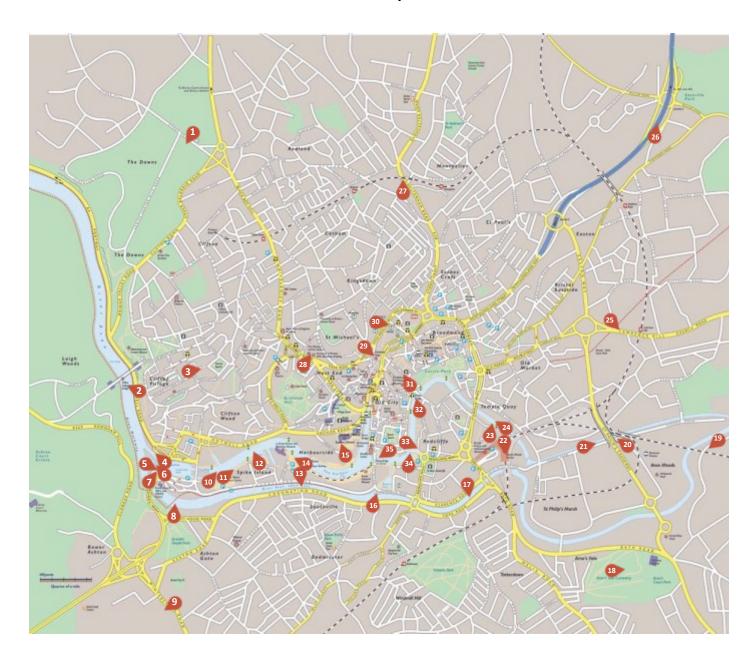


Catalogue of drawings and paintings of Bristol

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Location of the more central viewpoints



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- 3 Reg the Veg's stall in Clifton
- 4 Hotwells and suspension bridge.
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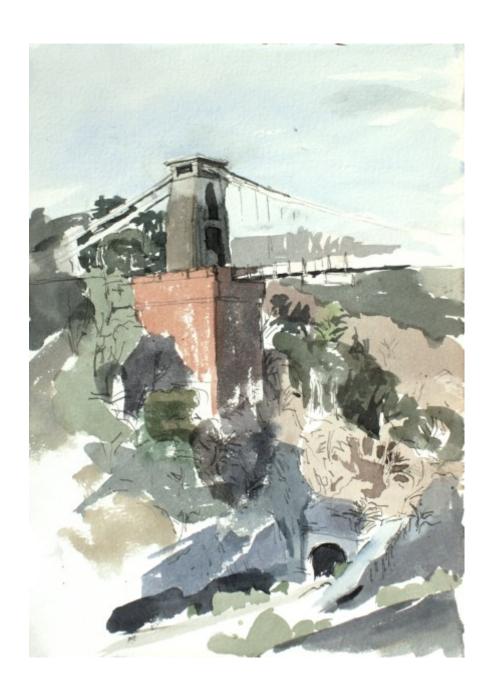
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Other locations not on map



View from the Café on the Downs.

I did this painting as part of a series 'Refreshing Views of Bristol'. Rather than draw pictures of nice cafes I actively sought out comfortable places to draw where I could buy refreshment. This café has changed its name twice since I painted this view—it's the one by the water tower where lots of people meet to go running or walk their dogs.



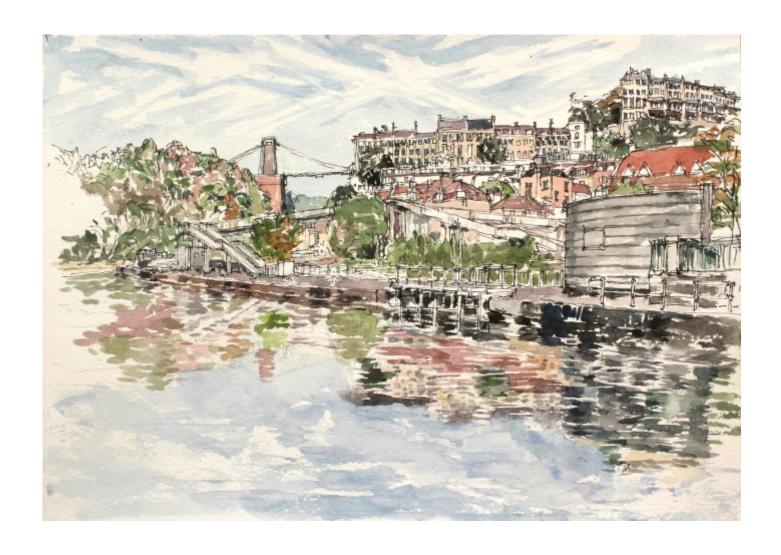
View from the Avon Gorge hotel balcony

This painting was done in a rush, after dropping my son at Taekwondo I had only the length of the lesson to finish it. Sometimes a deadline can force you to simplify and just get down the essentials.



Reg the Veg's stall in Clifton

Such an attractive place to get unusual fruit and veg. It is never this quiet!



View of Hotwells and the suspension bridge.

The 1970s raised walkways absolutely fascinated me. I hadn't realised that the locks are rarely open at high tide when I started—it strengthened my resolve to finish paintings in one go. I returned 4 or 5 times before I was able to finish it..... From a photo, which I rarely do.



Monitoring Structures, a spiral stair and the Plimsole Bridge

It distresses me whenever getting rid of this bridge is discussed locally. I agree that it isn't conventionally pretty, but it's really interesting to draw and I think Bristolians should try to appreciate what we have here!



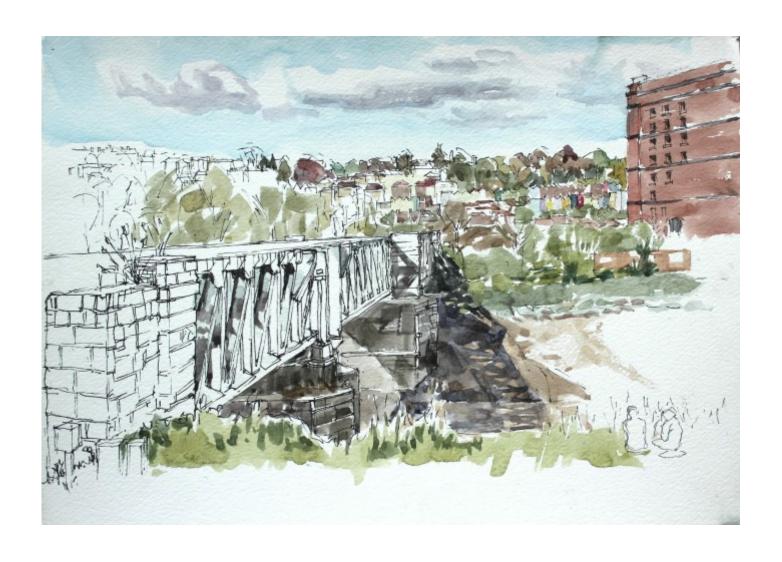
Conventional view of Clifton Suspension Bridge

The shadows in Avon Gorge make this a lively scene to paint—it changes rapidly and you can't be fussy when you are trying to establish your painting. Also, with the incessant heavy traffic, just a few feet behind you, the plimsole bridge it isn't a place you want to linger, no matter how lovely the view. This gives an urgency to finishing a painting that can be a good thing.



Spíral staircase on the Plimsole Bridge

I love the monolithic spiral staircases with their dramatic shadows and silhouettes, although I drew this on a slightly overcast day and found the changing light interesting.



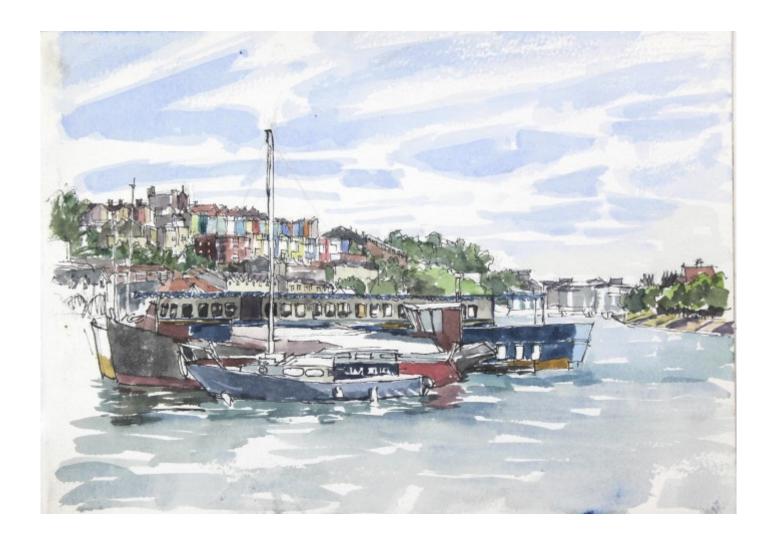
Ashton Avenue Bridge

This bridge used to be a double decker itself, now it just carries the occasional bus, cyclists and pedestrians.



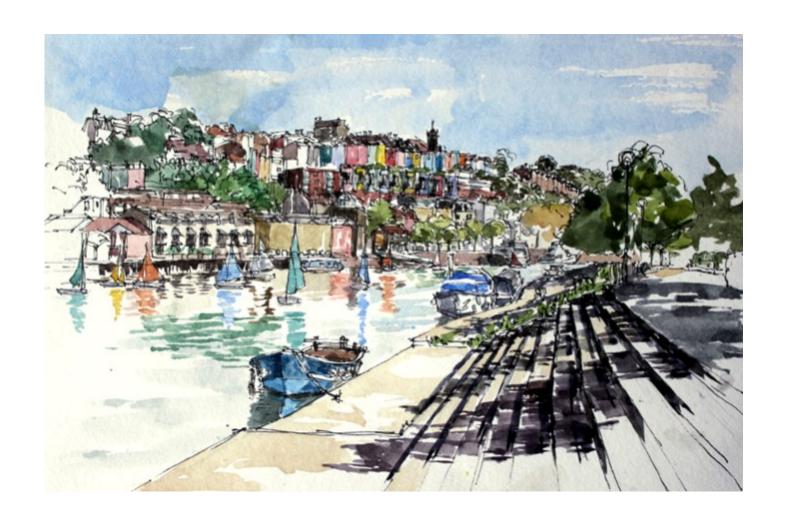
Ashton Bus Overpass

This is one of my oldest topographical drawings/watercolours of Bristol. As I do my pictures in situ, they are usually done when the weather is reasonably nice—not so for this one! There was very little colour in the actual scene, the clouds were low and menacing the darkness under the bridge was gloomy and dramatic. I love scaffolding and relished the details while the bridge was still under construction, I really should catch a bus and see what the bridge is like from above......



underfall Café

This is a fabulous place to sit and have a coffee. It's never the same twice, although the recent fire at the boatyard may have affected the through flow of craft being serviced. There are still lots of different craft to watch, motoring, sailing or being rowed across the harbour and the colourful building make a great backdrop.



View East from the Cottage pub

The steps with their dramatic shadows created interesting lines of perspective, it took some rubbings out to try to get this right—I could never have done it convincingly from a photograph. I did this picture in a couple of goes and did use a photograph to help me put in the boats—like cats they move all the time and it's almost impossible to keep track of them.



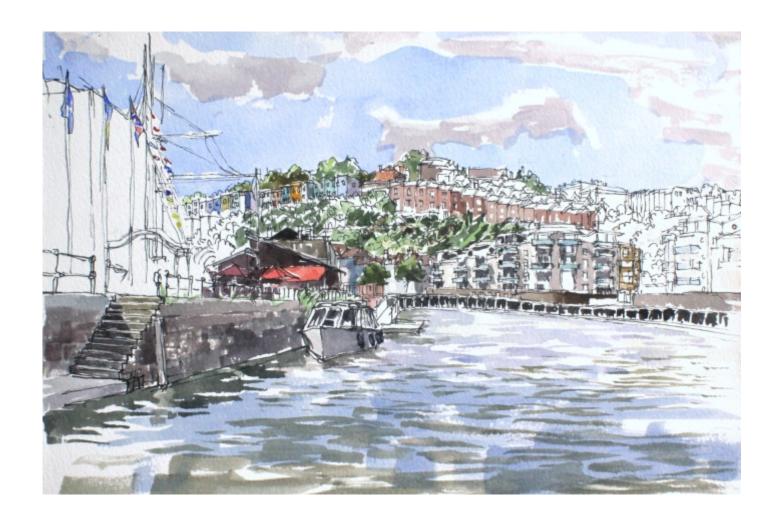
Gaol ferry bridge Southville

I díd this painting just before the bridge shut for it's most recent repairs. I was very aware of the tidal range as I painted.



The marina and floating harbour

Many other artists and photographers have captured this view—the view is iconic.



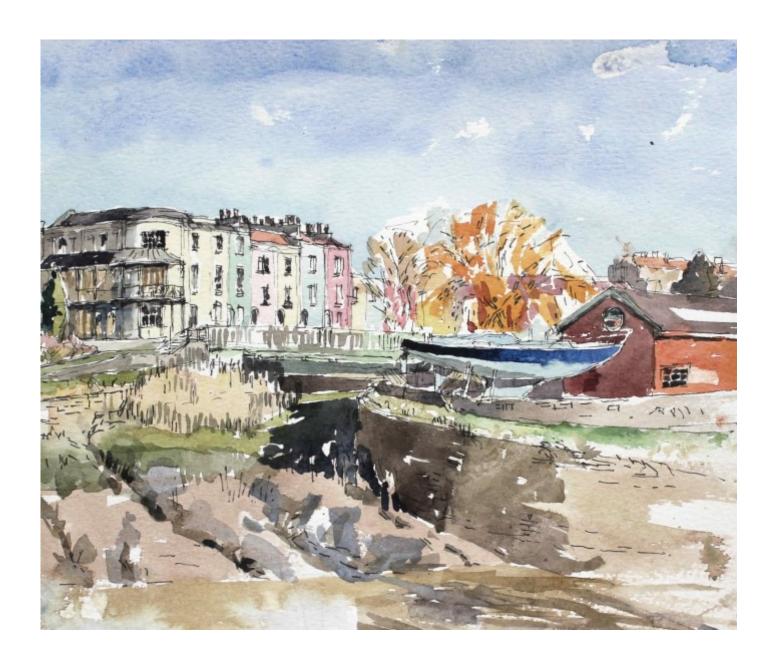
Cliftonwood and the SS Great Britain

Before the Greenshanks boat sank they kindly let me sit on it to paint. It wasn't open at the time so I couldn't have a hoped for cup of coffee, but I still enjoyed myself.



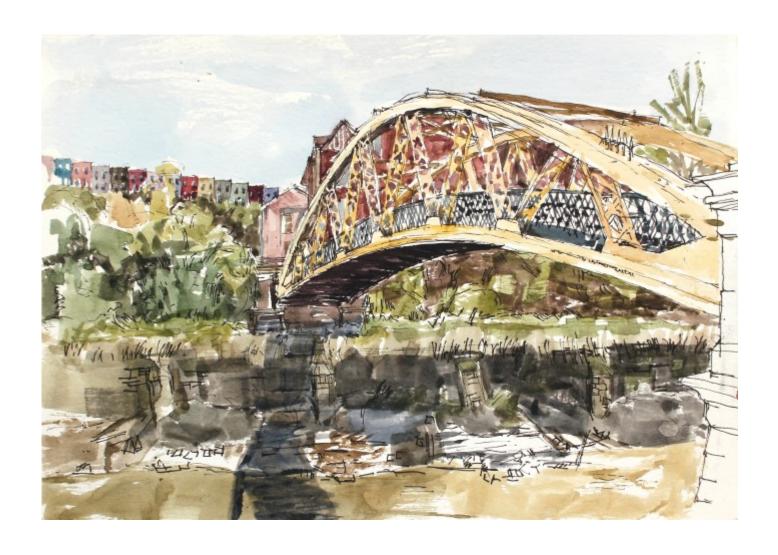
Planetarium in Millennium Square

Every time I have visited since I did this painting I've found something has changed. It is such a vibrant part of town. Drawing the sphere was one of the hardest things I've ever attempted—I'm not sure I'd try again.



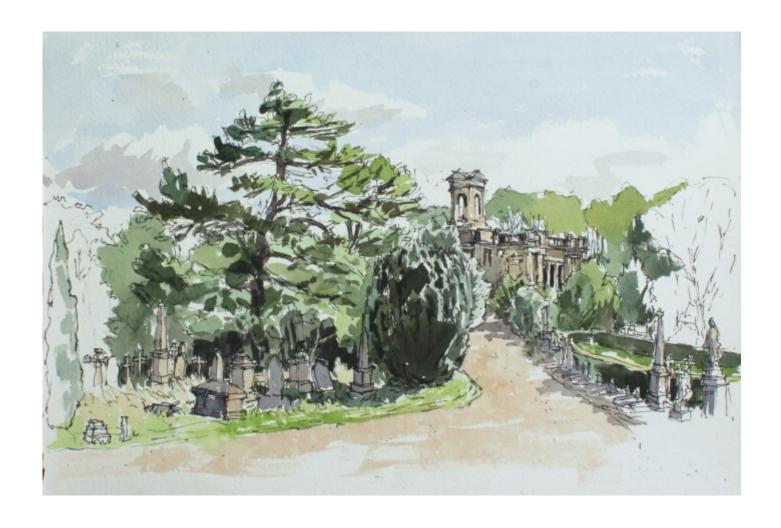
Bathurst Basin Bridge

I had become interested in drawing bridges because I had already done a couple and thought it would make an interesting series—then I found 'From Brycgstow to Bristol in 45 bridges' which is a fascinating book. I'm not sure I would have realised there was a bridge here without it. I love the boat and slightly exaggerated the orange twigs of the trees behind—but not much.



Langton Street Bridge, aka the banana bridge.

I used to live in Totterdown so have often crossed this bridge which made me fond of it even before I found out that it had been built elsewhere and then floated up the river on 2 pairs of barges. What an amazing use for the high tidal range over 100 years ago!



Arnos Vale

I sat in the café to paint this view. Doing a picture is such a good excuse for spending time sitting somewhere evocative.



Derelict railway bridge over Whitby Road.

The closest bridge casts the most amazing shadows and I did this picture really quickly. The few bypassers seemed really surprised to see someone drawing, but then they looked properly at the bridge and I think we all agreed that it was very striking.



St Phillips causeway and railway bridge from Feeder Road.

I love civil engineering—so dramatic, but I worry that some people have filed it under 'ugly' and try not to notice it. When I was drawing I hope I encouraged a few people to have a look at what they routinely might try to ignore!



St Phillips causeway

I may go back and try this again—it was a very wide angle view and I haven't achieved what I wanted to.



St Phillips causeway

I may go back and try this again—it was a very wide angle view and I haven't achieved what I wanted to!



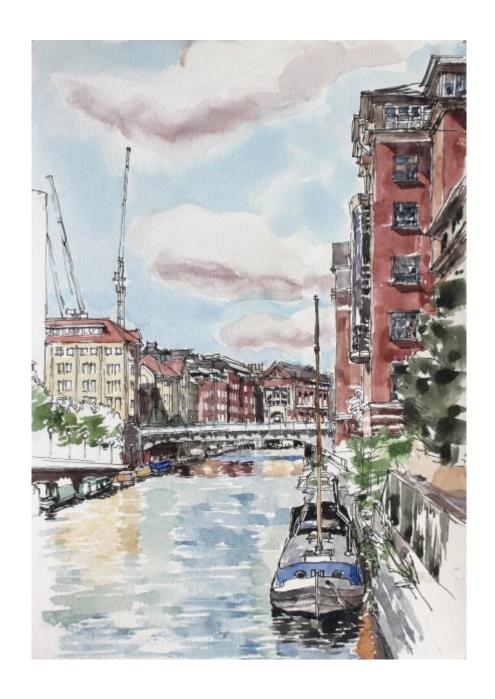
View from the station café at Temple Meads

I would have added tone to this drawing, but a fellow café user, who had been an art teacher, persuaded me not to. I think she was right.



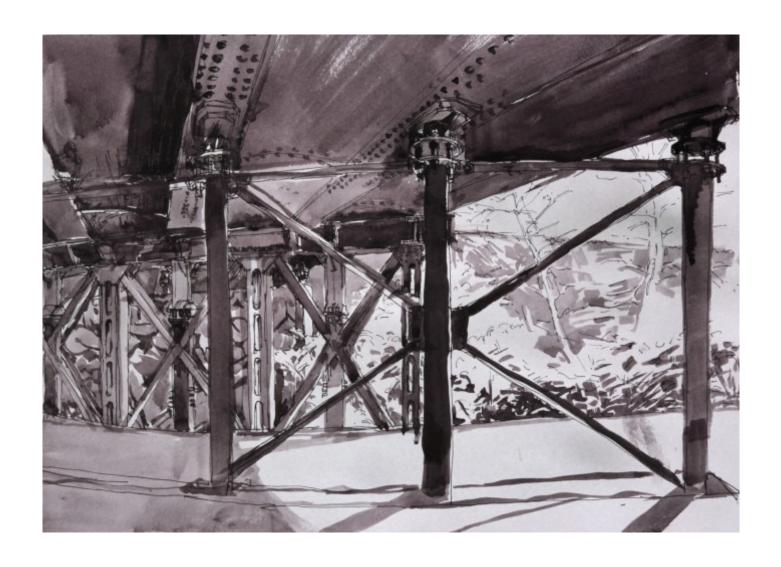
Valentine Bridge

I find this view a little unsettling. It's amazing what can be designed with the help of computers, but sometimes I don't quite understand it. I sat on the bridge to do the next view and the bridge was incredibly noisy and shook so much that I had to stop drawing whenever anyone crossed. I also got into an argument with a security guard who questioned whether I should be there, it's apparently private land and the lawyers in the big buildings don't want the likes of me sitting in their view I had no idea that I was the underclass before!



Temple Bridge and barges

View of lots of barges looking up the river to temple bridge, the distant shadows under the bridges were an almost inexplicable blue.



Cycle path Near Lawrence Hill

Sometimes the most exciting views are from really uncomfortable places. This was one of those. Kept meeting people I knew who were passing by.



under the M32

I LOVE motorway flyovers, but they are not healthy places. I took a stepladder to sit on to do this drawing and got loads of suspicious bites around my ankles as well as itchy eyes and sore sinuses. I will do more though.



The Arches Gloucester Road

The iconic 'Arches' on the Gloucester Road. I managed to be inside the Cat a Wheel to get this view. Pretty comfortable and excellent shandy.



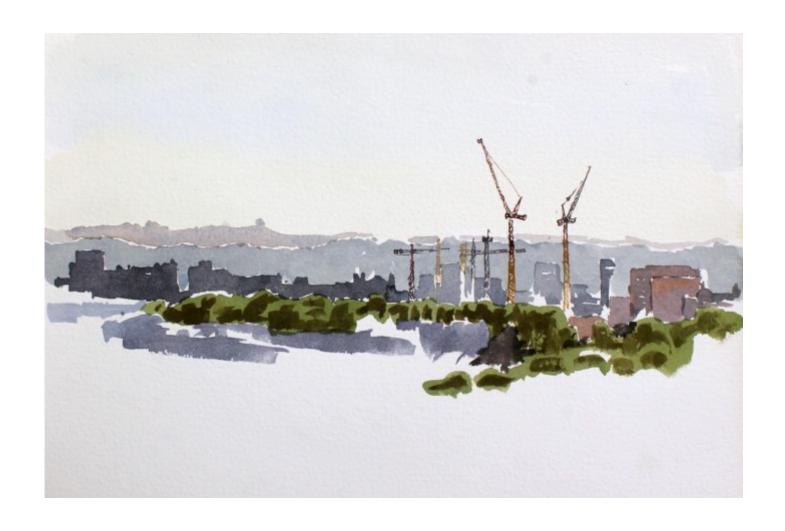
The City Museum and Wills Memorial Building

2 iconic buildings comfortably viewed from Pret a Manger. I bent the perspective because the tops of the buildings were so much further away from me than the bottoms. Our brains are good at decoding curves and turning them back into straight perspective, even from a picture?



Christmas Steps from Zero Degrees

Cold dark and rainy. I was determined to try to get a sense of the night time illumination and it's something I may come back to; but not in watercolour!



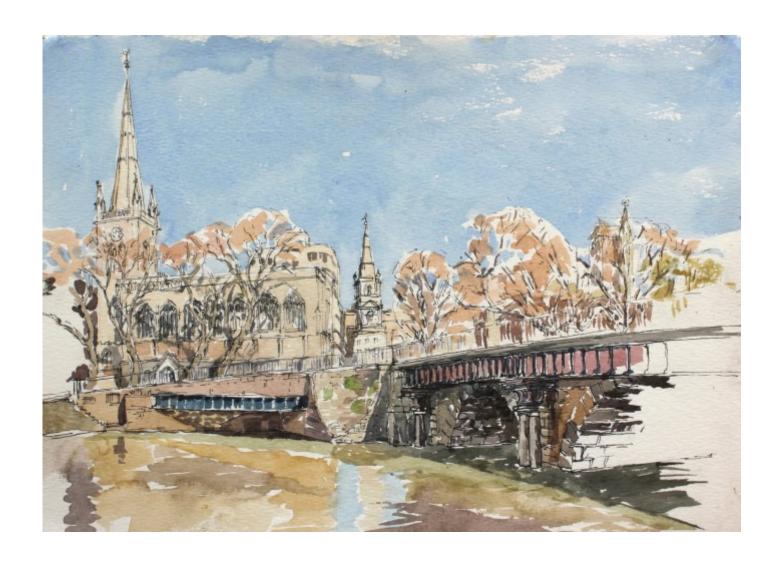
Delimarche at the top of the BRI

If I hadn't been doing a series of views from Cafes I would never have discovered this place. You don't realise just how big Bristol is from street lever. Watching a spring dawn spread across the panorama was magical.



Broad Street

I kept returning to this painting—the weather was changeable and would systematically change 20 minutes after I'd sat down. I'm proud that I finished it!



Bristol Bridge

I'd never noticed the lovely church of St Nicolas before I started this painting of Bristol bridge. The pattern of the tree branches over the church windows was intricate and the whole scene was bright and light because of the pale stone the church is constructed from. The Bridge is also much more interesting from the side than you'd suspect when crossing it. Not many people walked past me, a pity this riverside walk gives an interesting perspective.



Redcliffe Bridge

They'd closed a bus lane before they closed the bridge for recent repairs, otherwise I would never have managed to do this painting. I really wanted to include the church in my bridge series!



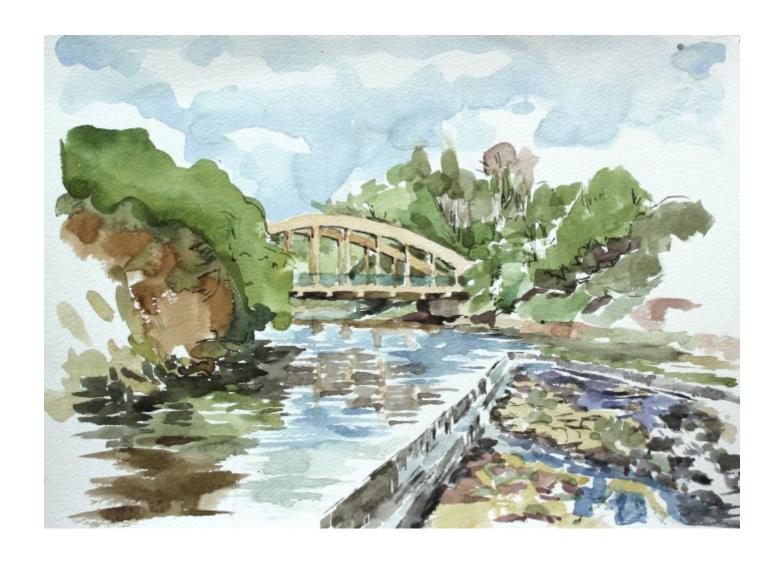
Redcliffe Bridge from another angle

Most of my work is more controlled than this picture—I really enjoyed putting in blocks of colour, almost in the way I would have painted in oils....



Prince Street Bridge

I liked using a thin unbroken wash of yellow for the bridge and the cranes are always a joy to draw. I forced myself to finish this picture in one sitting—the light changes so much day to day that the extra effort at the time is worth it in the long run. Not only does it stop wasted time travelling, but it adds a sense of urgency which focusses the mind.



Feeder Road Bridge in Brislington

Surprising elegant cast concrete bridge seen behind Netham Weir. Sunshine really makes a difference to this view—it can look very grim and industrial if it's overcast



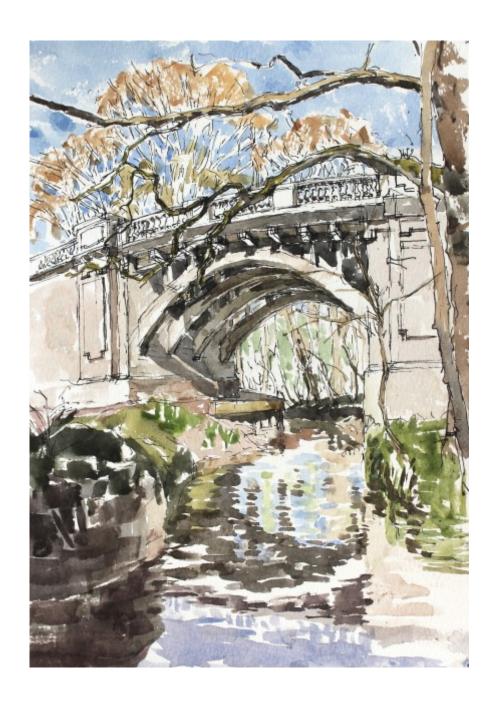
Royate Hill Viaduct

I was stunned when I first saw this bridge in the sun—it's an amazing construction and the way the arches frame scenes on both sides is charming. It's good from both sides, I should go back, however, there's always a lot of queuing traffic and it can be quite 'fumey'.



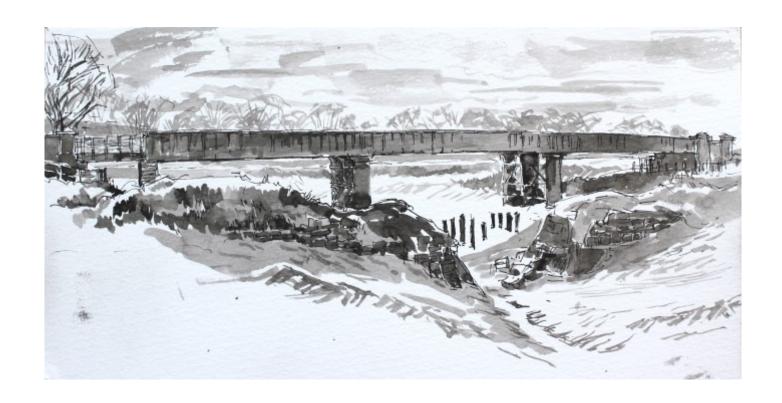
Small Bridge on Blaise Estate

A lovely little bridge well known to walkers and dogs! On the way into the Blaise Estate from the Combe Dingle car park. There were darker reflections in the water underneath the bridge, but I left it light for contrast; the actual scene is a lot more bosky.



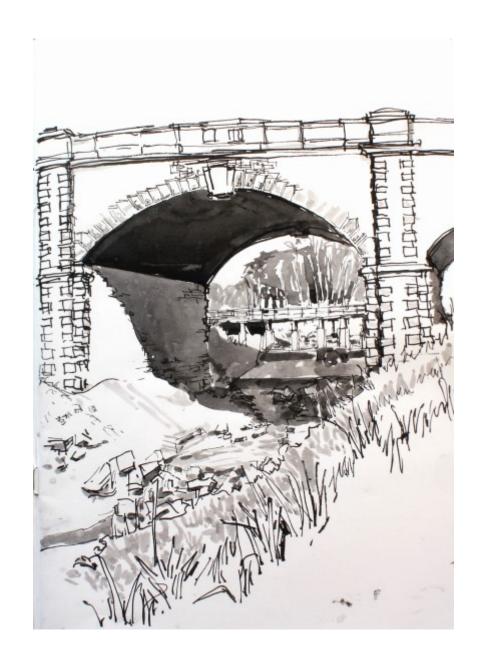
Bridge over the river Trym on the shirehampton Road

You don't suspect how far down the river is when you drive over this bridge. I have used some artistic licence in the water..... It was a bit browner and less of it! Light and shade on the concrete ribs gives the bridge a surprisingly delicate appearance enhanced by the slightly incongruous balustrade



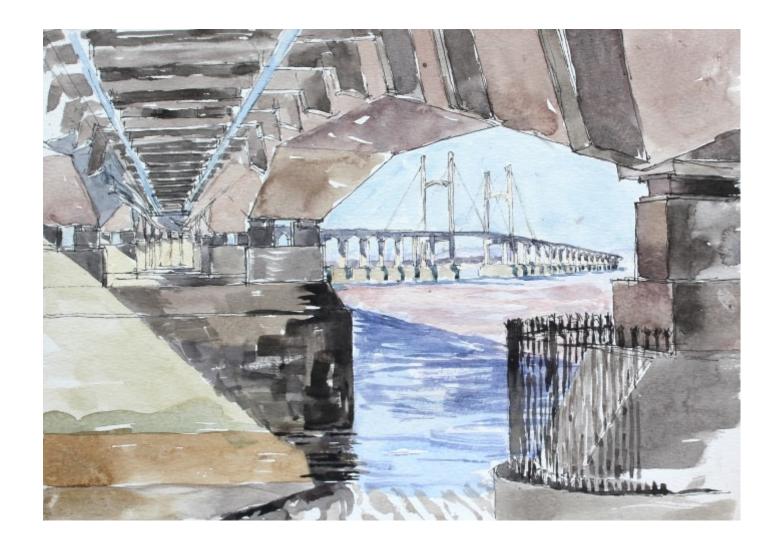
Railway bridge at sea mills-

I haven't don't this justice at all! It's a monumental landscape with the ruins of a previous bridge's footings as well as pilings from another structure. I think I'll go back and have another go.



Portway Bridge at Sea Mills

Another bridge where you never imagine the landscape you are crossing when you drive over in a car. Whoever built the bridge did a good job and I guess was proud of their work



Under the Second Severn Crossing

This is an uncomfortable place to draw—total shade and a bit of a wind tunnel, but I loved the way the monumental contrete frames the blue of the bridge's shadow and the sky. I will do an oil painting from the image—it's hard to capture so much concrete in watercolour.



Kings Weston Iron Bridge

I like scaffolding, but it must be a nuisance to all the people who need to use the bridge.