

Invest in Bristol News

October 2008

£5bn of new orders for Rolls-Royce's Bristol Team

Evening Post - 30th October 2008

Bristol's Cabot Circus pulls in 2m over first month

Evening Post - 30th October 2008

Landmark for Clifton's first new build in 20 years

Evening Post - 27th October 2008

Bristol start-up companies set to beat the economic downturn

Bristol University Press release
- 24th October 2008

Bulgarian Ambassador Visits Bristol!

24th October 2008

Bristol recruitment firm's £4m expansion

Evening Post - 21st October 2008

UWE Bristol invests in new enterprise campus

UWE Press Release - 17th November 2008

UWE puts Finzels Reach under the spotlight

UWE Press release - 17th November 2008

New Abbey Wood office space on the way

Defence News: An Estate and Environment
news article - 1st October 2008



£5bn of new orders for Rolls-Royce's Bristol Team

Evening Post - 30th October 2008

Engine giant Rolls-Royce says it has gained £5 billion of new contracts in just four months.

The company, which employs 3,600 people at its defence aerospace division in Patchway, said earlier this year that a buoyant oil and gas industry had boosted its marine and energy businesses, with defence work also strong.

Among the contracts won by Rolls-Royce since the end of June is a £96-million deal to help the Royal Navy power two of the world's largest warships.

Much of the work to supply four MT30 gas turbines for the two 65,000-tonne aircraft carriers, HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince of Wales, will be done by staff at Rolls' naval division in Patchway.

The remainder of the work to provide power for the ships will be at Rolls-Royce's sites in Portsmouth, Dunfermline and Sweden.

Two weeks ago, the Princess Royal officially opened the new £75m factory at Patchway, which makes engines for a range of defence aircraft including the Eurofighter Typhoon.

Bristol's Cabot Circus pulls in 2m over first month

Evening Post - 30th October 2008 (extract)

More than two million shoppers have visited Bristol's Cabot Circus in its first full month of trading.

The £500 million, one million sq ft shopping centre has attracted an average of 500,000 people a week since opening on September 25.

Cabot Circus aims to push its success further, having signed five more shops and restaurants.

Jeweller Azendi and beauty products retailer Rituals are to open shops in The Circus before Christmas, while restaurant Crystal Rivers is to open in Quakers Friars, the public square surrounded by restaurants and high fashion shops.

The other new outlets will be Soho Coffee and News Hut.

Another ten retailers have opened stores at Cabot Circus since its launch. They include fashion brands Crew, Oakley, Principles, and Oasis. Guess and Guess Accessories are to open shortly.

Carluccios, Coal, Frankie & Benny's, Tampopo and Zizzi have opened cafes or restaurants, and Costa has opened its second cafe...

Cabot Circus covers 36 acres of Bristol city centre and includes offices, housing, a hotel and multi-screen cinema as well as 140 new shops, 25 cafes and restaurants and a 2,500 space car park.

Landmark for Clifton's first new build in 20 years

Evening Post - 27th October 2008 (extract)

CLIFTON'S first new-build office development for more than 20 years has been topped out.

Developer Ashfield Land's St Catherine's Court, on the Clifton Triangle, is a £15 million, 31,000 sq ft office development and is due to be completed in spring next year.

The topping out ceremony was hosted by the building contractor, Sisk, and attended by more than 100 guests including directors from Ashfield Land, members of Bristol City Council's Economic Development team, and the building's first tenant, commercial property agents, GVA Grimley, which is relocating its regional head office to St Catherine's Court occupying 10,500 sq ft on a 15-year lease.

Paul Jagroop, director of Ashfield Land said: "This is a key moment in the build process and marks the final phase of construction where a wealth of innovative features will deliver one of the first Bream Excellent office buildings in the South West..."

David Mace, regional senior director for GVA Grimley said: "Clifton is the hub of Bristol's commercial property sector. This is one of the buildings which lead the way in terms of contemporary specification and sustainability and it dovetails perfectly with our corporate strategy to promote quality, grade A offices."

Joint letting agents for the remainder of the scheme are Alder King Property Consultants and Williams



Gunter Hardwick. Space is available from 6,716 to 20,450 sq ft. Fourteen basement car parking spaces are included.

Bristol start-up companies set to beat the economic downturn

Bristol University Press release - 24th October 2008 (extract)

Eight University of Bristol start-up companies, based in the SETsquared Business Acceleration Centre in Bristol, were among twenty technology companies pitching to investors in the fifth annual SETsquared Partnership showcase.

The event, aimed at raising investment for early stage companies, was held in London last week and attracted an audience of 120 venture capitalists, angel investors and wealthy individuals...

Bulgarian Ambassador Visits Bristol!

Bristol City Council - October 24th 2008

His Excellency Dr Lachezar Nikolov Matev, The Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria paid a visit to Bristol today. After a formal welcome from the Lord Mayor of Bristol, Councillor Christopher Davies, the Ambassador met various business people and city dignitaries including the Leader of the Council, Councillor Helen Holland, and Lord Lieutenant of Bristol, Mrs Mary Prior.

The Ambassador also heard presentations on the strength of the Bristol economy, our Green Capital agenda and success in waste recycling. He has since expressed a wish that Bristol develop links with Bulgias, home to the biggest cargo port in Bulgaria.

Bristol recruitment firm's £4m expansion

Evening Post - 21st October 2008

BRISTOL recruitment communications firm ThirtyThree has struck a £4 million deal to expand.

ThirtyThree, which employs 140 staff in London and Bristol and provides services to clients such as PricewaterhouseCoopers, Nationwide Building Society and BT Group, recently completed its first acquisition of Bristol-based competitor RAA Sprague Gibbons.

The £4m funding package from the Royal Bank of Scotland is designed to enable further investment in the Bristol operation which now accounts for one third of group sales.

It has enjoyed a bumper year in terms of both financial performance and success in several creative awards ceremonies, winning the CIPD Grand Prix for retailer Claire's Accessories and Best Website for the Audit Commission. In line with plans to fully integrate RAA with ThirtyThree's existing Bristol office, a move to new premises with capacity for all 42 staff is scheduled for the first part of 2009.

UWE Bristol invests in new enterprise campus

UWE Press Release - 17th November 2008 (extract)

In a bold step the University of the West of England, Bristol, (UWE Bristol) one of the UK's largest universities, has secured its long-term development and purchased from its neighbour HP the majority of their adjoining land interests. The purchase will nearly double the size of its main Frenchay Campus, and allow the creation of one of the largest modern University Campuses in the UK. The move will enable UWE Bristol to enhance the student experience and provide an enterprise hub for employers in the region.

The partly developed 70 acre site has capacity for in excess of 1 million sq ft of development and adjoins the west boundary of the existing Frenchay Campus.



It sits at the centre of north Bristol's enterprise zone, which includes the MOD, HP, Airbus, AXA, Rolls Royce, the NHS and Bristol Business Park...

UWE were advised by property consultants Alder King, solicitors, Lyons Davidson and engineers Capita Symonds in the acquisition of the 70 acre site.

In last few years UWE has improved the student experience through a £300m programme, including investment in a new £80m student village, £5m sports facility and £16m School of Education building...

UWE puts Finzels Reach under the spotlight
UWE Press release - 17th November 2008
(extract)

Students and lecturers at the University of the West of England (UWE) put Bristol's biggest active city centre development under the spotlight at a recent event.

Development advisers, architects, engineers, surveyors and project managers working on Finzels Reach, the £255 million mixed use scheme being built at the former Courage Brewery site in Bristol city centre, gave an in-depth presentation on the project at UWE as part of National Construction Week...

More than 50 students and staff listened to 20-minute presentations from representatives of development adviser HDG Mansur, architects Sheppard Robson, engineers Clarke Bond and project managers Capita Symonds.

New Abbey Wood office space on the way
Defence News: An Estate and Environment news article - 1st October 2008 (extract)

A contract to build a state-of-the-art office complex in Bristol was announced today, Wednesday 1 October 2008, by Minister for Defence Equipment and Support, Baroness Taylor.

Debut, the Ministry of Defence's Regional Prime Contractor for the south west, will construct a new three storey building worth over £25 million to provide 600 additional desks for Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) employees at the new Abbey Wood Neighbourhood 5 site, where the Department last year completed refurbishment of existing office buildings purchased from the Bank of Ireland.

The new building will provide additional modern, flexible and open plan accommodation, required as a result of the decision to collocate at Abbey Wood additional elements of Defence Equipment and Support, increasing the numbers to be employed at the site to over 10,000. Baroness Taylor said:

"This welcome investment in North Bristol will enable us to consolidate our acquisition activities, achieving economies of scale and helping us to reduce our estates holdings elsewhere, saving the Department over £560 million over 25 years. We will, as a result, become more effective at supporting the Armed Forces."

The building is being constructed to stringent sustainability standards encompassing tried and tested sustainability techniques. All of these will keep to a minimum the environmental impact of the new building and reduce running costs. The new building is scheduled to be ready for occupation in two years' time...

