



“QUAY NOTES” - March 2012

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

www.mlra.co.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS !! (Make sure you don't miss them!!)

- 1) A Queen's Diamond Jubilee garden party on Saturday 2nd June., from 1.00 pm. Plenty of food, wine, music and good company, so put it in your diary now.**
- 2) A Gardening talk – see the item overleaf.**

AND MORE IN THE PIPELINE BUT DO LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE IDEAS FOR SOCIAL EVENTS WHICH YOU THINK WOULD APPEAL!

Message from MLRA Committee

It is with great sadness that we are in need of a new editor for Quay Notes and a new secretary for MLRA. Mary was a stalwart of the residents association committee for many years and her enthusiasm and efficiency will be greatly missed by the current committee. It seemed that the minutes of meetings were always produced within hours of our meetings, putting many of us to shame!

Mary was always the first to volunteer both with good ideas that she felt the community would enjoy and to play a huge part in organising things and turning up early and staying on to clear up, all those things that happen behind the scenes that we all take for granted. Anthony was often volunteered to assist as well and I am sure we all have lovely memories of times shared together.

Mary produced Quay Notes and was greatly supported by Anthony, poor Anthony has been out in all weathers to ensure that they were delivered on time!

We are very grateful that Anthony has agreed to produce this edition and would like to say a huge thanks to him as well for all his support and hard work over many years.

**Joi Demery Chair
(On behalf of MLRA Committee)**

Mary Rackham

Mary was the first occupant of Merrick Court, followed shortly after by Anthony. They met at a residents meeting (which have their uses) and shortly after moved in together to their house on Merchants Quay. Mary very soon took on the role of Secretary to MLRA and also came up with the idea for QuayNotes, which she produced from the first edition.

Mary was always busy and when she retired she took over management of a charity set up by her children, running a hospital in Zanzibar. Always busy, and enjoying travelling, she was taken ill while on a cruise, and despite her best efforts, she was unable to recover and died in the BRI last month. She will be missed by all of us.



Merchants Landing (Amenities) Ltd Update:

Since the last issue of Quay Notes, the Directors of Merchants Landing (Amenities) Ltd have met twice on 12th December and 13th February.

Following lengthy discussions on the results of the garage lighting survey, it has been decided that the certification of the garage electrical circuits will continue with the inspections taking place on the 19th and 20th March. Letters should have been sent to affected shareholders, and Michael Hart and David Johnson have offered to act as keyholders during the exercise.

The cost of the inspections, remedial work and future electrical supply will however only be passed on to those shareholders whose garage lighting is supplied by ML(A)L. It is estimated that this additional cost will initially be in the region of £50 per annum and will be added as an electrical surcharge to the service charge.

As has been previously stated the lighting supply is solely to be used for the purpose of lighting, and any additional power required within the garage should be provided separately by the garage owner.

As part of the certification process circuit diagrams of the garage lighting circuits are being drawn up, and already parts of the circuit have been identified where all owners have their own power supplies, which could also be used to provide lighting. Termination of the ML(A)L lighting supply to these garages, (with the shareholders approval) would result in lower remedial work costs and also the removal of the electrical surcharge for those shareholders concerned.

Individual shareholders affected will be contacted after the inspections are concluded.

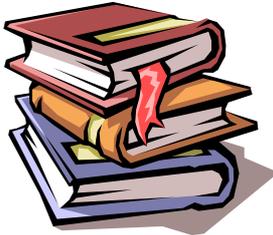
The cover over the water tap at the end of Trin Mills is in the process of being lowered, to prevent access to the garage roof, and as the milder weather approaches the remaining north facing walls will be jet-washed to remove the black mould.

The Directors are hoping to re-landscape the courtyard area at the west end of the communal garden before the summer, possibly enlarging the beds and replacing some of the brick paving with turf. Plans will be finalised at the next directors meeting on the 14th April, which will include a walkabout.

If you have any concerns or matters that you wish to raise at this meeting please forward them to the secretary - Colin Williams, *Holdshare Management Services Ltd*, 2 Westfield Business Park, Barns Ground, Clevedon, Somerset BS21 6UA (Email: colin@holdshare.co.uk). for inclusion on the agenda.

Your Committee Members for 2012

Joi Demery	9 Merchants Quay	9213412	Chair			
Betta Eriks	2 Draycott Place	3305379				
Shirley Stark	8 Wapping Road	9293953	Treasurer	Tony Little	13 Challoner Court	9227336
Sandy Conway	1 Draycott Place	9293454		Geri Bowie	7 Merrick Court	9294689



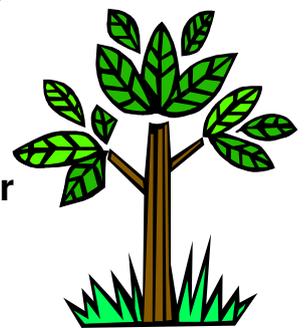
As you can see, we are now short of committee members and more urgently, a Secretary. Don't be shy. Come and join a fun team that meet quarterly, have a drink and a bite to eat, and discuss a little business.

Calling all our talented Gardeners

The committee have been investigating having a talk from a local garden centre about city gardens/balconies/pots etc. however are not having much luck finding a local garden centre to assist.

We know that we have lots of very talented gardeners in our midst so are considering doing it ourselves! Maybe gardeners question time style!

If anyone would like to volunteer to share their knowledge or has any contacts you think we could approach please get in touch with a member of the committee.



On Friday 13th January residents enjoyed a murder mystery evening on board the John Sebastian. A wealthy, elderly bridegroom had been murdered at his wedding reception and over a buffet supper, teams tried to guess 'whodunit' (with mixed success). A great time was had by all, and thanks go to Mike and Maggie Thorne for putting together a fun and enjoyable evening. Proceeds of £185 have been donated to Cancer Research UK, our nominated charity.

A Little Reminder

Just in case you have forgotten (and we know a few of you have!!) The annual membership fee of £10.00 is due. We use this money to fund events, which are open to all residents on Merchants Landing. You can give your money to any member of the committee (cheques payable to MLRA). Thanks

Review of Local Planning Developments Discussed at Recent RFG Meetings

Report by John Ashford covering the period from December 1st 2011 to the end of February 2012.

Dealing with matters that may interest Merchants Landing Residents

Bristol General Hospital

The pre-application stages of consultations with City and Country Residential Ltd are now complete and RFG have submitted comments on massing, car parking building architectural style and public realm access. RFG is strongly opposed to any gated installations at the entry and exit points of French's Yard thoroughway (Guinea Street to Commercial Road).

Redcliffe Wharf

The selection and its announcement is still not forthcoming from BCC. A recommendation for a preferred developer had been expected to be presented to BCC Cabinet in January but this did not occur. As soon as a developer is appointed RFG will be involved in discussions with both BCC and the developer.

Rapid Transit

Funding:

Three schemes have been successful in obtaining funding

- Ashton Vale to Temple Meads (£49.9m)
- South Bristol Link (£44.6m) and
- North Fringe to Hengrove (£101.8m)

with Bristol City Council's contribution being £42m towards the whole package.



Public Inquiry

This applies to the Ashton Vale to Temple Meads scheme. This inquiry has been initiated by objections raised following the publication of the TWA Order application for the scheme.

The date for the start of the inquiry is Tuesday 26th May 2012, 10.00AM at the Cabot Room Armada House, Telephone Avenue Bristol.

An important point to be made is that the applications before the Secretaries of State, for consideration at this Inquiry, relate to the section of the proposed rapid transit scheme between Long Ashton and Prince Street Bridge. The proposed TWA Order does not include powers relating to the on-street loop around Bristol City Centre via Temple Meads, Cabot Circus and Broadmead, or any other proposed rapid transit routes.

Wapping Wharf (Not an RFG Matter)

A local press statement by Umberslade indicates that Phase 1 of a mixed-use development on Wapping Wharf is to proceed with the help of a grant from the Homes and Communities Agency. This phase consists of 185 apartments as well as retail and leisure space targeted at local businesses.

I do not have any details of the planning proposals as yet. Outline planning has already been approved and re-confirmed by BCC.

Next edition will be out on 1st June 2012. Contributions (for the time being) to Anthony at 5 Merchants Quay or preferably to rackhams@talktalk.net. However we really do need a volunteer to take over. Please contact Anthony or any committee member.