



# Chairman's Statement

Audrey Lennox: Chairman 2004-2005

The Civic Trust movement, founded by Duncan Sandys in 1957, has always had dual objectives - to enhance as well as preserve the environment in which we live. We can both celebrate our history and arrange for our future in the 21st century.

The Charitable Objects of the Society require us to "stimulate interest in and care for the beauty, history, character and future of the City of Bristol and its surroundings". This and much more has been achieved thanks to the commitment of our army of volunteers. Let us not take their work for granted.

Why not join us? You can be sure of a warm welcome.



Award winner: The atrium in No. 2 The Square, Temple Quay

## Issues & Outcomes 2004-2005

- Our regular meetings with the City Council Planning Department have been regenerated and renewed from October 2004. The aim is a proactive and constructive dialogue with healthy criticism from us and greater responsiveness from the Department.
- The Redcliffe Futures Group has been able to convert its dialogue with Council Members into a positive working partnership that not only makes the achievement of local visions for Redcliffe more likely, but also, hopefully, helps the Council to co-ordinate its departments at a neighbourhood level.
- McArthurs Warehouse and the SS Great Britain involve ambitious redevelopment schemes with serious environmental impact. With a promised second public inquiry cancelled we are calling on Council Members to consider the issues very carefully.
- On Wapping Wharf the Society and the local Spike Island Futures Group have joined forces to object to the density, bulk, massing and heights proposed.

- The Society's comments on a policy for tall buildings in Bristol have been built into the final policy document.
- For the public consultation on proposals for NHS Hospital reorganisation, the Society has called for a wider vision; added to the medical aspects of healthcare must be empowerment for users, high quality design of buildings, buildings fit for purpose, sustainability and the reduction of car traffic.
- In January 2005 some 250 somewhat bemused delegates from public agencies, business, community and voluntary sectors attended a conference to update the "aspirations" for the city through the "Bristol Partnership" The conference papers bear the strapline: "Bristol in 2020: Thriving, Diverse, Sustainable". Do you agree?

Meanwhile the Society moves forward with events, meetings, awards, debates, an updated identity and reaching out to over 30 local groups. I would add the need for plain English versions of planning jargon and a wider educational role. All this needs money and manpower. Can we afford to do it? We cannot afford not to! □

Events During 2004