



Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association – Newsletter September 2023

Dear Neighbour

Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter. We've got lots going on in our neighbourhoods, so keep reading.

Should you wish to raise any local issues/matters of interest, we can always be contacted at the following:

admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

Or leave a message on 01179 291 833.

If you have any stories of interest that you would like included in the newsletter, please write to Omair hcca.editor@gmail.com

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- Publication by 10th October.

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1. Petition to Save Brunel's Swivel Bridge

A Planning Application is about to be submitted for permission to relocate the Swivel Bridge to the Albion Dockyard as a viewing platform.

According to industrial heritage expert Geoff Wallis, this would be costly and put the Bridge at risk of serious damage. Evidence of the Victorian road crossing here would be lost, and Brunel's Lock nearby would probably be abandoned.



Image Credit: Geoff Wallis

The Grade 2 Listed Swivel Bridge, Replica Bridge and Brunel's Lock are iconic features representing Bristol's maritime and trading history. They are an important part of the City's identity and should form the much-needed focus of the new Western Harbour development.

If you would like to sign Geoff's petition to retain the Bridge in its current location [click here](#).

2. Local History Talks

Trinity Community Service, which runs from Holy Trinity Church, are holding a series of local history talks coming up on Thursdays. They'll be **held from 1.30pm** and will be followed by tea and cake, ending at around 3.15pm. The cost for the event will be £3 per person.

Thursday 14 September

Mark Steed's talk is called "Mr Douglas Comes to Town". It deals with 19th Century Bristolian abolitionists, who fought to end slavery throughout the British Empire.

Thursday 5 October

Robert Pritchard will talk about the Bristol Blitz.

Thursday 2 November

Mike Hooper's talk will be about Bristol in the 1950's.

Thursday 7 December

Clive Burlton will talk about Bristol's Lost City, the tale of the Bristol International Exhibition of 1914.

If you wish to attend a history talk, **please phone Julia on 0117 983 8878** and leave a message with your name and number.

3. Hotwells Festival



The second Hotwells Festival will take place from **29th September - 1st October**. You can enjoy three days of words and music at the marquee at Nova Scotia Place, the Grain Barge, Holy Trinity Church, Eldon House and the Merchant's Arms.

You can support the event by checking out their gofundme page, here - <https://gofund.me/761c067d>.

A list of events can be found here - hotwellsfestival.com

If anyone would like to get more involved and give up a few hours to volunteer for the events, especially anyone who has first aid experience, please write to hotwellsfestival@gmail.com or get in touch with Johnie at 07810018972.

4. Bristol's City Centre and Development Plan

The draft **City Centre Development and Delivery Plan** is now published and out for public consultation and feedback: www.ask.bristol.gov.uk/city-centre-ddp

Please do take a look and give your feedback through the survey links, and share with any networks and contacts who may be interested. It's an important moment for Bristol's city centre.

The consultation is open until 1 October 2023.

5. Cumberland Plaza Activities

We were delighted with the turnout to our summer community gardening event last month. Lots of clearing was achieved, but more importantly, lots of conversations about how to take this community-led space forwards.



Photo Credit: Anna Haydock-Wilson

Ideas include teaming up with Avon Wildlife Trust, quarterly or bimonthly piazza gardening, a springtime celebration, brightly painted cladding for planters and more. We have set up a new WhatsApp group in addition to our email list and if you would like to join, please contact write to admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk with the subject line Piazza with your phone number so we can add you.

We would also like to thanks all the people who pick litter and garden the piazza throughout the year. [To find out more click here.](#)

6. Avon Crescent Re-Opens to Traffic

Bristol City Council are removing the barriers they installed to deter traffic using Cumberland Road while they repaired the river walls. Local residents are worried that road traffic accidents will occur, particularly as so many pedestrians are using the street while the Underfall Yard is closed, following the devastating fire. Please take care really good care if you walk or cycle along there and try to avoid driving to minimise risks. Residents continue to campaign for [re-routing traffic to Smeaton](#)

[Bridge Road](#) (which should only add 30 seconds to a car journey) and for legal safety measures which were promised by the AVTM Metrobus scheme.



Photo Credit: Anna Haydock-Wilson

7. Spike Island Place Portrait

A new exhibition opens on 29th September at Spike Island Arts Space. Alongside an exciting exhibition of work by the late Columbian artist [Ofelia Rodríguez \(1946–2023\), *Talking in Dreams*](#), is a culmination of the work that Anna Haydock-Wilson has been doing with some incredible emerging young artists. *Place Portrait* is an installation comprised of interviews with residents, workers and visitors, poetry from the more than human perspective, sculpture, painting and photography. You may recognise the voices of your neighbours! For further information, [visit the Spike Island website](#).

8. Share Your Thoughts About Jacob Wells Baths

Trinity Community Arts has secured a conditional Community Asset Transfer offer from Bristol City Council for Jacobs Wells Baths. They are conducting conditions surveys to inform our capital works and fundraising plan.

Trinity are asking people from the community and those interested in the building's future to share with them the ways you would like to make use of the building once it's reopened.



Photo Credit: Martin Booth, B24/7

Feedback will be used to update the business plan and support an application to the Community Ownership Fund, needed to fund essential repair works.

They aim to secure the funds needed to complete the Community Asset Transfer and commence repairs in Spring 2024, delivering an essential programme of capital works to re-open a safe, accessible multi-use hub by March 2025.

[Click here to fill in the survey](#)

Trinity will also be hosting two pop up sessions outside Jacobs Wells Baths on the following dates:

- Friday 15th September, 8am-11am
- Saturday 16th September, 12pm-3pm

9. Hotwells Primary School Update



Image Credit: Hotwells Primary School

Here is the latest update from our neighbourhood school:

*"After some sprucing up over the summer holidays the school was ready to welcome the children back, including the new Reception cohort, many of whom have come up from Nursery. The school is now running tours for prospective parents for next year, or for those needing in year admissions into other year groups. Tours will take place on **Mondays at 11 am and Wednesdays at 9.30 am** and can be booked by emailing admin@hotwellsprimaryschool.org or calling 0117 9030044.*

*Hotwells Primary are once again proud to be taking part in the West Bristol Arts Trail on **Saturday 14 October**. As well as showcasing some local talent the school displays children's artwork from across all year groups, and the quality never fails to impress. The cafe will be open from 11 am to 3 pm offering all trail visitors hot drinks and a selection of delicious homemade cakes."*

10. Save The Date: Clifton, Clifton Down, Hotwells & Harbourside Neighbourhood Forum

The next meeting will be at 7 pm on 3rd October. If you would like to suggest items for the agenda, please email Gerry Swarbick at info@cliftonneighbours.com

11. HCCA Website

We are refreshing our website, and we need a little help. Specifically, we want some more images that reflect our communities and neighbourhoods in all their glory.

If you go to www.hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk you will see at the top of each page we have an image banner. We want to vary them a bit across the pages. If you have taken a photo of the local area that you really like and think would work well on one of the pages, please do send it to Rachel - chair@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

We will make sure everyone is credited and we know our website will then be even beautiful!

12. Quick Links

12.1. Local Councillors

Clifton:

- **Paula O'Rourke** cllr.paula.orourke@bristol.gov.uk 07584 370433
- **Katy Grant** Cllr.Katy.Grant@bristol.gov.uk 07584186528

Hotwells and Harbourside:

- **Patrick McAllister** Cllr.Patrick.McAllister@bristol.gov.uk 07423 414337

12.2. Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams

Clifton

Neighbourhood Constable:

- **Jeremey Burstow** jeremy.burstow@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Hotwells and Harbourside

Neighbourhood Constables:

- **Chris Caradine**
- **Martin Locke**

More useful info can be found on our website [Local Info](#)

That's all for now! Thanks for reading.

Like this newsletter? Please do share this newsletter with your friends and neighbours. They can subscribe [here](#).