



QuayNotes

Newsletter for Residents of Merchants Landing

www.mlra.co.uk

MARCH 2016

Surrounded by Roadworks



The year 2016 looks bound to be described in Bristol's history as the year of the Roadworks. From Cribbs Causeway to Hengrove to Ashton it is difficult to get away from them, and they look set to continue until early 2017. Most of them are connected with the Metrobus project. The first works to be finished are likely to be those on Redcliff Hill, due this month. The Prince Street Bridge should have re-opened last month but it now looks as though it won't re-open until *"the late Autumn"*, for all traffic, as it used to be. A spokesman for the City Council added: *"There have been no delays with the work programme, but ongoing structural assessments of the bridge have shown it is in much worse condition than first thought."* (A taxi driver told your editor that it was all the fault of cyclists – closing half the bridge to vehicles meant that the bridge was *"bound to become unbalanced!"*) The roadworks at the far end of Cumberland Road around Avon Crescent and the Ashton Avenue bridge will continue until October – a Metrobus track plus new cycleways and flood defences.

The works on the City Centre (reported in September's edition of *Quay Notes*) will continue until March 2017.

Further afield, a new bridge is under construction across the M32 to allow Metrobus services direct access into the University of the West of England, avoiding congestion at junction 1 of the M32, due to be completed by July. For those who venture south of Bedminster, there are works in the Novers Lane area due to be completed by April. The new South Bristol Link Road, from the Long Ashton By-Pass to the A38 and the airport, is due to be finished in 'Winter 2016'. Meanwhile, the construction of the 'Student City' between Lewins Mead and Nelson Street is due to continue for most of 2016, and that of course also means road closures. More information on the Travel West website.

EVENT ORGANISERS HAVING TO ADJUST PLANS BECAUSE OF PRINCE STREET BRIDGE CLOSURE

The various organisers of Bristol's Festivals and Events are having to take account of the Prince Street Bridge being closed throughout the summer, and they and the Council officers have been talking to our representatives about those adjustments. The organisers of the Harbour Festival (15-17 July), Richmond Event Management, have decided to restrict pedestrians on the bridge to one-way southwards, and those wanting to access the Festival from the south will have to go round through Redcliff and Queen Square. Our representatives have asked that access into our development be restricted to the public rights of way, and to issue passes to residents. The Great Run Company, who will organise the 10K Run on May 15th, have yet to finalise their route, but it is likely that in any event Wapping Road will be closed as usual for a few hours. Start and finish will be in Anchor Road. The Tour of Britain cycle race will have its penultimate stage in Bristol on September 10th. Start and finish will be on the Downs, and their route will include Coronation Road as well as Cumberland Road, and will not go into the City Centre. Further information will be circulated by organisers and on our website.

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:

Murder Mystery Evening. Unfortunately we had to cancel this event planned for March 4th due to the non-availability of the "John Sebastian", which has been closed until further notice – it has been reported that the ship has been inspected by the Harbourmaster and has to undergo some repairs, and those can't happen until the Prince Street Bridge re-opens. We did look for alternative venues, but they were either too small, too tatty, too expensive or too far-away. We hope to re-organise for another time.

Guided Walk. A further opportunity to explore the area with a guided walk led by Brenda Page – many will remember the very interesting walk led by Brenda last year. Meet at 6pm on Friday 22nd April in the archway between Trin Mills and Byzantine Court.

Summer Party. This will be held as usual on our little open space on Saturday 18th June. Further details in the June edition of *Quay Notes*.

In need of a new interesting hobby?

YOU could be the new editor of QUAY NOTES!

(To replace the existing, who's done it for 4 years now)

For further information, contact Editor or Joi.

SNIPPET 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

Wapping Wharf Development – Phase 2.

Planning permission for Phase 2 is being sought by the developers Umberslade. Phase 1 of the development at the western end of the site includes 113 private homes with only one remaining for sale, as well as 55 homes that are operated for rent by Sovereign Housing Association and an additional 26 affordable homes. There will also be 10 shops and 112 car spaces. A new pedestrian route linking Gaol Ferry Bridge to Museum Square on the quayside is to be opened shortly. Phase 2 will come right up to Wapping Road, and will also include the restored Gaol Gates and offices within the old chocolate warehouse. There will be 326 apartments (including 80 affordable homes) and 3 more shops. Further details from the Wapping Wharf website or their marketing suite.

Amenities Company News

Roy Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Amenities Board says: The next meeting of the Board on April 18th will comprise our annual inspection of the communal areas to see what minor repairs and improvements are needed; any suggestions please to Roger Bryan or one of the Directors. There is still a vacancy remaining for an 'A' Shareholder Director, so if you own a house on Merchants Landing and would like to be involved in caring for our communal environment, please contact one of the Directors (contact details below) for further information.

Subscriptions for the Merchants Landing Residents Association were due on 1st 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:

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Vacant

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This Newsletter is edited by: Mike Thorne of 15, Merrick Court, Merchants Quay.
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or, if that's not possible, through the letterbox.