



# Quay Notes

December 2014

A MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

Newsletter for residents of Merchants Landing

[www.mlra.co.uk](http://www.mlra.co.uk)

## Redcliffe Wharf Scheme Revived



*Artist's impression of the proposed scheme for Redcliffe Wharf*

Residents may recall the Redcliffe Wharf Eco-village, planned for a two-month period last summer. That scheme came to nothing, but Redcliffe Gardens and Lido, a community interest company (CIC), is planning a similar scheme for the derelict wharf in 2015. A CIC is a special type of limited company which exists to benefit the community rather than private shareholders. In a concept paper recently published, the new company summarizes its objectives: *The aim is to create a waterside village green, with a beach, restaurant, entertainment space, market, theatre, artists in residents, human powered cinema and eco/wellness spa and interactive arts space.* Redcliffe Gardens and Lido has ambitious environmental targets (like 100% of its energy sustainably generated on site and zero waste generation). The company also want to show how underused city centre sites can be imaginatively transformed.

The website of the new company sets out its vision in these terms: *2015 is a unique opportunity for Bristolians to make good use of a much loved and underused site, Redcliffe Wharf. The site is one of the last remaining waterside locations in the city centre. While empty now, it may not be so for very long. To leave it empty during the run up to Bristol's European Green Capital Year of 2015 would be to miss a real opportunity. Redcliffe Wharf has the potential to become a symbol of Bristol's dynamism, her capacity to innovate and put ideas into practice, and her drive to become a genuinely green city.* The company have approached us in MLRA and requested that we send a supportive letter to the council. The committee has discussed this and whilst there is general support for the idea we feel that we cannot assume that for the whole of the Landing. Residents can of course write individually with their views.

## News from Your Residents Association

*Joi Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Residents Association reports:*

### Bob's Annual Quiz

On a chilly Friday evening in November several teams of residents and 'cabot cruisers' met on the John Sebastian to test their skills against the questions set by our quizmasters Bob and Steve. Once again much fun was had by all! It was a very close competition up to the last round but the Merrickles (Geri and Scott, Maggie and Mike, all from Merrick Court) proved triumphant in the end. It was also good to see both new residents and some former residents join us for a splendid evening. Huge thanks to Bob and Steve for their hard work in putting this together.

### AGM

Our AGM was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and was attended by 33 residents. Joi highlighted the successes of the past year, which had included Bob's Quiz, an Antiques evening, a Murder Mystery play, the Annual Garden Party, and a visit to Avery's Wine Cellars. Shirley Stark reported on the accounts, and although the balance of funds being carried forward would be slightly down on last year, it was proposed and agreed that the subscriptions remain at £10 per household. All existing committee members were willing to stand again apart from Sandy Conway – she was warmly thanked for her contribution and support. The others were re-elected with the addition of Ann Phillips from 7 Trin Mills. The Charity to be supported next year would be MacMillan Nurses. Concern was raised about an increase in rats seen, and that had already been raised with BCC.

### BURNS NIGHT

With apologies, it is not going to happen this year due to organisational problems.

**DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR SUBS!**

The Merchants Landing Residents Association Committee:

Anthony Rackham	5 Merchants Quay	9297562	Joi Demery	9 Merchants Quay	9213412
Geri Bowie	7 Merrick Court	9294689	Ann Phillips	7 Trin Mills	
Tony Little	13 Challoner Court	9227336			
Shirley Stark	8 Wapping Road	9293953	Jan Walsh	8 Bathurst Parade	9268714

## Amenities Company News

*Roy Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Amenities Board reports:*

Owners and Tenants are reminded that the parking spaces within the development are for occasional use by residents only and that the Parking Permit cannot be sold. Care should also be taken to ensure that vehicles parked in the spaces do not obstruct access to surrounding garages, particularly in the area behind Byzantine Court where some of the spaces are unsuitable for larger vehicles.

To aid security, bins and recycling containers should be collected promptly after collection and not left overnight in or adjacent to the communal areas.

At the recent ML(A)L AGM held on the John Sebastian on the 17th October, Roy Demery, David Johnson and Niki Thomas were re-appointed as Directors for a further year.

The chair's report detailed the maintenance and improvements carried out over the past year, including the resurfacing of tarmac paths behind Bathurst Parade and Merchants Quay, the new landscaping in the communal gardens, repainting the white lines and trimming of trees around the development. Concerns raised at the meeting included vehicles parking on the quayside alongside Merchants House, security of the communal gardens and the storage of bins in communal areas. Following the AGM, volunteers have come forward to fill the 3 vacant positions on the Board and the existing directors will be discussing co-option at their next meeting.

*Continuing our series on local place names:*

### TRIN MILLS

The entrance to Bathurst Basin used to be where the River Malago joined the Avon before the construction of the New Cut, and the Basin was a Millpond surrounded by trees. Trin or Treen is an old term for a tree. Tidal Mills were in operation here, possibly in Roman times when the pond might have been used for Christian baptisms. The Mills were certainly in place in the late Middle Ages. Latimer's *Annals of Bristol in the Seventeenth Century* records that in 1641 the Bristol Corporation concluded a perambulation of the city boundaries with an open-air banquet and a duck hunt at Treen Mills.

### WAPPING WHARF PHASE 2 - UPDATE

The 'Reserved Matters' planning application is going through Bristol City Council's statutory consultation period and is due to be determined this month. The planning documents are available to view online at [www.bristol.gov.uk](http://www.bristol.gov.uk) - follow the planning links and search on reference number 14/04746/M. The proposals are also available to view online at [www.wappingwharf.co.uk](http://www.wappingwharf.co.uk). Phase 2 will provide 325 apartments, (244 open market and 81 affordable) as well as office space, shops and car parking to the east of Phase 1, on land bounded by Cumberland Road, Wapping Road and the new access road through the site. The Grade 2 listed Gaol Gate is to be restored to form a new entrance into the site for pedestrians. The Grade 2 listed J S Fry Warehouse, is to be restored with a tiled roof and timber roof structure to provide office accommodation on a new mezzanine floor with car parking below. Subject to final agreement with the Council the developer is also providing a new Metro bus stop, layby and retail unit along Cumberland Road.

### MUSEUM STREET EXTENSION

Contractors are on site now. The scheme involves realigning the roadway to the rear of the Guinness Building before it returns back onto the Harbourside, making Museum Square traffic free and also providing a cycle route to the south of 'M' shed and away from the harbour's edge. The works are due to be completed by the end of the year.

**CORRECTION** to our piece in the last issue on the development of Byzantine Court: The squash courts were never used commercially, only by the builders!

Contact details for the Directors of Merchants Landing (Amenities) Ltd are:

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or, if that's not possible, through the letterbox.