to open up by the end of June, it won't be too long until the Quarter returns to its usual buzzing self.

In this issue we celebrate the return of the Chamberlain Clock which is certainly a good start on the road back to normality. A joint project between the JQBID and JQ Townscape Heritage Project (a National Lottery Heritage funded scheme), the Clock returned to the Quarter in March with a new lick of paint, a working bell, and most importantly, a clock face that tells the time! Read the full story and see all the photos of the refurbished Clock on pages 22-23.

As we look forward to what are set to be happier times, our COVID-19 Response Plan, which featured in our last issue, is beginning to take shape, with improvements to the Jewellery Quarter Station well underway (pages 10-11).

Our exciting plans for Livery Street and our other public realm projects are also making great progress. You can follow all the updates on our COVID-19 Response Plan via our Twitter page (@JQBID).

On page 9, we welcome Becky Frall, Head of Visitor Attraction for West Midlands Growth Company (WMGC). Becky speaks to us about her role within WMGC and how the JQ can be an essential part of the city's COVID recovery.

In this issue, we also begin to whet your appetite for the reopening of the area's hospitality sector, with the first edition of a new guest column from food blogger, Laura McEwan, better known as Bite Your Brum (pages 20-21).

We also meet Amy Seton, the owner of Grain & Glass and Birmingham Whisky Club (pages 14-19). Amy talks to us about her journey and the community resilience shown throughout the pandemic. We also step inside the eagerly awaited Rolling Mill, soon to become one of Birmingham's most frequented new venues (pages 12-13).

Enjoy reading,

Luke Crane
JQDT Executive Director

 facebook.com/JewelleryQtr

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 @jq_bid

For the latest news from the JQBID, click **here** to visit our website and sign up to our newsletter

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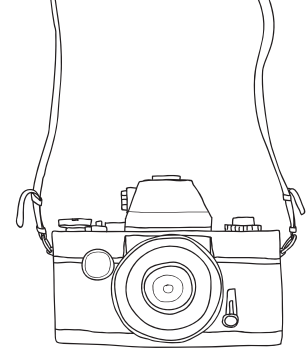


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Snapshots of the JQ



With over 150 independent retailers, more than 80 bars and restaurants and three museums, the Jewellery Quarter is one of the most exciting destinations to visit in the country. Follow @jq_bid on Instagram, where we document all the amazing places the JQ has to offer. Check out a snapshot of some of our favourites below, photographed by the incredibly talented Anne-Marie Hayes.



256 likes

Pickering and Mayell Who else admires the Pickering and Mayell building each time they walk past? The Reliance Works on Caroline Street dates back to 1826! Standing vacant since 2012, this Grade II listed building is soon to be converted into townhouses, apartments as well as a small commercial unit.



157 likes

Roots Supermarket Roots Supermarket, which recently opened in November 2020, specialises in organic, fresh and sustainable produce. The newest kid on the block sells freshly made ready-meals, locally baked bread, as well as pastas, pulses & seeds from over 70 zero-waste dispensers. Follow their story on Instagram.



151 likes

Dual Works Meet Zoe, Steve and Sky the dog. Zoe & Steve, owners of Dual Works on Kenyon Street, established their independent design studio in 2015. From hanging plant pots to light shades, they sell a variety of products including furniture, gifts, interior, exhibition design. You name it, they'll make it! Give them a follow on Instagram.



226 likes

The Jewellers Arms Did you know that The Jewellers Arms' original name was actually the Goldsmiths and Jewellers Arms? Standing proud on Hockley Street since 1840, The Jewellers Arms is thought to be the oldest pub in the Jewellery Quarter! We can't wait to be enjoying its cosy open fires and tasty pub snacks.

Follow @jq_bid on Instagram for the latest happenings in the Quarter.

JOBID & JQDT Highlights

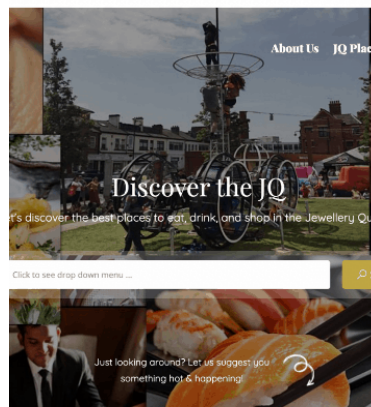
Community development of the JQ Station begins



With funding finally secured, the JOBID, JQ Cemeteries Project and JQTH have begun work to develop the JQ Station through planting and art projects that involve the local community. Art that celebrates the history and heritage of the Quarter will begin to pop up at various locations throughout the station. Find out more about the project, and in particular, the ambitious planting schemes on pages 10–11.

Discover JQ launches for visitors

The brand-new destination website for the Jewellery Quarter, www.discoverjq.co.uk, which launched at the end of 2020, has been making it easier for visitors and residents to reach local businesses. Home to over 150 independent specialist retailers and more than 80 bars and restaurants, the best of the Jewellery Quarter can be discovered on the site, making it easy to plan your visit as lockdown eases.



JQBID joins forces with local photographer



Local photographer, Anne-Marie Hayes, has joined the JOBID as the team's official photographer. Anne-Marie knows the area like the back of her hand and will be supporting the JOBID in promoting local independents, new openings, and the incredible heritage and architecture of the Jewellery Quarter. Take a look at how Anne-Marie has been transforming the JOBID's Instagram account on page 5

It Gets Lighter From Here

On December 21st the JOBID along with the JQ Cemeteries and Townscape Heritage projects, and hundreds of Midlands based organisations, came together to share videos from local artists to spread a little light on the darkest day of the year. This region-wide campaign by Culture Central saw hundreds of 1-minute videos shared online based on the prompt “It Gets Lighter From Here”. Following an open call for submissions, the JOBID commissioned Barbara Gibson and Marta Kochanek to create a collage video drawing inspiration from the JQ’s industrial past and celebrating its unique architecture. Watch the full video on our website.

Follow

#ItGetsLighterFromHere
on social media.

A post-COVID Jewellery Quarter

At the end of a very difficult year in 2020, the JQDT published its ambitious COVID-19 Response Plan for the Jewellery Quarter. The proposal is available online and promotes a number of projects aimed at stimulating business growth for local venues. An example is the proposed closure of Livery Street

at the junction of Great Charles Street Queensway, allowing hospitality venues to take full advantage of the space for spill-out seating, and creating a more welcoming environment for passengers exiting from Snow Hill Station. Other projects include using underused car parks for craft and makers fairs, and repurposing public realm, such as the Golden Square, for outdoor food and cultural events.

Dementia Friend Training



The JQDT team were incredibly proud to receive Dementia Friends badges in December 2020. Organised by the JQ Townscape Heritage Project, all team members from the JOBID, JQTH and JQ Cemeteries Project completed the training that focused on understanding the everyday challenges of

people living with dementia. The video training from www.dementiafriends.org.uk was packed with practical tips and advice, broken down by job role and circumstances. Our Ambassador Matt commented:

Dementia Friends Training has really opened up my eyes to the potential issues people with Dementia face every day. I will now be able to spot people having trouble and support anyone in need. The examples and specific triggers mentioned in the training, like mirrors or traffic crossings sometimes causing confusion, showed me how little I knew about the condition but also gives me something to watch out for.

Cheers to Hospitality

The JOBID, together with the other city centre BIDs are leading a marketing campaign to support the hospitality sector on its reopening. Cheers to Hospitality will highlight just how good Brum’s hospitality scene is, and will include competitions, exciting content and events later in the year. What venue can you not wait to visit again? Let us know by sharing the love on social media using the hashtag #CheersToHospitality

Heritage Highlights

Argent Centre

The restoration works at the Grade II* listed Argent Centre on Frederick Street has now been revealed after a year-long project. The most notable change is the reinstatement of two corner turrets, based upon the original design for the building. The turrets will be lit at night which will further showcase the expert design and craftsmanship that went into not only the original design and construction but also this recent restoration. Find out more about the project in full here.



Chamberlain Clock

The Chamberlain Clock has been returned and restored, together with an installation of a new interpretation panel near the Rose Villa Tavern, which will explore the history of the clock and its namesake, Joseph Chamberlain. Find out more on pages 22-23.

Updates from the Cemeteries Project Team



Spring is arriving in the cemeteries and the bulbs we planted last year with the volunteers are shooting up fast! We have also been out during

February and March with kids from Jewellery Quarter Academy and the Old Fire Station Nursery, plus local residents and Jewellery Quarter Heritage Squad volunteers planting snowdrops, daffodils, ranunculus and wildflower seeds to make the cemeteries more friendly for wildlife and visitors alike. Come for a stroll in the sun or try one of our new self-guided activities, like the tree trail or young explorers trails – available to download from our website.

We are looking forward to welcoming back our contractors from HFN Landscaping and Midland Conservation to complete their work including placing the memorial stone and fitting the Pitsford St gates. Expect us to be celebrating the end of the restoration work when the restrictions lift this summer! Find out more at cemeteries.jewelleryquarter.net



Guest Column:

THE JOYS OF THE JEWELLERY QUARTER – A VISITOR'S DELIGHT

Becky Frall: Head of Visitor Attraction at the West Midlands Growth Company



With the Prime Minister unveiling his roadmap out of lockdown, the Jewellery Quarter offers a great model for recovery

The scale of the coronavirus pandemic has had a massive impact on our lives. None of us has been immune to this, but as the Prime Minister now looks at easing restrictions, the Jewellery Quarter is a perfect destination for locals or for a future visit, for those waiting for travel restrictions to ease.

In my role at the West Midlands Growth Company, I have the privilege of working with our industry partners, destinations and their teams across the region to identify the projects and campaigns, which will boost the tourism industry. These projects can create memorable days out, city breaks and longer

trips for our visitors, who support our tourism partners, helping to contribute to the vibrancy of our places and our quality of life.

During lockdown, our visitbirmingham.com and makeitwm.com websites have featured virtual activities for people to make, do, share and watch at home. We have streamed three virtual festivals, curated by our friends at Culture Central, giving local creative producers a platform. I hope you have been able to enjoy some of these activities over the past few months.

There is – of course – no substitute for getting out to explore and over the years, the Jewellery Quarter has hosted some of my warmest memories.

Who remembers, with delight, the most sensory ‘All of the People in All of the World’ at the AE Harris factory in 2008, delivered by the inimitable Stan’s Café? Then, there was the fabulous ‘A Passion for Birmingham’ by the Old Joint Stock Theatre company in 2014, which involved wandering through different city and JQ locations, experiencing live theatre unfold. And what about waking up to a Banksy in December 2019?

There is so much that can feature in a weekend luxuriating in the JQ’s grand old architecture, boutique hotels, friendly museums, canal network and the glorious St Paul’s Church. We have been working with colleagues at the JQBID to bring these into itineraries for the travel trade to entice national and international visits, when it is safe to do so.

With the UK City of Culture in Coventry and the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, there is brightness on the horizon. We will get back together with friends and family. We will be able to travel again. And until then, enjoy planning your future days out – or a local city break – to revel in all our wonderful region has to offer.

Greening a Grey Station



Pictured at Jewellery Quarter station (l-r): Gaynor Steele (station adopter), Anyannah Wilson (WMRE), Ian Taylor (West Midlands Railway) and Steve Lovell (JOBID)

The ‘green makeover’ has been given the go ahead! The makeover will be a major effort to install an eco-garden at our local Jewellery Quarter Station, which received over half a million passengers a year before COVID hit, making it one of Birmingham’s busiest inner-city stations. All thanks to a community grant from West Midlands Railway (WMR), and the community of volunteers working with JOBID.

The main feature of this project is the ‘living walls’, designed by lead station adopter and local garden designer Gaynor Steele. Once approved by Network Rail, the walls will incorporate plants and shrubs, which will be split across the two panels at the front of the station. The ‘living walls’ will contain plants that improve the air condition and help eliminate pollution, enhancing the environment for passengers and local residents.





Getting the community involved

In collaboration with the JQ Townscape Heritage project, the JQBID will also be working with local artists to develop a mural to be fitted alongside one of the station's platforms. Additionally, the JQBID has begun work to develop a piece of art for the station's main walkway which will showcase the history and heritage of the Quarter.

If art isn't for you, but gardening is - the project also involves training opportunities for the local community, for those who want to develop their own urban gardening projects. There will also be plenty of volunteering opportunities to help with the planting throughout the year.

A welcoming entry for our visitors

Throughout the pandemic our focus has been on keeping our services running for our customers who need them but we are also looking to the future

and have been working with local communities to make sure the railway is an inviting and welcoming place for our passengers.

- Fay Easton, head of community and stakeholder for WMR

The 'green makeover' is designed to show how an urban railway station can tackle pollution with careful planting schemes, wildflowers and vertical systems to improve biodiversity and improve local air quality.

It will include edible planting, rainwater collection, art panels and the creation of green areas to soften the landscape and provide spaces for passengers to relax and learn more about the fascinations of Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter.

By turning the station into an eco-garden, we're not only helping to improve the environment, we're also creating an inviting entry point into the Jewellery Quarter that will increase footfall for our independent businesses. We can't wait to get started.

-Steve Lovell, from the JQBID

Changing SPACES

The Rolling Mill

Sunny and Sonu Rull, the brothers behind the Jewellery Quarter's favourite Desi pub Hen and Chickens appear to be on a roll, as they prepare to open a new European themed bar and restaurant in the area - The Rolling Mill.



Their latest hospitality venture sits at the junction of Warstone Lane and Water Street, helpfully situated in the centre of the JQ. Ideal for locals and visitors alike. It is always fantastic to see a promising independent pop up in the JQ, never more so than in the current climate. As you can imagine, the news is certainly welcomed by the local community, not least due to the success of the partners' iconic venture – Hen and Chickens, based on Constitution Hill.

The 7,857 square-foot space is undergoing a six-figure renovation ready for its debut later this year, with the brothers eagerly awaiting the chance to invite the public inside, once it is safe to do so. We're assured the wait will be worth it, as tasty European delights and a thoughtfully curated drinks selection are promised; all of which are being kept hush-hush at the moment.

Although, the local restaurateurs are offering much, much more than succulent foods and a beverage list packed full of temptation; with a venue that boasts the perfect set up for those soon to be reuniting over dinner and drinks (fingers crossed!). Patrons can expect a covered courtyard (fit to contend with Birmingham's ever-changing weather!), a heated mezzanine rooftop and a private internal terrace. All this, on top of a vast indoor and outdoor space, fit for 280 covers, and not one, but two bars!

Despite work still being completed on the venue, The Rolling Mill managed to host its first live outdoor event just before Christmas last year. Visitors gathered in socially distanced groups with festive hot drinks, while watching local artist Hannah Exall create a personalised mural on its outside wall. A creative event which sets the pace for what these

guys have in store for the future.

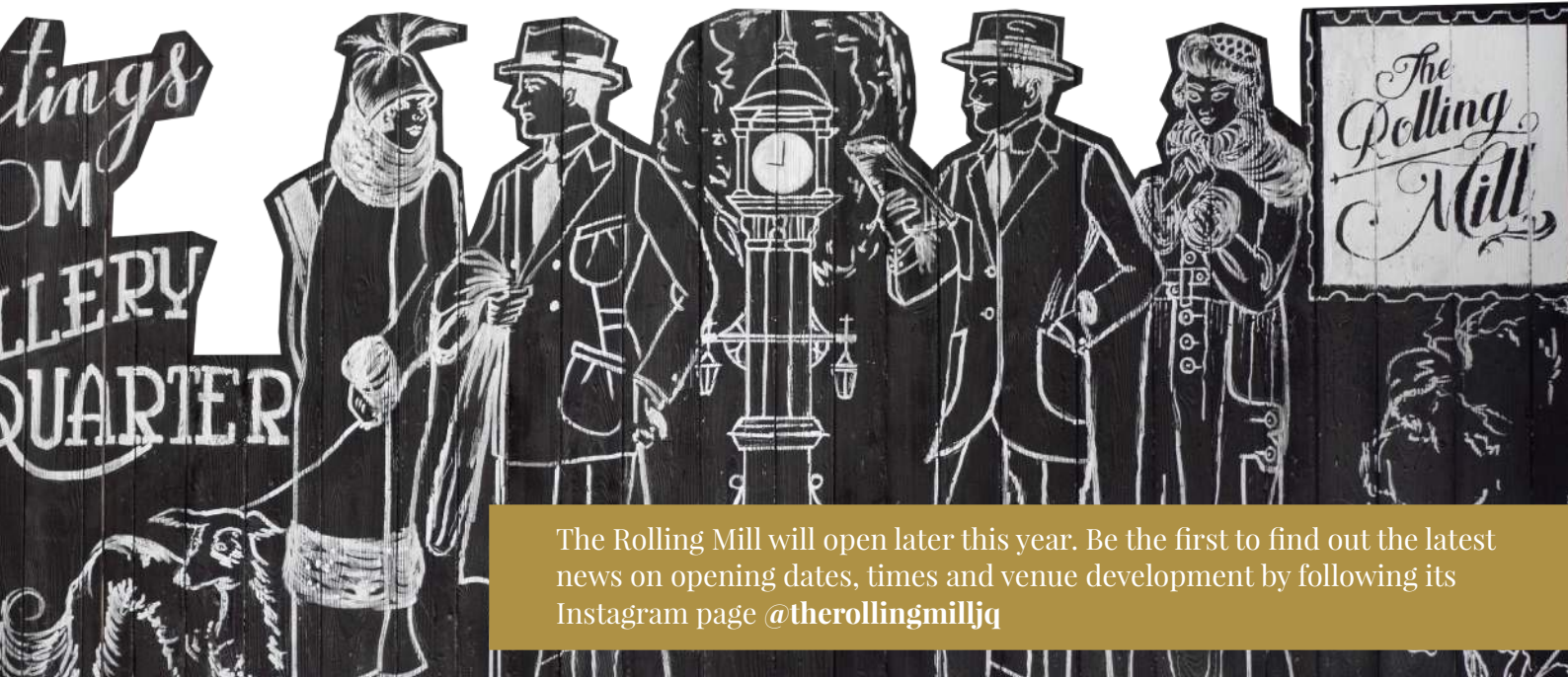
The unit, acquired from property restoration company Javelin Block, has been meticulously planned out, with diners looking for a unique setting and a relaxed atmosphere front of mind. Significant investment has been poured into many aspects of the business; recruitment included. Sunny and Sonu are looking to employ up to 60 members of staff for the venture; a team of personalities who will help bring the venue to life. More great news for the JQ, and Birmingham as a whole.

Co-owner of The Rolling Mill, Sunny Rull, says:

We are so looking forward to launching The Rolling Mill and hope this provides some much-needed good news for the hospitality sector in Birmingham. 2020 has undoubtedly been tough for all, particularly in our industry, and we know there is still a lot to battle in the coming months. However, we truly believe that The Rolling Mill concept is going to help revitalise what was such a thriving sector in the city, and we cannot wait to welcome Birmingham when our doors are open.

Fellow co-owner Sonu Rull, adds:

We are so excited to be bringing a new concept of vibrant, memorable and relaxed dining to the West Midlands. If the pandemic has shown us anything, it's that people value spending time with their loved ones and we hope that The Rolling Mill will be a venue in which all can come together to unwind and enjoy amazing food, drink and atmosphere for many years to come.



The Rolling Mill will open later this year. Be the first to find out the latest news on opening dates, times and venue development by following its Instagram page [@therollingmilljq](#)

In their own words:

Amy Seton, owner of The Birmingham Whisky Club and JQ whisky bar, Grain & Glass

In every issue, we invite members of the JQ community to tell us about their JQ in their own words.

Name: Amy Seton

Businesses: The Birmingham Whisky Club and Grain & Glass

Job Title: Owner

Years Worked in the JQ: 3 years

In this issue, Amy Seton, owner of The Birmingham Whisky Club and JQ whisky bar, Grain & Glass, tells us about her ten-year journey from corporate marketer to hosting virtual whisky tastings and how the support of the Jewellery Quarter is crucial when the going gets rough.

I started out in corporate marketing and events many moons ago. However, I have always been a passionate advocate of Birmingham and really wanted to see more going on. I had an idea for a food and drink events company, using my skills as an organiser and marketer to bring experts to the city for unique customer experiences. Having a thirst for whisky, I approached a specialist and The Birmingham Whisky Club was born! I gave up my full-time job and was freelancing while also running non-whisky events for a few years. It was a challenging, but fun period where I was trying to balance everything.

After a while it was clear that it was the whisky events and the 'Whisky Birmingham Festival' that became popular and I made a decision to concentrate on those. It was hard to be taken seriously by drinks brands when selling Birmingham as a destination similar to Bristol or Manchester in the beginning. In the



drinks world we were seen as a third tier city. It was always really hard to hear but thankfully this has changed over time.

It was always the dream to have a proper home for the club – it just took us a while to find the right space. We wanted to be able to host more events and add in a bar for people to just come and enjoy a dram. I had been looking for a site for a number of years and hadn't really considered the JQ as I had my heart set on a city centre location. It was only after a lunch with my friend Alex Nicholson-Evans, Commercial Director of the Birmingham Museums Trust and Jewellery Quarter Development Trust Board Director, that I reevaluated my search. I'd already seen the space in the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter for events but at the time it wasn't quite right. Going back to it with a different hat on, made me see its potential.

The space in the Jewellery Quarter was the right one. It is a beautiful building and has all the right components – a bar and lounge, plus an area we were able to separate for the tasting events which is pivotal to the business. We wanted to sympathetically enhance the space, while keeping the original features. Keeping rich colours and using old wooden floorboards from a Victorian-era house to create our cask bar has added a definite nod to the building's heritage. Our tasting room is a light space with huge windows

which would have been used as a jewellery workshop. Comparing the JQ to a whisky it would be a classic scotch from a well-known, family-owned brand like Glenfiddich, which has an amazing history and sells all over the world, but still retains a craftsmanship with its production. It only seems fitting that we're using the former workshop for our tasting events and educating people about the craft that is whisky making.

Even though we're celebrating the Whisky Club's ten-year anniversary, we've only been in our JQ location for three years. One of my favourite memories is the opening night of the bar on Burns Night 2018. We put a bagpiper outside the bar so people could find us easily. It was exciting and terrifying at the same time to finally be opening the doors. Seeing people I knew fill the bar up and drinks flowing was unforgettable.

Community resilience through COVID

Pre-COVID, I would be at the bar Wednesday to Saturday with the team. Now I only go in on Thursdays - the rest is working from home. Normally, I would be very hands-on; taking private tastings, hosting brands for events and working with Alice and Joe on the day-to-day running of the business. Since the pandemic hit, I have had to pivot the business to adapt to the constant changes. I now host tastings online and work on the retail side where we sell whisky collection packs. The pandemic has propelled our development and seen us do things now, which we may only have done in five years' time.

Even though our events are now online, we have also had local opportunities within the Jewellery Quarter, like the Slow Food Market at 1000 Trades. When we are able to do click and collect, we often have locals and regulars order and pop

to the doorway. We've also seen numerous people taking part in online events. It's these people who are keeping us going and it's really positive for us to see familiar faces while we're closed! I feel people who live locally have been really supportive as they want us to be open when it's all over. We're really grateful for that.

It's also been invaluable to be able to go to neighbouring businesses to check in and see how they are all doing and getting through. I feel there is a close-knit community of people here, supporting each other - we all want to make sure we come through unscathed. Help for Hospitality is an extension of this and brings together independents across the city. There is still much to be done and it's important to make sure the range of businesses under the banner 'hospitality' are being understood and their needs met. I think there is a gap in communication to businesses. There is support out there, but making sure grants are easily understood and applied for is crucial.

Looking ahead

We've just completed a big rebrand so the bar and wider company will now be known as 'Grain & Glass'. The Birmingham Whisky Club is still very much alive but will now have its home within the bar. Essentially, we're splitting the business to offer ourselves a broader scope for growth. For a





I'd like to see the Jewellery Quarter being the area of choice for independent businesses.

while now, we have felt having the bar take on the name of the whisky club was a bit prohibitive and we want to be more accessible to a broader customer base. We're still very much a whisky bar but this allows us to speak to more people and have The Birmingham Whisky Club as a separate entity. We're also focusing on growing our online offering of whisky tasting collections and virtual events. We've found they have attracted an audience from all over the UK, and there is potential for selling overseas as well. Exciting times ahead for us!

Although it's been very difficult recently, there still seems to be a number of small companies doing really well and expanding.

There are a lot of people who have been in the city for years, working for others, who are now doing their own thing. It's fantastic that there is still opportunity and optimism within the city even at a time like this and it speaks to the entrepreneurialism that exists here. I love the pockets of places that are encouraging others to set up; Kings Heath, Digbeth, Stirchley and, of course, the JQ. I think as these areas attract even more exciting businesses, we'll see real character-driven clusters emerge.

I'd like to see the Jewellery Quarter being the area of choice for independent businesses. There is a sense of history and industry on every corner. It's

so close to the city centre, but has such a different feel and is a tourist destination in its own right, attracting people from far and wide. We have customers come in from around the country who have been to the JQ for a day out. With Digbeth changing so much because of HS2, if you don't want to start your business in a suburb, the JQ really is the best place to have a small, creative business. I love the range of specialist bars, high-end dining and mid-range eateries the JQ supports - all different types of businesses but run and owned by local people. The Jewellery Quarter has always inspired craft and innovation and I think this is why it attracts the range of hospitality businesses it does.

My SO my picks

Coffee spot?

Horizon Coffee. Just around the corner from us; lovely coffee and wonderful people who run it.

Bar (that's not your own)?

1000 Trades for sure. Great selection of drinks. I love their approach to community and food offering.

Weekend activity?

Strolling around the streets, window shopping and taking in the diverse range of architectural styles. Joining a historic walking tour or having an amble around the cemetery, followed by a whisky or cocktail at my place, of course!

Shop?

Having been to Roots Market once, I know when the bar is open again this will be my new spot for many things. Oysters for lunch anyone?!

Brunch spot?

Urban Coffee for eggs of some description.

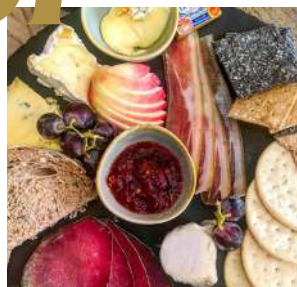
Bite your Brum

Top JQ picks

In the first of her regular JQ Life columns, Laura McEwan, aka Bite Your Brum, gives us the lowdown on the places she can't wait to visit this spring.



01



Arch 13 (open May)

One of my favourite spots in the city, let alone the JQ, Arch 13 offers a relaxed and intimate space to enjoy handpicked wines from across the world, locally brewed beers and the best cheese and charcuterie boards you'll find in Brum. From the hospitality to the eclectic playlist twinkling in the background, it's a lovely spot to enjoy a catch up with friends. It's family run, totally independent and if you ask nicely they'll let you borrow their Connect 4 set.

Must try: Go all out with the mixed 10 board. Owner Abigail knows her stuff - let her pick your selection.

02



Pig & Tail (open April)

Hidden away just out of view from the heart of the JQ, this pretty bar has a bright dining space inside and a freshly revamped secret garden out the back. One for the locals and less for those just passing through, Pig & Tail has recently teamed up with Lisa and Pann's Kitchen to bring you authentic Malaysian food this spring and summer. Two hidden gems for the price of one - we love to see it.

Must try: Nasi goreng kampong (Malaysian style fried rice with a fried egg) is probably the perfect lunch.

03



Folium (open May)

One for any upcoming special occasions, Folium is an absolute triumph. Offering modern British food via a carefully considered tasting menu, its approach to fine dining is relaxed but thoughtful, and it's a beautiful Scandi-style space to enjoy your meal. You'll find this restaurant in the Michelin Guide 2021, not only because the food is beautiful but also because the service is exemplary.

Must try: Choose the complete tasting menu with wine pairings to get the full Folium experience.

04



The Button Factory (open April)

If you like a boozy brunch with plenty of fizz and a lively atmosphere you won't go far wrong with The Button Factory at the weekend. Taking over the entire roof terrace, this suntrap is the perfect spot for a fun brunch with friends. You'll get a choice of meal and your glass will remain topped up with bubbles – if you can name a better way to spend a Saturday I'd love to hear it!

Must try: They do a mean Bloody Mary here – ask for it extra spicy.

05



40 St Paul's (open May)

Did someone say date night? Voted the best gin bar in world by the Gin Magazine (before the world went bonkers anyway) 40s – as the regulars know it – is a tiny but mighty addition to the JQ. The cocktails are strong, the lighting is low and it's a sexy bar ideal for date nights. There are only 24 seats and booking in advance is not only encouraged but also sensible, because come the weekend you won't get a look in without a reservation. If you fancy something special, pre-book one of the expert-led gin tastings.

Must try: Aman's negronis are legendary but if you fancy a martini with a twist ask for a Gibson.

Laura McEwan is the author behind award-winning food blog Bite Your Brum. Covering food, drink and hospitality news in Birmingham, Bite Your Brum offers a fun insight into the best places to eat drink and be merry within the city. She focuses on independent businesses and the best places to spend your time and money, helping readers get the best out of the local area. Having lived and worked in the JQ Laura knows the hidden gems and where to get the best bites. Check out www.biteyourbrum.com and [@biteyourbrum](https://twitter.com/biteyourbrum) on socials.

Chamberlain Clock

Strikes again

A JQDT project



Working on The Chamberlain Clock
(Photo: Pat Rodwell)

Did you know?

The original clock cost around £350 (about £45,500 in today's money), with the funds raised by Joseph Chamberlain's constituents in West Birmingham to commemorate his popularity.

The iconic Chamberlain Clock has returned to the JQ! During the weekend of the 20-21 March, the beloved and popular JQ landmark returned to its spot after undergoing a complete renovation to restore the structure to its former glory. The restoration also included the installation of a new interpretation panel near the Rose Villa Tavern, which explores the history of the clock and its namesake, Joseph Chamberlain.

Since its removal in August 2020, the Clock has been restored to its previous splendour by specialist Midlands clockmakers Smith of Derby. The restoration project included treatment of the cast iron column with primer and undercoat, before the final coats of fresh green paint and the application of English gold leaf. The Clock movement has also been repaired and the bell restored, ensuring that the Clock will chime once again, whilst the dials have also become backlit and the exterior lanterns shine with modern, heritage style LED bulbs.

The refurbishment of the Clock was a winning pledge in JQBID's 2017 renewal proposal. The project, led by the JQDT, has been able to happen through funds raised by the JQBID and the JQTH project, a National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) scheme. A key partner to the JQDT, the NLHF has contributed £75k to the Chamberlain Clock restoration and over £1.8 million to the JQTH project overall.

2 Visions 2 Legacies



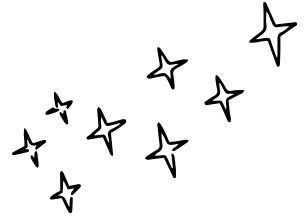
Interpretation Panel
(Photo: Luke Crane)

The content for the new interpretation panel has been produced by three young co-curators, Rahma Mohamed, Chelsea Mills and Salim Dabo as part of the '2 Visions 2 Legacies' project. They have been supported throughout the process by an advisory group formed from heritage professionals and members of the Jewellery Quarter community, including Jo-Ann Curtis, a curator from Birmingham Museums Trust, and Debolette Clarke, who is an educator, maker and JQ resident. The research that the co-curators have carried out over the last few months will also be displayed online and will inform a short film they are making which explores the lives of Joseph Chamberlain and Warrulan, an Aboriginal Australian who is buried in Warstone Lane Cemetery.

Kate O'Connor, JQTH Activity Programme Manager, said: "One of the aims of the 2 Visions 2 Legacies project is to tell balanced narratives about historical figures linked to the Jewellery Quarter. The production of the interpretation panel, led by our co-curators, is a really positive step in engaging with the public in ongoing discussions about heritage and culture."

Rahma Mohamed, one of the co-curators working on the 2 Visions 2 Legacies project, added: "It has been really interesting getting to research the Chamberlain Memorial Clock and the wider persona of Joseph Chamberlain. His popularity as Mayor and then MP for Birmingham has been well-documented, and through this memorial to his role as Secretary of State for the Colonies, we can appreciate the true extent of that. Focusing on the Clock has also given us an avenue to explore the global influence of Chamberlain and to gain a more balanced understanding of his legacy, beyond Birmingham."

Alyn Waterman: *Making you a star in the JQ*



This year marks the ten-year anniversary of Alyn Waterman's hair and make-up studio in the Jewellery Quarter. Alyn wanted to create a make-up studio and salon where he could provide clients with celebrity hair styling and make-up for weddings and special events, as well as providing a safe space where people from all walks of life are made to feel at home.

There is nothing more inspiring and rewarding than making someone feel confident and beautiful on their special day.



Alyn's studio was established whilst he was working on the BBC One series Hustle, which brought him to Birmingham from the Cotswolds. He instantly fell in love with the city, the JQ in particular, due to its unique style and close-knit, village-like community.

Alyn loves the community spirit in the Jewellery Quarter and admires its history. He first learnt about the area during one of the JQ Open Studios, when Rita Bailey came in for a makeover and told him more about local heritage. She later returned with a complete history of his studio on 44 Vyse Street. This led to Alyn's mum finding items online that had been made on the premises, including a silver hair comb made by Reynolds and Westwood in the same building in 1905!

This community spirit came to life during the JQ's 2020 'Virtual Christmas Window Trail'. Alyn, along with other small businesses in the JQ, dressed up his shop windows to spread the Christmas spirit. His Christmas window was a masterpiece, showcasing tiaras, swans and all things glamorous. Alyn won the public competition for the best window display last year and he loved seeing the smiles on everyone's faces when they walked past and saw the display. Since COVID-19 put the world on pause, he believes the window trail really brought some happiness to people passing by.

Alyn also gives back to the JQ community through his relationship with University College Birmingham. He regularly gives talks and advice to students on the Media Make-up course and offers students on-set work experience.

Alyn's Career Highlights



1. Footballers' Wives - where he met Dame Joan Collins and has been her hairstylist and onset make-up artist ever since.
2. Gavin and Stacey - Christmas special
3. My Mad Fat Diary
4. Hustle
5. The Time of Their Lives
6. Man Like Mobeen
7. Ready Player One
8. 85 Million views on a viral YouTube Video in 2019 on his channel!

Alyn's top 5 food and drink venues to visit in the JQ!

1. Vee's Delicatessen
2. The Hive
3. Pizza Di Piazza
4. Jewellery Quarter Museum Cafe
5. The Clifton (The Sunday Lunch specifically!)

Alyn offers one-on-one make-up lessons for anyone wanting to learn how to improve their make-up skills and techniques - these sessions are currently available online. To contact Alyn regarding a booking, [click here](#). You can also find Alyn on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

The JQ's Historical *Easter Egg Hunt*

As restrictions ease and the evenings get lighter there will be plenty more opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors and all of the wonderful sights the Jewellery Quarter has to offer - even the ones you might not know about, until now!

Use our guide to exercise that spring in your step and track the hidden 'Easter Eggs' of the JQ. While we can't promise you chocolate (sorry!), we can offer a selection of educational surprises that will see you fall in love with our wonderful area all over again.

Argent Centre – the birthplace of Rip Van Winkle

On the corner of Legge Lane and Frederick Street you'll see the newly restored Argent Centre, which houses a workspace for a diverse number of Jewellery Quarter businesses.

However, that isn't where the story ends. This place also marks the spot where American author Washington Irving wrote his classic short tale – Rip Van Winkle

Dayus Square – Kathleen Dayus tribute

Formerly known as Albion Square, Dayus Square was renamed to commemorate local author Kathleen Dayus, almost a decade ago in 2012.

The non-fiction writer found success in documenting her experiences growing up in the Quarter's back-to-back houses. She is famed for titles such as *The Girl from Hockley* and *The Ghosts of Yesteryear*.

Key Hill Cemetery - the gravestone of John Henry Burton

Many notable figures are buried at Key Hill Cemetery, including Joseph Chamberlain and Alfred Bird. However, some may be unaware that ex-Aston Villa player, John Henry Burton (commonly known as Jack Burton) was laid to rest here, following his death aged 50, in 1914.

He was signed to the club in April 1885 and was part of the winning FA Cup squad two years later in 1887.

St Paul's Churchyard - the gravestone of PC Moses Barber

PC Moses Barber was the first Birmingham police officer to die in service.

The officer, a JQ resident, was buried in St Paul's Churchyard facing the local pub, now St Paul's House, because many of his policing days were spent dealing with incidents at the tavern, thanks to drunken behaviour.

Great Charles Street – Birmingham's last public hanging

A pretty gruesome one to conclude your educational quest. On the edge of the JQ, at the junction of Great Charles Street and Snow Hill, you'll find a history plate, underneath the railway bridge, acknowledging the very spot where Birmingham's first and last public hanging took place back in 1806.

Philip Matsell was hanged in front of a 40,000 strong crowd for shooting a watchman and 'peace officer' – an early form of police officer.

As we slowly return to 'normality', it is certainly a prime opportunity to spend a slow day walking through our local area.

It is incredibly humbling to be reminded of the extra special place we live, renowned across the world for its working roots, inspirational settings and revolutionary residents. Enjoy!

Find out more about visiting the Jewellery Quarter [here](#).

Bring your child to work day... *but all day everyday.*



The past year has seen a lot of changes to not only our social lives but also our family life and working routines. For many, the three areas have all concentrated under one roof, as we live and work from home. This is challenging for any family, but those with children under five will know the difficulties of trying to work, whilst caring for and supporting the learning and development of their little superstars!

Where allowed, and whilst adhering to all COVID guidelines, Bright Minds Daycare have kept their nurseries open throughout the pandemic to support families in these difficult and crazy times. Rather than shutting their doors

as central offices closed these past few months, they have been able to keep routines for the children in their care. Allowing parents to focus when working from home, whilst also ensuring each child's learning and development has not been affected. In addition, for children in their early years, the changes in the world around them can be very difficult to understand and therefore a structured nursery routine whilst seeing all their friends offers a welcome retreat to normality.

Virtual parent coffee mornings

Bright Minds, like most nurseries across Birmingham, are there to support families as we come out of lockdown and return to normality. Despite not being able to have

the conventional chats with all parents during drop-offs and pick-ups, they want to let parents know that they are always here if they want to talk. Extending this to all parents of early years children in the community, not just those within the Bright Minds family, to offer a small helping hand as we navigate through these challenges.

To support this, Bright Minds Daycare are hosting a series of virtual coffee mornings throughout March, set to continue into April, to give working professional parents a chance to share their experiences of being at home with a child under five. These sessions will offer a platform to let off a bit of steam about life in general, with those that are also experiencing similar circumstances at the moment.

The sessions, held on Zoom, will be hosted by their experienced Nursery Managers and Practitioners, who will be on hand to answer any questions, however big or small, about your child's learning and development, and ideas that might be able to support them at home.

If you would like to attend, please email georgia@brightmindsdaycare.co.uk or alternatively call 0121 233 9500.

Kids Corner



Looking for activities to keep your little superstars entertained? Bright Minds Daycare have put together a range of Spring themed activities for you to try.

Crackin' Cress Heads



1. Simply wash out the eggshells & leave them to dry.
2. Once dry, your little superstars can decorate the face however they want (they can stick googly eyes on or even a small pom pom for a nose).
3. Wet a cotton wool ball & squeeze out the excess water. Then carefully place inside the eggshell & pat down.
4. Scatter your cress seeds on top of the cotton wool & lightly push down the seeds.
5. Sit them in a warm, light place – like a sunny windowsill.
6. Sprinkle with water daily & watch your Crackin' Cress Heads grow!

Nature Hunt

Allow your little ones to become immersed in nature by heading outdoors to explore & get some fresh air. Together, you can devise a list of different outdoor materials for your child to recognise & collect on your family walk, such as flowers, twigs & leaves.



Flower Crown



Why not let your little superstars create their very own 'Flower Crown' using the items you have collected from your adventurous nature hunt?

Things you'll need:

- **Flowers, petals, leaves etc. from your nature walk**
- **Card**
- **Scissors**
- **Stapler**
- **Glue stick**

Cut long strips of card that are approx. 10cm in height and staple or glue two pieces together, then cut to the length of your child's head.

Now your little forest explorer can let their imagination run wild and stick all the natural materials they've collected onto the card strip.

Once they've finished designing their crown, you can securely staple it together and voila - you're done!

Completed these and looking for other activities to keep your children entertained? Email georgia@brightmindsdaycare.co.uk for more inspiration.

One last hurrah at home: *A DIY BOOZY BRUNCH*



One thing we've certainly missed is a good catch-up over a slap-up brunch during our time in lockdown. Although we are getting ever closer to current restrictions being eased and the prospect of long awaited outings with family and friends, we asked The Church Inn for the secret to cooking up a delicious brunch to tide us over!

01 AVOCADO BRUNCH

that can be customised to your preference



Ingredients:

- *1 Beef Tomato*
- *1 Free Range Egg*
- *Splash of White Wine Vinegar*
- *1 teaspoon Olive Oil*
- *1 Ciabatta*
- *1 Avocado*
- *½ Lime*
- *1 Small Red Chilli*
- *Fresh Coriander*
- *Hollandaise Sauce*
- *Pinch of Paprika*
- *Pinch of Salt & Pepper*

Method:

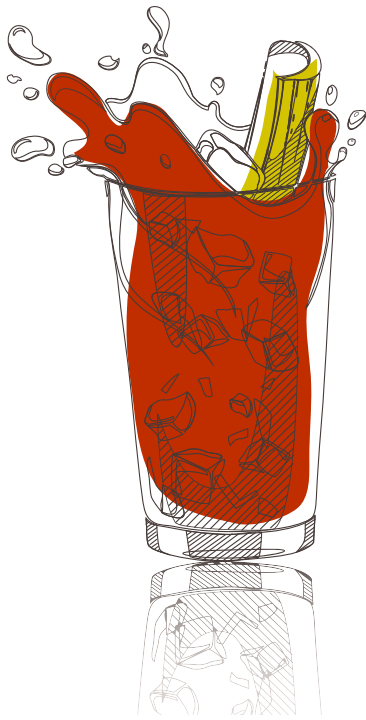
1. Dice the tomato, cutting the top off beforehand and place into a mixing bowl.
2. Dice the avocado, adding to the same bowl.
3. Add diced chilli and coriander.
4. Halve a lime and squeeze the juice into the bowl with a pinch of salt & pepper and mix.
5. Poach the egg – ensure the water is at a light rolling boil and add the white wine vinegar before the egg goes in.
6. Drizzle the oil over a ciabatta sliced in half and lightly toast until golden brown
7. Spoon the avocado mixture over the top of the ciabatta, then place the poached egg on top with hollandaise sauce and a pinch of paprika

Meat lovers: Why not add bacon or some pan-fried chorizo?

Vegans: Remove the egg and hollandaise sauce

02 Serve with a tangy

UNHOLY MARY



Pour the following ingredients, in order, into a highball glass with ice.

- 50ml Smirnoff Vodka
- 50ml Red Wine
- 125ml Tomato Juice
- 12.5ml Lemon Juice
- Tabasco to taste
- 4-8 dashes Worcestershire Sauce
- Salt to taste
- Pepper to taste

If you're feeling fancy, garnish with a celery stick & wedge of lemon.

Give it a good stir and there you have it!

03

POP ON A BRUMMIE
PLAYLIST AND ENJOY!



Black Sabbath – Paranoid

The Streets – Has It Come To This?

Dexys Midnight Runners – Come on Eileen

Lady Leshurr – LEGO

Duran Duran – Rio

Editors – Munich

UB40 – Red Red Wine

Ocean Colour Scene – The Day We Caught The Train

The Spencer Davis Group – Gimme Some Lovin'

Judas Priest – Breaking The Law

Click the Spotify logo above to listen and to add your own Brummie tunes

The Church Inn is taking bookings from 12th April for dining and drinks on its heated roof-top terrace. The team is currently running a takeaway service. Click [here](#) for more information.

Rediscover Jewellery Quarter

As lockdown restrictions begin to ease, make sure to plan ahead when visiting the Jewellery Quarter. With a thriving retail scene, plenty of independent bars and restaurants and a whole host of museums and attractions, visit discoverjq.co.uk to plan your stay.



MUSEUM OF THE JEWELLERY QTR

