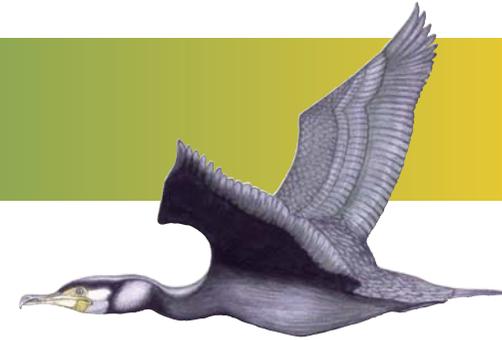




Langton Street Bridge Avon New Cut

Fig tree



Cormorant



Banana (Langton Street) Bridge today

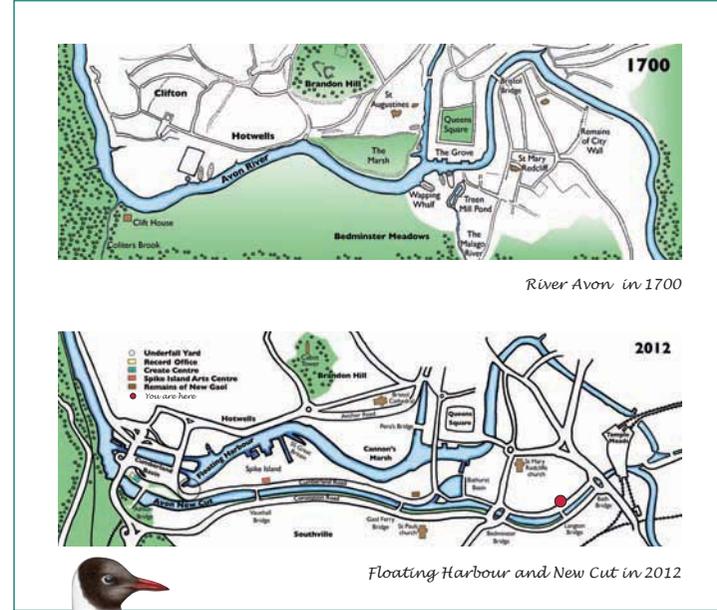


The Banana Bridge in the 1950s

Welcome to Avon New Cut

Bridge on the Move

This footbridge was originally erected in 1883 as a temporary bridge on the site where Bedminster Bridge now stands. It was then transported on barges at full tide and sited at Langton Street. It is currently known as the Banana Bridge because of its shape, and has been painted a complementary yellow colour.



River Avon in 1700

Floating Harbour and New Cut in 2012

North of the New Cut

Langton Street was a direct link between Bedminster and the Cathay area of Redcliffe Hill. After the devastating bombing of WW2 the street was lost in the new development.

The South Side

The area south of York Road, bounded by the railway and East Street, was densely populated with narrow streets, heavy industry, foundries, factories and tanneries. By the early 1860s this area was an appalling slum.

Local Hero

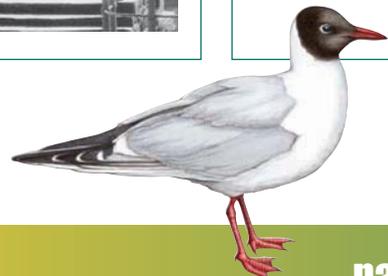
David Dowdney, the great reforming clergyman, came to St. Luke's Church on the corner of York Road and Spring Street, when it was built in the early 1860s. He was a towering figure who helped the poor over the next 30 years through his soup kitchen, bible reading and mission hall.

Wildlife

There is a wealth of wildlife along the New Cut. Cormorants and black-headed gulls are commonly seen, and the fig trees growing on the opposite bank are thought to have grown from fruits discarded by sailors in days gone by.

Friends of the Avon New Cut (FRANC) is working to improve the Cut and its wildlife. If you would like to find out more, or to get involved, please visit our website at www.franc.org.uk, or contact us via email at contact@franc.org.uk

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Black-headed gull