



## “QUAY NOTES” - September 2011

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

[www.mlra.co.uk](http://www.mlra.co.uk)

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

- 1) Annual general Meeting of your resident's association takes place Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> September, at 7.30 pm, so do come along to air your views and have an update on what's happening!**
- 2) Exercise your brains, beat your neighbours and come to the ever-popular Quiz Night in November-dates to be confirmed**
- 3) January will feature another Murder mystery evening, and if anything like the last, it will be a sell out! Proceeds to charity.**

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

### **SOME “THANK YOU’S”**

Sadly, after many years as a valuable member of the MLRA committee, Bob Bishop has decided to retire. Thank you Bob for all the wonderful Quiz Nights, common sense and humour you have contributed over the years.

Thank You to David and Laura Demery for an excellent new-look website! It's full of useful information including details of services, recommended tradesmen and even old copies of Quay Notes.

**CHECK OUT the new look website !!!**

Dear Mr. Cameron,

I am sending you my suggestions for fixing the UK 's economy. Instead of giving billions of pounds to banks that will squander the money on lavish parties and unearned bonuses, you might find my ideas much better.

- 1) There are about 10 million people over 50 in the work force. Pay them £1 million each severance for early retirement with the following stipulations:
- 2) They MUST retire. - Ten million job openings - unemployment fixed
- 3) They MUST buy a new British car. - Ten million cars ordered - Car Industry fixed
- 3) They MUST either buy a house or pay off their mortgage - Housing Crisis fixed
- 4) They MUST send their kids to school/college/university - Crime rate fixed
- 5) They MUST buy £100 WORTH of alcohol or tobacco every week ..... And there's your money back in duty/tax

From a Grumpy old lady.



### **Merchants Landing (Amenities) Ltd Update**

Since the last ML(A)L update in Quay Notes, the newsletter has been published and distributed, and a copy is also available on the MLRA website. The only additional news to report is that the north-facing walls and arches in the public areas have now been jet washed to remove the black mould (following the test cleaning). Also it is intended to have the garage wiring inspected, garage owners affected will be contacted with details in the very near future. The next directors meeting of the Amenities company will take place on the 12th September and the AGM is on the 14th October at 19.30 on the John Sebastian- items currently on the agenda include: car parking arrangements, the electricity supply to the garages, and problem areas on the estate. If you have any concerns or matters that you wish to be raised at either of these meetings then 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](mailto:colin@holdshare.co.uk))*. for inclusion on the agenda

## Your Committee Members for 2011

Joi Demery	9 Merchants Quay	9213412	Chair	Mary Rackham	5 Merchants Quay	9297562	(Sec.)
Betta Eriks	2 Draycott Place	3305379		Bob Bishop	4 Daubeny Court	9268637	
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	
David Johnson	16 Bathurst Parade	9297602					

### **Review of Local Planning Developments Discussed at Recent RFG Meetings**

**Report by John Ashford covering the period from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 to the end of August 2011**

#### **Dealing with matters that may interest Merchants Landing Residents**

There has been good progress made on two local projects that I can report:

#### **Redcliffe Wharf**

Redcliffe Futures have now submitted its comments to BCC on each of the 4 developer's proposals for the site. These comments were developed at separate meetings within RFG over a period of about three weeks. The developers are:

- Complex Developments Ltd: Architect: Alec French
- Igloo (with Sawdays as a partner): Architect: Fielden Clegg
- Stofard: Architect: Ferguson Mann
- Cubix: Architect: B DP

The next stage of the process will be for BCC to select one of these 4 developers as its preferred developer for Redcliffe Wharf in concert with the consultative bodies of RFG, Bristol Civic Society and Redcliffe Community Forum. This should take place shortly after BCC have reviewed each proposal with the various developers concerned having due regard for the comments coming forward from the consultation process. A preferred developer should emerge some time in the Autumn of 2011.

#### **Bristol General Hospital**

There is significant progress to report concerning this development site. The site has now been acquired by City and Country Group who are an award-winning restoration and conservation specialist based in Essex. They have agreed terms with University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for this landmark Grade II listed building. The company has established a record for prestigious and sensitive conversions of listed and historic buildings.

I attended a presentation with other RFG members given by City and Country Group at BGH on 31st August 2011 where they outlined their credentials for dealing with sensitive sites such as BGH. They were able to give some details about their intended time-lines for this development which were:

- Planning application to be submitted in the Spring of 2012
- Determination of planning application July 2012

City and Country have appointed three consultants with good local knowledge to assist them in preparation of their design and community aspirations. These are:

- Feilden Clegg and Bradley based in Bath
- Grant Associates based in Bath
- CSJ Planning based in Bristol

The July 2012 date was very important to them because the hospital site would become empty of all hospital activities at that date and would incur additional expense and security measures that would affect their investment potential in the site.

They would hope to be in a position to launch the works programme shortly after the July 2012 date. Which I consider very ambitious bearing in mind all the various consultations that will be necessary.

No design proposals were available at this early stage but RFG will be closely involved in the Design Scrutiny/ Consultation process.

There is likely to be a public exhibition arranged in late September where City and Country will show their preliminary ideas for the site and my advice to MLRA is to ensure we have a good representation of residents at that event.

### **We was brung up proper!! (thank you John Bates -To be continued in next Quay Notes)**

First, we survived, being born to mothers who smoked and/or drank while they carried us and lived in houses made of asbestos. They took aspirin, ate blue cheese, raw egg products, loads of bacon and processed meats, tuna from a can. and didn't get tested for diabetes. Then after that trauma, our baby cots were covered with bright coloured, lead-based paints.

We had no childproof devices on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets or shoes - not to mention the risks we took hitchhiking.

As children, we would ride in cars with no seatbelts or air bags. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. Take-away food was limited to fish and chips - no pizza shops, McDonalds, KFC or Subway.....Even though all the shops closed at 6pm and didn't open on a Sunday, somehow we didn't starve to death. We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle and no-one actually died. We could collect old drinks bottles, cash them in at the corner store and buy toffees, gobstoppers, bubble gum and some bangers with which to blow up frogs. We ate cupcakes, white bread and real butter and drank soft drinks with sugar in them - but we weren't overweight because we were always outside playing. We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No-one was able to reach us all day - and we were ok. We would spend hours building our go-carts out of old prams and then ride down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. We built tree houses and dens and played in river beds with matchbox cars. THOSE WERE THE DAYS MANY OF US KNEW!

**Next edition will be out on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011. Contributions to Mary and Anthony @  
5 Merchants Quay or preferably to [rackhams@talktalk.net](mailto:rackhams@talktalk.net)**