



“QUAY NOTES” - June 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 Severn Shed

Until well after WWII ships' cargoes unloaded in Bristol Docks were held in Transit Sheds prior to being moved onwards to their destination. Such sheds were a vital necessity.

Bristol in the 1850's was very short of them and so was losing trade to other ports. Construction of new sheds was inhibited by a 99 year lease of wharfage dues that was held by the Merchant Venturer's Society at nominal rent and due to expire in 1863. So neither the Merchant Venturers nor the Council were willing to invest short term. The lease was surrendered in 1861 and development could begin.

One of the smaller sheds then constructed where The Grove meets Welsh Back was the Hide Shed, presumably to hold raw hides later to be converted to leather. It was built as an open shed but enclosed later with the existing cladding. Recently it has been converted to a restaurant, the Severn Shed. It is the oldest surviving shed on the harbour side. However claims for it to be by Brunel are totally spurious. Brunel died in 1859.



*Captions
please for
this photo
of the gull
that
thought the
netting was
a
hammock!*



MLRA Treasurer.

We are sorry to report that Bob Bishop is retiring as our treasurer. Bob has been in this job for over ten years and has put in a lot of time and effort for which we are most grateful. Very many thanks Bob! We wish you a happy retirement (from treasurer) but we hope that you will continue to run your quizzes!

If anyone is interested in putting forward their name to replace Bob, please let your committee member know.

MLRA 2005 subscription still only £5.00

Well done to the 35 households that have paid their subs. For the others, in case you have forgotten that you have forgotten to pay, there is an asterisk on your copy of Quay Notes!

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

If you require a receipt, please tick here •

Cheques should be payable to: Merchants Landing Residents Association.



A City of Diversity

The bustle of the Centre, the contrast of the Downs,
The majesty of the Avon Gorge, unlike all other towns,
The ultra-modern shopping Mall, new blocks everywhere,
The pure Georgian elegance of places like Queen Square,
The very first Suspension Bridge, so slender yet so strong,
The Second Severn Crossing at least five miles long,
The old Theatre Royal – still thriving to this day,
The latest Imax cinema, a mere stone's throw away,
The great ancient Cathedral overlooking College Green,
The recent Roman Catholic one, dramatic yet serene,
The views along the harbourside, sights both old and new,
The SS Great Britain, not to mention "The Matthew",
The many varied industries, there is so wide a choice,
The planes of British Aerospace, the engines of Rolls Royce,
The Aardman Animations, (a new form of cartoons),
The West of England Wild Life Films, Cameron Balloons,
The respected seat of learning, the University,
All of these things make up Bristol's great diversity.

Alan Shellard

Neighbourhood Watch.

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.

Your coordinator is John Bates at 12 Bathurst Parade.



MLRA Committee meeting

Wednesday 15th June at 7.30 pm at 7 Merrick Court.

If you have any items for the meeting, please let a committee member know.



Coming events

- 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
- 22-24/07/05 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

Thanks to Peter for the above.

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

Quay Notes

Next edition will be out on 1 September 2005. Why don't YOU make a contribution?

Send it by e-mail to rackham@onetel.com. Alternatively post them at No5 Merchants Quay.