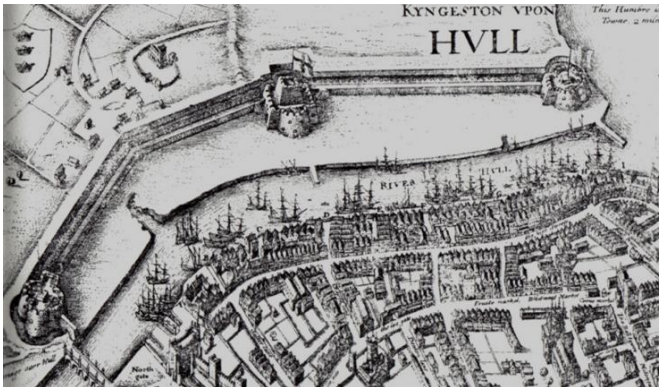
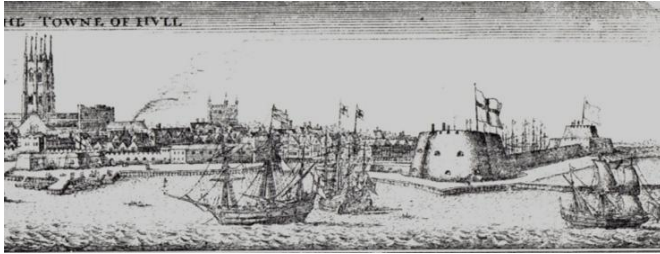


# HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2022



**Henry VII's defences of Hull (part of Hollar's Map, 1640)**

All photographs are by J.D. Scotney, unless otherwise stated.

*In this issue: Summer Visits & Winter Programme; Heritage Open Days; The Hull DVD; Subscriptions by standing order; The Southern Part of Hull's Old Town (Part 3); Yorkshire's first Heritage Summit on in Pontefract; 1999-2022; Two Sombre Cemeteries; Planning & Buildings; Officers & Committee; Membership form.*

[www.hullcivicsoc.info](http://www.hullcivicsoc.info)

## Annual Subscriptions by Standing Order

Many thanks if you have paid your subs for 2022, whether by cash, cheque, bank transfer or standing order. This is the Society's only source of income and is needed for postage, room hire for talks, speakers' fees and insurance. All of the Society's committee members are, of course, unpaid volunteers.

Standing orders are a good method of paying subs, but are sometimes "out of sight and out of mind". As a result, some members' standing orders are less than the current rate of £15 for one person or £24 for two people living at the same address. If you pay by standing order, please check the amount and, if necessary, ask your bank to increase the standing order to the correct amount. Thank you.

John Scotney

## Summer Visits 2022

*Please book in advance, if you can, to give us an idea of numbers.*

*Tel. John Scotney 01482 492822 or email: johnscotney126@gmail.com*

***\*Thursday 8th Sept 2.30 p.m.\**** (Please note the date change) –

**South Blockhouse Excavations, Tower Street** (*follow signs to the Deep*)

– a visit to Henry VII's defences, led by Peter Connally of Humber Field Archaeology, before the remains are covered over on 19th September.

*Note: This level, accessible site is also open to the public Wed -Sun each week. It is next to the Deep car park but it may be easier to use the Tower Street Car Park opposite the Premier Inn.*

**Mon 5th Sept 2.30 p.m. Pearson Park Walk** - led by Richard Clarke

**Tue 13th Sept 4.00 p.m. Preview of Hull DVD** - Ian Wolstencroft  
*at Wrecking Ball, 15 Whitefriargate.*

**Mon 26th September, 6.30 p.m. Guided tour of St Mary's Lowgate**

An opportunity to see the recent major renovation work. Tea and coffee (charge) will be available after our tour. (Visit re-scheduled from 4<sup>th</sup> July).

## Winter Programme 2022-23

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

**10<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 - 60 years of Change in Hull** - excerpts from the Hull DVD and other film footage. Ian Wolstencroft.

**14<sup>th</sup> November 7.00 p.m. AGM followed by "Out with the old, in with the new" - the story of Hull's New Theatre.** - Michele Beadle

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2.p.m. at Hull History Centre - "60 years of change in Hull"** - the launch of the complete Hull DVD in aid of Dove House Hospice and Hull Civic Society (*provisional date*).

**12<sup>th</sup> December "Ships sail right into the heart of Hull"** - Colin Cooper

**9<sup>th</sup> January "Railways around Hull"** – Mick Nicholson

**13<sup>th</sup> February "My life as a journalist"** - Angus Young

**13<sup>th</sup> March** (speaker to be confirmed)

**17<sup>th</sup> April "The South Blockhouse Archaeological Dig"** - Peter Connally, Humber Field Archaeology.

## Summer Visits 2023

*Summer Walks and visits are being arranged for 2023 and details will be confirmed as soon as possible.*

## **Heritage Open Days 9-18 September 2022**

Visits, talks and other events in Hull and district are organised by John & Christine Netherwood independently of Hull Civic Society. Many of the talks and walks are, however, by Civic Society members. For details of openings, walks and talks, please see the official Heritage Open Days brochure or website: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk>

### **The Hull DVD: a request for additional Ciné and Video footage**

Hull has changed dramatically over the last 60 years and is still changing! Ian Wolstencroft is working on a DVD to record as much of Hull life and Hull scenes as possible in film. In December 2021, Ian showed some of the footage, but there is still room for additional footage, including:

- Jameson Street and King Edward Street in the 1970s & 1980s
- Bus rides around the city centre and roadside locations showing shops.
- Aerial views of Hull, views from high buildings or the Humber Bridge.
- Scenes in our parks,
- Fruit market & Marina scenes 1970s to 2000s before their transformation.

**Our aim is to promote Hull in a big way; it will be Hull Civic society's souvenir DVD to be enjoyed by local residents area and visitors alike.**

**We have not got long**, as the aim is to preview the DVD, on Tuesday 13th September at 4 p.m. at Wrecking Ball, Whitefriargate and to launch the complete DVD on 24th November.

*Please get in touch if you have footage or know of anyone who has footage of the categories listed above, especially from 1970s & 80s or any other period and can help us. If it's old Cine film, that's no problem , as we can get it transferred professionally onto disc for you.*

Email: [iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk](mailto:iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk)

Telephone 01482 504381 or Mobile 07434 040391

**All proceeds will be shared between Hull Civic Society and Dove House Hospice.**

## **The Southern Part of Hull's Old Town (Part 3) 1999-2022**

### ***Could it be a Dream?***

Come the new millennium and the Fruit market area was still in deep trouble. Cut off from the rest of the city centre area by Castle Street, it also suffered from big changes in shopping patterns with shoppers buying fresh produce from supermarkets, not greengrocers. Also, Hull was declining as a fruit importing centre, and some of the warehouses became increasingly unfit for purpose.

Soon the Council proposed relocating the reduced wholesale market to Priory Park, bringing to an end 100 years trading in the Old Town. The darkest hour finally came in 2009, when the UK's oldest and only Private fruit and vegetable Street Market closed its shuttered doorways for the last time. An air of neglect set in and soon the only survivor was the "Dinostar Museum" the interactive children's museum and workshop set up by Mr Steven Plater.

A few "temporary" uses of buildings came to the street pending the grand "Master-plan." In 2010 at 62-3 Number St. came "Fruit" one of the pioneers of the cultural revolution, being a venue for "Music, Drama, Talk and Stand-up Comedy". This coincidentally renewed the area's connection with live theatre, since 62-3 was partly on the site of hull's ill-fated "Theatre Royal", a huge traditional theatre, first recorded in 1809.

At No 1 came "Oresome Gallery" a jewellery workshop and studio for artists, and nearby at No 11 came "Studio 11" another "Arts Venue" with gallery and workspaces for artists etc. hosting regular exhibitions, this continuing to this day.

Opposite at 69 came "Fruit Trade Music" to nurture some of the area's promising musical talent, providing recording and rehearsal space.

Also nearby at No 70 was the Yorkshire Brewing Company who opened a micro-brewery building upon a long tradition of brewing in the area. First supplying local pubs with real ales etc, in 2019 it opened "The Tap Room", a unique old town public house where customers can see the ales being brewed, as well as purchasing a vast range of "traditionally Brewed" beer.

The cultural and creative blueprint was already being established so now there was need for some Financiers and Prime Movers to start the action.

As is usual for City Masterplans, in October 2007 the Public were given chance to view 4 schemes:

- a) CTOP and St James Ventures & the Wright Group (A local building company)
- b) Gladedale Re-land
- c) Igloo Limited
- d) I/Space, Wykeland Ltd and Quintain

Wykeland also proposed a scheme for the historic "Central Dry Dock" adjoining Humber Street.

The Civic Society, I recall, preferred (a) and (d) as they were more likely to deliver the required retention of existing buildings, and well-designed new-build. Also, they would retain the historic streets and alleyways where possible.

I am not sure what happened next, but by February 2009, when our monthly meeting entitled "The Regeneration of Hull's Fruit market" led by a member of the Igloo team was held, these schemes were evidently all "dead in the water" despite the £100million project having been announced in late 2008.

However, fortunately for Hull, if not for the rest of the world and Prime Minister Gordon Brown, in 2008 there was a "Financial Crisis "and a major recession, so it fell upon a consortium of Hull companies namely Wykeland Ltd, the long-established Old Town property developer, and Beal Homes, a long -established local housebuilder to realise the area's rich potential.

The majority of the surviving fruit warehouses were totally refurbished to provide premises for the still-emerging cultural and arts scene, and subsequent conversions have given individual opportunities for a mixture of entrepreneurs. From the outset the consortium did not want "Big Brands" or "Multi-national" involvement, and would prefer "Niche Restaurants" craft Shops, Delis. Boutiques etc. By 2017,20,000 sq . feet of refurbished retail and leisure space had been created to provide a



"Unique vibrant cultural quarter" where people could "live work and play".

For the former element, an "Urban Village" with 101 homes of 1 to 3 bedrooms arranged around courtyards would be built.

Above: Warehouses to retail / domestic accommodation: Humber Street from Humber Street Gallery (2018)  
 Below: Humber St: new bars & cafés in old buildings (2017)  
 (Photos: Colin Cooper)

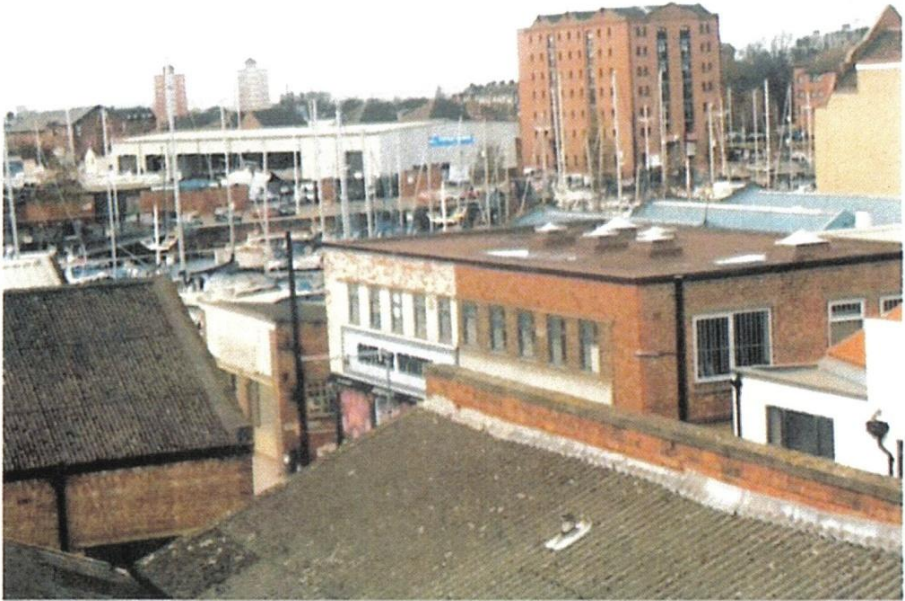


In addition, some upper floors of former warehouses became apartments. To summarise, a live "urban village" was being created by the Marina, in the manner of London's Borough

Markets and Liverpool's "Ropewalk".

Other facilities for the growing population included a food store, a bakery, a gymnasium, and beauty/hair salons to name a few. These have all opened in the regenerated streets, now sensitively repaired while retaining historic features.

Several major projects such as the Humber Street Gallery opened in time for 2017, with a vibrant cafe and roof top patio with stunning views over the lively marina and Nelson Street areas.

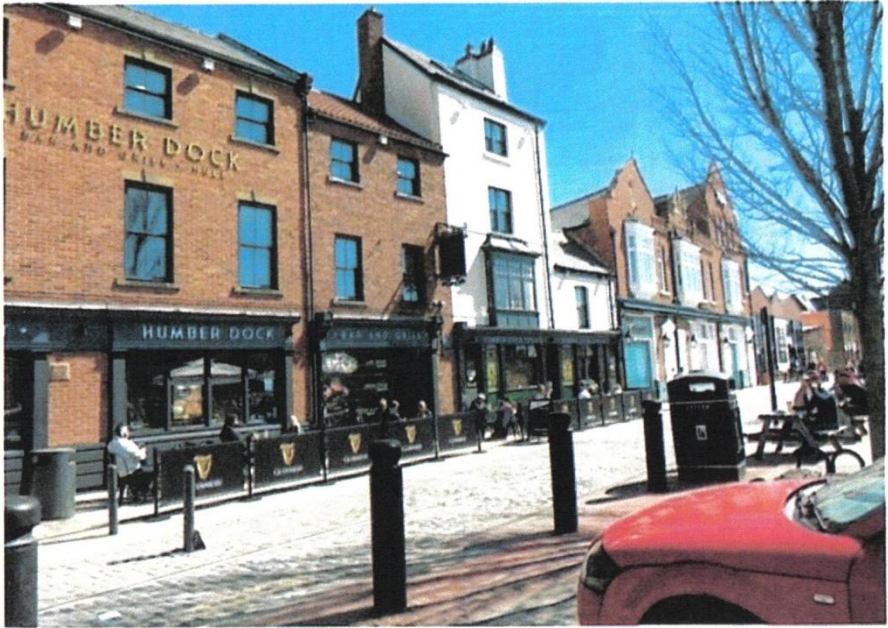


Above: Stunning view from roof of Humber Street Gallery (2017)  
Below: Humber Street: new paving and seating (2017) (Photos: Colin Cooper)



Traditional features such as bollards, railway lines and stone setts have all been retained, and exciting new street art and furniture reflect the area's long "Fruit Market" heritage.





Below: Humber Dock St: stone setts, railway lines and bollards retained (2017)  
(Photo: Colin Cooper)

The new housing reflects the traditional "feel" of the area, with its narrow courts and alleys retained where possible. The steep gables, chimney stacks, and predominant use of bricks all enable the new houses and shops to blend seamlessly with the old. - and remember what could easily have happened if either Hull's Post-war "Abercrombie Plan" or its successor the 1951 Development Plan, had been implemented. All buildings between Holy Trinity church and the Pier would have been sacrificed for a bleak riverside park!!!

And what of the "Work Element" in this rapidly developing area? In 2013 a local consortium set up C4DI (The Centre for Digital Innovation). This consortium consisted of several prominent individuals, plus Hull University, KCom Plc., and Wykeland Ltd, once more the prime movers in

the project to create a Digital Hub in the Old Town, to help "tech companies grow and traditional industries innovate".

It would also help members of the community to "access supply chains" and provide workspace and facilities for all things digital.

Originally in Wykeland's historic premises at 47 Queen Street, it moved to Part One of a phased development overlooking the historic "Central Dry Dock" in Humber Street, then being developed as a stage and amphitheatre (known as Stage @The Dock), in time for Hull's stint as UK City of Culture in 2017, an event which, significantly, held many events in the developing "Fruit Market Area"



Soon, plans were unveiled for 2 further blocks on Queen Street and Blackfriargate to give a further 31,000 sq. feet of floor area to this flourishing business project.

By 2021, both blocks were

Former Central Dry Dock - now Stage@theDock amphitheatre (2017)(Colin Cooper)

finished and occupied, restoring the historic building line on these long-derelict old town streets. Also, as well as creating employment opportunities in the area, businesses such as Bert's pizzas, already established in the Dry Dock redevelopment since 2018, with a Pizzeria, in August 2021, opened a further "Small Plate Pasta & Gelato Diner" at No 1 Humber Street, overlooking Hull Marina.

Furthermore, Nibbles, who had opened a cafe in 2015 opposite the original pioneering C4DI Technical Hub, opened a sister business "Next

Door by Nibbles" as a "Local breakfast lunch and beverage option" on Queen Street, to serve the growing working population,

This had grown significantly when ARCO, the locally-based Workwear and Safety Equipment company, relocated its head office and Hull shop to Blackfriargate. This was built at a cost of £16million to replace their 60 years old Waverley Street office, now to be demolished in the wake of Hull's long awaited Castle Street upgrade scheme.

Furthermore it was a welcome return for the company to the Old Town, having been established there in 1893!

Even the former "Fruit" entertainment venue at 63 Humber Street, one of the first "New Wave" of "Art & Cultural" businesses, established in 2010, reopened its doors as "Social", an entertainment venue operated now by "Sesh Events" which previously ran hugely successful music events etc. in the Old Town and City Centre. This reopened in August 2020, after a £1.2million revamp and, as before, provides a venue for live music, visual performances, films and theatre.

Today, it has a thriving programme of events, many of which, of course, could not recommence until after lifting the pandemic restrictions.

Gaps in the area still need to be filled, one being on the corner of Queen Street and Wellington Street where, sadly, in 2014, "Wellington House" a fine Victorian building of 1850 by noted Hull Architect Cuthbert Brodrick, was demolished. Perhaps a similar style building may replace this sad loss one day!

The final piece of the "Jigsaw" went into place in March 2021, when the new £22million Castle Street footbridge (AKA The Murdoch Connection), named as a tribute to Dr Mary Murdoch (1875-1916) Hull's first Woman G.P., was opened.

At last, after 4 decades since the old town was "sliced in two" by the major road (later renamed Castle Street), Hulls historic Waterfront was again connected to the City Centre and Old Town.

Yes, it is easy to dwell upon the past, such as acts of vandalism by Philistine councillors in the 1950's and 60's, sad people who could not see the huge potential of retaining Hull's historic Old town and Waterfront.

After all, so much has been achieved since the Civic Society's first "Old Town Report "of 1966.

Just pause for a moment on this iconic bridge and look southwards and eastwards, and then remember how much of Hull's Maritime Heritage, not just buildings but docks, bridges and vibrant quaysides, could so easily have been lost if Hull's Post-war Regeneration plan of 1951 had been proceeded with.



A sad loss: Wellington House (1850) demolished in 2015

At last, in 2022 the "Southern Part of Hull's Old Town" is now revitalised, regenerated and re-united with the rest of the Old Town- thank goodness!!

Colin Cooper 21.3.22

## Yorkshire's first Heritage Summit on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> March in Pontefract.



On the 18<sup>th</sup> February this year, the committee of the Hull Civic Society were informed by Simon Green about this event and I am pleased he did. It was also Simon's idea which led to us having a pull up portable banner made at the last minute by

Jim at Kall Kwik's after we had submitted photographs of notable places of interest in Hull to John Scotney for approval.

We travelled by car on the morning of the event and Simon and I set up our stall of Hull Civic Society newsletters, brochures and pamphlets on a large table in the Pontefract Town Hall. There were a number of other Societies and Organisations who had done the same. The following are notes of an enjoyable 6 hours spent in Pontefract

After coffees and registration, we were invited into what was formally the court room and received a warm welcome from Geoff Walsh, the Deputy Chair of the Yorkshire Society. Geoff hoped that today's Heritage Summit would hold the potential for an annual event. Geoff continued with "There are many people and organisations that love Yorkshire, promoting its history and heritage that support good things and these are largely run by volunteers".

An introduction to the day and housekeeping matters was given by Paul Cartwright, Chair of Pontefract Civic Society. There were three speakers; Colin Speakman the Vice Chair of PLACE Yorkshire (People

Landscape and Cultural Environment of Yorkshire), Tim Barber from Yorkshire Association of Blue Badge Guides, and Rachael Bice the CEO of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

Colin spoke of Yorkshire Identity and Local Heritage - how the story of the place in which we live helps us to understand who we are and began with “Your home is part of you - home, neighbourhood, community, village, town, region, nation, and planet - forms part of your communal network. Where your heart is, is a special place”.

Colin went on to describe Yorkshire’s special history and cultures; our centuries of industrial activity and potential for growth, especially zero carbon prospects. Our creativity through the years and Yorkshire’s famous people. Colin agreed that this must be the first of many Heritage Summits. The White Rose of Yorkshire is a symbol to unite us all.

Tim was next to speak about Yorkshire Heritage and the Visitor Experience. Tim said that he had represented Yorkshire around the world to promote Yorkshire Tourism and went on to describe how to make Yorkshire interesting for visitors, giving tips and advice. Tim gave examples of how Yorkshire Heritage sells, such as in food & drink, film, TV locations, literary & music, landscape & scenery, history & culture, wildlife & nature. Experience of the story behind the location was as important as the awe factor. Ensure that the visitors have a great visitor experience turning Visit into Experience.

The host, hotel, transport, food & drink, attractions, service & quality and locals all matter because having had a good experience they will come again, tell their friends and spend more. The 3 “R’s” - Reputation, Recommendation and Revenue go towards the ‘Visitor Experience’. Link a great experience with an engaging story. It’s all about people. How to make connections. Give a good welcome on arrival. Have things for children to take part in, like treasure trails. Make things fun. Easy to understand. Talk in simple terms.

Rachael Bice talked next about Yorkshire's more than human culture - wildlife as an Integral Part of local Cultural Heritage. Creating a more than human culture in Yorkshire the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT). Restoring wildlife by making Yorkshire wildlife together. This is The Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's 76<sup>th</sup> year. It is supported by 46,000 people in Yorkshire and beyond. It's one of 46 trusts nationwide. Manages c3,500 Ha of land and sea. It has 150 staff & 800 volunteers. Voice for natural world and wildlife. There is somewhere in every corner of Yorkshire. Rachael is a Cornish lass who arrived in Yorkshire in 2019. She has also been to Antarctica!

Amongst a lot of other things to do with wildlife Rachael talked about oysters at Spurn. We have a Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve in Pearson Park in Hull! Other nearby ones are Keldmarsh and Pulfin Bog near Beverley.

From the YWT brochure, Rachael says vital support for Yorkshire's wildlife is critical because man-made pressures are putting our special and common species at risk. More than ever, wild plants, animals and landscapes need our support to survive. We hope you will enjoy our nature reserves across Yorkshire. We manage all sorts of natural gems; in the uplands, along our rivers, across the lowlands, at the coast and in our cities. Our communities will flourish when wildlife flourishes too... After the presentations there followed a Panel Discussion question and answer session of about 30 minutes when people put their points across to the panel.

What came across was that there was a need for volunteers and more young volunteers at that. More YH Summits with promotion and funding may help. Training for websites, committee members etc., A short talk was then given of Pontefract - a town of crooked ways! By Paul Cartwright.



There was a mould of Nelson's Column freeze behind us - very impressive and apparently the only one surviving. On it is, amongst other figures, George Ryman who was 23 years old and one of only 12 black people who served in the Battle of Trafalgar.

Pontefract had the original

secret ballot box, in Gillygate - coming out the window on a plank!

The Civic Society has paid for things in the hall, like the curtains, in 1975.

After lunch, Rosemary gave a Talk and Walk around part of Pontefract, which was very interesting, pointing out the castle flying the Ukrainian flag (which we didn't visit). A lot of the 'streets' were called "'something" gate' (from Norse). Rosemary mentioned the now non-existent 'burgage plots' which were long strips of land at the back of your dwelling, and you needed one of these to vote! Sheep and donkeys used to graze on them in medieval times. There was a blue plaque issued to commemorate Elizabeth Moxon, an 18th Century writer and housekeeper. Pontefract was a centre for making malt. Steeping dried barley in water in a building for two or three days until the grains have germinated, then draining off the water down a hill, and drying off the sprouted grains. Magna Carta monument. Gallows nearby - not now. Salter Row for salt sellers. Bernard Hartley - bridge engineers. A Pontefract lad apparently designed Hull docks? Town hall built 1785. Had a racecourse. Pontefract built on 7 hills. A lot more was said on the walk which lasted an hour and a half or so, and Rachael ended the walk at the museum, a converted library, where







Rachael List had an exhibition of her street picture work.

Thank you to everyone involved in organising the event and for Pontefract Civic Society members' hospitality.

In conclusion, we thoroughly enjoyed our day in Pontefract. There is so

left: Liquorice Bush Public House. Below left: Old magistrates Court. Below right: An old pub not used anymore! *Photos by Ian Pearson*



much to see and do. Here are a few more photographs. Let's hope that this will be the first of many Yorkshire Heritage Summits. I am looking forward to when we have one in Hull!

Simon Green and Ian Pearson

### **Two sombre cemeteries.**

Our Heritage doesn't just rely on evidence from imposing structures but may be found in small objects, even in desolate plots often overgrown and neglected, and, possibly, all the more telling for being so.

This article sets out to compare two disused burial sites; a section of a municipal cemetery in Hull allocated to burials of inmates from a nearby Victorian workhouse and a small, little known cemetery site that served a Victorian lunatic asylum. Both, then, were burial grounds for people who had known poverty and disability in life and the subject touches-on social as well as landscape history.

In the Sculcoates area of north-central Hull are two disused detached cemeteries, the one on the north side of Sculcoates Lane being considerably larger than the one on the south side. Both are now, in effect, nature reserves, characterised by self-sown trees, shrubs and undergrowth; the City Council occasionally clears a few pathways but most of the sites are undisturbed, or should be.

The churchyard of St. Mary's church, Sculcoates<sup>1</sup> had been declared 'full' in 1817 and a three acre plot a few hundred yards distant from the churchyard chosen as a detached burial ground; this, in turn, closed in 1864 at which point the incumbent donated seven acres of glebe land on the opposite side of Sculcoates Lane as a replacement. Hull Corporation Minute Books show that in 1883 the Town Clerk was suggesting that the seven-acre site become 'one of the cemeteries of the Burial Board of the Borough'. The Minutes further state that by 1891 this had become so, and members of the Board were including the site in their annual inspections.

Part of the seven-acre detached cemetery site is taken-up with interments that all had a small headstone of standard shape and size and, although most inscriptions are now indecipherable as a result of weathering, the standard practice seems to have been to record the burial of three deceased in each grave, apparently unrelated. Dates of burial were also recorded, these, where decipherable, suggesting a burial programme advancing west to east across the burial ground, some on the east side dated as late as the 1920s. This then was the cemetery serving the Sculcoates Workhouse<sup>2</sup>, a building a quarter mile away as the crow flies

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<sup>1</sup> This a Georgian church built on the site of a medieval predecessor. With Hull's population increasing and the physical area of the town expanding to the north after the opening of the first man-made dock the southern part of Sculcoates parish was fast becoming part of the town, hence the increasing demand for burial ground. Historically Sculcoates had been a rural settlement over a mile distant from Hull's medieval town walls.

<sup>2</sup> Built in 1844 to serve the Sculcoates Union following the Poor Law Amendment Act of the 1830s and housing 800 paupers by 1889. Like many other workhouses this building

(see Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 A photograph dated to 1913 showing the front of Sculcoates Workhouse facing Beverley Road, Hull (By courtesy of Paul Gibson).

Having recorded that the seven-acre cemetery was not laid out until 1869, earlier workhouse interments cannot have been there.<sup>3</sup> It is not clear whether the workhouse interments were begun here in 1869 or later.<sup>4</sup>

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was to become an N.H.S. hospital after 1948 although from 1930 onwards it was no longer maintained just for paupers.

<sup>3</sup> They may, of course, be in the earlier detached cemetery site but currently no similar headstones are visible.

<sup>4</sup> Incidentally, at the western side of the pauper burial ground is a very large spreading mature oak tree, a rarity in Hull and area.

The fact that three unrelated paupers were buried<sup>5</sup> one above the other suggests that the Workhouse (or later Burial Board) had a way of temporarily securing a grave awaiting the next fatality (see Fig. 2).

Fig. 2 One of the Workhouse headstones in Sculcoates Lane disused cemetery, Hull. (Photo: Richard Clarke)



West of the City of Hull between the parishes of Willerby and Cottingham and in the East Riding unitary authority (still today) stands a business and leisure park which was developed on the site of what had been the Hull Lunatic Asylum<sup>1</sup>, 1883 -1998. Earlier residential provision for the mentally ill had existed in the City but in 1883 an agreement was struck between

Hull Corporation and the East Riding of Yorkshire County Council for the acquisition of this site, previously owned by De la Pole farm, hence the more modern name De la Pole Hospital. Here a plot of less than an acre was the burial ground for the Asylum, uncluttered by many monuments, except a general one for the site (see later), one for a member of staff who chose to be buried here and two, possibly, for patients. At the moment the site is difficult to access.

Newly built De la Pole Asylum had 213 patients, by 1915 734 and by

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<sup>5</sup> Often adults and children.

1948 1115.<sup>6</sup> The most prominent monument in the De la Pole cemetery is a simple plaque commemorating the site and surrounded by a picket fence; it reads, 'In this Cemetery are buried some four hundred patients whose family, if they had one, were unable or unwilling to provide a private burial. Reader pause and consider us whose life was ruined by our illness. This was not our fault .... In this Green Spot we Lie; (?) What we Lost and Think of Us' (see Fig. 3).



Fig. 3 The general plaque at De la Pole hospital site with wording composed by Dr. Bickford. (Photo: Richard Clarke)

Unless vagrants or new-born there, at the time of entry to the institutions of Sculcoates Workhouse and De la Pole Asylum the

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<sup>6</sup> Hull History Centre has an archive collection for De la Pole Hospital but for various reasons, including lock-down, its facilities have been difficult to access, so for the purpose of this article I have had to use secondary sources.

inmates/patients would have had an address within the boundary of the City of Hull, and thus would have been entitled a burial in the relevant Mary's, Sculcoates, detached churchyard in which deceased paupers from the Sculcoates Workhouse were buried (see above), even though on entry to the Workhouse their birth and/or residence may have been registered in another parish.<sup>7</sup>

The fact that a headstone was provided by the Board of Guardians gave the deceased a status that they may well not have had in a civil cemetery where headstones might name but one of those interred at that point. The situation at the Asylum seems to have been different. These deceased Hull citizens must have been entitled to burial in a municipal cemetery (see footnote 8) in Hull,<sup>8</sup> but the option of an institutional cemetery was chosen (see footnote 7). Whether or not this burial ground, or part of it, was consecrated is currently not known. The wording of Dr. Bickford's commemorative plaque (see above) more than hints at a prejudice in society against acceptance of mental illness within families and the wider community.<sup>9</sup> The then forerunner of today's mental health trusts did not, for whatever reasons, fund headstones.

There are just three monuments in the De la Pole cemetery apart from the general plaque; all now barely legible. Two of these are simple headstones with just basic The third is the burial plot of a past member of staff whose choice it must have been to be buried in the institutional cemetery. This person was 'George Hunt B.C.M., Assistant Medical

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<sup>7</sup> It is interesting to note that these interments were in consecrated ground, whereas if they had been in a municipal cemetery there would have been the option of burial in areas favoured by Nonconformists. By the later years of the Workhouse there were two municipal cemeteries well established in Hull, Eastern and Western. Northern Cemetery was in its early stage of development.

<sup>8</sup> Initially, in the 1880s, just in Eastern Cemetery.

<sup>9</sup> Dr. Bickford was the lead doctor at De la Pole Hospital in the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. He was a distinguished member of the local and regional community.

Officer of this Asylum. Son of George Clifford and Sarah Hunt (of Madras) and grandson of William Nicol Burns. Born 6<sup>th</sup> December 18?, died 14<sup>th</sup> January 18?', quite probably at a relatively young age (see Fig. 4).<sup>10</sup>



Fig. 4 Monument to George Hunt, a member of staff at 'Hull Lunatic Asylum'. (Photo: Richard Clarke)

This article has just 'dipped its toe' into the issue of the burial practices of Victorian workhouses and 'lunatic asylums'; comparisons with elsewhere are invited.

The vanity of humanity is nowhere better exemplified than in modern (since 1750) graveyards and cemeteries where monuments and money go hand-in-hand. Family historians find headstone inscriptions, church and civil registrations and trade directories valuable sources of evidence, but rarely do we get anything but a glossy summation of their character. An unmarked grave in a workhouse cemetery or that of a lunatic asylum tells us nothing of the deceased's character, but the context of the burial tells us that they lived life 'in the shadow'.

Richard Clarke

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<sup>10</sup> Further information about George Hunt should be found in the Hull History Centre, however, see footnote 7.

## Planning and Buildings

### Old Town

In Market Place, the re-modelling of the ground floor of King William House has made good progress and the new Tesco Express opened in May. In w/c 23/5 permission was given for structural alterations and new ground floor windows as part of the conversion of the former Argos store at the corner of Liberty Lane into a café / bar / restaurant.

Prior approval was granted in w/c 25/5 to convert the office at 26-27 Bishop Lane into a 2-bedroom dwelling.

Round the corner, work to convert Middleton Chambers, 33 Lowgate, into apartments had started by 23/5.

Right: Middleton Chambers 33 Lowgate.



In South Church Side, work is in progress on conversion of the former King's (hardware & ironmongery) building into 24 apartments and duplex penthouses, plus a gym, cinema and residents' dining room. Across the road, the new café building at Hull Minster is taking shape behind the hoardings. (observed 20/7).



King's, South Church Side

Permission was granted in w/c 7/2 for 10A-11 King St (formerly Hull Minster Parish Centre and previously Studio 10½) to become a restaurant & bakery, despite anxiety among Prince St residents about disturbance



from early morning activity and emissions from the bakery. It is now in operation.

Conversion of a 3-storey office block at the rear of 28-29 Silver St into a single house was approved in w/c 17/1.

Permission was given in w/c 22/1 for a new shop front at 1-3 Whitefriargate, in connection with the renovation and extension of the bar (corner of Trinity House Lane). Sadly, the Hull People's Memorial Trust shop and museum (8-9 Whitefriargate) closed on 28<sup>th</sup> May. Opposite, at 57-58 the former Bon Marché clothes shop opened in May as the Pink Parrot Cocktail Bar & restaurant.

Installation of new gates at the Conservancy Buildings archway was approved on 4/3. This will improve the security for the flats in the upper floors of 7-9 Whitefriargate, which were

approved in Feb 2021. At 13-14 Whitefriargate, permission was given in w/c 14/2 for conversion of

vacant upper floors into flats. Installation of lighting to the facades of 4-6, 24-28, 39-43 and 55 Whitefriargate was approved in w/c 11/4. At the corner of Whitefriargate and Parliament St, 52-53 has been improved by the addition of window surrounds to match those on the Parliament St facade and a new shop front. W/c 4/7 brought an application for Listed Building Consent for works to refurbish the disused Burton's building. The property is owned by Wykeland.



Above: 52-53 Whitefriargate  
Below: Burton's building



## City Centre

Demolition of the former Co-op / BHS store on Jameson St, currently proceeding slowly and carefully, is the first step towards creating the Albion Square mixed use project. The Society has been consulted and we are in favour of the scheme and the regeneration it will bring, but have concerns about the parking; with a proposed 279 flats, plus

Albion Square - two of the artist's impressions from the booklet by Hull City Council, Visit Hull, HEY and Northern Powerhouse.

Left: Jameson St facade  
Below: interior garden.



some commercial & retail elements, the 249 parking spaces will not begin to meet demand.



In King Edward St, the disused Poundworld (built in the 1950s for



Woolworths, which closed in 2008) re-opened in early July as "One Beyond" discount store.

At Silvester House, part of the Maltings facing onto Silvester St, an application was submitted in w/c 20/6 for conversion into

14 apartments.

The Maltings: Silvester House (the block in the centre of the picture, behind the statue)

Permission was given in w/c 16/5 for the old Central Fire Station on Worship St (opposite the Hull History Centre) to be used for an extension of the Ron Dearing University Technical College. Work had started by the end of July.



Former Central Fire Station, seen in 2008.

An application to install new windows, doors and cladding at Europa House, the reflective glass building at the corner of Ferensway and Anlaby Rd, was approved in w/c 6/6.

At Paragon Station, listed building consent was given in w/c 18/4 to refurbish and reconfigure the ground and first floor of the original 1848 part of the station (next to Platform 2) to improve staff facilities.

An application was submitted in w/c 25/4 to convert the former Yorkshireman pub on Lombard St into a 17-bed house in multiple occupation. Its original Moors & Robson's ironwork details are to be retained.



Above: Yorkshireman pub, Lombard St

In w/c 17/1, a part 4-storey, part 5-storey building for ten 2-bed flats and one 1-bed flat was proposed for School St, backing onto Story St. We have objected on the grounds of over-development of the site.

An application was submitted in w/c 20.6.22 to change The Townhouse, 14 Albion St (which many remember as the Church Institute) from 27 bedsits into 11 private residential apartments. The Civic Society has written in support, as it will help to secure the long term future of this fine 1846 house, built for Dr James Alderson, surgeon to the Infirmary, which was then on Prospect St.



The Town House, Albion St

### East

The announcement in June that the proposed Cruise Ship Terminal would not now be built next to the Deep, may have come as a relief to the opponents of the scheme, including many Victoria Dock residents and the management of the Deep.

At 77-79 South Bridge Rd, Victoria Dock, an application to build 3 ground floor units (varied uses) with 12 flats above, was refused in w/c 3/1, on the grounds of likely excess parking demand. A revised application which included 57 parking spaces was submitted in w/c 2/5.

In w/c 17/1, enlargement of the Traveller Site between Mount Pleasant and Bedford St (off Cleveland St) was approved to provide an extra 10 permanent places and direct access off Mt Pleasant to 17 temporary stopping places.

Closure of Cargill's Isis Oil Mill, Stoneferry Rd, was announced on 13/6 Hull has always been an important centre of oil milling (seed crushing).



Isis Oil Mill

In w/c 16/5, a revised application was submitted to build a 7-storey extension for 22 serviced apartments at the Cornmill Hotel at the junction of Holderness Rd and Mount Pleasant and backing onto Abbey St.

280-284 Holderness Rd (corner of Holland St) was once a Woolworth's, then subdivided into a Lloyd's Bank and a Heron supermarket. In w/c 11/4 there was an application to extend the Heron into the disused bank.

Conversion of the former Kwik Save supermarket at 458-464 Holderness Rd (opposite Summergangs Rd) into 2 retail units and parking to the ground floor and 12 flats on the first floor was permitted in w/c 4/4.

In w/c 20/6 a battery storage system was approved for a site at the end of Great Field Lane, off Marfleet Lane. Its purpose is to store electricity generated by photo-voltaic solar panels

## West

At Hull Royal Infirmary, an application was submitted in w/c 24/1 to build a new Intensive Care Unit, on the site of a recently demolished staff accommodation block, linked by a bridge to Wards 37 & 38 in the main tower block.

The new Allam Diabetes Centre was open by early February. The new 2-storey entrance block in front of the main tower was completely glazed & panelled when observed on 1/8.

On 21/6, the Hull Daily Mail announced that Smith & Nephew had decided to move to a new site in Melton within the next two years, as a large enough site could not be found within the city for their planned expansion. One idea for re-use of their present site and premises in English St and Jackson St, is as a "high tech medical hub". The City



Allam Diabetes Centre, Hull Royal Infirmary

Council is working with the university, government agencies and Smith & Nephew's itself to attract high-skill employment to the site.

Mr Jones said: "We are working with both Smith & Nephew and the Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to ensure the move to Melton will see the current workforce being maintained and also to ensure there is a legacy left in Hull. There is a strong commitment from the company and the department to work with us.



Smith & Nephew's Jackson Street entrance

## North

52a-54 Beverley Rd – part of Brunswick Arcade – was demolished completely by 21<sup>st</sup> February, ready for rebuilding. Compulsory Purchase by Hull City Council and demolition had become necessary because the previous owner's neglect threatened the collapse of the whole building. Now, the missing part of Brunswick Arcade will be rebuilt and sold on.

At the former Hardaker's Heating & Fireplace Centre at 109-111 Beverley Rd an application was submitted in w/c14/3 to convert the upper floors from retail to a 14-bed "house in multiple occupation" (HMO).

The plan to relocate Trinity House School into Endeavour High School, Beverley Rd, moved closer in w/c 23/5 with an application to build a single-storey dining hall, various internal and external alterations and alterations to car parks and boundary treatments.

A little further along Beverley Rd, the former Aldi store, which closed in August 2021, opened in March as “Haris & Co.” a locally based firm which specializes in world foods.

An application to build an additional house next to 62 Pearson Park was refused in w/c 25/4

Permission was given in w/c 17/1 for 99 more houses at Danepark Rd, Orchard Park.

The George pub on the corner of Walton St and Spring Bank West caught fire on 2nd July and now has a gaping hole in its roof.



The George, Walton St / Spring Bank West

### **Hull Civic Society Committee**

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Martin Rispin has decided to step down from the committee. We are very grateful for all his work on planning and membership matters.

## Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Annual Membership: £15.00 individual, £24.00 for two people living at the same address. Please send your subscription to our Honorary Secretary, Cynthia Fowler, 998 Holderness Road, Hull, HU9 4AG

Title \_\_\_ First Name/Initials \_\_\_\_\_

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. Our Data Protection Policy is on page 31 of this Newsletter. **I consent to Hull Civic Society holding the details on this form (please tick)**

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