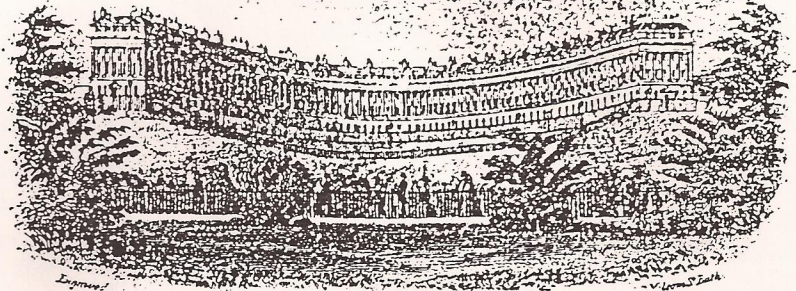


The Royal Crescent Society Newsletter



23 MAY - 8 JUNE BATH FESTIVAL
OPENING FESTIVITIES FRIDAY 23RD MAY
Royal Victoria Park from 7.30pm

A spectacular pageant, organised by the Avon and Somerset Constabulary, in the Royal Victoria Park will herald the start of the 1986 Bath Festival and celebrate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Bath Police Force. The Bath Police Force, now a division of the Avon and Somerset Constabulary, is one of the oldest in the Country. As well as displays by the horses and dogs of the modern police force there will be a cavalcade of scenes from the past. Music will be provided by a police band. Your Committee has confirmed with the Bath Festival that directions have been given to the Police that the event is to be confined to the Park below the HaHa and not, as stated in the Festival Brochure: "on the Royal Crescent Lawn... and in the Royal Victoria Park". At approximately 9.45pm lights will be dimmed and the Chairman of the Events Committee hopes that candles will be lit in the windows of the Royal Crescent as well as Marlborough Buildings, Brock Street, Margaret's Buildings and Circus. Madrigals will be sung in the Royal Crescent and the Circus, as in previous years. We also understand that the Bath Society Youth Orchestra will play in the Circus.

Issue No 3

February 1986

COACHES

Your Traffic Committee has met 11 times and published its Report to Local Authorities, our MP, and several members of the House of Lords, on 14th January, 1986. An immense amount of National and local media interest followed, some of it being shown in the Special Coaches Issue of this Newsletter published on 15th January.

Councils Respond

As a result of this action Avon County and Bath City Council are to produce their own report on the problem with options and consequences. This is the first positive move either Council has taken in 5 years. A full Report and current developments and responses will be given at the Annual Meeting on 21st March. There will also be a display of all the media comment.

We CAN succeed

One thing is clear from the activities of the Committee: it is possible to stop the coaches - but only if we all keep up the pressure.

ANNUAL MEETING

The formal notice calling the Society's Annual Meeting will be sent out by Monica Baly the Secretary. You may want to note your Diary now - the date will be 21st March at the Bath and County Club.



Election of Officers

You will see from Rule 11 of the Society's Rules & Constitution, which are reprinted with this Newsletter, that 2 Committee members must stand down each year, and not offer themselves for re-election. This year it is time for Clifford Gibbs and Mrs George Kersley to take this action and nominations for their replacements will be called for.

Of course ALL Offices and Committee posts must be filled by election each year - no seat is filled, from the Chairman downwards, by automatic right. So put forward your candidate for each office to the Secretary in advance, or at the Annual Meeting. The Officers currently in post have served for the following periods:

Chairman - Mr R A C Forrester - 10 years
Treasurer - Lt Col John Woollam - 7 years
Secretary - Monica Baly - 13 years

LIVING IN THE ROYAL CRESCENT - 2 LEAD AND LEAKS

By Roy Titchen

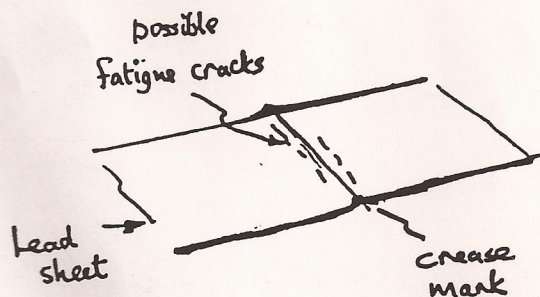
From my last article, you will have gathered that lead plays a very important part in keeping our roofs watertight. It is used for:

- Covering flat surfaces
- Lining rain water troughs
- Flashing (keeping the water out at the edges)

In many of our houses, the lead you see today is likely to have been in place since the Crescent was built. The primary cause of damage to the lead are:

- carelessness, such as walking across it with inappropriate shoes, dropping heavy sharp objects on it eg TV masts
- fatigue

The lead on our roofs is also subjected to changes in temperature; everytime the sun comes out and goes in. Where lead is laid in long lengths, these changes in temperature give rise to a considerable change in length. Since the lead is unlikely to be able to move freely, the expansion may cause a crease across the lead, probably near the middle of the length. The constant cycling may cause fatigue cracks close to the crease. (See sketch) These cracks are not always easy to find, but if the lead is pressed down as it is drying out after a shower, water can be seen emerging. Frost will of course, rapidly exacerbate any cracks.

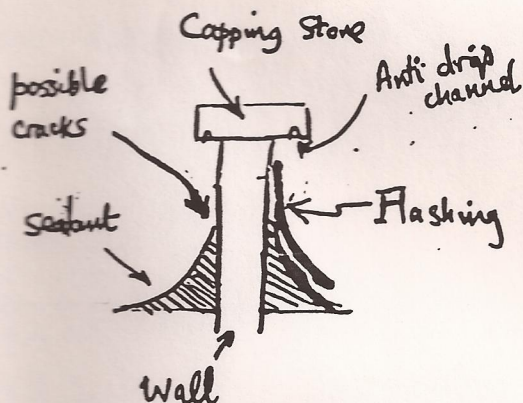


Flat sections of lead covered roof are quite satisfactory provided that the water can run off them. If the water stops flowing and the level builds up there is danger that water may

- overflow the edges of the lead beneath the bottom row of slates
- flow back between overlapping sections of lead by capillary action.

It is therefore essential to keep flat sections of roof free from accumulations of debris and the entrances to the rainwater troughs and hoppers free of silt.

Another area for leaks is the sealing between the roofs and the dividing walls between the houses.



Modern practice would be to use a lead flashing cut into the wall and where this is intact, no rain should enter. In many cases however, sealing has been effected by a cement fillet covered with a mastic. The ultra-violet content in the sun's rays will quickly destroy the waterproof qualities of the mastic and in time as the cement fillet dries out, cracks appear. The situation will be made worse if the capping stones are missing or not in good condition. The only long term solution is to cover cracks by flashing.

Once the location of a leak has been established, itself sometimes quite difficult, repair using modern materials is relatively simple. There are now available several self adhesive aluminium foil backed weather proof sealing strips. These are available in a number of widths and lengths. Provided that the instructions are followed carefully and the appropriate primer is used to seal the surfaces, these sealing strips are easy to use. The most readily available that I am aware of is Evostick "Flashband". The final result will be almost as good as new. Being foil backed, the repair will not be attacked by ultra-violet light and hence should last a long time.



THE ROYAL CRESCENT HOTEL

Parking

In response to the Editor's uncertainty about Hotel Staff's cars parking in the Crescent, expressed in Issue No 1, the Hotel's Managing Director, Mr JCS Tham has written to say:

"It is a strict rule of the Hotel that Staff are not to park in the Royal Crescent. Without employing our own Traffic Warden (and surely there are enough of these anyway) we cannot ensure this is the case. However, our rule does, I think, indicate our wish not to contribute to the general problem"

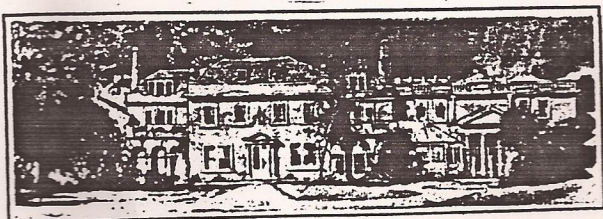
Mr Tham has also told your Committee that the Hotel has acquired 16 parking spaces in the former Premier Coach Works in Julian Road to help its guests and ease parking in the Crescent.

Coach Noise

In response to your Secretary's concern about coaches parking with engines left running outside the Hotel Mr Tham has written to say: *"I accept the Society's admonition that coaches be requested to turn off their engines and linger as briefly as possible. To reassure your Society, I would comment as follows:-*

- 1 The number of tours next year will be even less than in 1985.*
- 2 We dislike coaches that keep their engines running quite as much as the Residents do. It is, therefore, now a standard instruction to tours - before they arrive - that coaches will not be permitted to park with their engines running at all outside the Royal Crescent.*
- 3 With the opening of the Dower House, a good proportion of the coaches will in any way be directed to Julian Road."*

The Dower House



Mr Tham informs us that the Dower House will open firstly on 13th March 1986 for an Exhibition. On display will be the best works of art from the Hotel's collection, plus some new items. All the pictures concern Bath and the exhibition will run until the 15th of the month. Admission will be by £1.00 donation to the Poolmead Centre for the Severely Disabled. Society members and others will be welcome.

Deliveries

The Dower House and its Restaurant will open for business on 15th March. From then on, all the Hotel's deliveries will be made to the Julian Road (i.e. rear) entrance. The Hotel anticipates that many of its guests will also come in that way.

WHAT'S ON IN MARCH

Saturday 1st

No 1 Royal Crescent Re-opens

Interior including kitchen. Tuesday to Saturday and Bank Holidays 11 am-5pm, Sunday 2-5pm. Last admission 4.40pm. Closed Good Friday. Adults £1.30, children/students/OAPs 60p.

Thursday 13th

Royal Crescent Hotel: Exhibition of the best works of art from the Hotel's collection, in the Dower House. Admission £1.00, for Poolmead Centre for the Severely Disabled. Until Saturday 15th.

Saturday 15th

The Bath Georgian Festival Orchestra and Chorus 7.30pm the Pump Room. Conductor: Simon Ible, leader: Michael Evans. Chorus master: Ray Willis. Works by Mozart, Haydn, Faure. Tickets priced £3.50 from Tourist Information Centre, Abbey Churchyard or by post from the Bath Festival Society, King Edgar House 4 Church Street. Tel 64023.

Dower House and Restaurant, Royal Crescent Hotel, open to the public, for normal business.

Thursday 20th

Bath Georgian Festival Society presents a song recital by Christie Bunning (soprano), at the Pump Room. Accompanied by David Mason - winner of the National Federation of Music Societies Award (1985). Works by Purcell, Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Haydn. Tickets as for 15th.

Friday 21st

Annual Meeting of the Royal Crescent Society: Bath and County Club, Queen's Parade 7.30pm.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

For Planning Committee meetings in the months of December, January, February, and March only one Planning Application affects the Royal Crescent:

18 Crescent Lane - Re-roofing and installation of an additional doorway to Garage/Workshop area. No comment made by the Committee because of the very minor nature of the work. Result: *Approved.*

TV AERIALS

There are still many ugly - and some non-working-TV Aerials spoiling our roofline. Bath City Council is taking a firm line on its own property in the Crescent. It is following Society policy and requesting its tenants to remove some recently erected aerials and wires out of sight. Have you checked your roof recently?



These are the Rules (which form the Constitution) of the Royal Crescent Society.

Rule 1: The Society shall be called the Royal Crescent Society.

Rule 2: The objects of the Society shall be to preserve and enhance the amenities of the Royal Crescent and its surroundings.

Rule 3: The Society shall consist of ordinary members of not less than 18 years old who shall be:

- (a) either owners of any part or parts of the property comprising No 1 to 30 Royal Crescent, Bath or
- (b) occupiers of not less than six months continuous residence of any part or parts of Nos 1-30 Royal Crescent.
- (c) Payers of rates to the Bath District Council.

Rule 4: The annual subscription for ordinary members shall be £1. Subscriptions shall be due on the first day of January in any year.

Rule 5: Members whose current subscriptions shall not have been paid before the 30th day of June in any year shall cease to be members.

Rule 6: Any alteration to the rules shall be proposed by the Committee, but no such alteration shall take effect until the same has been proposed and confirmed at the Annual Meeting or a special general meeting convened for the purpose.

Rule 7: The Committee shall have power to make byelaws for regulating the conduct and affairs of the Society provided the same are not inconsistent with these rules, and such byelaws shall be binding on all members.

Rule 8: A general meeting of the Society shall be held in every year not later than the 30th April to transact the following business:-

- (a) to receive and, if approved, to adopt a statement of the Society's accounts to the end of the preceding year;
- (b) to consider and, if approved, sanction any duly proposed alteration to the rules;
- (c) to appoint the officers and other members of the committee;
- (d) to appoint an auditor or auditors;
- (e) to deal with any special matter which the committee desire to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from members for consideration by the committee. Notice convening the general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 21 days before the meeting, and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

Rule 9: A special general meeting may be convened at any time by the committee and shall be convened within 21 days from the receipt of a requisition in writing signed by not less than 15 members specifying the object of the meeting for any of the following purposes:-

- (a) to consider and, if approved, sanction any duly proposed alteration of the rules;
- (b) to deal with any special matter which the committee may desire to place before the members, including the expulsion of a member;
- (c) to receive the resignation of the committee or to remove any member or members from their office and to fill any vacancy or vacancies caused;
- (d) to deal with any special matter which the members requiring the meeting may desire to place before the Society;

Notice convening a special general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than seven days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

Rule 10: At committee meetings and at general meetings a chairman shall be elected to preside, and he shall have a casting or additional vote in the event of an equality of votes. At committee meetings three shall form a quorum. At general meetings fifteen shall form a quorum.

Rule 11:(Added at 1985 Annual Meeting) That the Committee of the Society, other than the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, be limited to six, two of such members to stand down annually and not to be eligible for re-election for a further year. In the first instance the retiring members to be those with the longest service; hereafter retirement to be in rotation. Casual vacancies arising in the course of the year to be filled by the Committee, subject to confirmation of the following AGM (Resolution adding this Rule passed at 1985 Annual Meeting).

Your Committee

Chairman -	Mr R A C Forrester	- No 25
Secretary -	Monica Baly	- No 19
Treasurer -	Lt Col John Woollam	- No 24
Members -	Michael Daw	- No 10
	Clifford Gibbs	- No 17
	Mrs George Kersley	- No 20
	Wendy Langhlin	- No 29
	Patricia Richards	- No 4
	Roy Titchen	- No 10A

The Committee has met 3 times since the 1985 Annual Meeting.

Your Traffic Committee

Chairman	Francis Burne	No 1/9
Secretary	Roy Titchen	No 10
Treasurer	Brian Richards	No 4
Members	Mrs Le Roux	No 9
	Fabrice Le Roux	No 9
	Monica Baly	No 19
	Michael Daw	No 10

This Newsletter is published by the Royal Crescent Society and Articles, News and Letters of interest to Members are welcomed by the Editor : Michael Daw, No. 10.