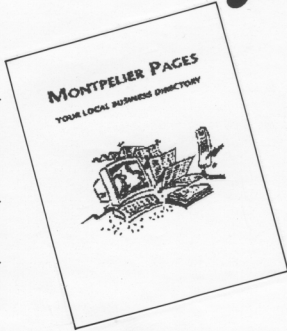


Local directory launch



The Montpelier Pages – a directory of local businesses and traders – may be launched shortly. The aim is to promote local businesses and encourage people to use them. Any company, sole trader, shop, etc within the area, regardless of size, is invited to apply for inclusion by using the form on the back of this newsletter. Where a particular type of business is not catered for in Montpelier itself, nearby businesses may also apply.

These are the three types of listing:

- 1 Basic line entry – free
- 2 1/8 page box advert – cost £5
- 3 Basic line entry for nearby businesses – cost £2

'Montpelier' is defined as the area bounded by Cheltenham Road, Ashley Road, Sussex Place, Ashley Hill and the railway line.

The listing would be continually updated and reprinted when required, probably annually. The charges are solely to cover print costs and the directory will

be delivered free to properties throughout Montpelier.

If enough entries are received, we plan to compile the list by the end of September. Prior to printing, entries can be checked at the MCG meetings. If you have any queries, please telephone

Please post the application form, and any remittance, to Montpelier Conservation Group, PO Box 969, Bristol BS99 1ZH.

Montpelier Conservation Group is concerned with all local issues and meets on the **first Monday of every month at 7.30pm** – all welcome! **Please note that the venue for meetings for August onwards will be The Brew House** (at junction of Stokes Croft and Ashley Road). Montpelier Conservation Group may be contacted via the Secretary

History Notebook: Chapter Eight: The Floods

There is a long history of the flooding of low-lying land bordering the River Frome, and its tributaries, especially when periods of heavy rain coincided with high tides which checked the discharge of its waters into the Avon. One of those tributaries, Cutlers Mills Brook, regularly overflowed at Cheltenham Road and the bottom of Picton Street and another, Boiling Wells Stream, at Mina Road.

It was, however, the late 19th Century spate of house building and inadequate culverting of the streams that accompanied it that both exacerbated the problem and led to public pressure for a solution.

In the days when Cutlers Mills Brook, after crossing the bottom of Picton Street, ran through meadows to Sussex Place, flooding was not a major disaster. The waters would eventually subside, drain into the brook and be carried to the Frome at Baptist Mills. This situation changed dramatically between 1870 and 1890 when nearly 200 houses were built on these meadows. When Shaftesbury Avenue was started in the 1880s the brook still ran open along the back of the Banner Road houses but the owners of the new houses abutting it soon began covering it 'each according to his fancy' (City Surveyor). The result was a series of arches in a variety of widths and heights, none bearing any relationship to another. The owners of Nos. 57 & 59 Shaftesbury Avenue merely used wooden planks.

This makeshift culverting was put to the test in March 1889 when a snowstorm was followed by heavy rain. The sluggish brook broke free and swelled to a torrent that rushed along Shaftesbury Avenue, sweeping down the walls of partially-built houses and driving owners already in residence to seek safety on the upper floors. Downstairs rooms of properties in Lower Cheltenham Place and Albany Road were under water and a piano was seen floating in the hall of a house in Sussex Place. In St Werburghs those living in low-lying streets had to be evacuated as the flood waters of Cutlers and Boiling Wells streams mingled.

When the culvert was inspected it was found to be obstructed along its whole length by accumulated building materials and rubbish. More than 500 loads were removed before the stream was cleared.

In 1890 plans were drawn up to divert the streams but it took another episode of serious flooding in Picton Street to galvanise the authorities into action. This occurred in 1894 when damage to property was so great that a relief fund was opened for the victims: it raised £500.

The following year it was agreed to construct culverts 'to deal as cheaply as possible' with the flooding of Montpelier and St Werburghs. They were completed by 1902. Cutlers Brook was taken in an almost straight line from Bath Buildings, across Picton Lane, across Ashley Road and through St Paul's to join the Frome at Broad Weir.

St Werburghs flooded, by F C Lewin

'Scare post' in Mina Road.



Next issue: 20th Century Montpelier

RECYCLING AND OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Recycling kerbside collection starts at 8am
- July 16 Recycling collection
 - August 2 MCG meeting **at the Brewhouse**
 - August 20 Recycling collection
 - Sept 6 MCG meeting
 - Sept 17 Recycling collection
 - Sept 20 MCG **Committee** meeting
Non-committee members may attend by prior arrangement
 - Oct 4 MCG meeting
 - Oct 15 Recycling collection

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a courier company which specialises in deliveries for the media and design industry. Actus is the only courier company which offers **cycles** as well as motorbikes and vans.

BELL'S DINER *Dine locally!*
Only **£10** for 3 courses
Also à la carte
1 YORK ROAD

DEMBO
THE INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENT
Specialist in property in Montpelier, St Werburghs, St Pauls and St Agnes
If you are thinking of buying or selling

2 PICTON STREET
Lunches, brunches, coffee and tea
BRISTOLIAN
3 TEX MEX EVENINGS EVERY WEEK

MONTPELIER ON AIR

In April, Montpelier was featured in a Radio Bristol series on communities in Avon. The emphasis was on its lively history, its continuing artistic tradition, its distinctive shops and its residents' environmental awareness.

Six local residents took part in the 30-minute programme.

ARCHITECTURAL NOTEBOOK

As the History Notebook draws to a close soon we hope to replace it with articles on architectural subjects with particular reference to Montpelier (the local materials, styles etc) with a view to aiding sympathetic restoration and conservation of buildings and their surroundings.

If you wish to send in an article or if you have any queries about restoration, please come along to a meeting or write to the box number on the front page.

We hope to give various architectural themes to some of the future meetings of the group.

Albert Park Place looked down on Webster's Field and farm, alongside the boundary wall ran the brook that later gave its name to Brook Road.

Memories of the 1880s, by Archie Powell

Keep that car in tune at
RICHMOND MOTORS
Richmond Road
for servicing, electronic tuning, MOTs and repairs on all makes of car
MOTs now have exhaust checks

Keep your house in order with
LAURENCE
ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES
SPECIALIST CONTRACTORS AND ENGINEERS
LB

PLANNING Update

We endeavour to be accurate at the time of going to press, but cannot guarantee it. Check details at Bristol Planning Department.

There are planning applications in for:

- Montpelier Central, Station Road – new Royal Mail distribution office
- Land at Fairfield Road (at the junction with Ashley Hill) – single dwelling
- 1-13 St Paul Street – refurbish No1, demolish remainder and rebuild with facades in facsimile
- 25 Bath Buildings – change of use to hostel for the homeless and rebuilding of front boundary wall
- 143 Ashley Road – remove K6 telephone kiosk from outside No. 143 and replace by public payphone KX100
- 49 Ashley Road – conversion to house with basement flat plus rebuilding rear wall
- 89 Ashley Road – satellite dish
- 27-33 Jamaica Street – 12 one-bed 'move-on' flats
- 25 Sussex Place – fell sycamore and other tree works
- Unit 6 Ashley Trading Estate (John Sheppards) – open storage in car park
- 3 Richmond Road – fell/replace lime tree
- 84 Richmond Road – fell Leylandii and Eucalyptus, prune Leylandii conifer screen

Refusal has been given for:

- Colston's Girls' School – 2 externally illuminated school name signs on Cheltenham Road elevation
- 1 Clifton Villas – conversion of existing property into 3 flats

This application has been withdrawn:

- 202 Cheltenham Road – lock-up to take-away

Approvals have been given for:

- The Salvation Army, Ashley Road – new entrance on Brigstocke Road and extension to service yard area
- 164 Cheltenham Road (behind Kwik-Fit) – demolition of existing buildings and construction of 8 terraced houses of 2/3 storey plus 6 car parking spaces (Bristol Churches Housing Association)
- St Pauls Church, Portland Square – change to offices, with new driveway access to rear
- Colston's Girls' School – demolition of 3 chimney stacks
- 166 Cheltenham Road – conversion of dwelling house into 1 maisonette, 2 flats
- 63 Shaftesbury Avenue – reconstruction of 2 storey rear annexe
- 68 Bath Buildings – 3 storey extension to rear of property for shop, storage and residential
- 72 Ashley Road – 2 storey rear extension
- 25 Fairfield Road – fell acacia, sycamore saplings and acacia stump
- 117 Richmond Road – 2 storey extension to rear
- 10-12 Picton Street – demolition of detached rear garage
- 11/13 Albert Park – conversion to 4 maisonettes

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Keep it in the area!
We have a stock of recyclable materials – from doorknobs to roof tiles
DELIVERIES TO YOUR DOORSTEP
46 RICHMOND RD MONTPELIER

MONTPELIER PAGES: Application for insert (see front page for details and posting address). Circle type of entry required: basic box advert nearby business. Please use block capitals and tick the box alongside those details which you agree to appear printed in the directory.

Type of business:	
Trading name:	
Address:	
Telephone number:	
Particular speciality:	
Any other information:	
Signature of applicant	