

VOICE OF THE WEST

TEMPLE WAY, BRISTOL BS9 9HD

Homes needed in dead Broadmead

AN underground shopping precinct beneath Castle Green?

Who, apart from the money-boys, needs or would even welcome such?

Don't planners ever consider the effects of their previous plans?

For example, Broadmead. Individually it has long since vanished from that "new" development, if indeed it ever existed.

Stand in that precinct today and, viewing the remaining chain-stores, one is hard put to know if one

is in any other British city; north, south, east or west. The uniformity is chronic. At worst, a right blight to any tourism.

Muggers

As for going "underground", the idea would be laughable if it was not so potentially awesome.

Previous subterranean examples provide small cheer.

The nasty underpasses, for instance, are shunned as much as possible by humans of all ages who do not relish encounters with drunken vagabonds (of both sexes), prefer not to be mugged or just don't appreciate the stench of urine.

Shelter

The mind boggles when one further considers the service roads needed, the extra policing, the defences necessary against potential flooding.

50 YEARS AGO

THE Prime Minister called a special cabinet meeting to discuss France's grave suspicions that Germany was gradually rearming, expressly against the Versailles Treaty.

25 YEARS AGO

BLACKHORSE Primary School, Mangotsfield, Bristol, was opened. The chairman of the County Council said the school was part of a 15 year plan covering the whole of the county and costing millions.

And, if there be a lurking notion that such might provide central Bristol with a nuclear air-raid shelter one only hopes the engineers and architects concerned truly do their homework.

Why, in heaven's name, cannot Bristol have a "planner" who might consider:

(1) Bringing back people to live in the central area? "New" Broadmead has always been dead from 6 pm any day. Yet, on observation, there appears to be space for flats above many of those shops.

Brewery

(2) Equally, why not consider the erection of a number of small town-houses amid all the office proliferation throughout the inner city?

(3) Inviting that brewery to tuck up its valuable portion of the Floating Harbour between Bristol Bridge and St Philip's Bridge. Cheerless now; and

(4) Having a lower walkway on the opposite bank. Some individual shops, even a few small residences could surely exist?

Planners could, in my opinion, pause at "immediate financing" and reconsider the advantages of the medieval concept of a town centre being a living area.

Mould

Bristol should see its future in breaking the mould of modern inner-city development.

There are enough Bristolians around, of

EVENING POST

welcomes readers' letters, but these should be kept short and on matters of topical interest. Letters are considered for publication on the understanding that the Editor reserves the right to edit letters where necessary. Names and addresses must be given. Readers who wish their letters to be published under a pseudonym are asked to give a reason for this request.

all political persuasions, who would dearly relish, cherish and support real living plans to enhance the old city status and individuality.

A "green-heart" to a city on current terms may appear daft, on the other hand, by the year 2000 AD, might not our descendants respect, even love us?

Norman Bailey
25, Perry Street,
Bristol, BS5 6SY.

IT IS to be hoped that Castle Park will not be pulled about again. It has been made very nice and the Evening Post bandstand has given us much pleasure.

Station

It really is a pity the planners did not develop the old goods yard at Temple Meads with shops, restaurants and clubs with a walkway to Temple Meads station — to tie in with British Rail electrification their branch lines to Yate and Portishead and putting back the line from Yatton, around the Cheddar valley to Frome and back via Midsomer Norton and Pensford to bring in the people!

L James
208, Bamfield,
Whitchurch, Bristol.



MRS SHEELAGH Golding with her children Katie aged three and James, six, out for a walk in nearby Perrett Park. Picture: Nigel Tailby.

It's dog's play in the park

WITH two small children anxious for any amusement, I thought I would take them to my nearest park.

This has flower beds tended lovingly by the gardener and plenty of grassy area to run over and enjoy.

The swings, roundabout and climbing frame are all relatively new, too. The sun was shining. The scene was set for a pleasant afternoon. Or was it?

Hairy

To my horror on arriving at the children's swings I found an adult absolutely squirming in delight as his pet dog — a scruffy, hairy beast — was enjoying a ride on an infants' swing while being pushed higher and higher to the heights of doggy ecstasy.

The dog was then removed to his next treat — a ride or two on the slide.

How exquisite! How marvellous to see a dog enjoying himself on the facilities provided for our children!

Tired

The dog was obviously tired after all these thrills and was no doubt carried home for a nap by his loving owner.

Please, all you many owners of canine friends:

(a) Parks and grassy spaces within the city are not designed to be doggy toilets;

(b) Our children do not wish to sit on swing seats formerly occupied by a doggy's dirty behind;

(c) Dogs are animals, children are people — they do not have to be treated equally;

Dignity

(d) Dogs surely deserve the dignity to be our pet/friend, not our playthings and to be treated as an animal, not as a small, dumb person in furry garb. There obviously has to be give and take in the use of our city's open spaces, but I do wish people were given priority over the needs of dogs.

Please may we have some "people only" park space?

Mrs Sheelagh E Golding
18, Sydenham Road,
Knowle, Bristol BS4 3DF.

THINK on these things...

"(Abraham) staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in the faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform."

ROMANS, ch.4 vs. 20/21.

Younger look at Depeche Mode

WE protest against James Belsey's meaningless and middle-aged review of the Depeche Mode concert in the Colston Hall (September 13).

The review showed his obvious lack of enthusiasm for this kind of music and seems to suggest he was more interested in watching the teenage girls.

Clearer

Without having his full attention on the group involved, how could he report fairly on their performance?

To suggest that all members of Depeche Mode look alike is in our view nonsense, but perhaps we have the advantage of clearer (youthful) vision.

S Reeves
T Gould
L Tarr
C Styles

5, Lorton Road,
Southmead, Bristol.

I SAW Depeche Mode and they are definitely not boring as James Belsey suggests. I'm 15 and so probably considered as being one of the "adoring teeny audience". I went to see them because they play good, interesting music, which certainly doesn't sound tinny and thin.

Boring on stage? Nobody at the concert seemed to think so as everybody was dancing and joining in with the songs.

Listen

According to James Belsey Depeche Mode's songs are almost identical: perhaps if he listened to more of their music he would realise that they aren't.

Miss C Kemp
31 Embassy Road,
Whitehall, Bristol BS5 7DZ.

I WAS one of the teenage girls who "sighed, squealed and wriggled" as Depeche Mode performed their synthetic party pieces".

Lyrics

Because James Belsey didn't enjoy himself, doesn't mean to say no one else did.

The group do not have similar haircuts and their songs are not identical. Their music has very meaningful lyrics.

They don't sound "tinny and thin" on stage.

Louise Morgan
38 Burchell's Green
Close, Kingswood,
Bristol BS15 1DU.



THE OFFICIAL notice in Perrett Park... are dogs on swings "under control"?

SEEING STARS with Russell Grant

ARIES (March 21-April 20): Your energy level is definitely below par. Be very careful of all intoxicants.

TAURUS (April 21-May 21): Love-wise you may well be fooled by your feelings. Find out if what you feel for someone is just fantasy or for real.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21): Check all pipes, taps in fact anything directly linked with water in your home. A funny old day all round when honesty is nowhere to be seen.

CANCER (June 22-July 23): You are unlikely to hear the truth today. Take care!

LEO (July 24-Aug 23): A rather strange battle could be going on within you very much on a spiritual level. You could have your priorities all wrong.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23): You have strong feelings of inadequacy. Don't expect too much from anyone.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23): Your subconscious seems to be a web of intrigue, phobia and doubt. Involve yourself in mystical spiritual or meditational study to create a farm ore peaceful outlook.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22): Emotionally and creatively you'll be able to sustain terrific progress. But be warned about financial deception.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): You still aren't sure what you should be doing with your life. Try to find out now.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20): A spiritual or emotional crisis will come to a head now, but that is not such a bad thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19): Watch out for dirty play. Hold back from any decisions till a more opportune time.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20): Your faults of escapism and self-deception come to the forefront. Keep your feet on the ground!

Birthday: Deception and gullibility are your main enemies this coming year. Keep everything within your grasp and know your limitations.

WITH reference to your recent news report Warning To Dog Owners, the issue is not whether people with dogs are welcome on Stoke Lodge playing fields, but whether there is a legal right to ban them.

Dog droppings are a problem in any public place but the fault must lie with the owner and not the animal.

I submit that those who walk and exercise their dogs on the Stoke Lodge fields twice a day, every day of the year, in all weather conditions, are responsible people who have trained their animals in matters of hygiene.

There may be the occasional "accident" in the main area, but by and large mess is confined to the overgrown borders and does not constitute a health hazard.

Where else are the occupants of the

playing fields cottages expected to exercise their dogs?

By far the greater offence and danger is from beer cans, broken bottles, and glue sniffing bags. The activities on an evening merit investigation.

Many of the dog owners are elderly ladies, whose animal is the main or sole companion. The Dingle is unsafe for the unaccompanied lady.

The use of the playing fields is quite minimal and rarely when dogs are being walked in early mornings and late afternoon. Very few children venture there.

There are no facilities as in Canford Park nearby. It is not the safest of places in today's sick world.

Margaret James,
Stoke Bishop (full address supplied).

An Avon county council spokeswoman,