

TWIN TOWNS

Cheltenham & Göttingen

70th anniversary



Cheltenham



Göttingen

*The 'twin' statues of
King William IV
in our twin towns*

1951 - 2021





Then and now:

The changing scenes of Cheltenham



... a town of great natural charm, nobly planned streets, gems of Regency architecture, abundance of entertainment in every branch of the Arts and of Sports, an equable climate, world-famous schools and colleges, good hotels, shops that vie with the best in London or Paris – in short, a place for people of all ages, a place for a visit or a lifetime.

1951 -2021

Image and text credits Cheltenham Spa guide, Cheltenham Borough Council



The Promenade



© Kath Boothman



© Kath Boothman

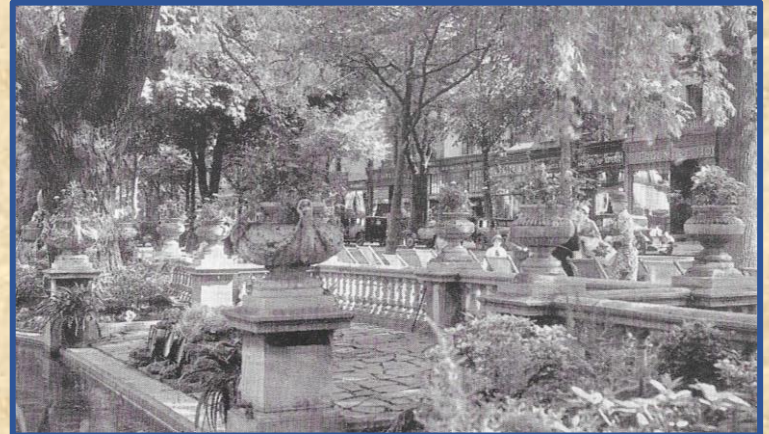


Image courtesy of Cheltenham Civic Society



© Kath Boothman

Once the New Club...
now the Quadrangle offices



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The Colonnade



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Pittville Street & Boots Corner



Images courtesy of Cheltenham Civic Society



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LUNCHEON
AFTERNOON TEA

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has been replaced
with recyclable cups*



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CHELTENHAM'S *REAL* CENTRE



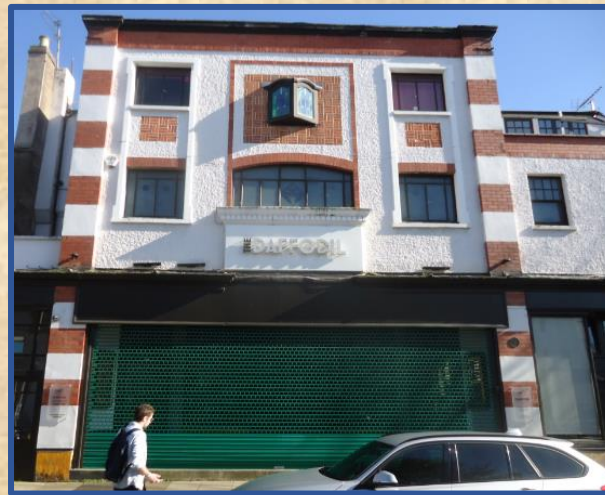
Everything is becoming a restaurant...

Montpellier Wine Bar



a former grocer's shop...

The Daffodil



a cinema...

Zizzi



a church...



two banks...

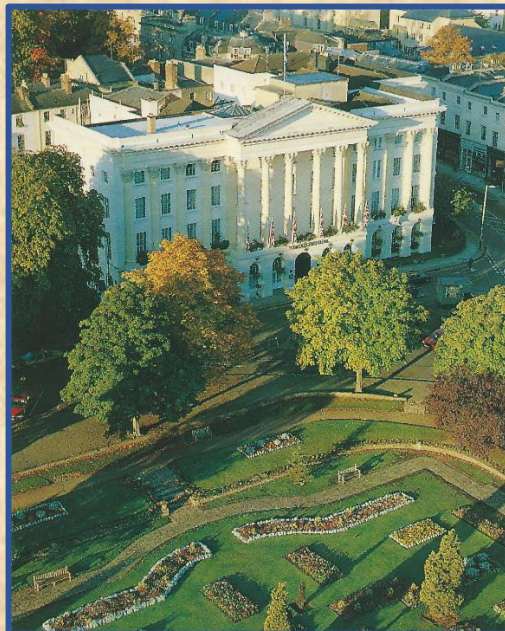


and a pub.


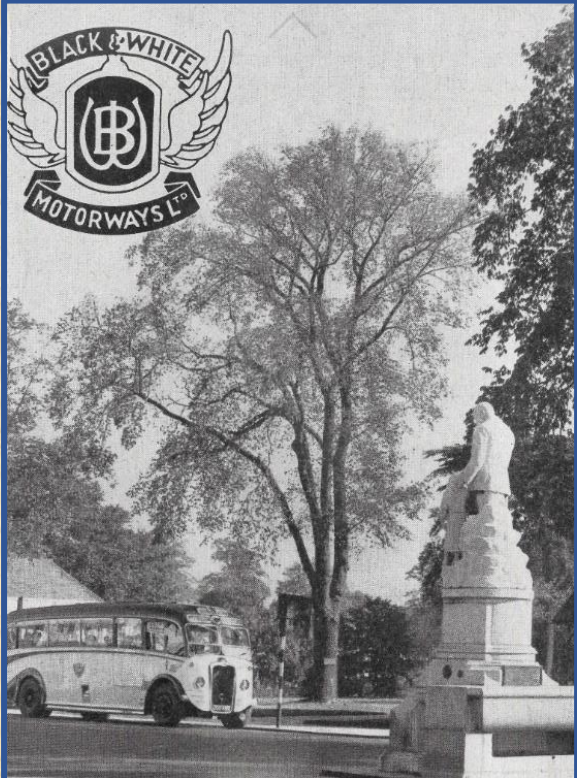
www.visitcheltenham.com
*now lists over 100
restaurants in Cheltenham*



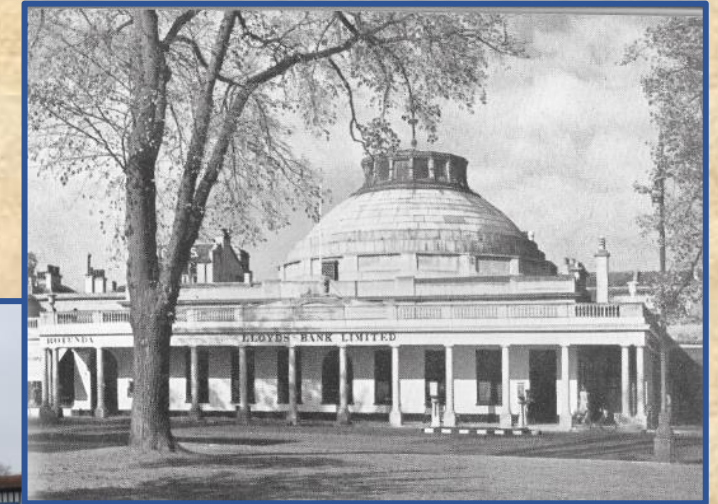
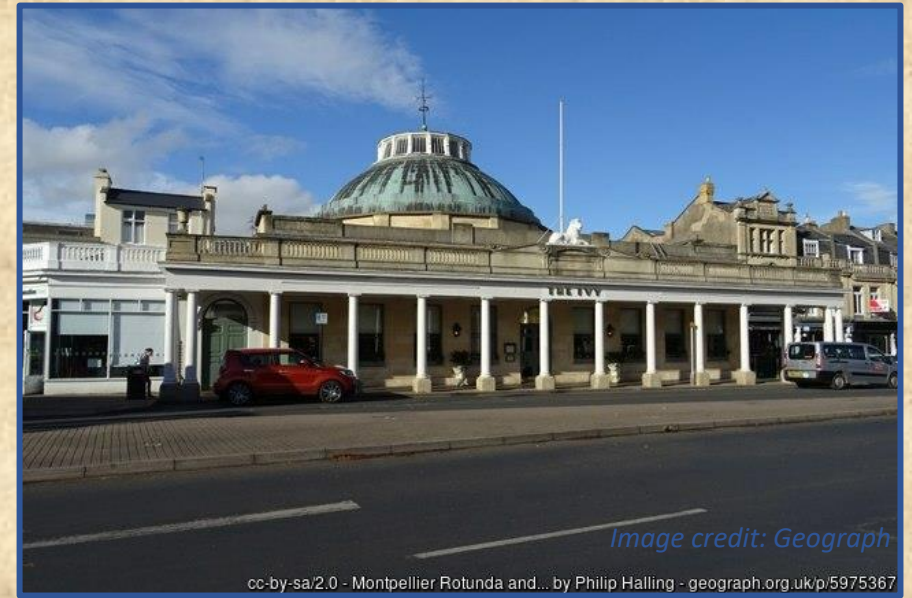
Imperial Gardens & The Queen's Hotel



Montpellier

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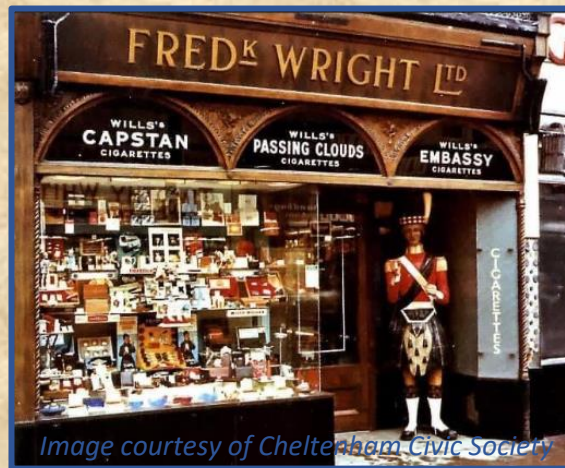


The changing face of the High Street



The Grammar School...becomes a shopping arcade...

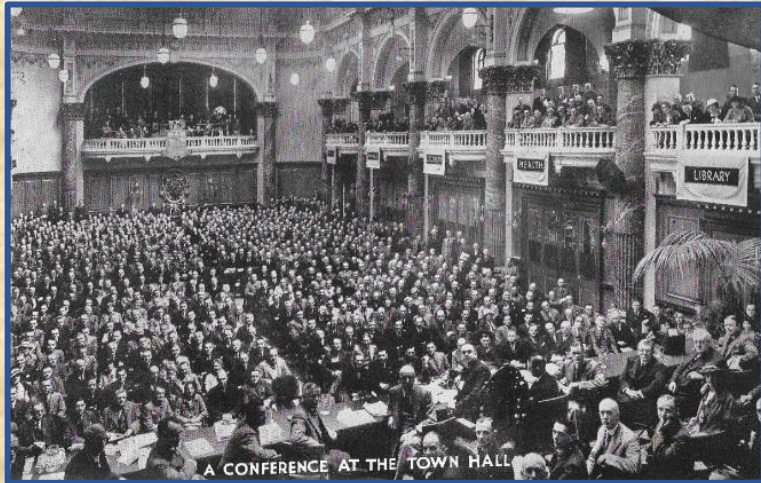
and then the Brewery Cultural Quarter where you can 'shop, dine, stay and play'!



Frederick Wright, tobacconist...Beechwood Shopping Arcade... John Lewis department store



Town Hall & Pittville Pump Room



A CONFERENCE AT THE TOWN HALL



Image credit: Geograph

cc-by-sa/2.0 - Splendid interior of... by Anthony O'Neill - geograph.org.uk/p/2252069



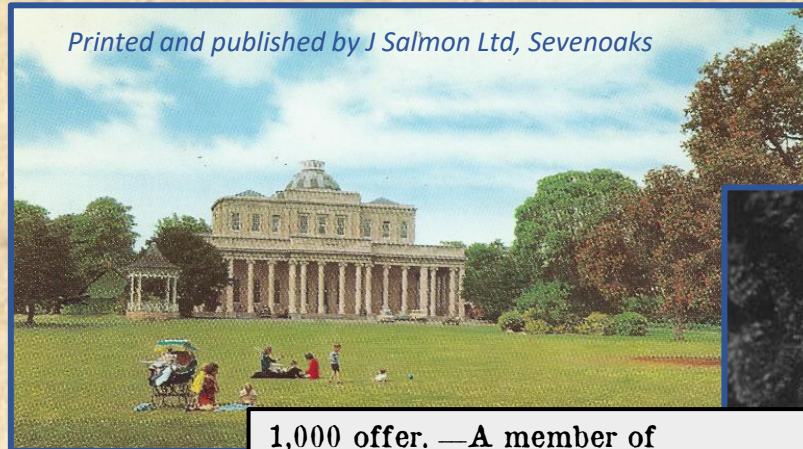
© Jill Barlow



© James Hodsdon

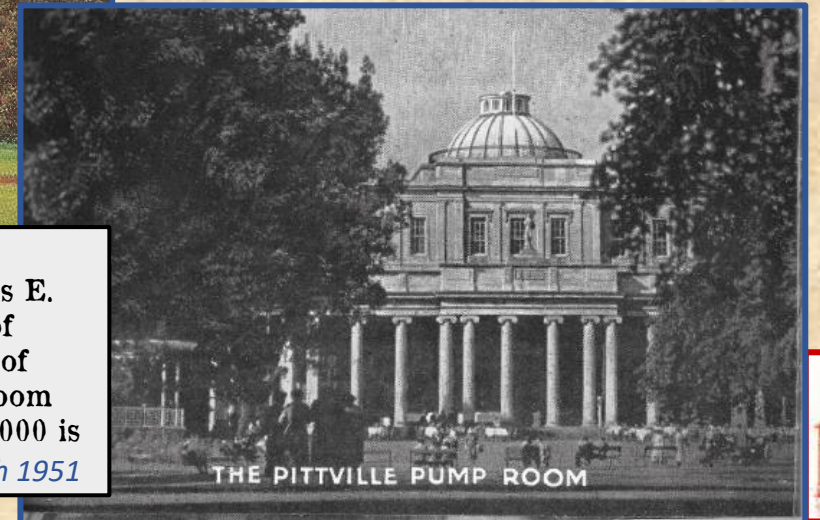


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1,000 offer. —A member of Cheltenham Town Council, Miss E. K. Bayliss, has made an offer of £1,000 towards the restoration of Cheltenham's historic Pump Room provided a special fund of £10,000 is raised. *Western Mail 15th March 1951*



THE PITTVILLE PUMP ROOM



Education

© David Aldred



Image credit: Eileen Allen



*Two Grammar Schools
for boys and girls
become one...*

© Jill Barlow



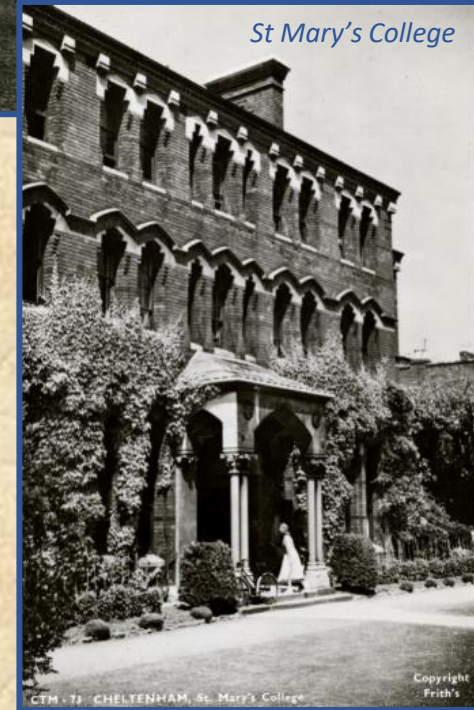
© Jill Barlow



St Paul's College



St Mary's College



*and two colleges
become one University*



*Images courtesy of University of Gloucestershire
Special Collections and Archives*

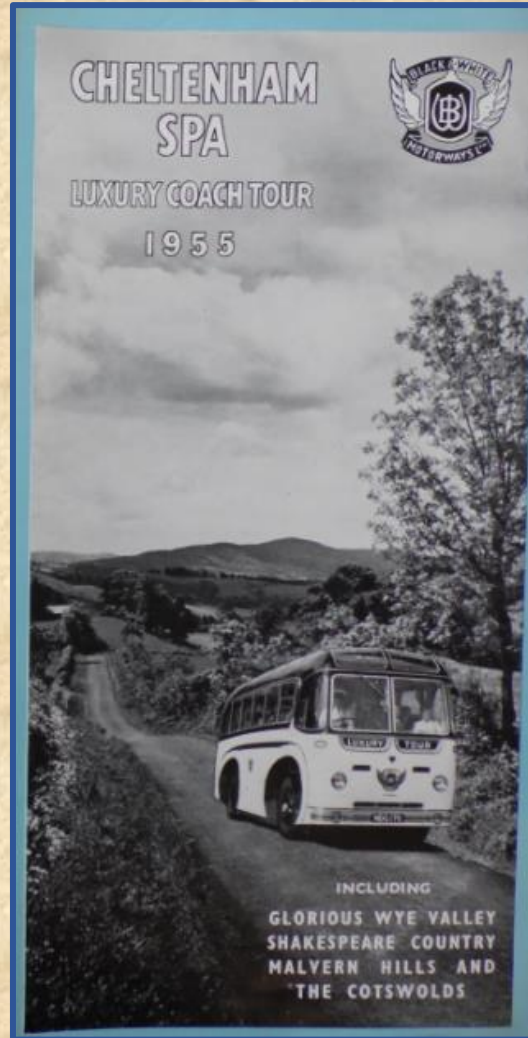


Black & White Coaches

Where 350 coaches a day once brought bustle and congestion...



Image credit: Cheltenham Spa guide,
Cheltenham Borough Council



Courtesy of John Chandler



Image courtesy of Cheltenham Civic Society

only parked cars remain.

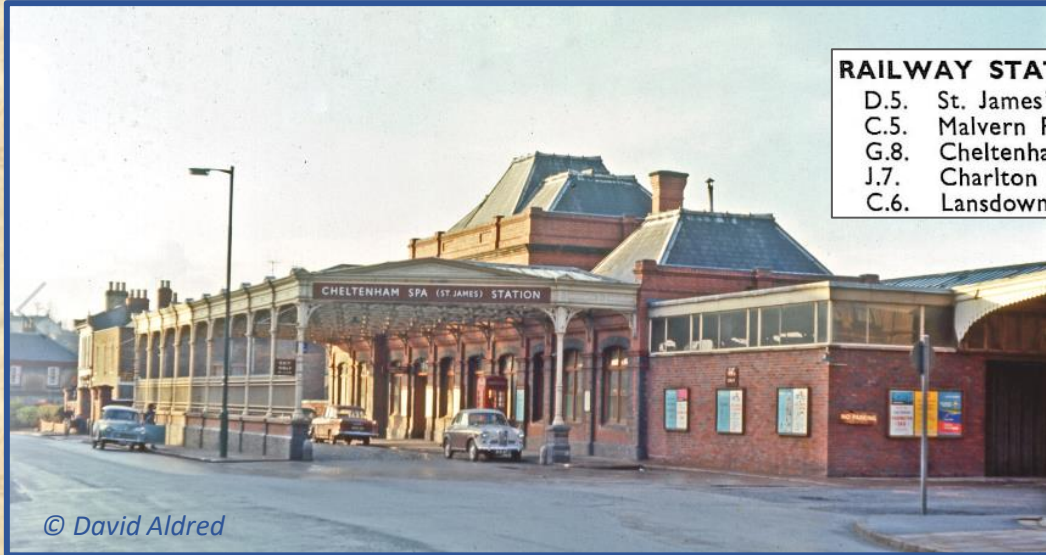


Image credit: Geograph

- St Margaret's Road car Park by Philip Halling - geograph.org.uk/p/4076715



Disappearing railway stations



© David Aldred

RAILWAY STATIONS, Etc.

- D.5. St. James' (former G.W.R.), St. James' Square.
- C.5. Malvern Road (former G.W.R.).
- G.8. Cheltenham South, Leckhampton.
- J.7. Charlton Kings.
- C.6. Lansdown (former L.M.S.).

*At St James's Station...
office workers replace passengers*



© David Aldred

Lansdown survives



Image credit: Geograph

cc-by-sa/2.0 - Main entrance to Cheltenham... by Jaggery - geograph.org.uk/p/4891814



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Train from Andover Junction... by Ben BrooksBank - geograph.org.uk/p/2683919

*Malvern Road Station...
is now the haunt of
cyclists and joggers*



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Honeybourne Line Cycle Path... by Terry Jacobs - geograph.org.uk/p/1122889



cc-by-sa/2.0 - Former railway line... by Gareth James - geograph.org.uk/p/5554905

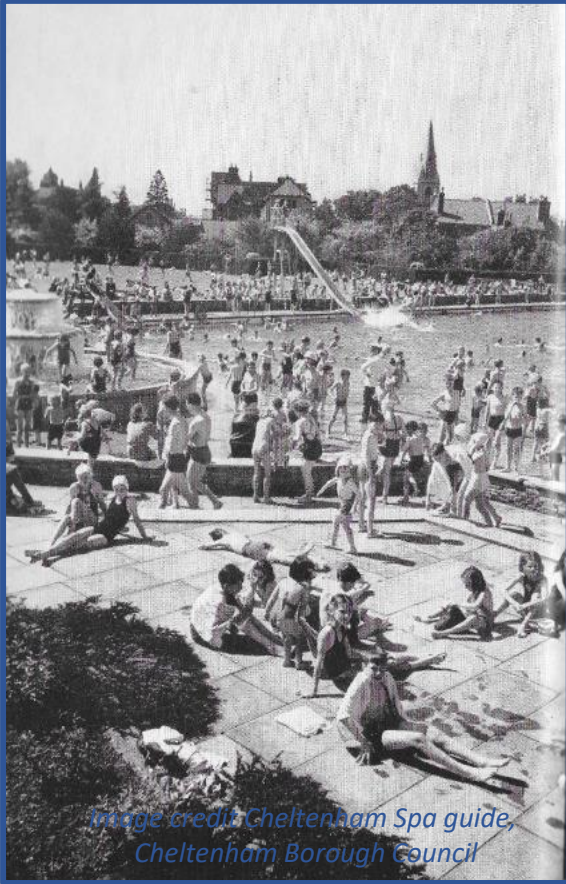
*Image credits:
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Sport & the changing skyline



All sorts of baths



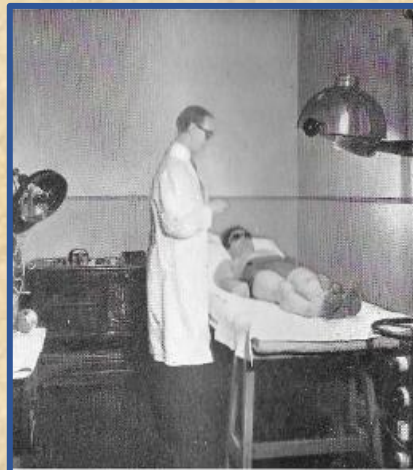
Sandford Lido

Image credit: Cheltenham Spa guide,
Cheltenham Borough Council

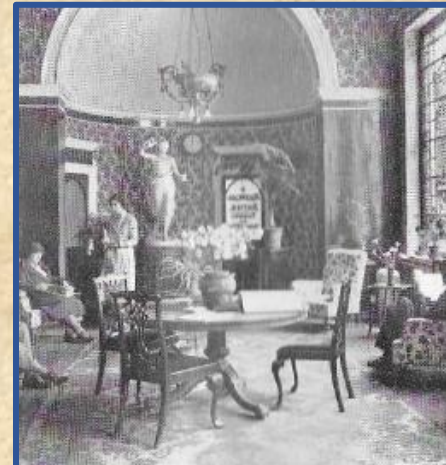


Image credit: Geograph

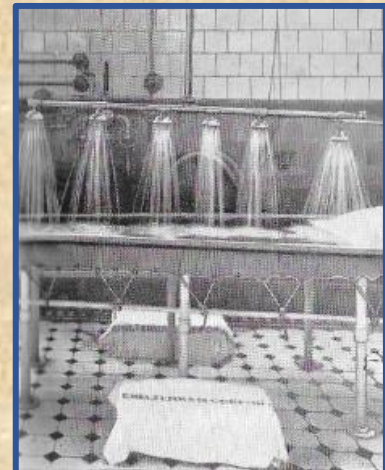
cc-by-sa/2.0 - Sandford Parks Lido by Rick Crowley - geograph.org.uk/p/261222



ULTRA-VIOLET RAY TREATMENT



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via the Kandinsky and Montpellier Chapter to...



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GCHQ



Benhall 1955



C Block on the Oakley site 1961

*GCHQ (Government Communications Headquarters) arrived in Cheltenham in 1951
and since then has just grown and grown.*

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Cheltenham in 1951 - the Building Boom

Building Society's expansion

The centenary year of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society was marked by an unprecedented expansion of investment and mortgage business.

Western Mail 24th February 1951



Re-routing of the River Chelt during the construction of Princess Elizabeth Way © Alan Bradley



Edward Wilson House and the neighbouring Scott House were built for GCHQ workers

Image credits: Geograph



Hesters Way estate

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**CHELTENHAM
GLOUCESTER**

BUILDING SOCIETY

CLARENCE STREET - CHELTENHAM

Image credit Cheltenham Spa guide, Cheltenham Borough Council



Cheltenham in 2021 – still booming



Leckhampton Place (2016-17)



Oakley Grange (2017-18) – the old GCHQ Oakley Wood site



Birch Mews (2019-20) – an in-fill at the junction of Cudnall Road with the Cirencester Road



Barley Road (2018-19) – development between Prestbury Road and New Barn Lane



Cheltenham in 1951 – the visit of Princess Elizabeth



Images from Local Press

Princess in 60 m.p.h dash to be on time

Princess Elizabeth's car had to travel at 60 m.p.h. yesterday to keep up with her schedule of visits in Cheltenham.

She was escorted round Cheltenham College by prefects, and talked with the headmaster, Mr. A. G. Elliot-Smith.

Eight thousand schoolchildren lined the route to the Hesters Way housing estate, where Princess Elizabeth cut the first turf on the new site.

Later she inspected a guard of honour at Dean Close School, and a new-style house at Alma Road, Cheltenham.

Birmingham Gazette,
17th March 1951

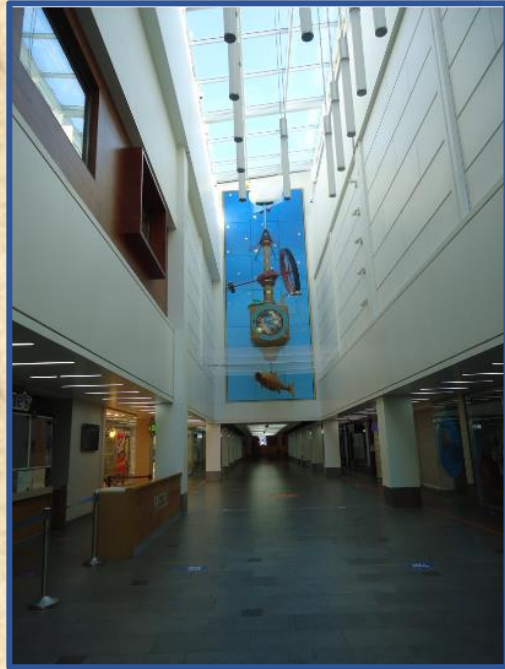


Commemorative plaque to mark the initiation of the construction of Princess Elizabeth Way © Eileen Allen



Cheltenham in 2021 – the COVID effect

The Regent Arcade is deserted...



restaurants closed...



shops are boarded up...



© Kath Boothman

and car parks are empty.





*To find out more about our research
activities and programme of lectures
please visit our website at
<https://www.cheltlocalhistory.org.uk/>*

*This presentation was produced by Jill Barlow, Kath Boothman and Alison Pascoe,
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