



**HOTWELLS & CLIFTONWOOD  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **Community Newsletter May-June 2025**

Welcome to our early summer newsletter, we have the latest community updates and what's on in our area. As many of you will know we are here to advocate and represent for the communities of Hotwells and Cliftonwood. We urgently need your help to ensure that our communities' voices are heard on a range of issues from Climate Change to safeguarding Cumberland Piazza and the future of the Western Harbour Masterplan. You can find out more about how to step up and volunteer in this newsletter, or if you are short on time, please consider subscribing to our Community Lottery - it costs £20 per year and gives you the chance to support our work and win prizes.

HCCA receives no regular funding and relies on the goodwill of volunteers, donations and the community lottery. The community lottery allows us to support volunteers better, run more community events and advocate on the issues that are important to us all. More information [here](#)

### **Community News**

#### **Connected Actions, Sustainable Neighbourhoods: Hotwells, Cliftonwood and Harbourside Community Climate Action Plan Launch**

We are delighted that we will be launching our Community Climate Action Plan at our AGM (9 July). The plan has been drawn together from conversations, workshops and surveys with over 200 residents of all ages. It sets out the priorities of our communities on climate change: how we develop our local resilience and solutions for these global challenges. Organised under different thematic headings, local people identified a "wishlist" of priorities including: better routes for pedestrians, cyclists, promotion of food equity, cleaning up the waterways, a Repair Cafe in Hotwells, supporting historic infrastructure to be more green, more green jobs, especially for young people, valuing and preserving our existing wildlife habitats.

These are just a few of the priorities identified and we are working out how our communities and the community association starts to turn these priorities and calls to action into reality.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Anna Haydock-Wilson who has pulled all this thinking together into the Plan.

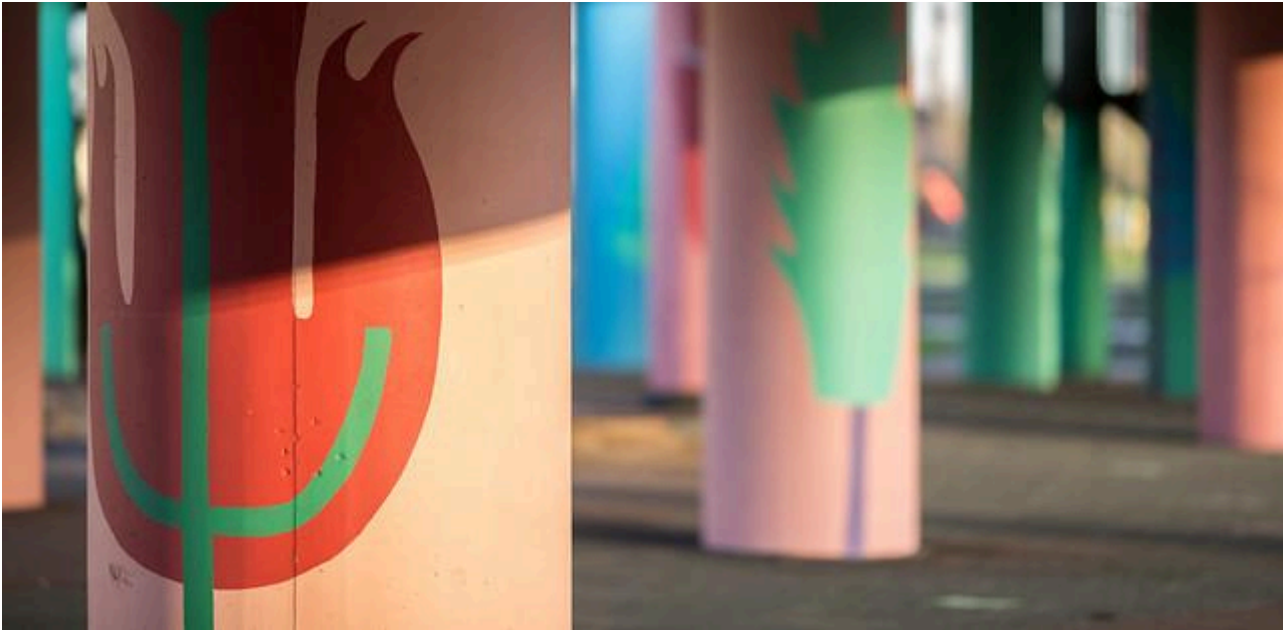
If you would like to know more or get involved please email [admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk](mailto:admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk)

### **Trinity Lunch Club - New Members Welcome**



We are welcoming new members to join the Trinity Lunch Club held at Holy Trinity Hotwells, Clifton Vale, BS8 4ST from 10-3pm every Thursday. It is for anyone over the age of 60 and the cost is £6.50. If you would like to come along for a free trial session, please either email [tcs@holyltrinityhotwells.org](mailto:tcs@holyltrinityhotwells.org) or ring 07458 300210. We look forward to welcoming you 😊

## Cumberland Piazza: Use It or Lose It.



As many of you may know, HCCA has looked after the Piazza for many years. With the hard work of local people and artists, the space has been transformed from a forlorn concrete walkthrough into a public space full of colour and wildflowers. It is our largest public space and we know that many people enjoy cycling through the space, the regular fitness classes and strolling through on the weekend.

For a long period of time, Anna Haydock Wilson has spearheaded the maintenance and development of this space with our communities. Anna is now stepping back from this role and we urgently need to decide how best HCCA and our communities continue to look after the Piazza for the benefit of all. This situation is even more critical due to the Western Harbour Masterplan which, as it stands, will see the Cumberland Piazza disappear in its current form. HCCA is a small volunteer run organisation and our current committee has limited capacity to continue supporting the Piazza and faces giving back control to Bristol City Council. If you value this space and would like to be part of safeguarding its future please email our Chair Rachel McNally [chair@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk](mailto:chair@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk)

## **Western Harbour A Local Resident's Perspective**

**By Jem Grimshaw**

*The redevelopment of Western Harbour presents a significant opportunity for Bristol to enhance its waterfront, restore its historical character, and create a thriving and well-integrated community. However, the current draft master plan is deeply disappointing. Despite initial hopes that the proposal would reflect the input of local residents and take a sensitive approach to development, it instead prioritizes high-density housing blocks that fail to respect the area's heritage or address pressing infrastructure challenges. [Read more](#)*

## Community WhatsApp Groups

We are putting together a Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community WhatsApp group. We know that many individual streets/blocks of flats have WhatsApp groups and we are asking for one member from each if they would like to join our Hotwells and Cliftonwood Group. We share information that affects all the whole of Hotwells and Cliftonwood and ask that you then forward this information on to your street group.

We obviously still have this newsletter and our network of noticeboards.

If you would like to be added to the HCW WhatsApp Group please email our Chair

[chair@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk](mailto:chair@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk)

## Brunel's Other Bridge

### Volunteers' Workday

**17 May 9.30am**

We plan to investigate more of the century-old hydraulic machinery in under-ground pits at the west end of the Knuckle, aka 'The Tongue'. We'll also be continuing our routine gardening (especially vanquishing weeds under the Bridge) and over-painting graffiti.

The Swivel Bridge is just off Brunel Lock Road BS1 6XS. Cross the lock on a narrow bridge immediately to the west of the Plimsoll Bridge. There is some free-parking by the Bridge and lots more space on Brunel Lock Road for a modest charge. If you prefer to travel by Metro Bus we are five minutes walk from Cumberland Basin stop on Line M2.

We'll get you signed in, give a brief induction, and fit you out with basic safety gear such as a hi-viz vest, gloves, and a hard hat if needed. Join us for a relaxed lunch-break with your own picnic and folding chair. Newcomers are always welcome, you'll find us a friendly bunch. Children are welcome provided they are always supervised by an adult one-to-one.

You should wear stout shoes and oldish clothes, and please bring your own safety gear if you have it. If you would like to help with the 'gardening' please bring your own tools.

Remember BOB is in a Clean Air Zone. If coming by car check whether it complies with the requirements for free access on <https://www.gov.uk/clean-air-zones> (70% of cars are free)

## West Bristol Climate Action

A quick update

*Due to capacity issues, we're scaling back our work a little—but we're not disappearing! Instead, we're refocusing under this title of "**West Bristol Biodiversity Action**", with a slightly narrower lens on protecting and enhancing local biodiversity. This means the formal structure of West Bristol Climate Action (including its regular AGMs, maintaining its website and monitoring of the WBCA email) will cease.*

*Here's what's happening:*

- *We'll continue managing the existing wildflower meadows at Clifton Hill Meadow and Clifton Zoo Bank. These sites are thriving, and we're committed to maintaining them (and topping them up when needed).*

- *Unfortunately, two other sites we tried to establish—Clifton Downs Ladies Mile (due to compacted soil) and Cumberland Basin (waterlogged from high tides)—haven't worked out. Sometimes nature has other plans!*
- *We will still have a budget held with Grow Wilder (Avon Wildlife Trust) to care for the existing meadows and—if the right opportunity arises—potentially expand to new sites if capacity allows.*

## **WHAT'S ON**

### **Spring Exhibition at Lime Tree Gallery**

**84 Hotwell Road BS8 4UB**

**to 31 May**

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

A joyous mixed exhibition with paintings across a wide spectrum of media. Ranging from the traditional to the modern. More information here

### **Introduction to Shadow Puppets**

**31 May 10am-4pm**

**Puppet Place Hanover Place BS1 6UT**

<https://puppetplace.org/whats-on/>

Come and have a play with many different shadow puppetry set ups! Get to know more about the deep history and diversity of this unique artform. For 16yrs+

### **The Power of 10**

#### **Art Exhibition at CREATE Centre**

**Smeaton Road, Bristol BS1 6XN**

**Preview 30 May 5pm-7.30pm**

**Open Weekdays 11am-5pm**

**Weekends 12pm-4pm**

**31 May-14 June**

A newly formed group of 10 local artists coming together for the first time.

A vibrant tapestry of artistic expression, including: painting, sculpture, photography, textiles and video

### **Sundays at Spin City**

**184 Hotwell Road BS8 4RP**

**New Youth Circus Classes with Cirque Elan**

**10am-11am ages 6-9**

**11-12pm ages 9-14**

**For more contact**

**07859841852**

**[cirqueelan@gmail.com](mailto:cirqueelan@gmail.com)**

## **Saturday 7 June at Spin City with Sarah Read**

### Dance Workout

1.15pm 7 June

£15

No dance experience needed. This is a fun funky dance workout that will make you feel good!

### Nag Champa Yoga

2.30pm 7 June

A creative yoga flow to calm your mind and leave you feeling relaxed.

£20

Price for both £30

For more details email [riverread@icloud.com](mailto:riverread@icloud.com)

## **Clifton and Hotwells Secret Gardens**

**7-8 June**

<https://www.gssg-bristol.com/>

This part of Bristol is rich in private communal garden squares and gardens that lay hidden behind elegant Georgian terraces and many will be open to the public for this event.

In addition, many of the gardens also offer entertainment to add to the enjoyment of your visit.

With refreshments, stalls, live music and talks there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

## **H&CCA AGM SAVE THE DATE!**

**9 July**

Holy Trinity Hotwells

Catch up with everything happening in our 'hoods and then join us for a drink and live music.