



Q&A WITH **CAROLINE NORTON** The Medicine Tap

Tell us about The Medicine Tap:

The Medicine Tap is situated in the former Post Office building across from the majestic Town Hall. After a complete refurbishment, we opened the doors to The Medicine Tap in April '18. We try to encompass a bit of everything... so we're a coffeehouse, restaurant, bar and brewpub. We produce our own range of ales under the Mighty Medicine brand.

We are facing a challenging time at the moment, firstly how is the team and how are you managing to engage with your customers?

Although we understand the situation, it is actually quite heart breaking to be shut... the staff are eager to serve & the chefs are keen to get cooking! We love what we do and we all miss our work, our lovely customers & our colleagues. We are a close knit team & keep in touch regularly through our videos, our group messages & we share a lot of cocktails & cooking recipes on social media which our customers seem to like.

Where are you up to with putting plans in place for reopening when it is safe to do so?

With time on our hands we've spent many hours ensuring that once safe to do so... The Tap will come back bigger, better than ever! We've got an amazing bottomless brunch menu, cocktail masterclass and wine & dine events plus a superb range of ice cream ales to tempt the beer drinkers!



The Town Centre is about to go through one of its most positive transformations for years. Do you consider the transformation has helped your business?

The transformation over the last few years in the town centre has been incredible and I hope everyone will be of the opinion that's it's never looked so good!

Without the plans for the new shopping & leisure development, The Medicine Tap wouldn't exist... it really was the cherry on the cake... it was the thing that swayed us to transform the former Post Office into the place it is today.

We're 2 years into our journey and this was going to be our year as well as Rochdale's town centres year... Dippy's visit was incredible for Rochdale, we really noticed the increase in custom & we loved creating our Dinosaur themed menu! We had lots of plans to really showcase to visitors what the Medicine Tap and Rochdale have to offer... nothings forgotten or cancelled just on pause until we can reopen!

What's your favourite thing about Rochdale Town Centre?

I have to say The Medicine Tap here don't I... ha! Seriously I think the heritage of the town really is something to shout about. We have the most beautiful architecture & the Town Hall provides the perfect backdrop to the town centre - there are great views of the Town Hall from The Medicine Tap!