

## Snapshots from Poznan

### The great flood



The flood wave on the Warta river went through Poznan. The water level exceeded the danger point and amounted to 670cm at high tide. Luckily, no serious damage was caused, because the floodbanks on the Warta river in Poznan are over 7m high and are well-kept. In the city, only buildings in a jetty on the Warta river and a couple of streets situated in lower areas were flooded.

The outskirts of Poznan, Starołęka, as well as Wiórek and Babki situated in the vicinity of Poznan, suffered the most. The river submerged allotments, fields and meadows. Houses and farms suffered only slight damage. During



the flood, the inhabitants of the areas threatened with flooding took quick action to help each other. The inhabitants, together with members of fire brigades and the army, built safety embankments from sand-filled bags.

If there is no more rain the high water level of the Warta river will hold for a week or so. The Warta river is one of the best regulated rivers in Poland. Its geographic location and the storage reservoir built in Jeziorsk allow for harnessing the power of the water. The last dangerous flood in Poznan took place in the 1970s.

### Street repairs

Important road investments are beginning on Poznan streets. The northern part of the Antoninek flyover at the exit towards Swarzędz will be closed and in a couple of days repair of the western roadway of ul. Przybyszewskiego will begin; at the beginning of July, repair of ul. Pułaskiego is to start.

The project of the Antoninek interchange expansion along ul. Warszawska and Bałtycka includes construction of retaining walls, a rain drainage system, redevelopment of a transformer station, power grid, the water mains, telecommunications and gas systems. On the newly-con-

## List of Content

- Snapshots from Poznan
- Academic Poznan
- Forum of the Poznan Conurbation
- Ethno Port Poznan
- Poznan Midsummer Fair
- Calendar of Events

structed flyover, junctions, embankment and on ul. Warszawska, acoustic screens will be built separating the busy artery from the Antoninek housing estate. The end of the works is planned for April 2012.

On ul. Przybyszewskiego construction works will include, above all, the road surface. Construction of a bicycle lane is also planned. The works will end at the end of August this year. Plumbing under ul. Pułaskiego will also be replaced, with these works to last to the end of September 2010.

During the works the streets will be closed, which will make it difficult to get to Winogrody and Piątkowo.

### Good earnings of the Poznan inhabitants

According to the results of a national earnings study conducted by the Sedlak & Sedlak company, last year's income median in Poznan amounted to a gross 3,950 PLN. The study also shows that earnings of half of the Wielkopolska capital city inhabitants fall into the bracket of gross 2,720 PLN and 6,000 PLN. Only the inhabitants of Warszawa earn more.

source: *Gazeta Wyborcza*.

## Snapshots from Poznan

### Design Centre in Stara Drukarnia (Old Printing House)



Renovation works on the Stara Drukarnia on ul. Zwirzyniecka in Poznan at the back of the Sheraton Hotel have already begun. Thanks to EU funds and a 40% share of the Pro Design company, the Wielkopolska Design Centre will be built in the Concordia building which dates from the 19th century. Its main goal will be to improve the competitiveness of Wielkopolska businesses designing and producing original projects, such as furniture or furnishings. The co-financing will be granted on the basis of an agreement between Pro Design and the Wielkopolska Region Marshall's Office.

Pracownia Projektowa Mariusz Wrzeszcz has won the tender for the architectural design. The project was consulted on with the City Monuments Conservator, because of the historic character of the buildings. The building's mass will not be changed, and Stara Drukarnia will keep its 19th-century character. The general

contractor for construction works is Mostostal Warszawa, Poznan branch, with the Euroklimat company from Poznan responsible for installation works and Mercury Engineering Warszawa, Poznan branch conducting electric works. The end of the renovation and construction works is planned for October 2011.

## New trams for Poznan

MPK (City Transport) will purchase 45 low-floor trams from the Solaria company from Bolechów near Poznan. The new trams have been tested on Poznan streets for a couple of weeks now, but so far have been running empty. The inhabitants of Poznan will test the trams in mid-2011. From June 2011 until March 2012, 45 such modern trams will be running along the streets of Poznan, although we still do not know which lines will be equipped with the new cars. Originally, only 40 trams were to be purchased, however, we have managed to negotiate a price allowing Poznan to buy an additional 5 trams.



## Office blocks in Poznan

According to a report by the King Sturge company, in the first quarter of 2010 interest increased in the Poznan office market. The improvement of the economic situation in the country also created a better perspective for this sector.

Although the percentage of un-let office surface in Poznan amounts to 9.5%, a downward trend has been observed. The rate is higher than in Katowice and Wrocław, but lower than in Kraków (12.5%) and Łódź (19.5%). Among all regional cities, a decrease in the number of empty office buildings was registered only Poznan, Katowice and Wrocław. This indicated growth, although perhaps only in a moderate manner, in the interest of companies in office rent. The increased demand for commercial surfaces comes mainly from BPO (business process offshoring) companies, acting mainly in the fields of accounting, consulting and IT and located in Poland because of lower labour costs. This is undoubtedly a chance for the Wielkopolska capital city, which, despite poor office space compared to other regional cities, has a chance at the fastest development. In accordance with the report made by the King Sturge company, the Poznan office market encompasses 209,000m<sup>2</sup>, which means that it is the smallest among all regional cities, excluding Łódź, with 182,000m<sup>2</sup>. But the supply of office space has started to grow. In 2010 investors plan to put into use around 33,000m<sup>2</sup> of office space, including 9,000m<sup>2</sup> put into operation in the first quarter of 2010.

*source: poznanskie-nieruchomosci*

## Academic Poznan

Cooperation of Adam Mickiewicz University with the Viadrina European University



In May a cooperation agreement between Adam Mickiewicz University and the Viadrina European University in Frankfurt (Oder), which defines the legal basis of the cooperation between the universities, was signed.

As a result of this year's agreement, in October 2011, the Collegium Polonicum in Słubice will launch a new undergraduate field of study – German intercultural studies. Graduates will receive diplomas from both universities. In the future, opening of supplementary graduate German intercultural studies is planned. Polish – German studies have already been created and run on similar grounds in Słubice, including law studies, international communication and political science.

The Collegium Politicum is a common scientific and research institution of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, and the Viadrina European University in Frankfurt (Oder). Its main aim is action for scientific and cultural

cooperation between Poland and Germany. The teaching profile includes studies under the patronage of one or both universities, and post-graduate studies and classes as part of the supplementary programme. Collegium Polonicum is also a place of Polish and German cooperation in culture; every year numerous cultural events are held there, such as the Days of Music by the Oder, and the Transvocale festival. Currently, around 53,000 students from many countries are studying at both universities, including almost 2,000 at the Collegium Polonicum in Słubice.

## Centre of Mechatronics, Biomechanics and Nanoengineering



In the area of the Poznan University of Technology campus, the foundation stone of the Centre of Mechatronics, Biomechanics and Nanoengineering was set. The new centre, which will be built at the junction of ul. Jana Pawła II and Berdychowo, will house five departments of the Poznan University of Technology, including the Department of Materials and their Properties and the Department of Mechatronics and Biomechanics.

The centre, with a surface of over 13,000m<sup>2</sup>, is to be ready in 2011. The construction costs will amount to 60,000,000 PLN, with co-financing from EU funds.

## Bioinformatics – a new field of study in Poznan

Bioinformatics – a macrofaculty and joint project of two leading Poznan Universities, the Adam Mickiewicz University and the Poznan University of Technology – is part of the full-time undergraduate and graduate studies the universities offer in a modern educational programme which includes subjects meeting the standards of education in the fields of biology and information technology and, above all, subjects typical of bioinformatics. Academic Teachers from the Faculty of Biology at Adam Mickiewicz University and the Faculty of Computing Science and Management will supervise the studies. The first enrolment will be carried out simultaneously for undergraduate and graduate studies beginning in 2010.

Involvement of first-class specialists from both universities, conducting research at the highest world level and a modern programme of studies all guarantee a high standard of education. Jobs in dynamically developing biotechnology and bioinformatics industry await the graduates.

## Poznan universities at the top of the ranking of universities and colleges

The Poznan universities are at the top of the ranking of Polish universities and colleges, published by one of the biggest Polish newspapers Rzeczpospolita and a weekly magazine Perspektywy. The Adam Mickiewicz Univer-

sity took the third place among Polish public universities. The Poznan University of Medical Sciences and the Poznan University of Economics took second places in their respective categories. Poznan University of Life Sciences came third in the category of agricultural universities and colleges, the third place was also taken by the Adam Mickiewicz University and the University of Physical Education in the category of universities and the category of physical education universities and colleges, respectively. Among 89 public universities and colleges included in the ranking, the Adam Mickiewicz University came third (after the Warsaw University and the Jagiellonian University and before the Warsaw University of Technology), the University of Medical Sciences was tenth, the Poznan University of Technology was 25th and the University of Economics – 26th. The best 16th place in the category of non-public universities and colleges went to the Poznan School of Banking and in the category of non-public undergraduate colleges the best 37th place went to the Poznan Trade and Commerce Centre. Currently, in Poland there are around 300 different universities and colleges.

## Economic Forum of the Poznan Conurbation

“Strong conurbation, modern metropolis” – this was the motto of the 3rd Economic Forum of the Poznan Conurbation. The participants of the meeting discussed,



above all, entrepreneurship promotion in the context of plans and strategies determining the conurbation’s growth directions. The Economic Forum of the Poznan Conurbation has been a place of experience exchange and a chance to discuss entrepreneurship promotion in the context of plans and strategies determining the conurbation’s growth directions for a couple of years now. During these meetings, subjects connected with currently implemented investments are discussed, such as investments connected with the European Football Championships EURO 2012.

This year’s meeting was dedicated to the currently developing Poznan conurbation strategy by 2020 and 2030. Special guests of the meeting include representatives of the Spanish region of Barcelona, believed

to be one of the model European metropolises.

The Poznan conurbation is a local self-government community created by the inhabitants of the City of Poznan and the Poznan Poviats, encompassing 17 districts situated around Poznan. On account of the central location of Poznan, even districts situated several dozen kilometres from Poznan have declared their intention of joining the district. The conurbation has no legal nature as yet, but is a free union of districts. However, the members of the Conurbation Board plan to intensify the cooperation in the next couple of years.

*Photographs – A fragment of forum’s meeting*



## Ethno Port Poznan



For the third time June evenings in Poznan will be filled with ethnic music from around the world. From the 17th – 19th June on two stages in the Warta river's Old Channel we will see a dozen or so bands from Europe, Asia and Africa.

The Ethno Port Poznan Festival is already one of the most important world music festivals in Poland. It took the event only three years to be noticed and appreciated by artists, managers and music journalists from all over Europe.

'The characteristic feature of the festival is openness, both geographic – we can see and hear artists from the most remote parts of the world and from almost completely unknown in Poland ethnic groups and cultural traditions – as well as musical' says Joanna Przygońska from CK Zamek, the organiser of the festival.

### Programme:

**17/06 (Thursday) 7:00pm**

Publiczki (Poland)

Staff Benda Bilili (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

Eva Quartet (Bulgaria)

**18/06 (Friday) 6:00pm**

Mosaic (Poland)

Hanggai (China/Inner Mongolia)

Nawal (Comoros/France)  
Andrew Cronshaw (Great Britain)  
& Svetlana Spajic (Serbia), Tigran Aleksanyan (Armenia)

**19/06 (Saturday) 6:00pm**

Fanfara Transilvania (Romania)

Motion Trio (Poland)

Speed Caravan (France/Algeria)

Wimme (Finland)

## Poznan Midsummer Fair

The organisers of the jubilee 35th Midsummer Fair promise that the event will remind visitors of its Poznan character. Both the programme and all actions connected with it will stress the fact that the event is organised and comes from Poznan. This year's fair will be held from the 5th – 13th June.



The tradition of the Midsummer Fair dates back to the 15th century. With time, the fair has become not only a commercial but also cultural and social event. This year it will be no different. The Old Market Square will belong to traders, craftsmen and artists. In especially arranged places visitors will have a chance to taste delicacies of regional cuisine and buy products made by Wielkopolska artists and craftsmen. Additionally, concerts and performances will be held every day on a stage located at the exit of ul. Woźna.

The following artists will give performances during the Fair: Tomasz Budzyński (with the solo project "Luna"...), 52 Dębiec (a hip-hop band), Underground Fly (alternative rock), Sonic Lake (pop, funk, soul, rock) and Hellow Dog (Poznan neuro'n'roll).

The musical star of this year's fair will be the Czarno-Czarni band. The last weekend of the fair is, above all, festival concerts. As part of the International Children Folklore Festival "Kids fun folk 2010" Polish, Czech and Hungarian groups will give performances.

Just like every year, the final of the Regional Nursery School Pupils' Competition will also be held during the Midsummer Fair.

This year's Midsummer Fair will be supported by the City Transport authority (MPK), which has prepared many attractions, such as performances of the MPK City of Poznan Orchestra and a presentation of the oldest historic horse tram.

## Calendar of Events

Midsummer Fair  
(Jarmark Świętojański)

05-13/06/2010

*Old Market Square*

For more information see page 5.

In search of happiness

06/06/2010, 6:00pm

*City Gallery Arsenal, Old Market Square, Poznań*

The exhibition is the result of a creative search by artists and curators from a dozen or so European countries and living in Great Britain, drawing on the richness of European culture functioning as a conglomeration of different, often contradictory but still coexisting values, identities and experiences. At the end of the exhibition a movie documenting the event and a catalogue will be presented.

Concert "Lips fall silent, whispering are violins"

06/06/2010, 7:00pm

*Plac Wolności*

Host: Daniel Kustosik

The concert will include performances by artists of the Poznań musical theatre, such as Anna Bajerska-Witczak, Anna Lasota, Agnieszka Wawrzyniak, Maciej Ogórkiewicz, Ballet and Orchestra conducted by Przemysław Neuman.

Admission free.

Future Shorts Extra 10  
– "Colours" - June 2010

10/06/2010

*Rialto cinema, ul. Dąbrowskiego 38*

A June edition of the biggest world short films festival brings you a programme entitled "Colours". Go on a journey around the world – from South Africa to China – with an eclectic mix of short films.

## Piwnica Pod Baranami

11/06/2010, 5:00pm

*Apollo cinema, ul. Ratajczaka 18*

Piwnica pod Baranami – a cabaret created by Krakow theatre artists. Songs and short stage forms were written and performed in the original Piwnica for many years, and in artistic environment it is known as a bastion of artists, the nursery of talents, the fountain of unhindered thoughts.

## Concert of the Urmuli band

13/06/2010, 8:00pm

*Blue Note, entrance from ul. Kościuszki*

The band's repertoire is very diversified, and includes instrumental music and polyphonic songs from the Middle Ages. Traditional folk melodies are arranged by the band members in keeping with the characteristics and style of Georgian songs performed solo to an instrumental accompaniment, as well as polyphonic songs whose structure is regionally diversified.

## Jurek Jagoda Trio concert

16/06/2010, 8:00pm

*Blue Note club, ul. Kościuszki 76/78*

The Jurek Jagoda Trio concert is an opportunity to participate in the "hatching" of a new, potentially very interesting project. The group has just recorded its debut album called "Songs Without Words". The Jazz Forum magazine is involved in the wide promotion of the record. In accordance with its title, the album includes pieces with a song structure and distinct melodic line. The music puts the listener into a cosy and romantic mood. It is easy to find rich jazz-rock inspirations from Keith Jarrett, Bill Evans, Lalo Schifrin, Led Zeppelin and Jimi Hendrix in the group's music.

## Gotan Project in Poznań

16/06/2010, 7:00pm

*Arena Performance and Sports Hall, ul. Wyspiańskiego, Poznań*

More than just a music band – the Gotan Project is an exceptional phenomena on the world musical scene. The musicians make something seemingly impossible happen – they combine Argentine tango and electronic club music in an electrifying way. The music of Gotan Project, emanating incredible energy, combines the best elements of two musical cultures. This musical mixture, full of energy and eroticism, has won the hearts of millions of fans around the world.

## John Mayall concert

17/06/2010, 8:00pm

*Eskulap, ul. Przybyszewskiego 39*

A concert by the British multi-instrumentalist (guitar, harmonica, keyboards), composer and bluesman.

## Ethno Port Poznań Festiwal 2010

17-18-19/06/2010

*The Old Channel of the Warta River*

For more information see page 5.

## Gala Concert of the Mazowsze band

19/06/2010, 5:00pm

*Arena, ul. Wyspiańskiego 33*

Currently, the group's line-up includes a ballet, choir and a symphony orchestra. Melodies performed by the band come from 39 Polish and world regions. Mazowsze is a group of a hundred artists, with 8 tons of luggage, 1,500 costumes and 55 years of experience. Mazowsze has travelled 2,300,000 kilometers and had 17,000,000 spectators. It's had concerts in 168 places in Poland and 213 tours abroad for a total of over 6,500 concerts.