



“QUAY NOTES” - March 2005

(News, views and information for residents of Merchants Landing)

Your Committee Members

Mary Rackham	5 Merchants Quay	9297562	Janetta Mitchinson	3 Tryn Mills	9276209
Scott Bowie	7 Merrick Court	9294689	Michael Hart	2 Challoner Court	9215291
Bob Bishop	4 Daubeny Court	9268637	Hazel Hill	4 Byzantine Court	9294962
Shirley Stark	8 Wapping Road	9293953	Sandy Conway	1 Draycott Place	9293454

Gordon's Bristol Bites - The Arnolfini

The building at the end of Prince Street now being extensively renovated began life in 1830 as offices and warehousing for Messrs Acraman, a thriving and expanding firm of iron founders. Acraman's then had foundries in Chew Magna, St Philip's and on Bathurst Basin where they made chains & anchors. The architect was probably R S Pope, responsible also for the Wool Hall in Thomas Street now known as the "Fleece & Firkin". In 1836 Acraman extended their warehouse northwards to provide tea warehousing after the monopoly of the East India Company was lifted in 1833. Bristol could then "get in" on the tea trade. Later, in 1864 when the city had urgent need for bonded accommodation the Warehouse was rented to them. By 1975 the building was redundant. It was then re-modelled. Cast iron columns and wooden floors were replaced by concrete and the present roof added giving an extra floor. It then became an Arts Centre and developed a distinguished reputation known as the "Arnolfini".

We await its re-opening with high expectation.

Tsunami Appeal.

On Friday 21st January a number of residents organised a Tsunami fundraising evening on board the John Sebastian. It was a very enjoyable evening with an auction, bric-a-brac and cake stalls. The grand sum of **£980.20** was raised and has been donated to the BRITISH RED CROSS. A big thank you to all who contributed so generously. Without your help and support this evening would not have been so successful. Thanks also to the Cabot Cruising Club who donated the use of their club for the evening and who also supported the event.



MLRA 2005 subscription only £5.00

Address:

Please tear off, enclose your £5.00 and send to Bob Bishop at 4 Daubney Court.

If you require a receipt, please tick here

Cheques should be payable to: Merchants Landing Residents Association.

Redcliffe Parade Environmental Association

A number of residents attended the RPEA AGM and enjoyed a fascinating talk on the architecture of the area by Janet Margrie.

We will be maintaining close links with the RPEA in future as both our organisations are interested in ensuring that developments in our area are both suitable and in-keeping.

Web site

Our web site address is www.mlra.co.uk
Have you used it? Do you have any comments or suggestions? Let Peter Hale know on pghale@iee.org.

Feed the birds?

Definitely not the seagulls or pigeons!

However, if you have a lawn to mow, and don't require the cuttings for compost, think of the swans. FRESH grass cuttings are an excellent food for them, much better than bread.

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION AGM

Friday 11th March at 7.30 pm in the YHA.

If you would like to stand for any position on the committee, or have any items for the agenda, please contact either Bob Bishop or Scott Bowie.

Coming events

Dates for your Diary.

- 14/06/05 Neil Diamond Concert at Bristol City Football Ground
- 29/06/05 Bristol Harbour Fun Run
- 16-17/07/05 Orange Ashton Court Festival at Ashton Court
- 23-31/07/05 SWEB Energy Bristol Harbour Festival at Bristol Harbour
- 11-14/08/05 Bristol International Balloon Fiesta at Ashton Court
- 03-04/09/05 Bristol International Festival of Kites at Ashton Court

SS Great Britain Glass 'sea' is installed

A state of the art initiative to halt the corrosion of the ss Great Britain is underway. The innovative glass 'sea' will be installed in a two month process to provide a protective environment for the hull and give the illusion that the ship is afloat in her dock. Once complete visitors will be able to go underneath the glass and see Brunel's ship from below. The installation of the glass 'sea' marks a major milestone in the £11.3 million project to conserve the ship.

Contact: Dagmar Smeed 0117 926 0680

For more details and a full listing of events go to visitbristol.co.uk

Thanks to Peter for the above.

Peter Brooks, Bristol Harbour Homes, 2 Trin Mills, Bristol, BS1 4RJ

0117 9279025 or 07834 517808. Web site BristolHarbourHomes.com

Neighbourhood Watch.

During January 05 there have been two vehicle break ins and one car has been stolen. If any resident has had any other attempted vehicle entry or suffered any criminal activity since Dec 04 please let John Bates know on 921 1789.

Reminder: When contacting the police, please state your area identification – Cabot sector, AC113 City Centre. Your local policeman is PC Niall Stewart at Trinity Road Police station.

Quay Notes

Next edition will be out on 1 June 2005. Please keep contributions flowing. Send them by e-mail to rackham@onetel.com. Alternatively post them at No5