

# Friends of the Avon New Cut Newsletter 13 – Autumn 2009



## Forthcoming events

### Butterfly Junction

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

Join our maintenance working party at Butterfly Junction (adjacent to the Create Centre car park). We shall be cutting back brambles and other invasive plants in order to protect the rough grass upon which several butterflies breed. Meet there at 10.00am. Wear strong shoes and warm clothing. Bring gloves and tools if you have them. Free coffee and cake afterwards!



*Butterfly Junction*

### Riverbank clean-ups

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010**  
Coronation Road bank.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2010**  
Cumberland Road bank.

On both days we shall meet at 10.00am at Gaol Ferry Bridge and will finish by midday. Free coffee and cake will be available afterwards! (Continued overleaf)

## Bus Rapid Transit System

FrANC is represented at consultation meetings being held to discuss the rapid transit bus route that will run alongside the Chocolate Path and on Cumberland Road.

Our concerns include the following:

- Felling of the mature trees at Spike Island Arts Centre
- Damage to or loss of Butterfly Junction
- Narrowing of busy footways near the Underfall Yard
- Damage to the Underfall infrastructure (much of which is listed as well as being vital to the management of water and silting of the docks)
- Loss of historic features such as ornate railings and pennant stone
- Loss of wildlife habitat and detrimental effect of the route on New Cut wildlife
- Increased noise and air pollution along Cumberland Road and the Chocolate Path.

We shall be urging the planners to address these concerns over the next few months.



*Will it be goodbye to a peaceful walk along the Cut?*

## FrANC riverbank clean-ups

Please wear warm, waterproof clothing and strong shoes when you attend our riverbank clean-up events. Bring protective gloves if you have them. We will supply spare gloves and litter-pickers.

Children are welcome, but for insurance reasons anyone under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Please note that events may be postponed at short notice in adverse weather conditions (eg. snow, torrential rain or strong winds).

## Other events in 2010

We are in the process of planning a series of activities next year including:

- Another boat trip along the New Cut
- Wildlife walks
- Our annual "New Cut Trek".

Watch out for details in future newsletters!



*Passing under the Banana Bridge on this year's boat trip (in dull weather!)*

## New Cut 200 bench

Before the end of 2009 we shall be installing a new bench to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the New Cut. Located near the east end of the Chocolate Path, it will enable passers-by to rest and enjoy excellent views along the Cut.

## News in brief

### City Council activity on the Cut

The City Council has been busy clearing buddleia and other intrusive plants that are damaging the retaining walls of the Cut. Sadly, the brief given to their contractors did not appear to include the removal of litter – which is particularly bad along York Road.

If you are concerned about this, or if you spot fly tipping or abandoned supermarket trolleys along the Cut, we urge you to report details to the City Council. Telephone Customer Services on 0117 922 2100.

### Local Nature Reserve

We still live in hope that the New Cut will one day be formally recognised as a Local Nature Reserve. This has become one step nearer with news that the City Council has included the Cut on a list of projects that will be supported should they be awarded a grant from Natural England to employ a Local Nature Reserve Officer.

### FrANC committee

Our committee for the year 2009/10 was elected at our AGM. Its members are: John Purkiss (Chair), Sara Worth (Vice Chair), Tracy Whale (Treasurer), Derek Hughes (Secretary), Tess Green, Adrian Mantle, Angie Tonge and Martha van der Lem.

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See also [www.southvillecentre.org.uk](http://www.southvillecentre.org.uk)

If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send your name, address / e-mail address to John Purkiss ([johnpurkiss@talk21.com](mailto:johnpurkiss@talk21.com)) or leave a note for him at the Southville Centre.