

## **E Bulletin Issue 3 Version 2**

Apologies. We noted many links in the earlier version did **not** work. So please ignore the earlier version.

### **Happy New Year**

*Hello and Welcome to the third edition of our E Bulletin. We hope you find the information provided is useful to you or someone you know.*

*Please feel free to give us feedback on style or content or both. Of course we would be very pleased to receive any information about anything you feel would be relevant to these bulletins. We shall be trying to send out a bulletin early each month so please send any contributions/suggestions to:*

*[admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk](mailto:admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk) preferably before the end of the month.*

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**1. Speed limit petition for Hotwell Rd/Portway.** You may recall from the last bulletin that residents of The Colonnade, St Vincent's Parade and the Hotwell Rd on the Portway are campaigning to reduce the speed of traffic in front of these houses, some of which have lower ground areas that open straight onto the road. The suggestion is to have a 30mph limit extend from Bridge Valley Road to the South end of the Plimsoll Bridge, (and vice-versa). If the speed of vehicles were reduced we think the carriageway could be altered to allow short term parking outside in a "protected" space. Currently there is absolutely no facility for the residents here. Nowhere for the nurse or doctor to pull up or the gas man etc. etc. And so we have a classic case of what appears to be vehicle movement and speed being more important than life quality for residents.

***The residents have submitted a petition to Bristol City Council. This can be found at:***

***[bristol.gov.uk/epetition\\_core/community/petition/3377](http://bristol.gov.uk/epetition_core/community/petition/3377)***

***Please have a look at the petition and if you support this idea then please sign. Every signature will help.***

**2. Clifton and Clifton East Neighbourhood Forum.** This will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January in the Beech Room, Clifton High School 7 to 8.30pm. The meeting will include information from Healthwatch Bristol on "Developing Health and Independence", information concerning the Cycle Ambition fund and its possible impact in the area and Boundary changes and their impact on the Neighbourhood Partnership and Forums for the area. There will be the usual Topic Tables to give you the chance to raise any issues. ***All are welcome***

**3. Piazza News.** ['It's been a colourful year!'](#) 2015 saw many changes to the Piazza. The planters, the pillars, floor painting by Young Bristol, the 'hidden forest' by [Dave Bain](#) and the [Portway Sunday Park](#) event, supported by Sharing Communities, [Bristol Green Capital neighbourhood arts project](#) with musicians all dressed in pink! On December 16th Green Trees contractors were finally able to tarmac our 'Skatespot' and we welcome wheels onto the Piazza.

Massive thanks to all our volunteers who painted, built and planted. Too many to list, but without you none of these changes would have been possible. Special thanks to Ray Smith, who has enabled all this visible change following years of persistent invisible work behind the scenes. Also thanks to the Neighbourhood Partnership who have supported us with their approval for funds.

One of the most exciting things about the enhancements we have

supported this year is that many new people have become interested in the Piazza. We are working with them to develop plans and try to raise funds for these projects. [Canvas Spaces](#) have recently moved into Dowry Square and want to design and build more skate and wheels facilities for the site. A group of locals with expertise in sustainable development are working on more 'greening' with special attention to creating examples of flood risk and climate change adaptations. The UWE Architecture student team who worked with Anna on creating the Wayfarers are keen to design a multi-use games area with local young people

We will be re-planting the planters in February and March

***Please contact us if you want to get involved in any of the above or have new ideas and projects to contribute.*** For more details, here is a link to [Art under the Flyover's 'The Colourful Year'](#)

**4. Cliftonwood Town Green and related news.** Carol Lilwall and others have been very busy over the last year developing community spirit and helping to increase the floral decoration in the area.

The Town Green Cliftonwood otherwise known as Ambra Vale East Community Garden has continued to thrive over the past year. In February a water supply was installed with a grant from the Neighbourhood Partnership Wellbeing fund. We are most grateful for this as it has enabled us to care for the many plants in the garden particularly the newly planted ferns and helibores.

We held Pancake Saturday when pancakes were cooked on the BBQ, pancake races run and a lot of fun was had. BBQs have also been held in June, July and at Halloween, the latter involving some 80 people. At Easter we had a well-attended Easter egg hunt with tea and hotcross buns. In December many people attended the Christmas tree dressing with carol singing, mulled wine and mince-pies. We have a series of events planned for the coming year.

A new group, Bumps and Babies had their first meeting in the garden in April and that group for young mothers and their babes has continued to meet on Monday afternoons, **all new mums welcome**. The walking group, "Ambra Ramblers" continues to meet and starts from the garden on the first Wednesday of the month. We walk about five miles and stop for lunch in a pub. **All are welcome to join us**. We have had several working parties mulching the banks and caring for the garden. In June we held a Swap Share and Save day- putting out unwanted items and swapping these with our neighbours, which was very successful.

We received funding for fifteen hanging baskets from the Wellbeing fund which enhanced the neighbourhood. These together with the window boxes on Ambra Vale East attracted the attention of the team from Gardeners World. We were featured at the end of July - quite an accolade for a street without front gardens! We have also received a Green Capital grant to create green roofs on the summerhouse, shed and wendy house in the Green and this is well underway.

We represented the community of Clifton Village for the RHS Pennant Award which received Gold, the highest award. The garden also was judged as

Outstanding for Its Your Neighbourhood RHS Award. Garden for Bristol awarded Ambra Vale East a Gold Award for the street and also Gold for the Green. In 2014 we were judged the best street in the Southwest in a national competition and filmed to advertise the region by First Great Western.

Flowers in our area have increased our sense of wellbeing, created a community which has greater interaction and sense of pride and care in our environment.

If anyone would like help in increasing the floral ambience in Hotwells and Cliftonwood I should be very happy to help. I believe that this area has the potential to be the most beautiful area of Bristol and to be known as the Floral Area.

***Anyone who wants to know more please contact HCCA and we will put you in touch with Carol.***

**5. Bristol Big Bike Ride appeal.** Life Cycle UK and APE Project are calling for the public **to donate their old, unwanted bicycles on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2016**, between 11 – 2pm at one of three drop off points across the city: CREATE Centre, Smeaton Road, BS1 6XN; Bristol Prison, Cambridge Road, Horfield, BS7 8PS; Ape Project, 18 Netham Road, St George, BS5 9PF. Life Cycle and APE decided to team-up and organise the event because they are both desperately in need of larger children's bikes, suitable for children aged 8 years and upwards, that can be fixed and reused.

Poppy Brett, CEO of Life Cycle commented: *"We know that lots of children get new bikes for Christmas and the old ones tend to get taken to the dump. We are calling on parents to donate their old one to us instead. We will refurbish it and pass it onto a child or young person from a low income family who would like to get cycling".* Rachel from APE Project said, *"We refurbish and distribute hundreds of bikes per year to children of all ages. We're appealing to anyone who's giving their child a new bike for Christmas or just de-cluttering to bring their old bike to us on 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2016"*

**6. Sponsor a tree scheme.** The Council have recently set up an online tree sponsorship scheme, to allow people to plant a tree in the city to mark a special celebration. The service is simple - an interactive map displays the trees that are available. These locations have been pre-determined by tree experts/officers. The online service is one of the first of its kind, and it makes it really easy for people to get involved. To find out more go to: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/museums-parks-sports-culture/tree-bristol-sponsorship>

**7. Hotwell Road Service Station – Revised Alcohol Licence.** The Service Station on Hotwell Road applied again recently for a licence to sell take-away alcohol all night every night. In the way these things work - Rosemary Musgrave from CHIS alerted John Bradfield who organised a campaign to object. There was a comparatively big response, including from two of our local Councillors, Chris Bond pastor of Hope Chapel and many

others from all round the area, as well as the police. Alas, the application was approved. This was in our view due in large part to the police - who had lodged a vigorous objection on all sorts of grounds originally and then with a change of personnel – changed their minds 15 minutes before the hearing, suddenly saying they were in favour! Many thanks to all those who participated. It is important that our local opinion is heard over such issues, even if it is subsequently ignored.

**8. Archaeology Day Schools 2016.** Courses announced are: An Introduction to Prehistoric Objects, Death and Burial in British Archaeology, An Introduction to Rock Art, An Introduction to Environmental Archaeology. To see more and book your place if you are interested go to: <http://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/bristol-museum-and-art-gallery/whats-on/an-introduction-to-prehistoric-objects/>