



E - BULLETIN NO. 5

17 July 2014

Dear Civic Society Member

As the Newsletter is not likely to reach you until early August, I thought I'd just send a few items of urgent news around by email – as has now become the custom.

Planning Committee Meeting 31 July 6.00pm

Cheltenham Borough Council is having a special meeting to discuss the planning application for 650 houses in the Kidnappers Lane area. This is an important application as this area is one of those identified for development in the Joint Core Strategy, which is currently working slowly through its approval process. The Civic Society supports this development as it believes this is a more suitable area for housing development than most other possible places in or around Cheltenham, although we fully accept that there are important issues to be resolved – particularly handling the extra traffic. Attending the Planning Committee meeting would be an opportunity for you to hear the arguments.

Geo-referencing

I'd be amazed if many of you have heard this term before, but it represents an important opportunity for participating in research into the history of our local landscapes and towns. Details can be found under www.southglos.gov.uk/.../know-your-place. I have some further details via Karen Radford. The voluntary roles entail a day's training in Bristol and two or more days work on the computer at home, all before the end of September. Please let me know if you're interested.

Glenfall House

You may remember a most interesting visit some of us enjoyed to this fine house in Charlton Kings a couple of years ago. It then belonged to the Diocese of Gloucester, but (as you may have seen in the Echo) has now been sold as a private residence. We were lucky to have the chance to see it when we did.

Other volunteering opportunities

We had a good response to our earlier request for volunteers. Moyra Stephens proved an excellent Chair for one of our evening lectures. Richard de Carteret has made a fine job of sorting out some of our archives. Diana Brown's team of catering helpers has been considerably enriched. Cheltenham College's WW1 researches have been assisted by CCS members.

But more chances exist if you're interested. We need a wider range of introducers for the lecture programme; we need writers of short pieces for the Newsletter; Roger Jones is still seeking Stewards for Heritage Open Days on 13/14 September. If any of these activities appeals – they're all fun, and important, and call for different skills – please tell Roger Brown, our Membership Secretary on rjb@brown70.fsnet.co.uk

Plaques Book

The excellent book on Cheltenham's plaques, published in 2009, is I expect already on your shelves. Maybe you've already handed copies to friends. But in case not, you may be interested to know that we are now giving the book away free. It contains an up-to-date list of the plaques unveiled since publication, and a membership application form, so as such it constitutes good publicity for the Society. If you'd like a copy, or several copies, please let me know and we'll get them to you. And if they lead to new members, we'll be particularly delighted!

Thank you for reading this. Enjoy the quiet period of July and August, and the Newsletter when it comes. I look forward to seeing you at some of our events in the autumn.

Best wishes
Roger Woodley
Chair of Executive Committee
