

HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

February 2025



Holderness House in 1982

(Photographs are by John Scotney unless otherwise stated)

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www.hullcivicsoc.info

Marita Staite

We were sorry to hear of the death of Marita Staite, on 21st January 2025, aged 88. She served for a time as a city councillor and was a Civic Society committee member in the 1970s before she moved to Richmond, N. Yorkshire. She led the Society's Pedestrianisation Sub-Committee and did a considerable amount of research for the Society's submission to Hull City Council. Marita was also an active member of "Help! Conservation Action Group". Our sympathy goes to her family and close friends.

Hull Civic Society Winter Programme 2024-2025

All talks are on **Mondays at 7.30 p.m.** at the Holiday Inn Express, Ferensway (*unless otherwise stated*)

10th Mar 25 - Give us a V (Hull Speedway) Alan and Michelle Beadle

14th April 25 at 7.00 p.m. – AGM,

followed by **The History & Mystery of Spurn Head**

Godfrey Holmes, Chair of Hornsea Civic Society.

Hull Civic Society Summer Programme 2025

Full Details of Hull Civic Society's Summer Programme will be available shortly, but the following events and visits have been confirmed:

Mon 12th May 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.–

Guided visits to the Maritime Museum, Queen Victoria Square. *This special visit for Hull Civic Society members & guests will reveal the refurbished museum building before the return of the exhibits.*

Booking essential, as there is a maximum of 20 people for each of the visits. Please see the Booking Form.



Sat 24th May 11.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
– **Holderness House: Social Event**
with cold buffet – *a rare opportunity*
to explore the 1838 mansion and
grounds that was home to the Jalland
family and later to Mr & Mrs Ferens.

Booking essential



Mon 9th June 7.00 p.m. Northern Films Ltd

8 Saltmarsh Court, Hull HU4 7DZ

Booking essential, as there is a maximum of 20 people

Mon. 14th July 7.00 to 8.30 p.m. – Drypool & Witham Walk (meet at
Blaydes House, High St) *Led by Colin Cooper*

Additional visits will be advertised in our Update Bulletins and at
meetings.

Coming in September!

Ian Wolstencroft is working on a new high-resolution two-part DVD with new material showing Hull decade by decade. This will also be available as a usb-stick. It is due to be launched in September 2025.

Richard Clarke's Park Walks 2025

Throughout 2025, Richard Clarke, Landscape Historian and Civic Society member, will be running a series of monthly History and Tree Walks on Saturdays in each of Hull's parks and cemeteries. He is also running a separate series of monthly Guided Walks on Saturdays in Pearson Park on the themes of Trees, Houses and Birds. The full timetables are shown below in two posters.

No need
to book!

Guided History & Trees Walks

FREE!

All walks are on **Saturdays** and are led by Richard Clarke, landscape historian.

Date	Venue	Meeting Place
08.02.2025	West Park	Anlaby Road entrance
08.03.2025	Northern Cemetery	Old main entrance on Chanterlands Ave North
12.04.2025	East Park	Holderness Road main entrance
10.05.2025	Hedon Road Cemetery	Hedon Road main entrance
14.06.2025	Western Cemetery	Pedestrian entrance from Hull General Cemetery, just off Spring Bank West
12.07.2025	Pickering Park	Hessle High Road main entrance
09.08.2025	Costello Park	Pickering Road entrance
13.09.2025	Eastern Cemetery	Preston Road main entrance
11.10.2025	Oak Road Playing Fields	Eastern end of Beresford Avenue entrance

All walks start at 10am and last for 1 to 1½ hours. Meet 5 minutes before walk starts.

<https://richardclarkelandscapehistorian.co.uk>



With the support of Hull Civic Society





No need to book!

Pearson Park Guided Walks



FREE!

All walks are on **Saturdays** and are led by Richard Clarke, landscape historian.

<https://richardclarkelandscapehistorian.co.uk>

Date	Walk
01.02.2025	Tree Walk
01.03.2025	Houses Study
05.04.2025	Bird Walk - with Africa Gomez
03.05.2025	Tree Walk
07.06.2025	Houses Study
02.08.2025	Tree Walk
06.09.2025	Houses Study
04.10.2025	Bird Walk - with Africa Gomez
01.11.2025	Tree Walk
08.11.2025	History & Trees



All walks start at 10am and last for 1 hour.

Meet at the Pearson Park bandstand 5 minutes before walk starts.

With the support of Hull Civic Society



Other People's Events

Barton upon Humber Civic Society

Meets at Joseph Wright Hall or the adjacent Wilderspin School, Queen St, Barton on the 3rd Friday of the Month.

Beverley Civic Society

Meets at St Mary's Church at 7.30 pm. 13 Mar Our Journey at Laurel Vineyard, Aike; 3 April *Photos of bygone Beverley Part 2* Kloskk Tyrer; 8 May *The Cruger Family* Travis Glasson; 12 June *Beverley Archives* Hannah Stamp (ERYC); Jul & Aug No Talk; 11 Sep *Neighbour against Neighbour, Beverley & the Wars of the Roses* Marcus Ramshaw; 9 Oct AGM; 13 Nov Margaret Powell Lecture *Larkin and Beverley* - Philip Pullen; 11 Dec *Archaeology finds in East Yorkshire* David Marchant (ERYC).

Cottingham Local History Society

Meets at Cottingham Civic Hall on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm. 5 Mar *Out with the old and in with the new*. Michele Beadle - A history of Hull's Repertory Company at the Little Theatre and the early years of the New Theatre 2 April AGM and social event for members only.

Hedon & District Local History Society Meets on the 2nd Tues of the month at 2 p.m. at Hedon Methodist Church, 5 Church Lane, Hedon HU12 8EL.

Hessle Local History Society Meets in Hessle Town Hall from March to November at 7.15 pm on the third Thursday of the month.

Hull Central Library Saturday Talks. 11.00-12.30 Meetings are held in the James Reckitt room, 1st floor, Hull Central Library - charge of £3 incl. refreshments.

Hull & East Riding Historical Association Meets at the Nordic Centre (Danish Church), Osborne St, Hull HU1 2PN at 7.30 p.m. on the 3rd Thur of the month 27 Feb *Deserted Medieval Settlement: Re-evaluating Lost Villages* Dr. Helen Fenwick. We ask £3 towards costs from visitors; no charge for students. There is a car park at the Centre, and visitors coming for the talk should register to be exempt from the parking charge. More information can be found on www.herha.org.uk/events

Hull History Centre: Talks on the second Tuesday of every month, 12.30-1.30pm Admission Free & Free car parking in the History Centre car park after 6pm,

National Trust East Yorkshire Association Meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except December) at 7.30 pm at Cottingham Civic Hall

Hull Civic Society 2024 Review

2024 was our 60th year and this was celebrated at a 640-year-old institution in Hull on the 20th July at The Charterhouse. We were treated to a tour, led by The Master, Reverend Gloria Naylor and her team, poems, a choir concert by The Greatfield Community Choir, conducted by Gabrielle Awre and a delicious buffet supplied by Denise's pantry, from nearby Caroline Street. The afternoon was a great success and our thanks must go to all concerned.

Ian Wolstencroft produced a DVD, and latterly a USB stick showing 60 years of change in Hull and this was well received by all its viewers. Thanks to all who have supported us by buying copies. There are still a few available. Ian also organised Hull Civic Society 60th Anniversary Exhibition 1964 - 2024 in October at the Carnegie Heritage Centre, Anlaby Road, Hull, which was well attended.

The Yorkshire Heritage Summit in the Hull Minster in May was a great success, which, although not a Hull Civic Society Event as such, was well attended and many societies and organisations of Yorkshire were present of which we were one of them. A summary of this can be seen on our website.

At the end of July a few of us made a trip to Scarborough to be shown around the town hall and the town by the Scarborough Civic Society. Everyone who made the trip enjoyed the day. In August we had a visit from Wakefield Civic Society which had us welcome them at The Deep and then guide them on walks around the old town, which they seemed very interested in, and then on to The Minerva for a cold buffet before heading off to Hull Minster for a guided tour and coffee and cakes to complete the successful day.

Membership of Hull Civic Society has remained at around 250, with some retiring, but some applying. We are fortunate to have a number of students as members, at no cost to themselves during their studies. We have seven valued Corporate Members who have all renewed their membership for a second year, for which we are very thankful.

Another well attended and enjoyable event was our pre-Christmas social at the Garden Village Clubhouse, where again we had a chance for our members and guests to have a talk and hot drinks and a buffet before a raffle with some good prizes.

Our 2024 talks and walks started in January with Ian Wolstencroft giving us a look at the development of transport in Hull and district. In February Dave Petley, The University of Hull Vice Chancellor gave us a talk about the science of different kinds of landslides. In March, Colin Cooper gave a visual exploration of Holderness Road, one of Hull's most important highways. At our AGM in April, our Webmaster Simon Green and Treasurer, Ian Pearson presented our website, <https://hullcivicsoc>. Our first walk of 2024 was at Victoria Dock at the end of April, where Ian Pearson led a walk in the area in memory of the late Colin McNicol. It was windy but dry and enjoyable. In June we had visits and guided tours to the former Sculcoates Railway Goods Depot, Bankside (opposite Wilmington Bridge now owned by PBS NE Construction Ltd) and to Aura Innovation Centre, Bridgehead Business Park, Boothferry Road (just beyond the Humber Bridge roundabout) followed by an optional visit to the nearby Wingfield Farm Restaurant. At the beginning of July, we had a visit to Hedon and were shown around the museum which was very interesting. In mid-July, Colin Cooper guided us around Wincolmlee and pointed out items of interest that many of us did not know about.

Our first talk at Holiday Inn Express, Ferensway, Hull, for the 2024/5 season was given by Richard Clarke about The Early History of the Municipal Parks of Hull, and on 11th November, Ian Pearson gave a talk about the SV Garthpool, the last British square rigger to sail. In December our last talk of the year was given by Rob Kingdom about The Guildhall Time Ball.

During the year we donated £500 to St James Church, Sutton, towards having their clock repaired. They have almost raised the funds to have the first stage of the work completed, but need more for the full restoration which is hoped to be accomplished in the New Year. Our finances are healthy, which we hope will be shown in our accounts in time for our April AGM.

Good Marks this year have been awarded to Astoria Bingo on Holderness Road; The Mill, also on Holderness Road, the Kings Building on South Church Side and The One-Stop Shop along Silver Street. There are many more that are on our "to do" list. Our Press Officer, Charles Trafford, has come up with the idea of running a Hull Schools History Competition in the New Year which we will keep you posted about. Our

website is continually being updated by our Webmaster, Simon Green and our Treasurer/Membership Secretary, Ian Pearson. Anything you would like to see, please let us know. Simon is also our liaison person for the YHACS (Yorkshire and Huber Association of Civic Societies) who, again, will keep us notified of any developments there. Our Chair, John Scotney is a pillar of strength to our Society as is Cynthia Fowler, who is still taking on secretarial roles and offering her house as a Committee Meeting Room, although officially retiring last year. We are also helped enormously by our other Committee Members, Isabelle Tracy and Malcolm Sharman. Although not on the Committee, Richard Clarke and Colin Cooper do help us out whenever asked. Please do share this brief summary among your friends and family. We could do with an influx of new members and also new Committee Members who would find their voluntary commitments rewarding. Thank you to all members for renewing their memberships this last year. It is appreciated. Best wishes for 2025

Ian Pearson, Treasurer and membership secretary.



Hull Civic Society SV “Garthpool” talk by Ian Pearson 11 November 2024.

The Sailing Vessel “Garthpool” was the last commercial British square rigger to set sail. The four masted Barque left Hull in October 1929 bound for Australia in ballast to load a cargo of grain to carry home. She never made it and was shipwrecked on Ponta Reef, Boavista, Cape Verde Islands on the night of the 11th November 1929. All 35 of the crew and passengers abandoned ship and were saved. One of the crew was my dad’s father, Arthur Edward

Pearson, who took this photograph of the wrecked vessel. The steel Barque was built in Dundee in 1891 and was named “Juteopolis” after the nickname of Dundee which was the Jute capital of the British Isles. There are many books and stories to tell of this ‘windjammer’ and others, for which I am grateful. Diaries of one of the crew, AB and shantyman Stan Hugill, and my grandfather have also been invaluable.

“The Timeball on the Guildhall”

Summary of the talk given to Hull Civic Society on 9th December 2024

by Rob Kingdom, retired Project Director.

“Much in little.” - what a wide-ranging and informative talk! Rob Kingdom’s summary of the background to maritime navigation was succinct and clearly-illustrated with diagrams.

We learned that the Royal Observatory at Greenwich was created as early as 1675, to deal with the longitude problem and in 1884 it was agreed that Greenwich was the prime meridian. It was also good to be reminded of the vital part John Harrison, clock maker of Barton-on-Humber, had played, one of his timepieces being a breakthrough in enabling navigation.

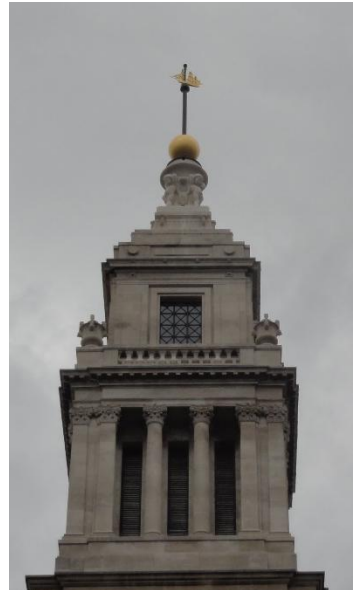
Methods of communicating time to ships (to enable chronometers to be set) were discussed, such as firing time-cannons or flying flags, both problematic. Timeballs had the advantage of being visible from all directions. The telegraph transmitted an accurate time signal from Greenwich, here to the Lowgate Post Office by the later radio telegraphy. The Guildhall timeball in Hull was a late addition to the building, beginning to work in 1920, an anachronism.

Next, Rob explained that World War II bombing damaged the Guildhall, including the tower. He showed clear pictures and diagrams, emphasising that the whole tower forms the clock. Aerial photographs indicated the magnitude of the task of renovation!

No longer is the clock wound by hand. Moreover, it can be repaired from inside the tower. Both the weathervane (representing the Bounty) and the new timeball are resplendent in gold leaf. The ball now drops more slowly than the original and does not operate if the mast is icy. Now I have a new ambition for 2025, to hear the carillon!

Thank-you, Mr Kingdom, for a truly fascinating evening.

By Mrs Susan Heritage



“The pavement that walked: an archaeological mystery”

Summary of the talk given by Michele Lewis to Hull Civic Society on 13th January 2025

With consummate skill, Michele invited her intrigued audience to follow the tangled threads of a true crime tale, culminating in a real-life mystery. The crime remains unsolved!

Conjecture abounded! Indeed, local knowledge was contributed by audience members after the talk, amid a lively discussion.

Michele had led us gently to the first half of the 4th century A.D. At this period, Anglo-Saxon tribes flourished and here, the Humber was an important, navigable route. Wealthy Romano-British people had villas built along Roman lines, with bath-houses, hypocausts, and magnificent mosaics

Exciting archaeological discoveries (then on land owned by the Reckitt family), led to excavations. It was thought that the remains of a villa had been fire-damaged, possibly by invaders (Saxons, Friesians and Jutes), who came upstream by boat.

Now, in 1941, another danger existed, that of German bombing. (indeed, the famous Royal Institution Museum in Albion Street, Hull, was destroyed in World War II). It was therefore deemed inadvisable to invite the public to see the villa remains in situ.

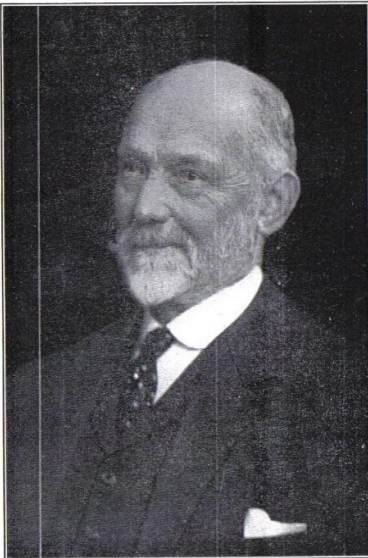
Having given enlightening historical details, Michele moved on to outline the crime! I was astounded at the facts and I wonder whether the mystery will ever be solved.

Maybe you will soon observe me at the Roman gallery of the Hull and East Riding Museum, musing on Michele’s fascinating talk!

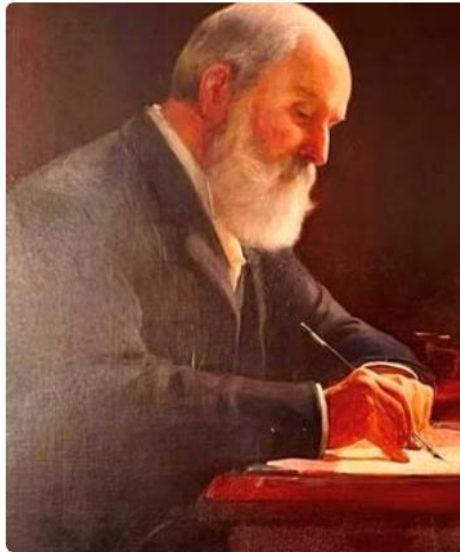
Mrs Susan Heritage

Thomas Robinson Ferens, 1847-1930

Thomas Robinson Ferens came to Hull from County Durham in 1868 as shorthand and confidential clerk to James Reckitt, manufacturer of starch and other household products. The Quaker, Reckitt, and Wesleyan Methodist, Ferens, had advanced views on welfare and education for employees. Ferens became, in turn, Works Manager, Secretary, General Manager, Director and Chairman of the company.



Mr Thomas Ferens
(Brunswick 1874-1924
booklet)



Sir James Reckitt (part of picture
from the Sir James Reckitt Charity
website)

Inspired by the high-quality housing built by Cadbury's for their workers at Bourneville, Birmingham, James Reckitt and Thomas Ferens began the development of Garden Village in 1907. The architects for Hull's Garden Village were the relatively new Hull firm, Runton & Barry who were in partnership by 1901 in Victoria Chambers, Bowlalley Lane.



Victoria Chambers,
Bowlalley Lane in 2022

Percy Tom Runton (1874-1947) had been trained by William Alfred Gelder, and William Ernest Barry (1867-1936) had worked for the eminent London firm of George & Peto.

The Garden Village scheme provided about 500 houses of varying sizes, a shopping centre, a village hall (destroyed in the Blitz) and a club house, all in Arts & Crafts style. Two thirds of the houses were reserved for rent by Reckitt's employees, providing housing and an environment that was far superior to any other housing at the time.



Above left: the former shopping centre (now all apartments)
Above right: the club house
Below left: houses in Elm Ave.
The modern bungalow to the right of the picture is on the site of the bombed village hall

The development was laid out on land purchased from the Jalland family who lived at Holderness House, an Elizabethan Revival mansion of 1838.



Holderness House, north front, in 1982

When the Jalland family decided to move out of Holderness House, Mr Ferens bought the property, not wishing to see it demolished.

Ferens was a member of Brunswick Wesleyan Methodist chapel (replaced in 1962 by the present Holderness Road Methodist Church). He served as a Sunday school teacher, later

Sunday School Superintendent. He was elected Liberal MP for East Hull from 1906 to 1918 and was also a Privy Councillor from 1912.

My great aunt, who was cook at Holderness House, recalled that even when an MP, he always returned at the weekend to teach in the Sunday School.

She also remembered Mr & Mrs Ferens' kindness and generosity, especially towards any family they knew to be in need.

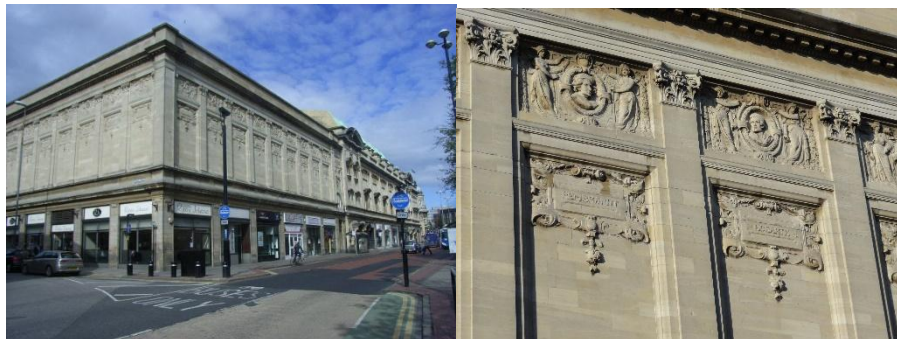
In addition to Mr & Mrs Ferens' private generosity, income from Mr Ferens' profit-sharing contract at Reckitt's was largely directed into public benefactions. Early in his life, he had resolved to donate 10% of his earnings to charity.

Mr Ferens encouraged Hull people's appreciation of art by an annual donation of £1,000 to the city for purchase of paintings for ten years from 1905. The art collection was displayed initially at the



Mrs Esther Ellen (Ettie) Ferens, nee Field (from Brunswick 1874-1924 booklet)

Royal Institution in Albion St, but from 1910 in what is now the Mortimer Suite of the City Hall. Carved names of famous artists on the walls of the City Hall are a reminder of its time as Hull's art gallery.



Hull City Hall, Mortimer Suite – Carr Lane façade – panels with artists' names
Below: Ferens Art Gallery.

In 1924, Mr Ferens bought the redundant St John's church (closed in 1917) and presented it to the city with £35,000 to build a new art gallery on the site; it was completed in 1927.



To encourage outdoor recreation, Ferens provided land in 1913 for the extension of East Park (first opened by Hull Corporation in 1887), with space for a boating lake. In north Hull he bought land north of Cottingham Road which was at first used to create the YPI Ferens Recreation Ground. A new YPI recreation ground was established on Chanterlands Avenue when the Cottingham Road site was chosen for the University College, for which Ferens provided 60 acres of land and £250,000 endowment. It opened in 1927, offering external degrees from London University. In 1954, the University

College became the University of Hull, awarding degrees in its own right. Its motto is “Lampada ferens” (carrying a torch).

On Sunday evenings Ferens and his wife opened Holderness House and grounds to the young people of Brunswick Chapel for weekly social gatherings after the evening service.

Concern for elderly people prompted the establishment, in 1911, of Ferens Haven of Rest, further east along Holderness Rd as retirement homes.

Mrs Ferens died in 1922, but Mr Ferens continued to live in Holderness House until died in 1930. The house was left in his will for use as a home “for 12 elderly ladies in reduced circumstances”. It continued as a care home until the early 2020s, but modern standards for care provision are forcing the Trust which still runs Holderness House to look at new options, but still in the spirit of Mr Ferens’ social concerns.

On 24th May this year, Civic Society Members and their guests will have the opportunity to see inside Holderness House during our Spring Social Event there.



Above: Earliest buildings of University College.



Ferens Haven of Rest

John Scotney.

Good Mark to PBS Construction (North East) Ltd for the sympathetic restoration of the former Sculcoates Goods Depot

Imagine the shock of arriving at your place of work to discover that part of the roof had collapsed after a storm. This was the experience of the workforce at PBS Construction Ltd. in December 2021.



Above: Former Sculcoates Goods Depot, Bankside.
Below: storm-damaged roof (Photo by PBS Ltd)



Fortunately, the owners, Peter and his son Glenn Smurthwaite were proud of the Grade II listed former Sculcoates railway goods depot and set about a very sympathetic restoration.



Another view of the storm damage (Photo by PBS Ltd)

Sulcoates Goods, on Bankside, just across the road from Wilmington Bridge, was built in 1864 by the North Eastern Railway and extended at the front in 1871. Hull, like most industrial and port cities, had several large freight terminals, located within the range of horse drawn vehicles to serve the many industries of each locality.

This was still the pattern as late as the mid-1960s. The rival Hull & Barnsley Railway had a goods station of the same name, so for many years after both lines came under the same ownership (London & North Eastern Railway from 1923 and British Railways from 1948) the former NER depot was re-named Stepney Goods, but is now listed (thanks to the efforts of the late John Morfin) under its original name.

While many Victorian passenger stations have held the affection of their regular users and have been cherished, freight depots were located in industrial areas and rarely seen or appreciated by the majority of people. Sulcoates Goods is now a rare survival of this type of buildings and is particularly interesting for its extensive use of timber and cast iron in its roof structure.



Above: Civic Soc visit to Sculcoates Goods, 10.6.24. Peter Smurthwaite, founder of PBS Construction is holding up the aerial photo shown below.
Below: Stepney / Sculcoates Goods (bottom centre of the picture) surrounded by industry in the 1950s or 1960s (kind permission of PBS)





Above: Original roof timbers and ironwork.
Below: Some of the new roof timbers and ironwork





Following the storm damage, it is greatly to the credit of PBS and its owners that reconstruction was carried out to match the original timber pattern and dimensions and metal features. Peter and Glenn Smurthwaite have also retained many original features since they began using the depot. We believe this is a well-deserved Good Mark.

John Scotney.

Glenn Smurthwaite receiving the Hull Civic Society Good Mark Award on behalf of PBS Construction 11.2.25 (Photo by O. H. Boyd)

Conservation Area Character Appraisals

Stephen Walker, Hull's Principal Conservation Officer, has provided an update on his work for producing Conservation Area Character Appraisals and potential opportunities for Civic Society involvement. He is keen to get greater public involvement and I think we can help. Public consultation has been completed for all the following Conservation Areas:

Garden Village - Relevant updates were approved by Committee and Cabinet in September 2024. Notifications of the updates and formal adoption of the Article 4 Direction are pending.

Beverley Road - Feedback is being reviewed and proposals for adoption will be reviewed by Planning Committee and Cabinet in February 2025.

Newland Park – Feedback is being reviewed and proposals for adoption will be reviewed by Planning Committee and Cabinet in April 2025.

Hessle Road Feedback is being reviewed and proposals for adoption will be reviewed by Planning Committee in March 2025.

Ella Street –Feedback is being reviewed and proposals for adoption will be reviewed by Planning Committee and Cabinet in April 2025.

Of particular interest to the Civic Society will be the proposed new Wincolmllee Conservation Area.

A more detailed summary of progress can be obtained from this weblink:

<https://www.hull.gov.uk/building-standards-regulations/conservation-areas->

We have a significant range and diversity of Conservation Areas in the city - a real triumph for heritage conservation, not least because of the work of the Civic Society in the past and other historians.

Adam Fowler.



Have your say on Hull's Local Heritage List

The consultation period runs from Saturday 15 February until Monday 31 March.

The Hull Local Heritage List identifies buildings and archaeological sites across the city which contribute towards Hull's unique archaeological and historical heritage. Hull City Council is seeking further views from residents, businesses and property owners on amended proposals as part of the Hull Local Heritage List.

In response to public feedback, the council's cabinet has approved a second round of public consultation on two issues:

1. The introduction of an Article 4 Direction which would require planning permission for demolition, change of use or external alterations to locally listed buildings (e.g. cladding, shutters or replacement windows).

This would, for example, apply to the alteration or removal of public house façades and shop fronts. Around 100 properties citywide, including The Crown on Marfleet Lane, Zetland Arms on Portobello Street and the former Cottage Baths on Albert Avenue, would be affected by the Article 4 Direction and the council would like public feedback on the proposals.

2. The following proposed additions to the List:

- The former Westminster Bank, Witham;
- St Anthony and Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church, Beverley Road
- The Rose Bowl in Queens Gardens.

Targeted letter drops will be aimed at stakeholders before the consultation period which began on 15th Feb and runs until 31st March.

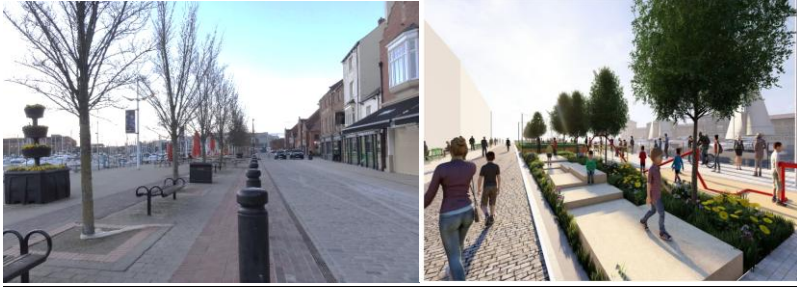
An online survey can be filled in and returned, along with other feedback, via email to dev.control@hullcc.gov.uk, via post to The Guildhall, Alfred Gelder Street, Hull, HU1 2AA, or at the in person at the consultation session.

More information on the updated Hull Local Heritage List and proposed amendments can be found at: <https://news.hull.gov.uk/13/02/2025/have-your-say-on-hulls-local-heritage-list/>.

Planning & Buildings

Old Town

An evening visit to the Marina on 18th February revealed that work had started on the City Council's scheme to create a new "linear park of species rich planting and trees, which will weave together heritage features, play areas, resting points and recreational spaces". Details of the project to upgrade sections of Humber Dock St, Princes Dock St and High St can be found on the Maritime Hull website. We were shocked to see that the whole promenade had been excavated down to soil.



Left: Humber Dock St 9.3.17 Right: one of the artist's impressions of the revamped marina promenade (from Hull City Council website).

The Marina promenade, always a very popular attraction, will be out of reach for the next 39 weeks – more than 9 months. We worry about the effect on the businesses on Humber Dock St, as many customers sit outside on the promenade in warmer weather.

At the Old Custom House, 6 Market Place (built 1877 as the post office), approval was given in w/c 25/11 for McArthur Dean Training to change their 1st floor offices into 4 flats (Ref. No: 24/00505/FULL)



In w/c 23.9.24 there was an application to extend the Hideout Hotel, North Church Side, into the closed Corn Exchange pub, with an extension to the north side (ref. 4/00926/FULL).

Above: 6 Market Place. Below: Hideout & Corn Exchange (from planning documents)



The former Royal Bank of Scotland premises in Silver St are proposed for change of use of the 1st, 2nd & 3rd floors and roof top into apartments (3x two bed) with flexible use for the ground floor. (Application no. 24/00926/FULL).



Left: Former Royal Bank of Scotland, 10-11 Silver St on 11.7.22.
Right: proposed design from Design & Access Statement



There have been several applications for internal and external work in connection with change of use of the listed 22 Parliament St from offices back to residential use. Approval came in w/c 14.10.24.

22 Parliament St in 2024



City Centre

At Paragon Station, an application was approved in w/c 27/1 for a Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Works to a Listed Building. This is for interior work to refurbish parts of the 1848 offices (ref. 24/01081/LAW)



The neglected state of the Portland Hotel, Paragon St, has been a cause for concern for more than a decade since it closed in 2013. The matter was raised with the Principal Conservation Officer in November 2024 by the Conservation Area Advisory Committee, on which the Society is represented. It seems a case file was opened by Enforcement (Ref 24/00332/UNTIDY) on 17.09.24, after notices were sent on 14.08.24 to all parties, requesting an improvement in condition. The problem is the multiplicity of part-owners. We have asked for an update, which the Conservation Officer is pursuing.



In King Edward St, work is in progress on the ground floor façade at Jubilee Central Church

Left: Jubilee Central Church, King Edward St (13.1.25)
Below: Derek Crothall Building, George St (2013)

to restore the front doorway to its original central position and re-create the original 1902 stone cladding (observed 25/1).

In w/c 9/12 permission was granted for internal remodelling, a single storey extension, external works and division of the existing school site into two separate educational facilities at the Derek Crothall Building (most recently part of Trinity House School), George St. (ref. 24/00987/FULL)



A little further along George St, at Trippett Street Car Park, there was an application in w/c 13/1 for Construction of a strikingly different Energy Centre (Ref 24/01155/FULL)

The new Community Diagnostic Centre at the corner of Albion St and Bond St has risen steadily this autumn. The structure has reached full height and cladding is being installed.



Left: energy Centre (from Planning documents).
Right: Community Diagnostic Centre, Albion St. (4.1.25) – all scaffolding has since been removed (Observed 22.2.25)

East

The site of the South Blockhouse of Henry VIII's defences along the eastern bank of the River Hull is of national significance and was excavated in 2022. In w/c 28/10 application ref. 24/00989/FULL showed the proposed sculptural mesh structures, engineering works to create raised footprint of the blockhouse, bench seating, hard and soft landscaping



works, integrating public art in the form of a sculptural installation, cladding part of the mesh structures, and a free-standing kinetic text sculpture functioning as a weathervane”

An application (Ref 24/00937/FULL) was submitted in w/c 11/11 to convert the New Cleveland Club in New Cleveland St into 10 specialised living units, with new windows and a rear 1st floor extension.



In w/c 30.9.24, there was an application (Ref. 24/00886/COU) for Holderness House to change from a nursing home to allow voluntary and community groups to use the house and grounds to provide activities and services, predominantly for women, as per the intent of the benefactor, Thomas Ferens.

Conversion of the vacant Zetland Arms pub, at 139 Portobello St, into 8 self-contained flats and other external changes, including boundary railings and walls up to 1.8m high, was proposed in w/c 25/11 (ref. 24/01112/FULL),



West

Permission was granted in w/c 14/10 to change Gordon St Police Station to educational use. (Ref: 24/00532/FULL)

Above: New Cleveland Club in 2012. Below: Zetland Arms (from planning documents)
Below: Gordon St Police Station



The creation of a Veterans Village with a Hub Building, Courtyard Garden, Café, Courtyard, Workshops, Lodges and Family Housing, Glass Houses, Polytunnels, Multi Use Games Area and Landscaping at Coronation Road North & Priory Rd was approved in w/c 9/12 (Ref 19/00989/FULL)

Right: Site for Veterans' Village (from Design & Access Statement)



North

An application (ref: 24/01040/FULL) was submitted in w/c 4/11 for change of use to guest house / hotel with 2-storey side extension at John Symons House, Park Row, Park St.

Right: John Symons House.
Below: Proposed new housing at the corner of



New houses were proposed in w/c 14/10 for the site of Newstar Sectional Buildings Ash Grove, Beverley Road, following demolition of the existing workshop.
(Ref 24/00960/FULL)



Dunswell, East Riding

A proposed Park & Ride at Dunswell roundabout (north end of Beverley High Road) submitted to East Riding Council in w/c 6/1 has drawn opposition from a number of residents living within the Hull boundary, but next to the site. Hull City Council has objected to some elements of the scheme. (East Riding ref: 24/03336/STPLF)



The proposed Dunswell Park & Ride (from planning documents).

Music in the City Hall

Hull and the East Riding have a rich variety of live vocal and instrumental musical events in all styles throughout the year. The city is very fortunate to have its own classical orchestra – Hull Philharmonic Orchestra – and the beautiful City Hall as a venue, which also accommodates visiting orchestras. If you have never experienced the thrill of live orchestral music in the magnificent setting of the City Hall, I would strongly recommend it. Forthcoming orchestral concerts are: Wed 19/3 (BBC Philharmonic); Tue 8/4 (Royal Philharmonic); Sat 10/5 (Hull Philharmonic); Thu 12/6 (Royal Philharmonic). City Hall also hosts many other events, listed in the “Hullo 2025!” brochure, and at www.hulltheatres.co.uk

June 2025 Newsletter

Have you an article to offer? New contributions are always welcome! Please submit your article as soon as possible and by 5th May at the latest to the Editor, John Scotney, by email to chair@hullcivicsoc.info or by post to 126, Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RZ. Please note that it is sometimes necessary to hold articles over to a later edition for reasons of space.

Hull Civic Society Committee at 12th February 2025

Honorary Secretary: Cynthia Fowler (01482) 377434
998 Holderness Rd, Hull HU9 4AG sec@hullcivicsoc.info

Chairman, Newsletter: John Scotney (01482) 492822
126 Cottingham Rd, Hull, HU6 7RZ chair@hullcivicsoc.info

Vice Chairman - Vacancy

Treasurer & Membership - Ian Pearson treasurer@hullcivicsoc.info

Webmaster, YAHCS, Simon Green webmaster@hullcivicsoc.info

Hull History: Ian Wolstencroft (01482) 504381
iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk

Good Marks: Malcolm Sharman (01482) 561611

Strategy: Isabelle Tracy

Committee Membership

Firstly, Charles Trafford, who stepped down from the committee on 11th February, leaves with our best wishes and thanks for the substantial contribution he has made to the committee's work. He is not leaving the Civic Society and he promises to help out when needed, as he and his wife Jo, have always done.

Message from Ian Pearson, Membership Secretary & Treasurer

Our committee is, unfortunately, now down to seven (sometimes six) participating members, with a quorum of five needed to make decisions at our meetings. We would be very pleased to welcome new committee members who could offer much appreciated input to our discussions and debates. At present, our committee meetings are held at Cynthia's – "Pink House" - 998 Holderness Road, generally on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 pm. During the month we keep in touch with each other by email or telephone.

If you would like to join us, you'd be most welcome!

Personally, I was a bit unsure before I took my first steps, but have enjoyed being a part of the Society and its mission. I am sure you would feel the same, providing you can spare a bit of time and commitment. It's worth it!

Please let us know whether you would like to be co-opted onto the committee before the AGM if possible.

Thank you and best wishes

Ian Pearson

Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Annual Membership: £15.00 (£24.00 for two people living at the same address). Please pay by bank transfer or Standing Order to Hull Civic Society, Sort Code 20-43-47, Account No. 50568724, or send a cheque to our Hon Treasurer at 218 Saltshouse Road, Hull, HU8 9HH.

Title _____ First Name _____

Surname _____

Full Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Tel. _____ Email _____

The details on this form will be held securely by Hull Civic Society and not shared with any third party.

I consent to Hull Civic Society holding the details on this form (please tick)

Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your subscription or donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. To Gift Aid your subs /donation please tick this box

I want to Gift Aid my subscription/donation of £_____ to:

Hull Civic Society (Charity No 236485). Date:/...../.....

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and / or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please notify the Hon Secretary if you: • want to cancel this declaration •change your name or home address •no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. **Note:** If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.