

# SOCIAL SUPREME

By Phil Oldershaw



After 20 years of living, working, shaping and socialising in the City it is hardly surprising I now find myself writing this column, ensuring you get my edge on England's second City. I am most fortunate, many years of networking, making friends and business contacts has given me the opportunity to experience much of what goes on within the City, publicly and privately. This opportunity ensures I am often in the know and able to show my support to a range of experiences that are helping to develop and shape our 'Stylish' city for the future.

As the future of my column will progress I shall bring you up-to-date information of what's happened, happening, where to be, or merely my take on what inspires me about 'style' in our city. Style has a different meaning to many and is merely an interpretation of an individual's, or collectives, unique expression and view. For instance, I believe I have a unique style that is recognised, respected and therefore gets me invites and inclusion to much of what's happening around the town. I am passionate about our city and love to share this with people at every opportunity. There are many hidden secrets to explore such as independent retailers, places of interest and spots where you can simply read a book or admire a view.

A place I like to frequent is The Mailbox, a building with integrity, history and a redesigned style that oozes charm and sophistication, yet also enables me to escape the demands of the day for the time that I'm there. I love the place with its array of beautiful restaurants, designer shops, hotels, clean working canals and a personality that is most unique within the city. A controversial question on many lips I often find is Green or Gold? Well it depends where the sun is, or does it really matter, I often reply! The Cube is now an iconic building of Birmingham's landscape, much like Selfridges and The Bullring. I admire its uniqueness in design that certainly gets your attention and also captures your imagination; with its futuristic look that resembles something from Transformers you expect it to move and change before your very eyes. To me this is another engineering masterpiece that will go down in history as another style icon for our awe-inspiring city. I eagerly await its opening!

Our city is most diverse with something for everybody, no matter what your taste. It gives me joy to attend the press nights for both The Sound of Music & Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, which open consecutively at our flagship theatre The Hippodrome, as this edition hits the streets. Another key event I shall attend and recommend to you is 'Taste of Birmingham' which is now an annual event taking place within Cannon Hill Park, running 16-18 July, this event really does radiate style in our city. Hopefully, I'll see you there!

Got something I need to know, or an event to attend?  
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