

LEEDS' BEST

CREAM OF THE CROP

MOISTURISERS

There was a time, a few months ago, when, so reliant were we on heavy-duty, bland body moisturisers that we almost forgot altogether about the girly, pampering qualities of a subtly scented summer thirst-quencher. So hurrah and hurrah for gorgeous smells, quite a number of organic ingredients and some of the prettiest packaging we've seen this side of Rose & Co (incidentally theirs is that cute-as-a-button pot of salve, for when you still have to tend to grayly knees and elbows and indescribably chapped lips at the height of the hottest season). Here's to a very soft summer.

WORD ON THE HIGHSTREET

MORE SHOPS OPEN AT LEEDS CORN EXCHANGE

Much to the excitement of many Leeds residents, it seems that the Corn Exchange is yet again encouraging independent boutiques through their doors. One of the latest newbies is menswear store Mki, opening in April. Founders Vik and Nichola are stocking brands from Korea, Paris and New York, providing exclusive and hard-to-find contemporary clothing. Also set to open at the newly renovated Corn Exchange very soon are men's fashion store Upstart and Little Pink Jewellery. Mummy and Little Me has also just opened its doors, offering glamorous maternity wear.

VQ LAUNCHES IPHONE APP

This is the first time we've heard of a shopping centre doing this, which alone makes it pretty cool. In order to keep right up to date with any discounts, special offers or events at Leeds' swish Victoria Quarter, you can download a free iPhone app from iTunes or direct from the online App Store. You will also find full store listings, contact details and web links.



GAGA & LAUPER CHARITY STICK

Head to the MAC counter in Harvey Nichols to pick up one of two limited edition signature lipsticks from the pop stars Lady Gaga and Cyndi Lauper. Viva Glam Cyndi and Viva Glam Gaga lipsticks can also be found at Meadowhall and will cost you £12.50 with all proceeds going to MAC's ongoing AIDS campaign.

TOP OF THE SHOPS

And in other VQ related news, they've just announced that voting has opened for this year's Top of the Shops awards, where shoppers in Leeds get to vote for their favourite VQ store. Last year's Store of the Year award went to Space NK. To have your say, pick up a voting form in the centre or inside the new VQ Magazine, which is out now.

Rachel Naylor

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- 1 Cowshed Knackered Cow relaxing body lotion, £16, Harvey Nichols
- 2 Jergens Naturals Total Nourishment body moisturiser, £4.99, Boots
- 3 Champneys Thai Royale body cream, £7, www.champneys.com
- 4 Australian Organics moisturising body lotion, £3.99, Holland & Barrett
- 5 Les Fleurs de Bach Anti-Stress body lotion, £29, www.LesFleursDeBach.co.uk
- 6 Rose Petal Salve, £5, Rose & Co
- 7 Soap & Glory The Righteous Butter, £10, Boots

Boots, 19 Albion Arcade, Leeds Shopping Plaza, LS1 5ET, 0113 243 2551; Harvey Nichols, 107 Briggate, Victoria Quarter, LS1 6BG, 0113 204 8888; Holland & Barrett, 37 Merrion Centre, LS2 8NG, 0113 234 2828; Rose & Co, 24 County Arcade, Victoria Quarter, LS1 6BN, 0113 245 4701

4 Australian Organics moisturising body lotion, £3.99, Holland & Barrett