

Govan Shopfront Improvements

Newsletter Issue 5. April 2021

Work approaches completion on Govan Road...with more to come on Burleigh Street and Harmony Row!

The current phase of shopfront improvements on Govan Road is almost complete, with 7 fully reinstated shopfronts complete at Kemo Barbers, Govan Carpets, Kelly's Grooming Parlour, RGM Solicitors, L&L Hair, Moir & Sweeney Solicitors and Gilded Lily with 3 more to be finished by the end of April – the Hub, Digital Hub and 1020B Govan Road.

L&L Hair at 958 Govan Road has proved to be a diamond of the project. An original, fully-formed timber shopfront was discovered behind the modern frontage, complete with its art deco/art nouveau style lobby and stall riser tiling. The fascia sign and Craven Cigarette window advertisement suggested the shop had had a past life as Alexander's tobacconist; but the distinctive green tiling is almost certainly by famous 19th century Glasgow ceramic firm, James Duncan & Co, and the house style indicates the shop was also once a Buttercup Diary - a staple of 1920's high streets, selling butter, milk and cheese. Missing tiling and damaged timber detailing has been lovingly restored, with replacement tiles ordered from a specialist tile conservator to match the original. The result looks fantastic.

Ongoing works at Govan Road



With Govan's shops looking better and better by the day, everyone is encouraged to do what they can to keep Govan looking its best. On a dusty street like Govan Road, small actions make a big difference to street appeal, like keeping windows, lobbies and stall risers clean and free of debris. In the longer term, proper maintenance will be essential to protect the substantial public investment made and to keep showcasing Govan's exceptional historic streets and traditional shopfronts. Look out for Shopfront Maintenance Guides coming your way.

Unfortunately, there was an attempted break-in at Kemo Barbers earlier this month, but the new internal roller shutter prevented entry and meant that the damage was limited to the shop window only. The perpetrator was caught and the THI is actively working with the Police and shop owners on a range of measures to prevent crime and ensure the wider community is able to enjoy the benefits the newly improved shops bring.

Meanwhile, on Burleigh Street and Harmony Row, improvements to another **16** shops will begin in May of this year. Expect a stunning transformation. You can find all the detail here: <https://www.govanshopfronts.com>

Full details on the shopfront improvement scheme can be found at getintogovan.com. If you wish to get in touch with the THI team about any aspect of the works you can e-mail us at getintogovan@glasgow.gov.uk

Proposals for Burleigh Street and Harmony Row



Detailed proposals for Harmony Row Pharmacy

