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Hello and welcome to your weekly Westside World news digest. Each Friday, Westside BID brings you the top stories from in and around Broad Street, Brindleyplace, Five Ways, Centenary Square, Broadway Plaza and surrounding areas...



### VIDEO: Happy first birthday to our Broad Street Metro tram extension

The mile-long extension of the West Midlands Metro line from Grand Central to Edgbaston Village has reached its first annual milestone!

And now you can see some of its first-year highlights in all weathers in our special two-minute video here: watch it gliding along from above, from within the carriages and from the pavements alongside.

[Read more](#)



### Tributes to Brum legend Tony Butler

Leading figures linked to Westside have paid tributes to Midland broadcasting legend Tony Butler, whose live radio phone-ins became a must for generations of football fans.

Tony, who has passed away at the age of 88, was credited with inventing the football phone-in in England while working at BRMB in Birmingham, one of the UK's first commercial radio stations, in the 1970s.

[Read more](#)



### VIDEO: Jazz & Blues festival launch

The 39th annual Birmingham Jazz & Blues Festival was launched at the Rep in Birmingham last Friday, and Westside BID's own videographer Graham Young was there to film it.

You can watch our video of the event in just 135 seconds here.

[Read more](#)



### ...And Jasper had plenty to say!

Comedy legend Jasper Carrott declared himself a proud Brummie as he helped to officially launch this year's Birmingham Jazz & Blues Festival.

Wise-cracking Jasper was invited to be a guest speaker at the launch of the 39th festival, held at The Rep theatre in Centenary Square, on Friday 14 July – the first of 10 days of live music.

[Read more](#)



### Encore performance by Jazz band

Don't miss your last chance to see a Spanish Jazz band which has taken the the Birmingham Jazz & Blues Festival by storm in recent years – including four gigs at this year's event alone - who will be performing an encore performance in Westside next week.

The Potato Head Jazz Band, which has twice previously been named Band of The Festival, will return to Westside when they perform back at Velvet Music Rooms on 24 July as part of the regular Henry's Blueshouse Tuesday night gigs. Find out more about the band by clicking the link below.

[Read more](#)



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