



# QuayNotes

A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

Newsletter for residents of Merchants Landing

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

DECEMBER 2015

## Campaign to close Prince St Bridge permanently to cars



The Prince Street Bridge currently under repair with temporary scaffolding bridge above.

Campaigners for pedestrians "Living Heart for Bristol" have proposed that the City Council should use the temporary closure of the Prince Street Bridge to test whether it could be permanently closed to cars and used exclusively by pedestrians and cycles. Steve Melia, spokesman for the Living Heart for Bristol said recently: *"This structural work offers a great opportunity to create a better living and working environment in the city centre. Two of the objections we often hear to public realm improvements are that it will cause traffic chaos and it will cost too much money. Well here is an opportunity that will cost no money because the bridge is being closed anyway. Will it cause traffic chaos? Will it make businesses bankrupt? Its happening anyway for 6 months, so the Council should take the opportunity to monitor the situation."*

Bristol Civic Society have indicated their support for the assessment.

No doubt some residents here on Merchants Landing would welcome the reduction in noise and pollution levels if the bridge were closed to cars, but others may lament the loss of connectivity to the centre and beyond.

It is understood that City Council officers have been unenthusiastic about the idea. A source has said that the current closure has caused network problems and there would perhaps be an impact on the metrobus routes. If they were to exclude cars in future there would have to be a proper consultation process with an Experimental Traffic Order, and the highways department do not apparently have the resources for that at the present time.

**Murder & Mayhem Inc.**

Organised by your Residents Association.

Join us for an evening of fun and mystery.

Friday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2016.

7.30pm for 8pm start.

On the "John Sebastian".

Tickets are £10, with all proceeds to our charity for this year, Rethink.

Please bring some food to share and your own plates and cutlery.

Paybar run by our hosts, the Cabot Cruising Club.

Get your tickets from:

Joi Demery

9 Merchants Quay.

Space limited, don't delay!

## 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	6 Trin Mills	3297412
Tony Little	13 Challoner Court	9227336	Kevin Little	3 Merrick Court	
Shirley Stark	8 Wapping Road	9293953	Jan Walsh	8 Bathurst Parade	9268714

## News of your Residents Association

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

**AGM.** This took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October and was attended by 35 residents. It was agreed that the annual subscription would remain at £10, and the charity to be supported at our events next year would be Rethink – a mental health charity. The existing committee were willing to stand again and were all re-elected, and joined by a new member, Kevin Little, from Merrick Court. Thanks were given to David Demery for all his hard work on the splendid website, Ann Le Maistre for keeping us informed on neighbourhood watch and Mike Thorne for entertaining us with Quay Notes. The Chair also acknowledged how fortunate we were to have such a great venue available to us in the “John Sebastian”, and thanked Den and Pat for looking after us so well.

**Bob's Quiz Night.** On a mild November night the finest brains from across Merchants Landing were joined on the “John Sebastian” by members of the Cabot Cruising Club to be tested on a range of subjects from USA to food and history. The music round was a revelation, with unusually many teams scoring in double figures! Once again the really hard work had been undertaken many months before by the quiz master himself, Bob, ably assisted by his assistant Steve.

**Events for 2016.** The first event next year will be a Murder Mystery on March 4<sup>th</sup> (details overleaf). If anyone has a bright idea for future events please contact any committee member.

### SNIPPETS FROM THE MLRA WEBSITE

*The information below was posted recently on the mlra website by our webmasters Laura and David Demery, and also circulated by email to interested residents. If you would like to add your name to the circulation list please get in touch via our website: [www.mlra.org.uk](http://www.mlra.org.uk)*

**Lower Guinea Street.** The General Hospital developers, City & Country, have applied to pedestrianise Lower Guinea Street, rather than allow one-way traffic from Redcliffe Hill as originally proposed. There will be removable bollards to allow emergency vehicle access.

**Metrobus changes.** On some routes the planned frequency of service has been reduced. There will not be any ticket machines at bus stops – you will still buy from the driver. And the engine specifications have changed from bio-gas to diesel 'hybrids'.

**Redcliffe Parade development.** The latest proposals to convert 3-8 Redcliffe Parade from offices back to residential have not been welcomed by the Council. The Council describe it as a 'missed opportunity for this sensitive site' – too many small units, and they want to see the frontage returned to its original form.

## Amenities Company News

*Roy Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Amenities Board says:* At the Amenities Company AGM in October held on the “John Sebastian”, John Brentnall, Gaenor Cashman, Roy Demery, Niki Thomas and Mike Thorne were all reappointed as Directors for the next year. There is still a vacancy remaining for an 'A' Shareholder Director, so if you own a house on Merchants Landing (especially on one of the currently unrepresented roads – Wapping Road and Trin Mills), and wish to assist with the running of the communal areas within the development, please contact one of the Directors (contact details below) for further info.

## Subscriptions for the Merchants Landing Residents Association due on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016.

Payments (£10 per household) please to Treasurer Shirley Stark at 8 Wapping Road.

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

Roy Demery	9 Merchants Quay	<a href="mailto:r.demery@btinternet.com">r.demery@btinternet.com</a>	0117 921 3412
Niki Thomas	1 Challoner Court	<a href="mailto:nicola.thomas1@btinternet.com">nicola.thomas1@btinternet.com</a>	
Gaenor Cashman	5 Bathurst Parade	<a href="mailto:gaenor@talktalk.net">gaenor@talktalk.net</a>	0117 927 7081
John Brentnall	3 Byzantine Court	<a href="mailto:john.brentnall@wards.co.uk">john.brentnall@wards.co.uk</a>	
Mike Thorne	15 Merrick Court	<a href="mailto:maggiandmikethorne@talktalk.net">maggiandmikethorne@talktalk.net</a>	01275 218712
Vacant			

**Managing Agent: Bristol Leasehold Management, Oakside House, 35 Oakfield Road, Bristol BS8 2AT. Contact: Roger Bryan. Telephone: 0117 317 9588. Email: [office@bristol-leases.co.uk](mailto:office@bristol-leases.co.uk)**

This Newsletter is edited by: Mike Thorne of 15, Merrick Court, Merchants Quay.  
Comments very welcome, and contributions, preferably by email: [maggiandmikethorne@talktalk.net](mailto:maggiandmikethorne@talktalk.net)  
or, if that's not possible, through the letterbox.