

Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association – Newsletter October 2020

Welcome to the Bulletin for November. In particular, a warm welcome to those who are new to the Bulletin. Since January 2020 the number of readers has increased by nearly 50. We would be pleased to hear from you and to know what other kinds of events you think should be mentioned in this monthly message.

I'm writing in self-quarantine as one of my grandchildren tested positive earlier in the week. He is fine and so am I – but it is a salutary lesson to realise I could be a threat to other people. Lockdown from Thursday has just been announced as I'm putting this together.

If you would like to raise any particular issues, or write your own contribution to the Bulletin then please use the following email address
admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

or leave a message on: 0117 929 1833.



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1. HCCA AGM: Reminder

As you will be aware, this event is taking place on Monday November 9th at 7.30 p.m.

Details of the meeting are [here](#):

Meeting ID: 928 9407 7939

Passcode: 633032

Although the meeting starts at 7.30p.m. we would recommend 'joining' with the Zoom link from 7.20 p.m. to enable yourself to familiarise with the Zoom procedure. This is new to us as well – but we've done some training and remain optimistic!

Below you will find a copy of the agenda and protocols for the meeting. All other documents; draft minutes from last year, reports and nominations are on our website and can be found at https://www.hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk/agm_information

If you attended last year we would be very pleased if you felt able to propose, or second, acceptance of the minutes in advance of the meeting so we can pick a proposer and seconder easily on the night. If you are able to do this please send a relevant email in response to this to admin@hotwellcliftonwood.org.uk

2. HCCA Survey

The date for completion online or on paper is now past. As I write (October 30th) We have 260 completed surveys (of which approx. 25% were on paper). Once we have Zoomed through the AGM we will look at the results under various headings. We will endeavour to broadcast the results to as many people as possible – via e-bulletin and other social media as well as, possibly another live Zoom session – to allow for interaction on working out the way forward.

We will keep you informed.

3. Cumberland Basin/Western harbour.

Sadly, lockdown rules are going to preclude any chance of walk-about. We will pick this up again next year when both the weather picks up and the virus calms down! We don't anticipate any developments or new information in the next month or two. We shall try and keep you posted here and via our website.

4. In Memory of Maggie Shapland - Heritage Champion for Bristol

Maggie died after a long illness on October 1st. She was a tireless campaigner for the heritage of our area and had an energy which was beyond remarkable and which lasted right to her final days.



Here are some words from John Bradfield, a member of HCCA

'Where to start in writing a tribute? Maggie made a huge contribution to the BS8 area through her work for the Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society and to Bristol generally through her work with the Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society.'

Maggie was a long-serving member of staff in the IT department of the University of Bristol. In 2012 she was awarded a British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, in recognition of her work to preserve the history and heritage of Clifton. And in particular for her involvement with the Clifton and Hotwells Improvement Society and her role in the ongoing refurbishment of the Clifton Rocks Railway. In 2017 she was also awarded the Bristol Lord Mayor's Medal.

But if you visit her Facebook site, you suddenly begin to see the huge number of causes that she found time to actively support. Here are a few:

Brunel Swivel Bridge, including getting grants from Historic England: campaigning against Bristol Airport expansion; setting up the Industrial Heritage Network South West; campaigning against the closure of Clifton and Redland libraries; pressurising our mayor to release the full feasibility report on the 'Western Harbour' proposals; supporting the campaign to keep the Ashton Court Miniature Railway running; encouraging us to support the Anti-Fracking movement; and many, many more.

Where did Maggie find the energy for all of these plus writing books. Most notably "The Ups and Downs of Clifton Rocks Railway and the Clifton Spa" but also on Nailsea coalmines, with her husband Mike.

Maggie's love of classic cars, and her beloved Lancaster in particular, always came across with a real sense of joy - impossible not to smile.

There are not many people who are prepared to share their voyage through the stormy waters of cancer and it's treatment. Maggie talked about it and posted about it, encouraging us to support Pancreatic Cancer UK and Macmillan Cancer Support .

For myself, I loved her enthusiasm and appreciated her real support for some of the local issues in which I have been involved.

Maggie - all of us in HCCA will miss you. You leave an amazing legacy. Thank you.'

John Bradfield

If you would like to read more about Maggie's remarkable life -click [here](#)

5. Piazza Matters

Community Gardening at the Piazza

Sadly, we have had to postpone planned community gardening days at the piazza due to the government announcement of national lockdown, but the planters at the piazza don't know that and they still need some TLC. Mindful of the isolation lockdown can bring, we are happy to facilitate some Covid-safe community gardening. If you are interested in helping : Contact anna@artwithinthecracks.org

Other Piazza news

The Piazza was used as an example of good practice in a recent talk at the Centre of Gravity exhibition at the old Gardiner Haskins building that ended yesterday. Alternative Approaches to Architecture- working with students & communities was organised by local residents Rachel Sara, Professor of Architecture at Birmingham School of Architecture and Design and Anna Haydock-Wilson with guest speaker Thomas Sale, currently furloughed from his job as Project Manager for Don Eain, a participatory design practice in Myanmar. It was presented by Bristol Artist-Led Forum, a growing network of artists working with communities for social change, environmental improvement and increase in well-being.

For links to the presentations and videos, please visit this latest [blog](#)

6.The Bells – The Bells (Holy Trinity Church): - good news for bell lovers.

Much consternation has been caused by the turning off of the 24 hour bell system at Holy Trinity Church in Hotwells. Their website explains

‘After a number of complaints, the Vicar and Churchwarden of Holy Trinity Church decided to silence the church clock bell on an interim basis whilst we investigated options, including making a change to the 24 hour ringing system’

You can read the full story on the link below – but the good news is that ‘subject to approval of the diocese’, they intend shortly to install a mechanism which will enable the bell to ring throughout the day – but be silenced at night between midnight and 6 a.m.

<https://www.holytrinityhotwells.org/church-bell-v2>

This sounds like a perfect compromise!

7. HCCA Facebook Page

This is still a project in the making – but is a useful method for HCCA to send out information in a direct and instant way. Work on the Survey and the AGM has slightly got in the way of more progress – but it will happen. Thanks to Councillor Mark Wright for giving it a mention in his Cabot News !

<https://www.facebook.com/HCCABRISTOL/>

8. Message from Jacobs Well Hub and Baths

Our committee member from this area writes :

‘People might be interested to know that the physical condition of Jacob's Wells Baths is much the same as it was six months ago. This surprised me because Saturday was a wet day, but there was no evident smell of damp. The council have been in to repair some of the roof that had fallen in the main hall (former swimming pool).

‘One of our noticeboards was recently damaged using spray paint. Bristol Waste has done a good job cleaning it. We are one step closer to getting our Interpretation Board on Jacobs Wells Road. I am now more hopeful that it will be on site well before the end of the year’.

9. Local Food Bank

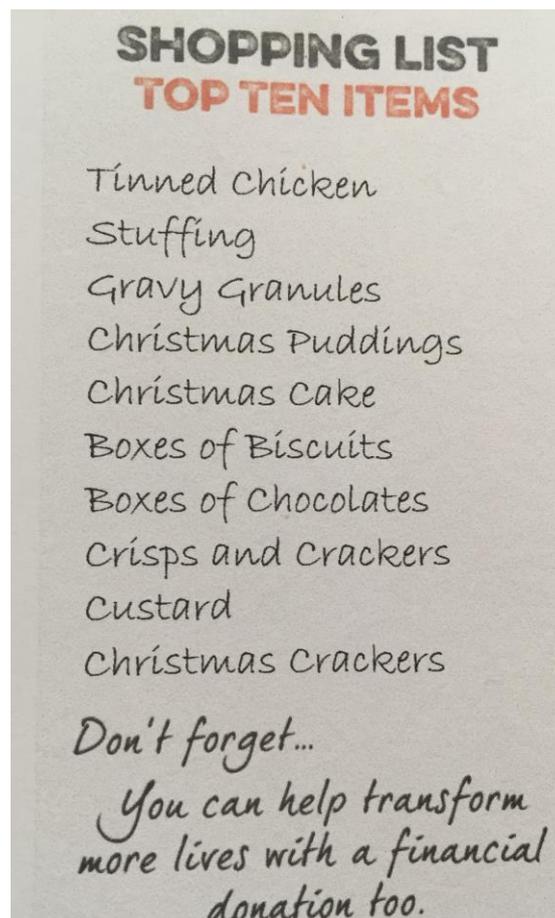
The collection from The Lion and 57 Poole's Wharf has been running successfully throughout lockdown and times are not getting any easier for many people. It is a very simple way for us to donate food which is much needed at a time of hardship for many in various parts of the city. We have checked and **this collection will continue throughout lockdown.**

THURSDAYS: - **Lion Pub** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
- **57 Poole's Wharf** 10-12 noon.

In Poole's Wharf you can drop off your goods at the open garage of #57. Usually Jenny or one of her neighbours sits at a distance from the open garage door. On wet and chilly days – it still operates, and it is quite clear where you should drop your goods.

Christmas is coming

Below is a specific list of what the Food Bank would like to see for their Christmas parcels.



For further information and up-to-date news on requests please check this [website](#)

10. Merchant's Arms

Mike the Landlord is still looking for support for his plea to have railings established on the pavement outside his pub – so that he can make use of the outside space and make his customers feel secure. There is a lot of local support for this as Merchant's Arms is a very well-loved local. The local survey shows that the most commonly used social spaces are pubs.

Mark Wright mentioned the problem of Hotwell Road traffic in the latest Cabot News

'Due to local concerns about the speed of traffic taking the left-hand bend from Hotwell Rd into Merchants Rd, I have asked the Council to put up better signage to calm traffic. There was a serious crash here a couple of years ago when a car span out of control.'

11. Underfall Yard - The Catherine

If you've ever wondered just how ships get into Underfall Yard for repairs – here is a little film which shows exactly how the Patent Slipway works. It was made by the Yard as they took in The Catherine, an 18-meter long houseboat – in herself a piece of Bristol's history. She is a houseboat, known by the residents of the harbour as 'Radio Rentals' due to the old-style TV screens that form the windows of Lower and Upper deck. She was sold at auction by the Harbourmaster and it now looks as though she will be finding a new future.



Click here for the speeded up [film](#)

12. Latest Coronavirus Update from BBC

Here is the regular update on Coronavirus statistics within the city and advice on how to get a test. It is clear that numbers of cases are still rising – and a statement that outbreaks among students have been managed well by the Universities. Read more [here](#)

Unfortunately the above information is already dated. [Here](#) is the information as of October 30th

13. Flood Relief Plans

The council's public consultation on its proposals will run from 26th October to 20th December. While everyone in the city who wishes to have a say will be able to, the council is prioritising those most likely to be affected by its proposals and by potential future flooding. They have already sent letters to 1200 homes and businesses near the River Avon.

Public Consultation on the Flood Mitigation Strategy will be held from October 25th to December 20th.

Full description is [here](#) More details can be found by reading [this document](#).

14. Clean Air Survey

Below is part of a statement from BCC on the reasons for asking people to take part in a survey aimed at producing cleaner air in the city and reducing the traffic flow in certain areas.

“The new proposals are to set out options to meet our legal duties and government direction and have changed due to traffic changes put in place because of COVID-19.

We need your input to help decide on the best option of reducing air pollution from traffic in Bristol. Ultimately we will have to implement the option that gets us to legal limits the quickest, and that could mean we have to implement a charging zone.’

Clean air and traffic flow in the city is one of the major concerns of people living in our area. Check the link below and make sure your opinion is heard.

<https://www.cleanairforbristol.org/>

15. E-scooter trials in Bristol

This month sees the start of a trial of E-scooters in Bristol –the project is managed by the West of England Combined Authority (WECA). The area where the scooters can be hired stretches from Malago Road in the south, encompassing Hotwells and Clifton Village in the west, heading up Whiteladies Road as far as Cotham Hill, up Cheltenham Road as far as the arches, towards much of St Paul’s, with Temple Way the scheme’s eastern border and Temple Meads in the south-east corner.

Voi is the company which owns the scooters (they are an unmistakable coral colour) Riders need to have the VOI app – and to scan their driving licence before they can ride. It costs £1 to unlock the scooter and 20p a minute thereafter. They are legal on roads and cycle paths – but not pavements. Smart Technology means they cannot be ridden outside the designated trial area – if a rider attempts to take it beyond– the scooter will stop!



Full information can be found [here](#).

There is no regulation covering wearing helmets – though it is advised.

16. New coffee stop on the Harbourside

Those of you who walk regularly round the harbourside may have noticed this sign. The horse-box is parked in the area just in front of Banksy’s ‘Girl with the Pearl Earring’. It sells tea/coffee and other snacks.



17. Local Business Digest – Links for lockdown. Help local businesses survive

Hard to believe that so close to Christmas and a normal 'high season' for the hospitality industry – here we are in lockdown again. Our local pubs and restaurants have adapted stoically to the limitations imposed by the Covid crisis – let us hope they can survive the next impact.

Here is a list with links as far as possible to current websites and Facebook pages.

One pub in particular is staging a protest against the curfew

Rose of Denmark – Has been open and doing great trade serving food either to eat in or take away. Check below – they are running a 'Cancel the Curfew – Stop blaming hospitality' campaign!

<https://www.facebook.com/roseofdenmarkbristol/>



Other Local pubs/restaurants etc.

Merchants Arms: It looks like Mike might have to revert to selling Beer via the hatch again. To check the latest updates please use the link below

<https://www.facebook.com/MerchantsArmsPubHotwells/>

The Pump House: Harbourside pub still operating as a mix of shop and pub offering food and drink. This pub now has to revert to take-away menu alongside its successful shop. Check below for updated information

<https://www.facebook.com/pumphousebristol/>

The Lion - Cliftonwood: is still offering take-away menu. The Lion opens Wednesday/Thursday/Friday and Sunday. It has some legendary food options. Please check link to see what they are offering in November

<https://twitter.com/lioncliftonwood?lang=en>

The Cottage: recently re-opened harbourside pub. There is no indication what their plans are for lockdown

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCottageBristol/>

The Bear: Please check below for updates

<https://www.facebook.com/thebearhotwells/>

Orchard Inn: Spike Island – this pub, famous for cider and cheese operated a very successful delivery of cider and Cheddar cheese during the first lock-down. Please check below for updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/orchardinnbristol/>

The Grain Barge: again, our information is out of date – check below for updates

<https://www.facebook.com/grainbarge>

Nova Scotia: no online information as to what they will be doing during lockdown.

<https://www.novascotiabristol.co.uk/index>

Underfall Yard: the Yard itself is still closed until further notice. However, the café is open to the public and there is plenty of outside seating along the water.

Restaurants cafes in Hotwells

Hotwells Fish Bar: This successful new business providing delicious freshly cooked fish has a great website showing the wide variety of food available to order- including veggie and vegan options. Food can be collected at the door or ordered via the usual delivery services. You can pre-order for collection via their website:

<https://www.hotwellsfishbar.co.uk/>

or contact via: <https://www.facebook.com/hotwellsfishbarbristol>

Hotwells Hideout Café: This new cafe– situated between The Fish Bar and the Mardyke is keeping open for home-made take-out food of all kinds. Please check their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/hotwellshideout/>

Raj Bari - Hotwell Road: Please check their Facebook page for full details of what they will be offering in lock-down

<https://www.facebook.com/Rajbaribristol/>

Chai Shai – bottom of Jacob Wells Rd: This restaurant is now open for take-away as well as offering a delivery service. Please see their full details here

<https://chaishaikitchen.co.uk/>

Rassassy - Hotwell Rd opposite Dowry Square

<https://www.indianrassasy.com/>

Local Thai: this restaurant is only open for take-away orders

<https://www.localthaibristol.com/>

Lockside: Famous for its brunch – will hopefully be offering take away

http://www.lockside.net/food_and_drink.php