



# TAMESIDE'S METRO BOOST

**Greater Manchester's Metrolink network will expand into Droylsden and on into Tameside following a recent government announcement.**

The first phase of a £650m funding package will see the Metro system extended into Droylsden. Further down the line, the second phase will see trams travel all the way into Ashton-under-Lyne. The scheme will be a key part of a bid being submitted to the government's Transport Innovation

Fund next year. The bid aims to significantly improve public transport across Greater Manchester, and a successful bid will allow both phases to be delivered simultaneously.

The council believes that having the tram run through Tameside will bring long-term economic and regeneration benefits, linking up Tameside towns and encouraging more shoppers to come to the borough.



## £4m Sport Centre opens

**The Medlock Leisure Centre in Droylsden, provides a new six lane 25m swimming pool, a state of the art fitness suite, dance studio with a wide range of fitness classes, studio cycling classes, large sports hall and comfortable social areas. Outside there are four floodlit astro-turf pitches, six-a-side football pitches and ample parking.**

The £4m centre was opened by former Commonwealth double gold medalist swimmer Sharron Davies MBE.

The programme of activities includes: football, badminton, netball, cricket, trampolining and volleyball. During school holidays, activity sessions and football courses are available. The centre is also home to a number of clubs covering a wide range of sports.

Activities may be booked on a casual 'one off' basis or block booked by clubs, groups or individuals. The leisure centre is situated on Garden Fold Avenue, just off Market Street in Droylsden. Telephone 0161 370 3070

More work has been carried out at Sunnybank Park and Lees Park, including improvements to walkways and a totally new footpath in Lees Park. Security measures continue to make the park a safer place for everyone to visit.

Medlock Playing Fields now have the new state-of-the-art swimming pool at the centre and high quality landscaping works are being completed. New floral displays have proved a popular addition to the site entrance.

At Lumb Clough, work to complete the footpaths has been completed and contractors will start landscaping works shortly. Meanwhile, floral displays and hanging baskets are brightening up the town centre and lots of other areas in Droylsden.

As reported in this month's Citizen, the extension of the Metrolink line to Droylsden has been confirmed - along with the exciting Marina development, this puts the town on the map for further improvements to the town centre and surrounding area.



## BLOOMIN' MARVELLOUS

Tameside's looked bloomin' marvellous for the judging in the national final of Britain in Bloom. It's the first time the borough has been in the final stages of the Royal Horticultural Society competition since it started taking part three years ago.

This year Tameside was the only north west region in the final.

The long spell of hot weather has stretched everyone involved in the competition - instead of watering the 1600 hanging baskets two or three times a week, they needed watering daily, but staff were confident that everything was in place for the national judging in August. Check local press in September for the results.

Over the last year, more than half a million plants have been put in place, supplemented in the spring by 150,000 daffodils and narcissi. Council gardeners planted up all the hanging baskets and 525 planters which have been distributed throughout the borough. The nursery also produced an extra 500 hanging baskets for local business and community groups.

Britain in Bloom is also about getting community groups involved in making a difference to their environment. People like the volunteers at Willow Wood Hospice in Ashton, where teams of volunteers have given up their weekends to make the grounds pleasant for patients and visitors.

## It stinks, it's dirty and it's dangerous...

.. and Tameside Council's district assemblies have launched a new campaign to stop it.



Dog fouling affects everyone living in the borough, with feedback from residents indicating that dog mess on streets and in parks is among people's biggest gripes.

In the past 12 months, the council receive approximately 32 complaints from Tamesiders about incidents of dog fouling. Now with Tameside's Patrollers stepping up their patrols of problem areas for dog fouling, the message to people who don't act responsibly is clear - clean it up, or expect to pay up.

Anyone caught not cleaning up after their dog can be given a £50 fine by the council. But if this is not paid, and the dog owner is found guilty of

the offence at Magistrates Court, this could rise to £1,000.

The patrollers will carry out spot checks at the parks and their surrounds across the borough, and increase their presence at peak dog walking times such as early mornings and evenings.