



The Talk of Totterdown

The Newsletter of Totterdown Residents Environmental and Social Action Community Interest Company
Issue No 70, Autumn 2023 www.tresa.org.uk

What's happening at ZONE A?

After weeks of work preparing a hard standing earlier in the summer, a large metal container has now appeared on the Firfield Street end of 'Zone A'.

As previously reported, TACA (Totterdown Area Community Association) has been seeking support for a programme of heritage and community-led activities, alongside new funding to help enhance the green space with new planting and landscaping. This container will act as a hub and focus for these initiatives and will include a 'museum' of local heritage, a 'pop-up' café, plus, other amenities supported by residents and local arts and educational projects.

The 'Museum of Totterdown' unit will be sited at the back of the container and will act as a heritage resource for Totterdown and beyond. The museum's curator, John O'Connor outlined plans: "Over the past 6 years, the 'Road Project' and other local heritage initiatives have amassed a large archive of stories, images, artefacts and documents. We wish to make this more accessible to locals and to continue to build on what we have. We have been working on a 'street by street' basis and we hope to facilitate and encourage local residents to explore the history and 'ghosts' of their own homes and streets."

"The museum aims to develop a local archive of recorded oral histories and we want old and young to contribute! The next streets that we will be working on include St Lukes Road and County Street - stories, photos, memories etc. would be very welcomed."

TACA member, Anne Silber, added: "TACA has been awarded funding from the Community Pollinator Fund, a fund set up by the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority with the objective of creating and enhancing biodiversity, with an emphasis on improving pollinator habitats, to contribute towards increasing the abundance of wildlife across the West of England region by 30% by 2030. It is a response to the growing crisis and loss of our insect populations, particularly pollinator insects and recognises that as a

nation we must improve and increase habitats for insects, including in our urban environments."

"TACA plans to use the funding to create a bee friendly garden on the raised ground at the back of Zone A plus wildflower patches and increased native planting along the edges of the land. We will also create paths through the brambles on the steep slopes at the back to open up and increase biodiversity in this area and plan to plant hawthorn and other small fruiting trees. Long term residents of Totterdown may remember there was once a pond on this land which we hope to reinstate and any photos or memories of the pond would be welcome. There will be opportunities for local residents to comment on the plans and contribute as volunteers."

Zone A is an inviting green space at the heart of the community; an informal place for individuals to enjoy as well as an ideal spot for community activities. TACA is looking for people to become members of the Zone A Community, people who can help make the most of this unique and valued community space. To find out more contact Vera (TACA Chair), vera@floriographybyvera.co.uk John (Vice Chair) occonnorjohn1957@gmail.com ... or pop into Floriography for a chat!



LET'S DOODLE!

Organisation for this year's Totterdown Arts Trail which runs from 17-19 November is well underway, and the theme this year is 'Let's Doodle'!

For all our regular artists, thank you for being part of the Arts Trail family, your support is fantastic and we couldn't do it without you.

"We want to make this the biggest and best arts trail ever, and to do that we need YOU" said Adam Tayler, chair of the organising committee. "It took me a few years to pluck up the courage to take part, I didn't consider myself as an artist, but it was so much fun, I got lots of feedback on my work, and even sold my first ever piece that year. That was ten years ago and I've been taking part every year since!"

A staggering 147 listed artists exhibited in 2022 in 50 different venues.

If you are thinking of taking part for the first time, this will be the perfect year to do so. Any of our volunteer team will be happy to chat to you and we are available during the drop-ins to help you take part for the first time.

As well as the usual 'home galleries' and 'community art spaces', we are hoping to organise more events, workshops, performances, creative ways to get people to participate including having a quick doodle.

If you have any questions or need more details, come along to one of our open evenings, between 6pm and 8pm at ArtPark Gallery, 143 Wells Road on Monday 11 September, or Wednesday 25 October. **Adam Tayler**

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Register now at <https://totterdownartstrail.org/>

Early bird discount: £25
home venue, £28
community venue
Full price:
£30 home venue,
£33 community venue
(If you exhibit at a community venue, the extra £3 will go to the venue to help cover the costs of hosting the event)



Unity in Totterdown



Totterdown's unicorn foal was officially named at a colourful parade and naming ceremony on Saturday 1 July. Special thanks are due to Carolyn Jones of TRESA, Vera Fallacy of Floriography, and Adam Tayler of ArtPark for organising such an enjoyable event. Adam is also the artist who gave our unicorn such a beautiful coat.

The foal's first name is UNITY which represents solidarity and harmony within Totterdown's diverse population. 'Uni' means 'one' and 'T' is for Totterdown. The family name is SPARKLE, suggested by Imelda

aged 6. We hope you agree that Unity really does sparkle.

The unicorn foal represents 'One Totterdown' and will visit many of the different groups and organisations in the community. Unity has been living in ArtPark, 143 Wells Road, during Bristol's Unicornfest and will stay there for the Totterdown Art Trail. After that, our unicorn will be free to visit other businesses, groups and organisations in the area. For example, Unity may add beauty to a shop or café window for a few weeks, live in a community space to welcome members and guests, or spend time with members of a local group. All we ask is that you provide a safe space for our special unicorn foal.

If you would like to offer Unity a safe home for a while, please get in touch with TRESA by emailing: helo@tresa.org.uk and we will be happy to discuss arrangements. **SA**

Friends of Jubilee Pool

I cannot believe we are marching towards a year since we were thrown the keys to this monstrously beautiful building and told to make it work. And, by the seat of our Speedos, we have! In celebration we are planning a party, closing the road outside the Pool, having music, stalls, food and lots of splashtastic shenanigans...a 'Festival of the Pool'. Keep 8 October 2023 free for this fun event and if you fancy getting involved, please message me

rachel_heaton@fojp.co.uk

During the fight to save the Pool, which feels like a million years ago, we organised a public meeting. It was rammed, full of outrage and determination to keep this community asset open for everyone. At that meeting, trainee doctor Matt Blanchard watched from the back. I must admit I was suspicious (he was from North Bristol). Turns out that Matt originally had a career in leisure. He missed it. We immediately ensnared him within our team, empowered by his

knowledge and youthful enthusiasm. Matt is now a Trustee and Director of the Friends group and is a fully qualified doctor.

Dr Matt does loads behind the scenes in Jubilee World, he manages maintenance jobs, liaises with Parkwood Leisure (who run the pool), analyses spreadsheets, questions the timetable, and is just a fabulous human. Here he is, after our Jubilee-athon, dressed as a flamingo. Why not?

We are all volunteers in this group and could do with more people - especially if you are good at grant writing and have a few hours to spare each week, because life within Jubilee World is very similar to the Alton Tower's log flume, a bit terrifying but the ride is exhilarating. Jump on board! **RH, Friends of Jubilee Pool**



Taking action to protect our oceans from the detrimental effects of plastic pollution

Ecotribo is a local sustainable business making headlines for all the right reasons!

The home studio in BS3 opened as part of Totterdown Arts Trail in 2022, when visitors were invited to find out more about the process of creating plant pots and other products from recycled ocean plastics.

Overcoming a host of challenges to get the recycled ocean plastic product range off the ground, Ecotribo recently announced that they are now producing the new SEA CHANGE ocean plastic plant pot in a solar-powered factory locally in Bristol.

Designer and maker Tyrone Probert says "We have been super busy getting ready to take our fresh new design to market. Our plant pots are made from 100% recycled ghost nets that wash up on our shores NOT imported 'marine waste' from other countries fishing industries. Each SEA CHANGE Ocean plastic plant pot comes with our unique QR code action tracker so you can see the whole story from the beach where it was found, to our solar-powered workshop. No greenwashing only true transparency, and producing them on a larger scale means we can start scaling up the environmental cleanup! We have a new eCommerce site and are also now selling to retailers and wholesalers."

Shop online and sign up to the newsletter at ecotribo.com - all orders with free UK delivery. Supporting the continued work cleaning our beaches.





From heatwave to drought to flood and below par temperatures - the unpredictable weather that occurred during the summer of 2023 may well be one of the more obvious indicators that the climate emergency is real.

Extreme heat is a killer, and we know that our cities are typically a few degrees warmer than their surroundings, due to heat released by fossil fuels and absorbed by infrastructure such as concrete car parks and asphalt road surfaces. Clearly action needs to be taken not only to adapt to our changing weather patterns but also to better prepare for an uncertain future. We need to consider *now* how we might make our cities cooler, more liveable for us all. Adding green spaces, permeable surfaces, providing more trees and water sources is part of the equation, perhaps it's also time to finally suggest that taking space away from cars is not only desirable from a point of view of air quality but a step along the way to positive change for the future.

TRESA's remit includes a call to environmental action - we will continue to discuss how we as a community, and as individuals, can play a part in ensuring a healthy and happy environment for everyone. Do join us for our bi-monthly meetings - dates are published on our website and sent out via email to members. Together we can discuss a healthy and positive way forward.

Many thanks to all those who joined us for a fun afternoon celebrating the arrival in Totterdown of our very own Unicorn Foal, who was officially named 'Unity Sparkle'. Community groups and businesses are welcome to host Unity for a month so do get in touch if you would like some sparkle in your life!

Carolyn Jones, Editor

Totterdown's Heritage - The Gospel Hall

The Gospel Hall, 15 Bellevue Road, was constructed during the blossoming of the Victorian phase of Non-Conformism.



The chapel was built as a meeting place for the expanding local Plymouth Brethren group. The chapel was built in 1882 following a successful mission working from tents set up on a nearby site. Its front elevation is on Bellevue Road.

The hall was founded in 1880 by followers of George Muller, 'the founder of British orphanages'. George Müller 1805 – 1898 was a Christian Evangelist and the director of the Ashley Down Orphanage. He cared for over 10,000 orphans during his lifetime and provided educational opportunities for the orphans to the point that he was even accused by some of raising the poor above their natural station in life. He established 117 schools which offered Christian education to more than 120,000 children.

The Chapel was extended in 1887 with the addition of an intercommunicating corridor leading to the back entrance on Cambridge Street (number two was purchased for this purpose). Consequently for many years, the Cambridge Street entrance, for the strictly teetotal community, faced the alcohol serving old King William Hotel.

In its heyday in the 1930s and 40s, 300 local children were members of the chapel. In 1940, during the Bristol blitz, there was an air raid while children were attending the evening meeting. They were led into the middle corridor considered the safest place until there was a lull in the bombing. Children's meetings were cancelled until the end of the war, but were resumed and continued until 1963.

The Gospel Hall has now been converted into flats, although the sign is still in place telling the story of its past.

Miranda Walker

Late spring into high summer 2023

Provided by Barry Horton of the Totterdown weather station <http://www.bristolweather.org/>

We have certainly seen some dramatic changes of fortune in our weather patterns in the last couple of months. The spring rainfall had been above average and temperatures slightly below average in April and then came May. To start with the May weather followed that of April in being rather damp, then as if someone had turned off the tap, the rain stopped and the temperatures started to rise. By the end of the month temperatures were above average and rainfall below average.

The mean temperature in May of 14.9°C was 1.2°C degrees above the 30 year average (1991-2020). Rainfall was below average at 58.3% of the same 30 year average. All of the 36.4mm of rain that did fall in the month was in the first 19 days. Almost half of that monthly total fell in one 24 hour period on 8 May. From 20 May there were 12 consecutive days of no rain. Over the same period the predominate daily wind direction was, unusually, from a North Easterly direction. With 63.8% of the maximum sunshine recorded for May 2023 it was the 2nd sunniest since this data started in 2005.

Overall the spring of 2023 was the 13th warmest with respect to the average temperatures, with a mean temperature of 11.1°C. The spring rainfall of 2023 was the 5th wettest out of 142 years of data with 304.5mm. The 30 year average 1991-2020 is 179.5mm, so 2023 represents a wet 170% of the average.

In June the dryness of the second half of May continued and temperatures really started to become consistently high.

Eventually it turned out to be the hottest June on record with regard to the average temperature in Bristol, where continuous data started in 1891. With an average of 19.3°C it was 2.7°C above the 30 year average (1991-2020) for the city. June 2023 has therefore increased the temperature record by a significant margin. The total rainfall for the month was 33.2mm which is 54.3% of the 30 year average for the month. It was the driest June since 2018 which only had 4.0mm. Interestingly, and rarely, 58% of the month's rainfall fell in one event of 19.3mm on 19 June (something similar also happened with May's rainfall).

June was also a sunny month with over 60% of the maximum sunshine, and it was the sunniest June since 2018. The predominate wind direction for the month was from a North Easterly for the third month in succession. North Easterlies in Bristol are not uncommon and sometimes account for 20% of all wind directions in any one year. To have three consecutive months of predominately north easterlies is however unusual, and is in part probably contributing to this area's lessening wind speeds since around 2016.

Calendar months aren't meant to signify a weather boundary, but in stark contrast to June, July 2023 was a dull, wet and windy month with rainfall well above average, temperatures below average, and sunshine levels below what they usually are at this time of the year. It was also a windier month than average with low air pressure for this time of the year.

The rainfall for July 2023 was over double the average for the month at 147.7mm which is 214.2% of the 30 year average. It was the 6th equal wettest July, with 2009, since records began for Bristol. The average temperature for the month of 17.2°C was -1.3°C below the 30 year average and was the coolest July since 2012 which had an average temperature of 17.0°C. Notable was the low mean maximum temperature for the month of 20.5°C which was -2.2°C below the average, whilst the mean minimum temperature was only -0.3°C below the average.

With an average air pressure of 1004mb it was the lowest recorded for this site for a July when this data started in 1995. Wind speeds were higher than the average with the average highest daily gust of 25 mph being the highest for any month since May 2021 which was also at 25 mph. Two thirds of all predominate daily wind directions were from the SW or WSW direction. It was a dull month with only 48.4% of the maximum monthly sunshine when the average is 55.9% for July. This was a lower average percentage sunshine than the months April through to August. It was the duller complete month of July data since records began in 2005.

In macro weather terms the contrasting months have largely been due to the absence or dominance of the Jet Stream. As I write this in early August I can see no certain evidence that the Jet Stream will itself take a summer holiday and give us at least a little respite from the continuous conveyor belt of south westerly rains.



HILLCREST HUBBUB... written by Year 5 students for people of all ages



Less screen time, more family time... and it doesn't have to cost a penny!

Bristol has many inspiring communities across the city. They come in many different shapes and sizes, but they all have one thing in common; they are all reasons to get away from screens!

We wanted to highlight interesting, cheap and fun ways to explore some of the best that Bristol has to offer. We have compiled a list of ideas to encourage you to get out of the house, enjoy some exercise and fresh air, and have fun with your friends and family.

There are a lot of parks in Bristol including Redcatch, Victoria Park and Ashton Court. In open spaces you can take any sort of light transportable sport equipment such as a cricket bat, a tennis racket and ball, basketball or a football.

Visit somewhere different – perhaps go to a museum or gallery like Bristol museum. Bristol is home to a very special ship called the SS Great Britain in the harbour, another famous Bristol landmark is the Clifton Suspension bridge.

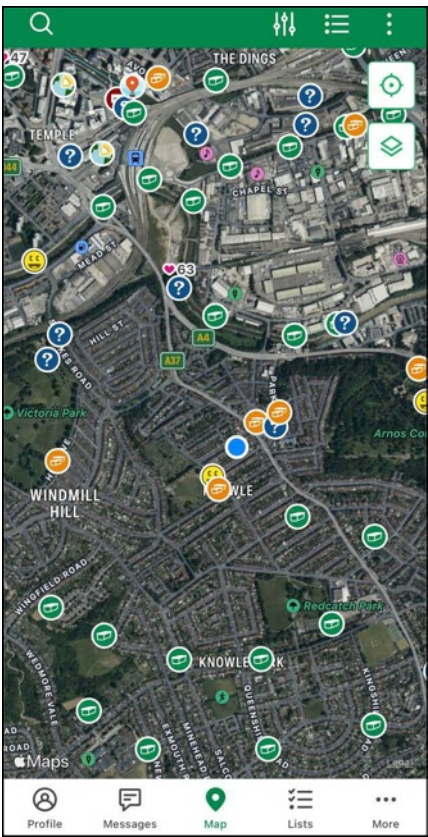
Bristol is famous for its graffiti so we recommend visiting North Street, if you are lucky you might see a work of famous graffiti artist Banksy. Banksy's art has been removed from people's houses so if you find one on the

home of someone that you know be sure to let them know so they don't remove it. The famous Banksy "Girl with the red balloon" is one of the most famous paintings. There was a hidden mechanical paper shredder which Banksy had built into the frame and it activated once the closing bid had been secured at auction. Three years later the half shredded artwork, retitled "Love is in the bin" sold for \$25.4 million, a record for the artist.

For older children there is an activity called geocaching – a way to get outside and explore interesting places, and have fun.

Download the app (free on any mobile device) and then go searching for cache after cache – treasure boxes hidden outdoors. The way to do this is by clicking on the cache in the app and then pressing navigate. Using GPS the app will guide you to the cache's area and will give you clues on where to find it. When you find the cache make sure no-one is watching because some people destroy these caches. Once you have found the cache you can log it as found on the app. If you have a pencil or a pen you can also write your geocaching name down and the date you found it on the piece of paper inside.

The size of the cache can vary from micro to small to regular to large and other sizes. Regular



or large cache can contain small toys or 'trackables'. Trackables are small trackers that get moved from cache to cache and their owners can track them as they move. After you have filled out everything then make sure to replace it and re-hide it. The most important rule is to have fun! Happy geocaching!

So, I hope this gives you the motivation to go outside and move your face away from those screens. This article should give you ideas to exercise and move about and get fit and healthy. As well as this you have the opportunity to explore different communities and enjoy a nice day with your family.

Y5 Cub Reporter Team: Isaac, Lottie, Noah

Totterdown, naturally ... Autumn

Nuts about the Park



There is a smell and feel to autumn that is unique. The smell starts from early August, I can't put my finger on exactly what it is as it's a combination of things. A hint of the smell of decaying leaves entwined with smell of late flowering plants and perhaps the absence of other smells too. The feel is easier to explain. The number of aircraft reducing lessens a feeling of claustrophobia in the air, the lack of activity outside gives an openness and, with half the birds f***ing off to Africa to grab a bit of winter sun, the sounds change.

At this time of year the blackbird song is quiet now and will be for much of October adding to that autumnal feeling of calmness. Come November, we'll hear their calls again echoing right through the winter. There is something magical about the blackbird song in the late autumn and winter. I think it's because this is the time they are heard quietly singing to themselves.

They are of course practicing for the next season, when their songs will be used to attract mates and ward off rivals. But I'd like to think that they are contemplating the previous year, using the calmness of the surroundings to reflect.

Yet, all this introspection might be a little premature. Turn to the squirrels and they are frantically gathering acorns. The badgers are well busy too, establishing new dens, mating and gathering nuts. September being the peak time to go badger spotting, and also a time to avoid them on the roads.

There is a hunger, a lust in the eyes of many of my mushroom foraging friends right now too. They will be frantically heading off to the woods and filling their baskets with ceps, boletes and chanterelles. Stimulating further harvests as they pick and spreading spores across the forest.

It's also a time for humans to gather nuts and in times past whole villages would go out together and join the nut harvest. In a few short years we'll have our own walnut forest, thanks to John Atkinson, our local tree officer (and climate hero). He's planted an avenue along the footpath leading up the hill in Arnos Court Park. I'd love to see revival of the practice and invite you all to come picking with me around this time in seven years – Autumn 2030.

It is, after all, with these practices that we too join in with the wild world around us. That we remind ourselves of where our food comes from and what it's like to harvest with our fellow humans. Harvesting relaxes the body and mind, it gives you the same hit of dopamine as buying something new, and if the rate of inflation remains high, perhaps that would be most welcome. It is also with these sorts of rituals that communities come together, bonds are made and fun is to be had. Of course you might also want to follow the birds and f*** off over to the Canary Islands instead but if you do, do you mind getting a boat? **AH**

Andy Hamilton is a bestselling author, brewer, forager, broadcaster and lover of all things natural. Find books, recipes and so much more on his website. <https://www.theotherandyhamilton.com/>

TOTTERDOWN URBAN NATURE RESERVE

At the TRESA meeting in July, members were joined by Ben Barker from the BS3 Wildlife group together with Esther Frizell-Armitage and Emma Fennell-Hodson from Avon Wildlife Trust to discuss the Greater BS3 Urban Nature Reserve. Those at the meeting also heard from Luke Cooper, who offered an inspiring talk about work improving parks around Hartcliffe on an ecological and biodiversity front, also looking at connectivity between different green spaces.

Suitably inspired, TRESA has decided to introduce its own Totterdown Urban Nature Reserve. This acknowledges that we are a distinct area crossing the BS3 and BS4 boundary, and, as Ben pointed out, animals and birds don't recognise any such boundaries!

Urban nature reserves are an important step in turning Bristol from a wildlife hostile urban area into a wildlife friendly environment. Research by UWE has shown just how important gardens can be in creating wildlife friendly areas and safe passage for animals and other wildlife given that many of the public spaces and verges are bounded by hazardous busy roads.

Many people are already making their gardens wildlife friendly; a garden full of 'weeds' with a few buckets to catch rainwater and stones or wood for insects to hide under may be more wildlife friendly than a very tidy garden! When introducing plants to your garden also look for 'bee friendly' labels as many of the brightest blooms in the garden centres are sterile and offer nothing to pollinating insects.

Individuals are invited to register their gardens as part of the Totterdown Urban Nature Reserve – email tresacac@googlegmail.com and we will send you a form to tell us about your garden. The form will also be available on the TRESA website.

We are having some certificates printed which you can display to let your neighbours know and if you can encourage them to sign up and collaborate then we can establish good wildlife corridors and help each other to develop even more productive wildlife gardens. **Anne Silber**

TRESA Gardening Club: Meets on the SECOND Monday of the month at 2pm for an hour or so to maintain the flowers in the brick beds in Totterdown Square, Oxford St. Then adjourns for coffee. Join us if you would like a bit of 'social gardening'. The group is welcoming, friendly and open to new members.

Call to report issues with rat running in New Walls

TRESA organised a meeting for local residents in late July with PC Sibson and a police liaison officer attending to discuss ongoing problems with rat running in Angers Road, Stanley Hill and Highgrove Street.

This was attended by a number of residents, especially those living in New Walls, with the general consensus being that stopping the 'rat run' by changing the turning of Angers Road off the Bath Road would solve a lot of problems. TRESA has actively been pursuing the council on this objective for many years now. In order to raise the profile of the situation and add emphasis to the need for action those present agreed that people would record incidents of anti-social behaviour such as driving up one way streets, aggression and driving up kerbs and record these on the police website. To submit a report regarding a crime or incident, such as an accident on the road, lost and found property, or anti-social behaviour visit the ASP website: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/>

View from the Chair...

The austerity that has been inflicted on local government since 2010 has meant that staffing and resources are stretched to the limit. Those who work within Bristol City Council, and are doing their best to deliver services, deserve our sympathy. But, as a community organisation, it can be frustrating to feel we are making progress on a local issue and then realise we may have to go back to the drawing board.

Two issues spring to mind. The first is the Stanley Hill rat run. We started trying to address the problem about ten years ago, and have had the support of successive councillors (Liberal Democrat, Labour and now Green). Officers from Bristol City Council have come to Totterdown and express sympathy when they witness the number of vehicles turning off the Bath Road into Angers Road, and then hurtling through the streets to exit onto Wells Road. At one stage we even had a plan for traffic calming and a budget to implement it. But time dragged on, and we have been told that the costs have risen and the budget is no longer sufficient.

A second, similar issue is the pedestrian crossing on St Lukes Road, from St Lukes steps across to Victoria Park. Having campaigned for a safe crossing for many years, we were supported by our then councillor Jon Wellington who secured the funds. Jon is no longer a councillor, but Cllr Ed Plowden has taken up the cause, while I have represented TRESA at meetings of the Area Committee to thank officers for their work on the crossing and ask questions about the timetable for delivery. Until recently, we were very hopeful it would be delivered. Designs had been agreed, and permissions granted. But now there are concerns that the whole process has taken so long, costs have risen, and there may not be enough money for the crossing after all. We are now waiting to see if the project will be abandoned.

TRESA has not given up. Each time we see an opportunity to raise an issue and seek a solution, we do. But something is very wrong with the system. It is frustrating for our councillors, for staff at the council and, of course, for residents. If either the Stanley Hill rat run or the St Lukes Road crossing are resolved any time soon, you can be sure that TRESA will organise a community celebration and you will all be invited!

Suzanne Audrey



A tribute to Terry Cousins



Terry Cousins, former Chair of Knowle Bowls Club, passed away after a brief illness on 11 June. He was a very good bowler, with the welfare of the club at heart, and will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Terry was also a long serving member of the Knowle Constitutional Club, where he was a keen snooker player and will probably be remembered by many.

He joined Knowle Bowls Club in 1984 and was a playing member for nearly 40 years. He held the office of Chair for the last 23 years until ill health forced him to step down in 2022 - an incredible record - and he was granted life membership for his valued work in running the club. Terry was Chair in 2009 when KBC celebrated their Centenary year with a match against a Bowls England team.

When Terry joined the club there was a strict code of dress (blazers ties etc.), with only men allowed to play. The dress code has now become much more relaxed with ordinary everyday clothes being the norm for non-club matches (roll ups) and a club polo shirt for matches representing the club.

In 1990 a Ladies Section was introduced - but matches were held separately with only the occasional mixed match, and the Ladies did not have a say in the running of the club. 2017 saw another milestone with the KBC becoming a mixed club, with mixed matches now being played and all members having a say in running of club business.

Besides his role as Chair, Terry advised on the construction of the new clubhouse in 1990 and the ongoing maintenance of the clubhouse and changing rooms, drawing on his experience in the building industry.

Terry also encouraged the social side of the game. The Social Committee stage excellent events held throughout the year at the club. The bar is open weekdays allowing members and guests to enjoy a drink whilst watching a game of bowls. Terry used to support these events, especially enjoying a Friday evening chat and the accompanying bread pudding!

Terry was a well-known figure in the bowling fraternity and his enthusiasm for the game of bowls and his encouragement of new players will ensure his memory lives on. Terry saw a vast change to the game of bowls at Knowle over the years, to a much more relaxed present-day atmosphere. If anybody reading this wishes to try out the game of bowls, please contact the Knowle Secretary, Bill Broome tel. 01179776913 or mobile 07886307564 to arrange a date.

Our condolences go to his wife Molly and family. R.I.P. Terry (Bowler, Clubman & Friend).

Bill Broome, KBC Secretary

Totterdown Front Garden Awards

Thank you to all the gardeners who help to brighten up our neighbourhood - we really appreciate your efforts. This year, judges walked the streets of Totterdown and gave out 350 award certificates. Everyone who receives a Front Garden Award for their window is a winner in our eyes, but we also like to give some prizes. Four gardens each received £10 in vouchers to spend in local businesses.

Prizes were given for: Creative Small Garden (for pots, window boxes, hanging baskets); Front Garden Planting (for those lucky people who have a front garden); Pollinator Friendly (supporting bees, butterflies and other insects); Grow to Eat (for those doing well with vegetables, fruit or herbs).

Judging is always difficult - there are always more inspiring displays than prizes. So, thank you again to all the Totterdown gardeners. And, if you would like to be involved with the Front Garden Award judging next year, please get in touch by emailing: hello@tresa.org.uk

SA

Lavender Broom: Tut, tut!



Fellow Residents

At a recent meeting of Totterdown Improvement Group a rather pleasant woman came along to describe plans for a Totterdown Nature Reserve, and invited us to include our own gardens in the project.

Initially, there were some sideways glances from members of the group who envisaged wild animals being released onto their lawns and herbaceous borders. Rodney became rather animated as he described the havoc caused by badgers at his golf club. Hilda was fearful of people planting inappropriate trees in their gardens, after having to inform her neighbours that the Californian Redwood they planted was more suited to a large country park. And, for reasons best known to herself, Edna recounted the gruesome tale of a seagull that swooped down into a back garden in Devon and flew off with a family's pet Chihuahua.

Slightly less dramatically, and more to the point, I queried whether giving our gardens over to nature might undermine my attempts to Tidy Up Totterdown and Tactfully Uphold Taste (Tut, tut!)

We were reassured that, while badgers have been spotted in some of the larger open spaces in the Totterdown area, they are unlikely to build a sett in a small, urban back garden. Rodney asked if it was true that spraying male urine around the garden, to mark it as another male's territory, was an effective deterrent. Apparently it is. But, as Chair of the meeting, I made it clear that we really do not want to give excuses for males to urinate around Totterdown.

Moving swiftly on, our speaker explained that most of the gardens in our area are more suited to smaller wildlife, and indeed smaller trees. She also reassured me that the garden does not have to look neglected and overgrown to make an important contribution to nature.

Some ideas to get us started were: plant small fruit trees and shrubs with berries to attract birds; find space under shrubs for a pile of moist twigs for beetles and other invertebrates to make their homes; support hedgehogs who like to roam between gardens by making a small hole at the bottom of the garden fence; choose plants such as lavender, poppies, foxgloves, and nasturtium to attract pollinators; provide a birdbath where birds can drink and keep their feathers clean, and; make a pond to attract dragonflies and frogs. By the end of the meeting, most of our members agreed that part, if not all, of our gardens could contribute to the Totterdown Nature Reserve.

Mr Broom has already identified space for a small pond here at Totterdown Mansions, and is busy digging a hole in the back garden ready for the pond liner. So I need to make sure that my fruit scones are particularly delicious for when he comes in to take a break. He has certainly earned them. *Tut, tut!*

Singing for wellbeing

Would you like all the friendship and wellbeing benefits of singing in a choir but without the pressure to perform?

Songs for the Soul is a new choir offering singing for wellbeing, meeting on Friday lunch times in South Bristol. The choir focuses on learning simple, harmony songs which make you feel good. No experience is required - the choir is a safe and welcoming space where you can improve your vocal technique, no matter what your current ability. Sessions work as a 'drop in' class and your first session is a free taster. The new term for Songs for the Soul starts Friday 22 September, 1-2pm in the training room at Windmill Hill City Farm. Please email katefletcher50@hotmail.com or check out www.breakoutvoices.com/songs-for-the-soul-1 for more information.

News from your local councillors -

Committee Model Update

As you probably know, Bristol has chosen to remove the Mayor in 2024 in favour of a committee system which is being overseen by a committee working group. This working group includes representation from all the major parties. The working group is designing the new model of governance for the city when we scrap the position of Mayor in May 2024.

So far, they have made the decision to replace the Mayor and Cabinet by eight policy committees, responsible for making decisions about how the city's public services are run. This will mean that after the next local elections, the council will switch from being run by a directly elected mayor to a series of eight committees, the details of these committees are still being decided and we would encourage you to get involved by attending or sending in questions and or statements.

The eight committees will be responsible for making major decisions about how the city's public services are run, with implications for everything from climate action and flood defences to social care and fostering.

The committees are as follows:

- A children and young people committee will focus on children's social care, fostering and adoption, supporting families, youth services, pre-school, safeguarding children, schools and education, and domestic violence and abuse.
- An economy and skills committee will focus on planning and development, emergency preparations, floods, and apprenticeships and training.
- An environment and sustainability committee will focus on climate, ecology, waste and recycling, energy, heat networks and City Leap, and air pollution.
- A public health and communities committee will focus on events and carnivals, parks and green spaces, libraries, volunteering and community initiatives, democratic engagement, drugs and alcohol services, sports, and obesity.
- A housing committee will focus on getting new homes built, major housing developments, social housing and council housing, homelessness, student accommodation, and renters.
- A health and adult social care committee will focus on caring for the elderly and disabled and adult safeguarding, which forms a huge and increasing part of the council's budget.
- A transport committee will focus on transport policy, transport maintenance, major transport projects, and the harbour.
- A strategy and resources committee will focus on finance and budgets, culture, and external relations, for example with the government, as well as an overview of all the other committees and where they intersect referring to policy.

A number of members of the working group have been pushing for more power to be given to local communities beyond our current area committee structure, and there is now a sub-group looking at how these could look in the future system and what they can decide.

All this will mean that the decisions being made by the future committee system will be much more open and transparent allowing for the public to have more influence in the process.

You can find out more on engaging with the group and what's coming up by visiting the website Bristol.gov.uk and searching for 'Committee Model Working Group'. **Cllr.Ed.Plowden@bristol.gov.uk / Cllr.Lisa.Stone@bristol.gov.uk**



SOAP SUDS
(BRISTOL) LAUNDRY SERVICE LTD
TEL 0117 300 9983 / MOB 07575 780262

OPEN MON-THURS 8am - 4pm
Family run business since 2010



- Collection & Delivery Service
- Service washes
- Business packages
- Airbnb
- Serviced apartments

172 Wells Road, Totterdown, BS4 2AL

**JOIN TRESA**
Together we can make a difference...

TRESA brings together residents in Totterdown with the aim of improving and protecting our local environment and promoting a vibrant and engaged community. Members influence the projects we undertake and join us in providing a strong voice in commenting on issues of local significance.

- Membership is for anyone aged 18 years or over, living within the TRESA boundary.
- Membership fees help fund community projects and The Talk of Totterdown.

To join or renew your membership (£3 per annum): visit our website www.tresa.org.uk to pay via paypal or complete details below and post with cash or cheque, (payable to TRESA CIC), in our letterbox at the Post Office (in Tesco).

Name: _____ House number and postcode: _____
Email: _____ Date: _____

ARTPARK
ORIGINAL AFFORDABLE ART
TOTTERDOWN • BRISTOL • ENGLAND

INSTAGRAM: @ARTPARKBRISTOL
EMAIL: HELLO@ARTPARK.CO.UK
POP-UP ART EXHIBITIONS
PRIVATE EVENTS
RUM/WINE TASTING
MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT
BLEND-YOUR-OWN SPICED RUM

Silverman chemist 
Totterdown's local pharmacy est. 1936

Walk-in appointments for many services...

- Free Winter Flu Jab Service*
- Free Blood Pressure Checks*
- Free yearly medication check up & new medication reviews for selected illnesses*
- Urinary Tract Infection, Sore Throat, Impetigo, mild skin conditions, Conjunctivitis. There is no charge for exempt patients and a prescription charge per item for paying patients*

(*NHS funded for customers who meet the NHS criteria)

Private clinic consultation services:

- Hearing screening test
- Ear examination and treatment
- Ear wax removal where it is creating a problem

We also have a wide range of natural and organic products including refills

  bio-D refills

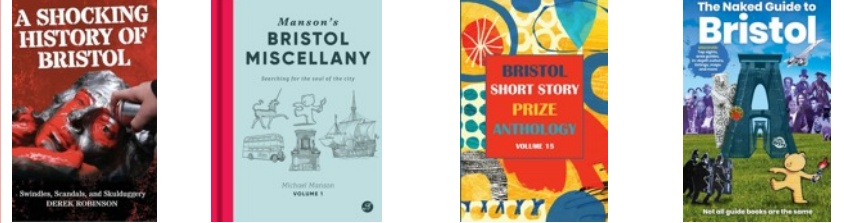
180A Wells Road - Mon-Sat: 9am-7pm



Monday to Thursday 10-6
Friday 10-8 / Saturday 9-4.30

Check our social media for latest updates and offers:
Instagram: [innovation_unisex_hair](https://www.instagram.com/innovation_unisex_hair)
Facebook: [innovation.unisex.hairdressing](https://www.facebook.com/innovation.unisex.hairdressing)
Online booking system & Egift vouchers
also available at www.innovation-unisex.co.uk
168 Wells Road, Bristol BS4 2AG

innovation
Unisex Hair & Beauty
0117 9715772



SPECIAL OFFER
20% off everything at
www.tangentbooks.co.uk
Use the code **supporter** at checkout



Delivery is free in the UK, no matter what you order

Check out our podcasts at www.tangentbooks.co.uk