

## THE BLACKFRIARS PROJECT

### A CREATIVE QUARTER FOR GLOUCESTER?



Dr Nicholas Falk  
Founder Director

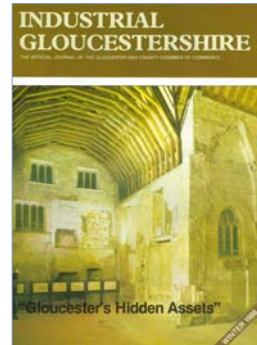
URBED  
(Urban and Economic  
Development) Ltd  
[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

April 2007

## Strategic challenges for Gloucester



- Reusing old buildings to change the city's image
- Using cultural and creative activity as catalysts for regeneration
- Finding a competitive niche



[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

## Criteria for successful reuse



- Impact
- Fit
- Footfall
- Costs/benefits
- Viability and sustainability



[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

## Successful models



- Sheffield's Cultural Industries Quarter and the Workstation
- Merton Abbey Mills in London
- Brighton and the Laines



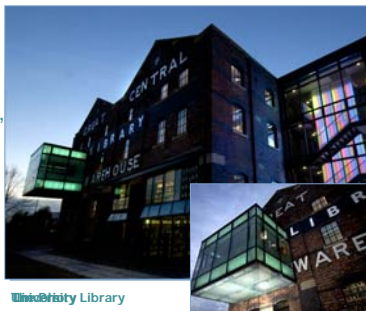
[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

## Opportunities at the Priory



A flagship project for Gloucester's renaissance as the County town

- A fine front for higher education?
- And for convivial events e.g. marriages, banquets, singing together?
- A place where East could meet West?
- But requiring a service block in place of the Clutch Clinic



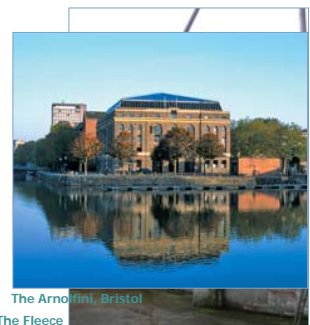
Bristol Library

## Opportunities at the Fleece Hotel



A mix of uses to make Gloucester feel better after dark

- Live work units for young artists/designers?
- Café/bar in the old vaults?
- Art space in the larger rooms?
- A possible incubator for creative businesses?
- Or a boutique hotel?
- But requiring intensive management, and development in stages



The Arncliffe, Bristol  
The Fleece

## Other complementary opportunities



- Better public toilets?
- Themed market?
- Events and festivals?
- Upgraded public realm?
- Container space for studios and arts installations?



Temporary exhibition market and event space, Trinity Buoy Wharf

[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

## Workshop themes



- A. Heritage and environment
- B. Creative enterprise
- C. Promotion and events
- D. Education and training
- E. Opportunities for young people

[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)

## Tasks



1. Vision for the Quarter
2. Uses for the buildings
3. Quick wins

[www.urbed.co.uk](http://www.urbed.co.uk)