



Quay Notes

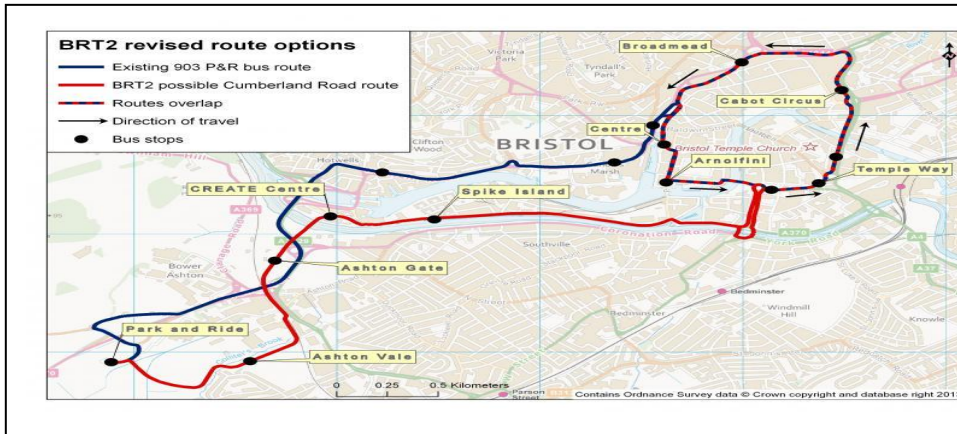
June 2013

This edition was held back so as to include news of the Bus Rapid Transit scheme

Newsletter for residents of Merchants Landing

www.mlra.co.uk

Cumberland Road looks likely to be BRT2 route



It looks as though the City Council will be choosing Cumberland Road as the preferred route for the Bus Rapid Transit Scheme (Route 2) when the Mayor's Cabinet considers an officers report into the options at their meeting next Thursday 27th June. The report has been prepared on the instructions of Mayor Ferguson to look at alternatives to the proposed route through the Harbour and over Prince Street bridge, which he was not prepared to support. Officers have considered two alternatives to the original scheme, and also a 'do-nothing' option – though this was not presented as a viable alternative. The two main alternatives were to continue along Cumberland Road and Commercial Road to Redcliff Hill, or to use the existing Park-and-Ride route along Hotwell Road and Anchor Road. (See map). The Cumberland Road option would, in the opinion of the officers, "represent a minimal change to the technical case" and "performs well in terms of value for money and policy objectives." The officers consider that the Government would be able to support this change to the scheme – that's important as they will provide two-thirds of the money. The Hotwell Road option however "was found to be causing negative impacts that far exceed its benefits" and is clearly not recommended.

Users of the 'Chocolate Path' will be disappointed, and there may be opposition from residents in Cumberland Road. Our residents in Bathurst Parade will note that part of the revised scheme is to replace the Bathurst Basin bridge, "to facilitate the movement towards Bedminster roundabout along Commercial Road." The existing bridge design neatly encloses the traffic and residents will no doubt want to keep an eye on what the replacement will look like. As we noted in the last edition of "Quay Notes", those of our residents who live on Wapping Road will have welcomed the Mayor's decision in respect of Prince Street bridge as that has also impacted on the BRT3 route (Hengrove to the Bristol North Fringe). The June 27th Cabinet Report confirms that BRT3 will now be routed through Bedminster Parade and over Redcliff Hill. The Inspector's Report on the Public Inquiry held last summer into the original route of BRT2 now looks to be irrelevant, but it has yet to be published. More information of course can be obtained on the City Council's website.

Residents Association News

Joi Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Residents Association reports:

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

The sun shone on the Summer Garden Party that was held on Saturday 1st June, and about 50 residents much enjoyed the food brought by residents, and the strawberries provided by the Residents Association. As in previous years, live music was provided by local band, Park Street Jazz. A raffle and book sale raised £87 for our chosen charity – DEBRA, a charity that funds vital research and supports people and families affected by Epidermolysis Bullosa.

MURDER MYSTERY

The Residents Association were pleased to provide the food at the Murder Mystery evening held on the "John Sebastian" on 26th April, raising funds for the HIPZ charity (Health Improvement Project Zanzibar), organised by Anthony Rackham – see also his account of his sponsored bike ride, on the back page of this edition.

OPEN GARDENS AND BALCONIES

This event will be held on Saturday 13th July, with all welcome to attend at 2pm, starting in our Communal Garden. We have several people who are happy to open their gardens and balconies but if anyone else wants to volunteer please let me know. We will hope to finish off the afternoon with some refreshments.

AGM ADVANCE NOTICE

The Residents Association AGM will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 4th October on the "John Sebastian".

The Merchants Landing Residents Association Committee:

Anthony Rackham	5 Merchants Quay	9297562	Joi Demery	9 Merchants Quay	9213412
Geri Bowie	7 Merrick Court	9294689	Betta Eriks	2 Draycott Place	3305379
Tony Little	13 Challoner Court	9227336	Sandy Conway	1 Draycott Place	9293454
Shirley Stark	8 Wapping Road	9293953	Jan Walsh	8 Bathurst Parade	9268714

This information might not be repeated in every issue of Quay Notes, so if you find this useful, please keep in a safe place.

Amenities Company News

Roy Demery, Chair of Merchants Landing Amenities Board reports:

The small triangular garden at the rear of 4-9 Bathurst Parade has now been replanted. Graffiti has also been removed. More information on activities will be circulated to shareholders shortly. The next directors meeting of the Amenities Company will take place on the 11th September. If you have any concerns or matters that you wish to be raised at this meeting then please forward them to the Company Secretary – Roger Bryan, *Bristol Leasehold Management, Oaks House, 35, Oakfield Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2AT* (Email: office@bristol-leases.co.uk) for inclusion on the agenda.

The AGM will be on October 18th on the “John Sebastian”.

THEATRE GROUP

In the last edition of “Quay Notes”, it was reported that the co-ordinator of the MLRA Theatre Group, Julia Trevett of 5 Merrick Court expects to be moving house away from Merchants Landing later this year (anyone want to buy a nice flat?) and the Group was therefore looking for a new co-ordinator. In the complete absence of other volunteers, Maggie Thorne has put herself above the parapet. Anybody interested in joining the group please get in touch: maggiemandmikethorne@talktalk.net or by a note through letterbox at 15 Merrick Court.



Bathurst Basin from the air in 1934. This is one of a small selection of aerial photographs recently placed on the Residents Association website by our webmaster David Demery, following a recommendation from Geoffrey Forward of 11 Bathurst Parade to look at the Britain from Above website. If you would like to see the other selected photos, they are at the foot of the local history page on our website: <http://mlra.co.uk/local-history.html> Also on that page are the archive of the excellent historical notes written by former resident Gordon Faulkner (recently departed for sunny Bedminster) for “Quay Notes” between September 2004 and December 2010.

ZANZIBAR CHARITY BIKE RIDE

Anthony Rackham writes:

Earlier this month, together with 45 others, I set off from Heathrow to cycle round Zanzibar to raise funds for HIPZ. Each day we cycled between 50 and 80 kms, staying in different locations every night. We visited our two hospitals to see the improvements already made, visited a spice farm and were able to relax on the beach at the end of each day. Very necessary after a hard days cycling in the sun.

5 years ago HIPZ took over responsibility for one of the two district hospitals on the island. The improvements in this hospital resulted in the President asking HIPZ to take on the other district hospital. We now provide health care for 250,000 inhabitants, but need funds to build a new Primary Health Care Unit. Hopefully the cycle ride will provide the majority of the funds needed.

My thanks to everyone who sponsored me. Be assured that every penny is being put to good use. If anyone else would like to help, go to www.justgiving.com/Anthony-Rackham1.

If you want to see what happened on the ride, it was filmed for Peter Andre’s TV programme and will be broadcast in September.

GARAGE DOOR LOCKS

Recommendation for residents wanting to install or renew garage door locks from Michael Hart at 2 Challoner Court:

An ASEC Garage Door Lock, costing £23.23 plus £4.95 postage.

Telephone: 0845 – 2300201 or order online:

http://www.locksonline.co.uk/acatalog/Asec_Garage_Door_Lock.html