

AVON LOCAL HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

Registered charity 270930

Newsletter 168 30 September 2021

Website: www.alha.org.uk

Events: <http://www.alha.org.uk/events.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AvonLocalHistoryandArchaeology>

Material for **Newsletter 169** by **12 noon 15 December 2021 please**

Magazines and books to reviews editor, Hardings Cottage,
Swan Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1RJ

jonathan.harlow@uwe.ac.uk

Details of events to website manager,
Flat 1 Chartley, 22 The Avenue, Bristol BS9 1PE

ALHAWebmaster@gmail.com

Other news, comments, and changes of contact details to
newsletter editor and membership secretary,

5 Parrys Grove, Bristol BS9 1TT

wm.evans@btopenworld.com

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ALHA NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LECTURE

ALHA's committee has not been able to make arrangements for the annual general meeting and lecture in time for notification with this newsletter, so notice will be given separately once arrangements have been made.

WEBSITE REPLACEMENT AND EDITOR

ALHA's website team has sought proposals and cost estimates from website designers. Some did not reply, but three did, and their proposals are being evaluated.

The website team is having discussions with people who expressed interest in taking over the role of website editor from Bob Lawrence.

FACEBOOK TEAM VACANCIES

Jan Packer writes: If you enjoy reading this newsletter, would you be prepared to spend a short time each month to translate the news into posts to publish on Facebook to bring local history news to others?

We have well over 800 followers on our ALHA Facebook page so it's now one of ALHA's most popular outlets. While Facebook is not for everyone, it brings huge benefits in keeping in touch with news and events in and around our area.

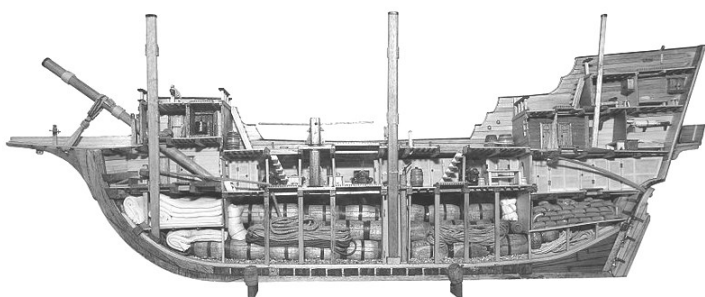
If you can help, you'll join our small team and enjoy support and training from them. If you are interested but do not have a Facebook personal page, we can help you set it up particularly the privacy settings. The work is variable, flexible and often fun but it's up to you how much time you wish to spend on the ALHA Facebook page. Posts can be created ahead of time and scheduled for publication.

Any offers of help would be hugely appreciated so that we can continue this popular service. Please contact Veronica on avonlocalhistoryandarchaeology@gmail.com

EVENTS TEAM VACANCIES

ALHA's committee's events team (Bob Lawrence, Peter Fleming and Ian Chard) organises ALHA's events: at present the annual general meeting and annual lecture, and the local history day. For health reasons it would be advisable to spread the workload more widely, so the committee invites volunteers to join the team. They need not be members of ALHA's committee. Much of the work for the next local history day is in hand, so the immediate task is to organise the next annual general meeting and lecture, which will probably be held online, and on which work is also in hand. If you would like to contribute to this important and valuable work, could you please contact the chairman, Bob Lawrence at roblawr@googlemail.com, 0117 968 5503.

NEW ALHA BOOKLET



ALHA has published its 33rd booklet, *The trade of Bristol in the later seventeenth century*, by ALHA reviews editor and former secretary Dr Jonathan Harlow. JH spoke on the subject at ALHA's 2019 local history day at Thornbury, and the book also draws on JH's research into and transcription of the ledger of Bristol merchant Thomas Speed, published by ALHA member **Bristol Record Society** (BRS no.63, 2011). **A flyer for the new booklet, including a reduced price offer for orders before 15 October 2021, accompanies this e-**

update. The booklet can also be ordered via ALHA's website, under Publications.

EVENTS AND SOURCES

SOPHIE EVANS

Congratulations, welcome and good wishes to Sophie Evans (no relation), appointed heritage and development librarian at Bristol central reference library, which includes responsibility for reference and

local studies. SE succeeds ALHA trustee Jane Bradley, who retired last year (but continues as an ALHA trustee). SE was assistant librarian at the Royal (sic) Irish Academy, Dublin, which started as an antiquarian club in 1785 but now combines the roles of The Royal Society and the British Academy. Website at <https://www.ria.ie/> worth a visit, if only to show what a voluntary organisation can do when members roll their sleeves up and help do things.

SOMERSET DIALECTS

Unlocking our sound heritage is a project that the British Library has been running for some years. One of its aims is to make available the sound archives held by the library and other institutions. More at <https://www.bl.uk/projects/unlocking-our-sound-heritage>. **Bristol Archives** is one of the organisations involved in the project, and is digitising sound recordings from **Bristol Archives, Gloucestershire Archives, Bristol libraries and the Somerset Heritage Centre**: <https://www.bl.uk/projects/bristol-culture-unlocking-our-sound-heritage>. A short description of the work is at <https://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/blog/archives/unlocking-our-sound-heritage/>. As part of the project **Somerset Heritage Centre** offers *Voices of Somerset*, **Monday 4 October 2021, 2 pm – 4.30pm**. Free, but booking required: https://swheritage.org.uk/events/unlocking-our-sound-heritage-voices-of-somerset/?dm_i=5KNS,AXJ0,4G7S6,1BCG2,1. **Somerset Heritage Centre**, Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6SF; 01823 278805, e-mail: somersetarchives@swheritage.org.uk.

SOUND ARCHIVES

Gloucestershire Archives offers training on management and use of sound archives:

Title: *Unlock your Audio Archives; an Unlocking Our Sound Heritage training*

Dates: **Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 October 2021, 10am-4pm**

A free two-day training on identifying and caring for, digitising, cataloguing and providing access to sound recordings. Aimed at heritage sector staff and volunteers. For more info and to book <https://unlock-audio-archives-gloucestershire.eventbrite.com>

Title: *Unlock your Old Audio!*

Date and time: **Tuesday 12 October 2021, 7pm-9pm**

Unlock your old audio! Join **Bristol Archives'** Unlocking Our Sound Heritage team at the Dunrossil Centre, Gloucestershire Heritage Hub on Tuesday 12 October between 7-9pm. Just drop in. Why? For advice and chat about looking after and preserving your personal audio collections. Bring along an old recording or two (your Grandma's musings? Your children when they were small?) and listen to those voices you haven't been able to hear in a while! **For covid reasons, please bring your own earphones.** The team will have equipment to hand to play reel-to-reels tapes, cassettes, CDs, DATs, and Minidiscs. Unlocking Our Sound Heritage is a national project led by the British Library and supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Claire Collins, Collections Development Manager, Gloucestershire Archives, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester, GL1 3DW; claire.collins@gloucestershire.gov.uk; 01452 426240

GRAVEYARD SURVEYS

'A project is under way to tackle the Herculean task of digitally mapping every grave in the Church of England's 19,000 graveyards. The result will be an online resource which will allow users to see the exact location of a burial plot, as well as photographs of the headstone and, where possible, the burial record from the church's archives. It will be an invaluable tool for historians, genealogists, and anyone wanting to find where their ancestors were laid to rest.' So Sky News at <https://news.sky.com/story/every-grave-in-the-church-of-englands-19-000-graveyards-is-being-digitally-mapped-12399528> and other media orifices.

What is actually happening is that the Church of England 'has created a digital map and database of all burial grounds in England, to be accessible through the [Church Heritage Record](#). The next phase will record the grave memorials and ecology of churchyards and link them with other resources through the Church Heritage Record.' [Atlantic Geomatics](#), a commercial company based in Penrith, Cumbria, is doing the work: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/churchcare-news/national-burial-grounds-survey>. So far only the dioceses of Truro and Carlisle are being surveyed, and it will be some time before our area is reached.

Recording graveyard inscriptions has long been a staple activity of parish and local history groups. Many sites have been fully recorded. In **South Gloucestershire and Bristol** Ralph Bigland recorded inscriptions between 1750 and 1784. Obviously his collections did not include inscriptions

created after that date, but he recorded many inscriptions that have since been destroyed or become indecipherable. His collections were edited and published by ALHA member **Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society** in its Gloucestershire record series nos. 2, 3, 5 and 8. Some of those volumes are now out of print, but they are in local libraries and record offices, and can be searched online via *Find My Past*, (now an offshoot of DC Thompson, publishers of the *Beano*):

<https://search.findmypast.ie/search-world-Records/gloucestershire-biglands-monumental-inscriptions>

INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY COURSE – UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

This 8-week course will introduce you to family history and genealogy, and the many resources available. Discover how to start your family tree, how to analyse birth, marriage, death certificates and censuses, incorporating oral and social history. This course will also explore DNA testing options, fragmentations from biological family (for example through adoption), ethnicity and identity, heritage, diaspora, homelands and oral histories, including the black British experience. At the end of the course, there will be a chance for participants to share their genealogy journey with the group.

Location: Online

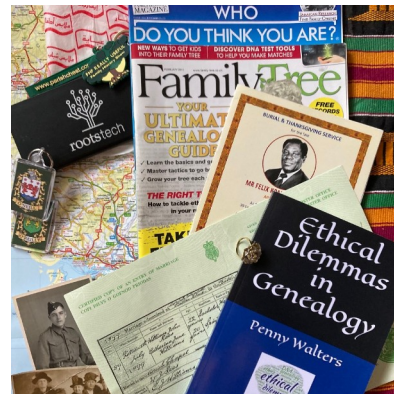
Dates: **Tuesdays 26 October – 14 December 2021**

Time: **6 pm – 8 pm**

Course fee: £140

Click here to book your place: www.bristol.ac.uk/english/study/part-time/short-courses/genealogy-courses/

Siân Goldharber, Short Courses Administrator, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, University of Bristol, B11, 3-5 Woodland Road Bristol BS8 1TB; Sian.Goldharber@bristol.ac.uk; 0117 928 8924
Working days: Tuesday-Thursday; <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/english/study/part-time/short-courses/>



BITTON: ELLACOMBE CHIMES

Bitton's Ellacombe chimes (ALHA Newsletter 167, 30 June 2021) now have their own facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/135681541720946>. *Mike Gates* also draws attention to an indexed listing of the videos from over 100 of the churches and towers that took part in the 200 year celebration which also shows the press coverage: <http://www.churchside1.plus.com/EllacombeWorldwideVideos.htm>

REVIEWS *by Dr Jonathan Harlow unless otherwise said.*

Saints, Crooks & Slavers: History of a Bristol House Peter Cullimore (Bristol Books, 2020, 128 pages, fully illustrated in colour and b&w, £12)

This won't do! Slavers (plural) indeed! I.e. one owner in the late 18th century twice married women from West Indian families and those families owned slaves. Now I married a woman whose father was assistant in a sporting goods shop. That's 'close links' to the sporting goods trade? And my father was an engineer, so my wife has close links to the engineering profession?

The more people cash in on any Bristol link with slavery, however remote, the less it means.

The Saints and Crooks however are fine. Saints perhaps includes the Quaker Phippen sisters who ran a school for poor children. And Crook was the family which owned the site in the first half of the 19th century.

The author has done his work well, with no gaps and a lot of properly referenced material. However, it is odd to see in the timeline '1832 William Beaumont accused of assaulting servant' where the relevant text states that the servant was charged with assaulting him and he was never charged with anything.

As well as the occupancy history, there is a collection of ideas by Sue Cullimore on how to research your own house which seems to cover the ground well.

There are many illustrations, mostly in colour and well-produced. There is a good bibliography. And the book ends well with a survey of the status of Montpelier as revealed in the occupational status of its occupants. Altogether a pretty fair cross-section of Bristol's history over the last three centuries.

Pills, Shocks & Jabs: the remarkable Dissenting doctors of Georgian Bristol by Peter Cullimore (Bristol Books, 2021, 159 pages fully illustrated, £12)

This is a set of portraits, in chronological order, of medical persons in Bristol in the eighteenth century. Many were Quakers, others Anglican; but I did not see members of any other denomination; nor is it clear what the grounds for selection have been. Some did indeed practice new treatments like vaccination or electric shock; but by no means all; and nothing special seems to have distinguished Quaker from Anglican practitioners. An index would have been handy.

The book is not strong on background: The difference between physicians, surgeons and apothecaries is briefly mentioned, but is rather overwritten by the overlap in their practices. The different training and qualifications are not touched on. And the term Dr is accordingly used rather loosely: the first in the list is Shurmer Bath, whom the author calls Dr Bath, though this was only a nickname. Only physicians with a degree were Drs, and he was not a physician nor even a surgeon or an apothecary but rather the operator of a charitable clinic and dispensary.

Nor is it strong on medical practice. The Jabs and Shocks were indeed new. The Pills or potions were old and it might have been noted that the chief purpose was usually to provoke sweating, vomiting or excretion. The most common treatment was bleeding which is not even mentioned. Medical knowledge and theories of disease are not discussed. Without this, it is less easy to know what is remarkable and what is not.

The book is well produced and the lavishly illustrated, often in colour. One or two subjects are, literally, far-fetched: Jefferson? Samuel Johnson? but on the whole the illustrations constitute a great strength of the book.

The Local Historian 51.3 (July 2021) has a good article on ‘Publishing local history: principles & practice’ by Barry Shurlock. He rightly emphasises “Referencing is a vital element in all local history writing” and Amen to that! And there is a proper plug for indexing, whatever on-line search facilities are available. The only advice to which I demur is “Good editorial planning allows information or ‘copy’ to flow between formats: from talk or exhibition to newsletter, journal, booklet and book.” I think it better to regard these as distinct genres, each calling for its own approach to selection, order and style. Who has not suffered from the local history ‘talk’ by someone who thinks he is delivering a conference paper or a journal article? But comprehensive and generally good advice.

BOOKS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS NOTICED

Dennis Duncan, *Index, a history of the: a bookish adventure*, Allen Lane 2021, hb £20. Not a work of local or family history, but what local history or family history delver has not been helped by a good index? For really serious devotees there is the List and Index Society: <http://www.listandindexsociety.org.uk/>. Professional indexers associated with ALHA member groups and societies include Dr CS Knighton (**Bristol Record Society**) and Susan Vaughan (**Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society**). There must be more.

COMMENTARY AND RESPONSES

Marxism and local history:

John Stevens’s piece in e-update 31 August 2021 about applying marxism to local history provoked responses:

Derek O: I can see why a marxist approach could be used to explain the Bristol 1831 riots, but how it could explain the movement for the abolition of slavery and the slave trade is beyond me. That movement was not a struggle by slaves, whom a marxist might regard as a proletariat, but a campaign run thousands of miles away from the plantations by one group of comfortably off mostly middle class people against another. They did not aim to overthrow the capitalist system, only to stop two of its activities. William Wilberforce, who came from a wealthy background, did not enter parliament to overthrow capitalism. He wanted an issue with which he could make his name and advance a parliamentary career, and chose abolition, which would not damage his family’s business interests. Later on, he saw no problem with his daughter marrying a Pinney. Hannah More was a complicated mixture, but was hardly your typical working class revolutionary. What motivated her was not economics but, as with cruelty to animals, moral revulsion. She had no financial stake in abolition. A Marxist analysis simply does not fit.

MP: I would question whether Mr Stevens is right say that every episode in Bristol history can be looked at in terms of the have nots versus the haves. As little contemporary evidence survives of who the individual

rioters were in 1831 and why each rioted, it is difficult to tell what their motivations were. If we accept that any riot may have underlying causes which may not be those professed by or attributed to the rioters at the time, and that those in the mood to riot will do so when given any opportunity or provocation or pretext, we also have to accept that resentment at other people being more prosperous would be only one possible reason among many. There have been rich and poor throughout Bristol's history, so if major local events have to be seen in terms of class war, you might have expected riots or other forms of protest to have been perpetual, which has clearly not been so.

Jude F: I have never managed to read anything by Karl Marx all the way through, being overcome by sleep or losing the will to continue, but I have read about his theories. He claimed that all history is driven by economic forces, and that its progress is inevitable. Both claims are obviously untrue. His claims are also sweeping generalisations, which in any student's examination paper would be marked down. Studying some local history would have done him good.

John Stevens replies:

To address the points made by Mr O, I was not thinking of the slaves themselves but of the fissure in the **Bristol** middle class revealed by the slavery debate. The years c.1830-1860 saw, to a large extent, the socio-economic eclipse of the merchant princes (Daniels, Pinneys, etc.), high Whig or Tory in politics and largely Anglican in religion, by rising industrialists like the Wills and Fry families, generally Liberal and Non-Conformist. Is it a coincidence that the slavery question arose at the beginning of the period? A Marxist would say not, and would be interested in investigating the economic, social and perhaps denominational ties of those on each side of the debate, including the occupations of those voting for the pro- and anti-slavery Whig candidates at the 1830 election, as shown in the Poll Book.

MP is entirely right that we shall never know why individuals riot; indeed, the twenty-first century has exploded the fallacy that people do not riot on a full stomach. Nonetheless, as Mr O concedes, the "reform" rioters were people from "below" who were dissatisfied with the *status quo* and can thus be fitted into a class-conflict matrix. Further, whilst political disturbance in **Bristol** was not continuous, the 1831 riots were by no means an isolated event, as Poole's and Rogers' *Bristol from Below* (2017) demonstrates.

Miss F is entirely right to question the Marxist concept of "progress"; I did make the point in my first piece that it is not necessary to believe in or aspire to the dictatorship of the proletariat (assuming such can indeed be equated with "progress") in order to acknowledge the validity of (some) Marxist historical analysis.

Lastly, I am not a Marxist and (apart from a distaste for liberalism) have little in common with them. I consider Marxist historians in their heyday to have been greatly overrated, but also think that in recent years their insights have been unduly neglected. Babies should not be thrown out with bathwater.

Pedestrianisation

Pedestrianisation is in the news, locally at least. South Gloucestershire Council has revised its proposals for removing some traffic from a length of **Thornbury** High Street: <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/future-thornbury-high-street-pedestrianisation-5834456>; some **Clifton** traders have objected to closure of part of Princess Victoria Street: <https://www.bristol247.com/news-and-features/news/overwhelmingly-positive-reaction-to-princess-victoria-street-pedestrianisation/>; and planters have been planted in the carriageway of **Cotham** Hill: <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/cotham-hills-temporary-pedestrianised-street-5669874>. Local history people might be prompted to muse about pedestrianisation: where in our area it has happened, when and why, and with what results.

If pedestrianisation is the excluding of motor traffic, then the idea cannot have emerged before traffic became a problem. No one ever seems to have suggested that banning horses from urban streets might be a good idea, though one can think of at least one reason why it might have been.

There seem to have been different sorts of pedestrianisation. One is where traffic has long used an existing thoroughfare and a decision is made to keep it out or reduce it. Another sort is where the layout of new housing or shops is designed so as to keep traffic out of some spaces from the outset. Both those sorts of pedestrianisation can be permanent. A third type is the temporary exclusion of vehicles for a local event which may last only a day or two.

Prominent examples in our area of long-term pedestrianisation include Stall Street, Southgate and Union Street in **Bath**, part of **Broadmead** in **Bristol**, and part of High Street in **Weston super mare**.

Designed pedestrianisation probably started with shopping arcades: in **Bath** the Corridor (Henry Edmund Goodridge, 1825, refurbished 1870); in **Bristol** the lower arcade in **Broadmead** (James and Thomas Foster, 1824-25); and in **Clifton** the arcade off Boyce's Avenue (JW King, 1878).



Bath's corridor, in the Greek revival style, was for many years private property. There was no public right of way through it, and gates at each end were locked at 10pm by a security guard. It did not become a public highway until 1997. **Bristol's** lower arcade was one of two. The upper arcade was demolished in the blitz. The lower, also in neo-classical style, served 36 shops. **Clifton's** neo-gothic arcade was built as the Royal Bazaar and Winter Gardens. When that venture folded, the arcade was used to store furniture. It did not get its present use as a sort of shopping mall until 1992.

Designed pedestrianisation in new housing became popular in the UK in the 1960s. The motive seems to have been road safety, the reasoning being that if you keep pedestrians and cars apart, you reduce the risk of collisions, deaths and personal injuries, and you make it safer for children to play in spaces that would otherwise be streets outside their houses, as children did before traffic made playing in the street dangerous. One form of pedestrianisation is the Radburn layout (from Radburn, New Jersey, USA, 1929) of which the **Stanshawe estate in Yate**, south of the modern town centre (planned from 1959, but redesigned along Radburn lines from 1966) is our leading local example.

Temporary exclusion of traffic has a long history, with vehicles being excluded for different reasons. In many places a market was held in one or more streets, as at **Wroughton** and **Chipping Sodbury**; and at **Bath**, **Thornbury** and **Marshfield** until market areas off-street were provided. Streets were closed temporarily for VE celebration parties, probably informally in most cases. More recently local authorities have used traffic regulation orders to close streets for special occasions, such as the queen's silver jubilee, events to mark the millennium, and other community cavortings.

It would be interesting to identify the different aims that prompted pedestrianisation in different places and at different times. One motive, and perhaps the earliest, has been annoyance with traffic congestion: if a route is so choked that vehicles cannot move, it ceases to perform the function of a highway. Shopping arcades, like modern shopping malls, seem to have been promoted in order to encourage shoppers by offering protection from the weather and, in the case of **Bath's** Corridor, offering traders overnight security as well as a touch of architectural class to attract a spending clientele. Were shopping malls an attempt to attract car-dwellers who objected to parking restrictions in shopping streets? When did the idea emerge that a street free of motor traffic is more pleasant for people?

More recently concerns have shifted from questions of amenity to the deleterious effects of traffic on buildings and people because of air pollution. Another development was in 2020 when Bath & NE Somerset Council closed some streets, eg **Kingsmead Square in Bath** and part of **Keynsham High Street**, in order to help people distance themselves from each other to reduce the risk of coronavirus infection. The local

history of pedestrianisation continues. If, as some commentators claim, the traditional high (ie shopping) street is doomed, with or without reform, there is more to come.



Cleveland Bridge

By the time you read this, Cleveland Bridge in **Bath** may be open to traffic again, albeit subject to light controls (that is, lights to control the flow of traffic) until the repairs and renovations are complete. The history of the bridge is unusual, and some points might repay further investigation.

Designed by the **Bath** architect Henry Edmund Goodridge (1797-1864), the bridge was built 1826-1827 by William Hazledine (1763-1840) of Shrewsbury, an ironfounder who worked with Thomas Telford. The span is of cast iron and the abutments of local stone. The bridge's Greek revival style makes it one of **Bath's** most notable early nineteenth century structures.

The ironwork is massive. Some elements of it were derived from Jessop's bridges at Bristol's floating harbour. Were the components of Cleveland bridge cast on site, or elsewhere? For Pontcysyllte aqueduct Hazledine leased land nearby and cast there. If elsewhere — Hazledine had sites in Shropshire — how were the components transported? [Image from a print by FP Hay, 1830]

The bridge gets its name from the main landowner promoter William Harry Vane (1766-1842), who when the work started was the earl of Darlington, had become marquess of Cleveland by the time the bridge was opened (1827 on the cast iron central plaques), and by 1833 had become the first duke of Cleveland. In 1836 he received compensation for 233 slaves in Barbados.

What Vane did to earn promotions at a speed that would be the envy of many a modern football club is not clear. His parliamentary career suggests he shifted allegiance more than once. His main interest was horses and killing wildlife. Apart from marrying a former mistress (a practice not unknown nowadays), his main achievement seems to have been to have inherited wealth and to have added to it, to which his **Bathwick** property contributed. When Henrietta Laura Pulteney died childless in 1808, Vane, whose family came from the north-east, inherited the **Bathwick** estate: William Harry Vane's grandmother was a Pulteney. The estate also included lands in **Ubley** and **Wroughton**, where **Bristol** lawyer Jarrit Smith of **Ashton Court** fame had once been steward. By then the Pulteney Street end of the **Bathwick** estate had been built on, and the western tract of **Bathwick** was, as property people say, ripe for development.

The bridge was commissioned by a consortium led by Vane which raised the money by subscription from landowners who would benefit from the **Bathwick** area being opened up for development by access to the London road. The bridge cost £10,000. An Act of parliament was needed for its construction and to authorise the taking of tolls to pay for the capital cost and future maintenance. The Act fixed the toll, with no provision for change (in the sense of there being no authorisation for raising the toll). That was no problem for most of the nineteenth century when, as Peter Malpass noted in his *The making of Victorian Bristol* (Boydell and Brewer 2019), there was little or no inflation, but by the twentieth century revenue from tolls no longer paid for maintenance and the bridge proprietors had no money to pay for an Act of parliament to allow them to increase the tolls: an example of a catch 22 situation long before captain Yossarian had it explained to him.

Bath corporation solved the impasse. In 1925 it promoted a local Act which authorised the corporation to acquire the bridge. It would be interesting to know where the pressures came from, and what the local politics were: city council minutes and local newspapers may give answers. The corporation rebuilt and reinforced the bridge 1928-1929 and freed it from tolls from 20 June 1929. Along with its former tollhouses or lodges — four for symmetrical, façaded as doric temples, one storey high on the road frontages, three storeys behind down to river flood level — the bridge was listed in 1950. [Modern image, showing 1920s reinforcement, from *The Bath Magazine*]



17,000 vehicles a day along the A36, many of them 44-tonne heavy goods vehicles, though perhaps not so many now as before the UK left the EU, have taken their toll, hence the need for a £4m rebuild at public expense involving welcome conservation and renovation.

Upstream, **Batheaston** bridge is still subject to tolls.

CAN YOU HELP?

WANTED: copies of *Avon Past*, or complete set. Offers please via the treasurer, wm.evans@btopenworld.com, 0117 968 4979.

QUOTE

When I was a schoolboy, *Jackdaw* folders were all the rage. They consisted of individual reproductions of original documents about a particular person or event – Alfred the Great, the Gunpowder Plot, the English Civil War – all contained in a colourful folder. You could juggle these documents at will. The documents were self-contained, with no connecting narrative to pull them all together. For a schoolchild, the joy lay in sifting through them at random, before alighting on one – say, a copy of King Charles I's death warrant – that seemed particularly captivating. In a strange way, this made *Jackdaws* closer to real life than many a

grander, grown-up history: they were free from the constraints of chronology, free from embellishment, free from bogus threads linking one event to another.

Craig Brown, *Nothing is real: the slippery art of biography* (2021)

EVENTS DIARY *Events notified to ALHA's website manager are listed on the ALHA website. If you want your event to be listed, please send details or a copy of your programme to Bob Lawrence, contact details on page 1 top right (Please note his changed e-mail address). Please tell him of any changes of regular venue or timing.*

Because of the coronavirus, events may be cancelled at short notice.

Links or directions to **online events open to the public** appear on ALHA's website.

08 November 2021	History of Bath Research Group	<i>Liz Vincent</i>	The development of the BRLSI collection from the 18th century onwards	Zoom meeting 7.30 p.m.
10 November 2021	Bristol Historical Association	<i>Dr Lyndsey Jenkins</i>	'I shall speak not so much as a Member of Parliament but as a housewife: Labour Women, Welfare Feminism and Parliamentary Politics, 1945-1959	7.30 Zoom meeting. Book in advance
12 November 2021	Stoke Bishop LHS	<i>Ian Caskie</i>	SS Great Britain - from launch to re-launch	
13 November 2021	Bristol & Avon FHS Bristol	<i>Gordon Young</i>	Films - "Through ticket to New York" and "Edwards Guide"	BAWA, Southmead Road, Filton. 7 p.m.
13 November 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn	<i>Sarah Aumayer</i>	Fused glass curve workshop	Booking details on website 10.30 - 12.30 and 1.30 - 3.30
13 November 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn		Family crafts: nature crafts and recycling superstars	Booking details on website 10.30
13 November 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn	<i>Ian Redfearn</i>	Wine tasting	Booking details on website 7 p.m. £ 20
20 November 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn		Pottery shed taster session	Booking details on website 1- 4, £60
24 November 2021	Bristol Historical Association	<i>Professor Michael Wood</i>	The Story of China. Voices from the Chinese Past	7.30 Zoom meeting. Book in advance
24 November 2021	Harptrees History Society	<i>Tony Coverdale</i>	Later Avon Valley copper and brass industry	7 p.m. Please book at in-fo@harptreeshistorysociety.org
26 November 2021	Whitchurch Local History Society	<i>Clive Burlton</i>	Topic tbc	7.30 p.m. Whitchurch URC church
29 November 2021	Bristol & Avon FHS Bath	<i>Penny Walters</i>	The ethical dimensions in genealogy	Zoom meeting by invitation only
01 December 2021	South Gloucestershire Mines Research Group	<i>Gary Atterton</i>	Bedminster Coal - blood, sweat and tears	Miners Institute (Coalpit Heath Village Hall), 7.30
02 December 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn		Open afternoon, tea and tour	Booking details on website. 2 p.m.. £5
04 December 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn		Fabric wreaths workshop	Booking details on website. 10 - 12.30
04 December 2021	Winterbourne Medieval Barn	<i>Bristol Harmony West Gallery Quire</i>	Afternoon concert of festive music	Booking details on website 3 p.m. £5.
13 December 2021	Nailsea & District LHS	<i>Ron Davies</i>	Music Hall Memories	
15 December 2021	Bristol Historical Association	<i>Dr Edson Burton</i>	From the St Pauls Uprising to Black Lives Matter: Activism, Continuity and Change in Bristol.	7.30 Zoom meeting. Book in advance
15 December 2021	Harptrees History Society	<i>Martin Horler</i>	"Not all beer and skittles", followed by supper	Prices and times from in-fo@harptreeshistorysociety.org
10 January 2022	History of Bath Research Group	<i>Sally Helvey</i>	Old photographs of the Cleveland Pools and update on restoration	St Mary's Church Bathwick Hall. 7.30 p.m.
26 January 2022	Bristol Historical Association	<i>Dr Evan Jones</i>	Wine Through Time: A Vinous History of Bristol	7.30. 7 Woodland Road. We will be in Lecture Theatre BH05.
31 January 2022	Bristol & Avon FHS Bath	<i>Myko Clelland</i>	Find my past	Zoom meeting by invitation only