

# Mergers on the dancefloor Iconic Lakota may become business space

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It has been a turbulent few years for Bristol's famed nightlife scene with much-loved venues closing and others announcing their struggles.

Thekla sent shockwaves around not just Bristol but the whole country when it revealed its days could be numbered due to a new development being built opposite it, and that was followed by the closures of Surrey Vaults and the Bierkeller.

And today it has been revealed another of the city's most famous nightclubs is set to close, as the owners of Lakota have said it is time for them to "explore new opportunities".

In the early 90s the legendary venue on the corner of Upper York Street and Moon Street was seen as one of the most famous clubs in the country, welcoming many of the world's most exciting DJs.

Now, three decades on, it is still regarded very highly among DJs and clubbers far and wide who love it for its grimy nature, pounding sound system and consistently impressive line-ups.

But the Burgess family, who own the venue, have released a statement expressing their intentions to call it a day, confirming the worst fears of many by hinting it could become accommodation and business space.

Alarm bells started ringing back in February when a request was made to Bristol City Council for a screening opinion as to whether an Environmental Impact Assessment was required for refurbishment and conversion to create 59 residential units and business space.

But with its future use not yet set



The Lakota night club, Upper York Street, Bristol

Picture: Steve Roberts

in stone, there is still hope that it might remain a nightclub.

And while it will come as a relief to club-goers that there are no imminent plans to redevelop the

venue, with it likely to remain as it is for a few years, it's still a huge blow to the city.

It comes at a time when Stokes Croft as a whole is undergoing sig-

nificant changes, with Westmoreland House set to be demolished by December 7 and the future of well-used arts space Hamilton House still very much uncertain.

in brief

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THIS weekend Temple Meads will be playing host to a 'health, wealth and happiness' expo headed by TV's Martin Roberts.

The event promises to provide a bumper two days showcasing an array of fitness classes, cooking demos, motivational speeches, and inspiring talks from some notable names including Gregg Wallace and Nigel Owens MBE.

Homes Under the Hammer host Martin Roberts (pictured below) said: "I set up Achieve primarily to help people of any age make changes to their life by encouraging them to take small steps and have the confidence to do so."



"To achieve success in any aspect of our life is hard - it takes commitment, sacrifice, encouragement and determination.

"Achieve has been designed to inspire visitors to take action.

"Nothing happens if we sit still, yet knowing where to start is often a stumbling block.

"I am committed to delivering cutting edge and original speaker content and exhibitors so that Achieve becomes one of the key 'go-to' annual family events."

To book a ticket visit [achieve.co.uk](http://achieve.co.uk) Day passes cost £25 in advance or £30 on the door.

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