

New store could create 25 new jobs

Peacocks aim to feather Bay's nest

By STEVE STRATFORD

AN investment of £300,000 and 25 new jobs are on the way with the re-opening of an empty town centre store.

Cardiff-based clothes retailer Peacocks is taking over the former Co-op Living store on Station Road, Colwyn Bay, in April, providing part-time, full-time and temporary jobs and giving the town a much-needed boost.

Andrea Shaw of Peacocks told the *Weekly News* this week: "Peacocks currently have a store in Caernarfon but do not have a strong presence in North Wales. We feel the town is the right location with the right population and the target customers we cater for."

"Business at Caernarfon has been very good, so we included the region in our ongoing expansion plan."

The plan commits the chain to opening an additional six new stores in the UK by the end of April, one other of which will be located in the former Co-op Living building on Bangor High Street.

Peacocks currently employs over 4,000 people in 280 outlets nationwide, and is to open over 300 more by the year 2003.

The news was warmly welcomed by Chris Jackson, chairman of the town's regeneration panel, who said: "This is great news. Peacocks is just the kind of quality mid-range store we need to invest in Colwyn Bay."

Town councillor and ardent regeneration activist Gwyn Hughes added: "This is a wonderful start to the new year. It shows large chain stores such as Peacocks can display confidence in the future of the town as much as we who live here do. One hopes this positive news will continue in 2000."

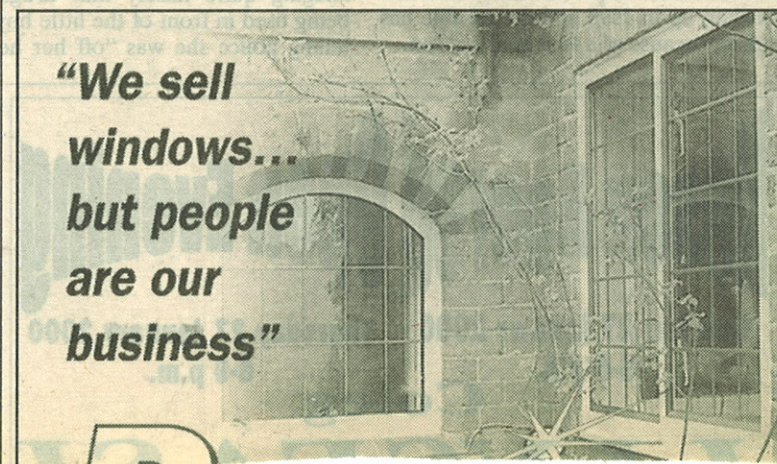
The Colwyn Bay store, which will sell affordable family clothing, footwear and soft furnishings, will be one of the largest of Peacocks's current 280-strong chain.

The company, who reported a 28 per cent increase in profits for 1999, was established in Warrington in the late 19th century.



Good news: The empty Co-op Living store is to be taken over by the Cardiff-based clothes chain, Peacocks.

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windows...
but people
are our
business"**



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