

Diary



KLEINMAN'S DIVINE AT SPORTS

Another sporting Diary. But don't worry, we'll try to refrain from using the O-word in the lull before the Paralympics. This week we can report that Mark Kleinman, director of James Andrew International by day and celeb/glamour schmoozer by night, got some accurate predictions from former decathlete Daley Thompson at a lunch in Stratford the week before the Games, where Daley said he was convinced we were about to witness a Team GB success story. The forecast came after Kleinman was spotted in May with the Champions League trophy looking like Chelsea's newest signing (Diary, 26 May). At that point he rubbed the cup and prayed for his beloved Premier League team to win – which they promptly did. Could he be the latest lucky mascot/serial VIP of the property world? We look forward to his next appearance.

Chelsea star? Up for the cup

One could be forgiven for thinking this dashing chap is Chelsea's newest signing snapped with the Champions League trophy after last week's win over Bayern Munich. In fact, it is Mark Kleinman, director of James Andrew International, who was lucky enough to be in the VIP area one hour before kick-off. Kleinman said: "I rubbed the cup and said a little prayer for Chelsea to win. And I asked, if the game went to penalties, for once to let the English beat the Germans." His efforts paid off: agent by day, lucky Chelsea mascot by night.

26 MAY

CANDY MAY NEED A SWEETENER

Millionaire property developer Christian Candy has grand ambitions for the redevelopment of Sugar Quay, site of the former Tate & Lyle HQ for which his CPC group paid around £34m earlier this year. Diary understands Candy has commissioned architect Foster + Partners to draw up plans for 172 flats of one, two and three bedrooms, topped with penthouses. While few will be surprised the One Hyde Park developer has opted for a residential-led scheme, persuading City planners of the merits of 200,000 sq ft of new residential in the Square Mile may require a sweetener or two.

THE MAN OF STEELMAKING

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a 98ft high sculpture overlooking the M1 motorway between Rotherham and Sheffield. Rotherham council has granted planning permission for a £2.7m sculpture called the Man of Steel. The sculpture will depict a man sitting on a plinth designed by artist and former steelworker Steve Mehdi as a tribute to the region's steelmaking heritage. It will closely follow the principle of the Angel of the North, which overlooks the A1M motorway. But it will be 50% taller than the Gateshead statue. Size doesn't matter though, right?

HANDS OFF THE HANDHELDS

Warning shots about the industry's online future have been fired by residential property firm Move with Us, which has revealed that despite the explosion in mobile phone web surfing in the UK, less than half of residential estate agents have mobile-compatible websites. And more than 70% of the remaining agents surveyed do not expect to invest in a mobile website in the near future. It all makes rather alarming news for the estate agency sector if predictions that mobile browsing will overtake traditional web use by 2013 are accurate...

A SLICE OF ROMANCE PAYS OFF

Love was certainly in the air for Domino's Pizza on 14 February this year – the group has revealed that it was their busiest day of 2012 so far. Could it be that the UK's inability to embrace romance helped to fuel the group's impressive set of interim results released in July? And the planned expansion strategy in the UK and Germany? Whatever the answer, one thing's for sure – there's nothing like a touch of Pepperoni Passion on Valentine's Day.



Planning No application without perspiration

Hats off to Urban&Civic for submitting possibly the largest planning application of the summer. The group submitted an application to

Huntingdonshire district council this week for its Alconbury Weald scheme, which stretches to 6,700 pages including 11 supporting documents, 118 annexes and a total of around 2.5m words. The project includes 5,000 homes, 3m sq ft of commercial space, three new primary schools and 700 acres of open space. Naturally, Diary asked to see an image for the plans, and this is what we were sent. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words...

