

Businesses to take a trip down Northampton's memory lane

18th August 2019: Town centre businesses will showcase pictures of their shopfronts from years gone by in a three-week celebration of Northampton's history and heritage.

Northampton town centre Business Improvement (BID) has organised and funded 'Northampton Memories' – a campaign which coincides with the National Heritage weekends and will include 60 local businesses displaying A4 gold framed posters of their buildings as far back as the 1800s and beyond.

“Our town centre boasts a very rich and vibrant history and our Northampton Memories campaign will celebrate all of that positive nostalgia,” said Northampton town centre BID project manager, Mark Mullen. “Local businesses in particular are very passionate about their past, and we have worked with Northampton Central Library to select the very best images from their archive of thousands so that businesses can display them in their windows for all to see. We hope to generate lots of enthusiasm and a real buzz on social media and among shoppers who will make a special visit into the town centre to look for the Northampton Memories frames.”

Some businesses, including 78 Derngate, have sourced their own pictures to display. House Manager, Liz Jansson said: “We have lots of old photos which capture what 78 Derngate was like back in the day so of course we jumped at the chance to get involved in Northampton Memories. Northampton is steeped in history and Bassett-Lowke, the owner of 78 Derngate and the man responsible for commissioning the famous Glaswegian architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh, to work on the house, was a local businessman himself and an influential character of the town, so this is a fantastic opportunity for local businesses to come together to really celebrate our past.”

Northampton Memories will run from 24th August – 15th September and the BID is working in collaboration with Northamptonshire Central Library, Northampton Museum and the University of Northampton (UoN), who will be showcasing historic images of students and university buildings. Displays in the Grosvenor Centre will also be on show as part of the campaign.

Watch Northampton Memories unfold on social media by following @NorthamptonBID and #NorthamptonMemories.

Participating businesses
Abington FX
The Wedgwood
Watts Furnishers
Martin's
Scope
Sharps
Waterstones
Hope Centre Shop
Thomas Cook
Mothers Wok & Sushi
Clintons
Edinburgh Wollen Mill
A-Plan Insurance
Skipton
Thorntons
The Sandwich Bar
The Church Restaurant
Voni Blu
Olly B's
Bang and Olufsen
78 Derngate (They have their own photos)
The Wine Connection
Market Tavern
Fine and Country
The Salvation Army (Gold St)
Yorkshire Bank
Liana's Fancy Dress
Michael Jones Jewellers
Xchange 4 Cash
John Franklins
Merland
Home-Start Northampton
Albion Brewery
Café Track
Montague Jeffery
St Giles Ale House
Vintage Guru
Johnson Underwood
Bonds Jewellers
St Gyles Jewellers

Dreams Coffee Lounge
Abraxas Cookshop
Bread and Butter
Moulton Kitchens
Mooch
The Magic Bean Emporium
Studio Nails
The Zipyard
Warhammer
Blenders
St Giles Cheese
Singh and Smile
Northampton Health Store
The Hub of Northampton
Snappy Snaps
Naked Hairdressing
Electromist
The Cordwainer
Matchbox Cafe
Northampton University

Notes to Editors

Northampton town centre Business Improvement District (BID) Northampton town centre BID was officially launched in 2011 following a successful vote by businesses to make Northampton town centre a designated Business Improvement District. The BID status was renewed in October 2015 for five more years until 2020. A BID is a defined area where the rate-paying businesses decide on improvements to their area, they then vote on the plans and agree to invest in the delivery of activities which directly impact upon their business turnover and profit. This money is then ring-fenced to provide the improvements agreed through the BID plan and can be used to generate other revenue to boost the pot of money available to deliver the plan. Business representatives in Northampton have developed a five year action plan around the key objectives of promoting the area. pfb UK is a specialist BID Project Management company which develops and manages a wide range of Business Improvement Districts across the UK including town centres and industrial estates.