HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

May 2018



Proposed Courtyard in the "Fruit" Extension (artist's impression by id Architecture)

In this issue: Colin McNicol; Summer Programme; Hull in Paint; Friends of Hull General Cemetery; Heritage Open Days; Winter Programme; September Newsletter; The Origins of Hull General Cemetery Part 5; Chairman's Report to the AGM - Flooding in and around Kingston-upon-Hull: a Few Misnomers Part 1; Planning & Buildings; Civic Voice Design Award 2018 – Ron Dearing UTC; Officers and Committee April 2018; Committee Changes, Committee Vacancies; Data Protection; Membership & Gift Aid form.

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

www.hullcivicsoc.info

Colin McNicol

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Colin McNicol on 15th May. He will be remembered with great affection, not only for his contribution to the work of Hull Civic Society but also for his combination of good sense and good humour. A firefighter in his working life, Colin joined the committee in 2008 and was a very active member. He was involved in the Society's marketing and publicity, took a special interest in Old Town developments and contributed many interesting and thought-provoking articles for



Colin McNicol during the committee visit he arranged to the new Central Fire Station on 8^{th} Dec 2017.

the Newsletter. His keen interest in the history of Victoria Dock Village led him to write a book about it, which was published jointly by Hull City Council, Highgate of Beverley and Bellway Homes in 2002. He led numerous walks around the Village and campaigned for the retention and restoration of the winding house. Colin was also a governor of the Victoria Dock Village primary school.

Most of all, we shall remember him as a wise, kind and fair-minded man whose friendship we valued greatly. He will be sorely missed and we would like to express our sympathy to his wife, Lesley, and all Colin's family.



Colin (left) leading a tour of Victoria Dock Village

Summer Programme 2018

Monday 11th June: Visit to Allan Marshall's Humber Car Museum Meet 7 pm at Regalex Potatoes, Dalton Street, Cleveland Street, Hull HU8 8BB (off Wilmington Roundabout). Bus: Stagecoach service 10 towards Bransholme North, alight at Cleveland Street / Glasshouse Row bus stop. No charge, but voluntary donations appreciated. Please book by email to chair@hullcivic.info.com

Sunday 24th June: York, including a visit to Fairfax House and a guided walk led by York Civic Trust. *Meet 10.30 at Fairfax House, Castlegate. This fine 1740s Georgian house was adapted in the 20th*

century as a cinema and dance hall, but saved from decay and returned to its former glory by York Civic Trust in 1982-84. The Noel Terry collection of furniture, clocks, paintings and decorative arts, bring the house to life and create a special lived-in feeling. Advance booking with full payment (£5.00 per person) is essential.

Please send your booking form to Cynthia Fowler, Hon. Secretary, 998 Holderness Road, Hull, HU9, 4AG by



Photo courtesy of York Civic Trust

Holderness Road, Hull, HU9 4AG by 10th June Travel information

- By car to Grimston Bar Park & Ride, Hull Road, York, YO19 5LA - Park & Ride buses every 10 minutes from 09.30 on Sundays, alight in Piccadilly, 17 minutes journey.

Parking in the city centre: Castle Car Park, Tower St, York, YO1 9SA
Train 08.31 Hull - York arr. 09.42 (please check before travelling) Unfortunately, the earliest EYMS bus is X47 08.50 from Hull via Cottingham (nearest stop in York: Piccadilly arr. 10.41)

Mon 9th July: Pearson Park Walk led by John Scotney (1¹/₂ - 2 hours) *Meet 7pm at the Princes Avenue entrance opposite Westbourne Avenue*. See some of Victorian Hull's finest villas. Hull in Paint starts on 14th June The Hull in Paint exhibition is an opportunity for people to see our city through the eyes of many different artists. Visit the exhibition free of charge at the following venues:

- <u>Princes Quay Harbour Deck</u> 15th-29th June



- St John the Baptist Church, St George's Rd 29 June - 20th July

- The Orchard Centre 20th July - 10th August

- Hull Show at East Park -Sat 11th & Sun 12th August

Heritage Open Days (4th-9th September) will also feature "Kids in Paint" in Trinity Market.

Friends of Hull General Cemetery Activity & Litter Pick Days

Sat 16th Jun 10am-1pm: Birds (possibly including a bird-count) Sat 15th Sep 10am-1pm: Trees in autumn

What do we do at an Activity Day ?

The activity days are themed. We aim to have an expert to increase our understanding of this fascinating place before we do our litter picking.

Where will we be meeting ? The original gates on Spring Bank West. How do I get involved ? Simply turn up on the day in suitable clothing, armed with a carrier bag (or 2), litter picker and gardening gloves. If you have any questions or would like to become more



Gates of Hull General Cemetery Spring Bank West

heavily involved please contact us at <u>fohgc@outlook.com</u> or Friends of Hull General Cemetery, c/o The Wyke Area Team, The Avenues Centre, Park Avenue, Hull, HU5 4DA

Heritage Open Days Tues 3rd – Sun 9th September

This year's programme includes talks, guided walks and access to historic buildings and factories in Hull and the East Riding – all free of charge! Please see the 2018 HODs Brochure in print and on line.

Winter Programme All meetings are at the Royal Hotel, on Mondays 7.30 p.m. (except AGM)

Mon. 8th October: Hull General Cemetery - Peter Lowden. Other meetings: 12th November, 10th December, 14th January, 11th February, 11th March and 8th April (AGM – starts 7.00 p.m.)

September Newsletter

Many thanks to all our contributors. Please submit all items to the Editor, John Scotney, by post to 126 Cottingham Rd, Hull, HU6 7RZ, or <u>preferably</u>, <u>by e-mail to john.scotney@talk21.com</u> by 20th August Please note: items may sometimes be held over for lack of space.

The Origins of Hull General Cemetery - final part (5)

TO ARCHITECTS A HULL GENERAL	
The DIRECTORS are now read LAYING OUT and ORNAMENT	
the Old Waterworks, Spring-Bank,	
of a suitable Chapel, Entrance Lo	
theron, for Cemetery purposes.	
A Premium of TWENTY GU	
the Design most approved of by	the Directors, and one of
TEN GUINEAS for the next.	
Lithographed Plans of the Grou may be obtained on and after MO2	
application to the SECRETARY, at th	
Lane, between the Hours of Ten as	
All Designs and Letters to be a	
DAY, the 30th Day of March next	
By Order,	S. WRIDE,
Hull, 19th Feb., 1846.	Secretary.

Fig.13. Hull Advertiser, February 1846

The winner of the competition to design these buildings for the Cemetery was a young architect called Cuthbert Broderick who went on to much bigger things not least of which was the Royal Institution and Hull Town Hall, both in Hull, but both now sadly lost, and more happily the Grand Hotel in Scarborough which is still with us today. However his first work was the elegant design for the General Cemetery lodges, and the chapel that is shown in Fig.15.

The photograph, (Fig.14), taken around the turn of the 20th century, shows the lodge and the gates as they were until the widening of Newland Tofts Lane into Princes' Avenue led to their demolition, in the Lodge and Chapel's case, and the removal of some of the gates to a spot further down Spring Bank West. Surely another act of vandalism perpetrated in the shallow name of progress.

In the April the Directors had invited the shareholders to look at the designs for the laying out of the cemetery grounds. By the 8th of May the designs for the cemetery buildings were approved unanimously by the Directors with Cuthbert Broderick being hailed by the press as, "our talented young townsman." In this month too the war of words with Holy Trinity Churchwardens had apparently been amicably settled. Everything was going well.



Fig.14, "Hull, The Good Old Days" website.

In the October of 1846 a significant step towards the opening of the cemetery was taken when a Mr Shields was appointed as the first

superintendent of the cemetery. Poached from York Cemetery he was experienced in how to lay out a cemetery to its best advantage and was also an experienced manager for this new venture. Hull General Cemetery had made a decisive step forward in this appointment.

Running concurrently with this appointment was a step undertaken by the Company to tender a contract to widen and deepen the drains and to join them to the Cottingham Drain. This was an ambitious undertaking, not just by the length of the scheme, but that the tender specified that the drains would be, "brick-barrelled" which would obviously cost more than simple soak away drains. The remains of the Cottingham Drain may be seen still as the grass verge running parallel with Queen's Road.

The same day tenders were advertised for the construction of the lodges and the chapel and the following week tenders for supplying "ornamental forest trees" and "evergreen and deciduous shrubs, sufficient for planting and laying out of the grounds of the company" were made. Later that week the contract for the draining work was awarded to Mr. Benjamin Musgrave and the building of the temporary cottage to Mr John Darley.

All of this industry was recognised and applauded in the local press. On the 23^{rd} of that month the tender for the provision of the fencing of the site was advertised for and "the directors do not pledge themselves to accept the lowest tender" implied their desire for quality as it had in all other aspects of the development of the Cemetery.



Fig. 15 Lodge and Gates of Hull General Cemetery, taken from the architect's plans in "Architecture of the Victorian Era" by Ian Goldthorpe

That day it was reported that a trial grave, some 8 foot deep, had been excavated to test the drainage and that it was "thoroughly dry". It was also reported that only 63 shares were left to future subscribers and that any subscriber could either

have their share as an investment or relinquish it for a vault in the cemetery in lieu of their subscription. By the 13th of November it was reported that

the shares had all been subscribed. In that month too the Directors of the Company applied to Parliament for an Act, "for forming and maintaining a cemetery".

An extraordinary meeting of all shareholders took place on the 26th of November to ratify a number of issues that the Directors of the Company had undertaken. One of these was the agreement with Holy Trinity to sell some of its land to the Church Cemetery Company. This was agreed to. The trouble this issue would lead to.

The meeting was also a time for the Directors to acquaint the shareholders with the progress they had made on their behalf. The temporary cottage was to be erected at a cost of \pounds 70. The contract for draining the cemetery grounds was settled on the sum of \pounds 159 and 6 shillings whilst the outer draining was contracted to be \pounds 400. The erection of a pump house and installation of a steam engine for the maintenance of the draining of the cemetery was contracted for \pounds 195 that the chairman, Mr J.S.Thompson, thought, "is one of the cheapest things I ever met with."

On the 18th of December the old chestnut of the Promenade surfaced briefly in a letter to the Hull Packet from "A Pedestrian" in which he stated that improving the south side of Spring Bank by the Council would provide, "a pleasant walk of about half a mile, with two interesting objects in it, viz. the Zoological Gardens and the new Cemetery." The correspondent then went on to say that his scheme would be to, "buy land from the Cemetery northwards, including all Tofts Lane to the Cottingham Drain, and make that into a handsome promenade." That this actually occurred some 30 years later shows that this idea was not simply the preserve of Mr Garbutt.

All was not plain sailing for the Cemetery Company as early in 1847 the plan that had been agreed upon with the Churchwardens of Holy Trinity for the church to have the western end of the Cemetery came to an abrupt end when the vicar and his wardens disagreed between themselves who was to fund the £100 needed to present their Act of Parliament to the appropriate parliamentary committee. Eventually one of the Churchwardens, a Mr Mitchell, felt duty bound to put sureties, with provisos, for the £100 up himself although he still felt that the vicar had acted in bad faith. This however was not the end of this matter.

On the 29th of January 1847 the surveying officer for the parliamentary committee, a Mr George Hammond Whalley, gave notice in the local press

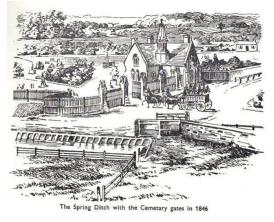
that he would be surveying the site of the cemetery on the 10^{th} of February and also conducting a hearing with interested parties in this venture. On the 5^{th} of February it was angrily reported that this inspection was postponed and the Hull Advertiser, its civic pride dented, stated, "We cannot believe that a Government Surveyor would so trifle with a town like Hull as to advertise his coming, and neither to attend on the day fixed by him nor to send any public or official notice to that effect."

He did attend on the 12th of February and inspected not only Holy Trinity burying ground but also the site of the new cemetery. Not that it did him much good.

Disaster! On the same day, in quite measured tones, The Hull Advertiser advised its readers that the necessary Bill in parliament to grant the necessary Act of Parliament to set up the part of the cemetery that was religiously endowed was dead. At an impassioned and rowdy parishioners' meeting that day, the resolution to apply for the new Act to set up this cemetery was voted down by angry parish members who did not want to increase their church rates. At 3.00 p.m. that day the Surveyor was informed of this decision and refused to hear any further evidence on the subject and left the town.

The Cemetery Company now showed that they had had enough of dealing with the religious interests and they would not enter any further agreements with the churches as to leasing them any land. At a general shareholder meeting on the 5^{th} of March the progress the Cemetery

Company had made was laid out. The drainage was complete on the site and the Spring and Derringham Ditches had been widened and deepened and this work was almost finished. The fencing off of the site was nearly complete and the laying out and planting of the ground were proceeding. Finally the brought chairman the shareholders up to date bv mentioning the recent visit of the Parliamentary Surveyor,



Derringham Ditch

"Lastly .- Your directors cannot close their report without adverting to the recent visit of George Hammond Whalley, Esq., the surveying officer sent down from her Majesty's board of woods and forests, to inquire into the state of interments in large towns, &c. That gentleman was precluded from entering upon his official duties, by the decision of the parishioners of Holy Trinity parish, before referred to. But prior to the meeting of parishioners, he paid a visit of inspection to the cemetery grounds, in company with the churchwardens and a deputation from your board ; and it is gratifying to be enabled to state, that both at that time, and subsequently in an interview with your directors at their own office, Mr, Whalley expressed himself in terms of the highest approval of the whole of the company's plans and arrangements, and stated that he would at any time be willing to aid this highly beneficial undertaking, being perfeetly satisfied from personal observation that a suitable place for the interment of the dead is absolutely necessary for this town. Mr. Whalley also expressed strongly his concurrence in the opinion of your directors that the chapel ought to be erected with as little delay as possible, in order to certify publie confidence in the stability and permanency of the undertaking."

Fig.16. Hull Packet, March 1847.

In late March the Hull advertiser paid a visit to the site and commented favourably on it, stating that there were, "Already upwards of 3,000 ornamental trees, deciduous and evergreen and shrubs, have been planted, together with 100 of the newest and best sorts of standard roses." It also said that a temporary chapel had been constructed until the more permanent one could be built. In April the tender for contracts to erect the lodge and entrance gates were advertised.

The lodges and the entrance to the Cemetery were not completed until October 1852. John Simpson stonemason, William Malone, carpenter and Thomas Sissons, joiner completed both of the lodges and the entrance pillars for the modest sum of £320.

On the 16th of April the first internment, that of the child of a Mr Smith, a draper in Whitefriargate, took place.

The Cemetery was also fast becoming a place to visit as Hull at that time had no public parks or gardens where you could while away the time. HULL GENERAL CEMETERY COMPANY.—Such is the interest which the inhabitants of this town have taken in this project, that during the last fortnight, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the New Cemetery Ground, Spring Bank, has been crowded by visitors, who were highly gratified at the taste and skill evinced in its formation. The first interment took place yesterday morning, when the Rev. B. B. Waddy, Wesleyan minister, officiated.

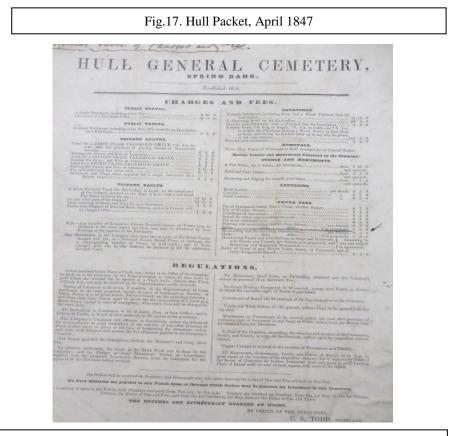


Fig. 18 The initial set of Charges and Fees, 1847

On the 23rd of April a long awaited advert in the local press announced that the Hull General Cemetery Company were proud to say that the cemetery was, "now ready to receive internments." The advert went on to say that the rates for their services would be published soon.

A week later an impressive funeral, undertaken by nearly 200 stonemasons of one of their brethren, took place with the procession beginning at Carr Lane and proceeding up Spring Bank to the graveside. In some ways it set the tone for many other funerals that the Hull General Cemetery hosted over the next 130 years.

Although the Cemetery was open for business, its official opening ceremony took place in the June of that year and it was an occasion of great pomp and ceremony with all of the local dignitaries being present. The Mayor, Mr Jalland, laid the foundation stone of the lodge "in the presence of a numerous concourse of spectators, principally of ladies," on the 2nd of June 1847. After a number of speeches, a brief prayer was said by Rev. James Sibree, who would later write so movingly about his time spent in the Cemetery not only during the Cholera outbreak in 1849 but also that he enjoyed walking there amongst the tombs and solitude. Finally, as the Hull Packet said, almost apologetically recorded, "and the doxology having been sung, the assembly dispersed."

After a long and hard struggle, with one or two missteps along the way, Hull now had the cemetery it had needed for the past thirty years and it served the community well for the next century or so.

By the time I was kicking through the fallen leaves on my way to Hull Fair it had long given up its pre-eminent place for burials to the municipal cemeteries. It became secluded and a haven for wildlife. Its wilderness appealed to the poetic and the historian. Its decay appeared to enhance its beauty. It wore its shabbiness with a genteel pride that no amount of skilful artifice could have artificially manufactured.

The Hull General Company was finally wound up in 1972 as a going concern. The final burial, of an urn of ashes, took place around that time. I worked with the man who buried it and I can show you where it happened.

Some five or six years later the clipboards and the bulldozers of the Council moved in and one hundred and thirty years of our city's heritage was destroyed over about a 12 month period, and to create...what?

Isn't it one of the paradoxes of life that what was once thought to be unimportant becomes very important but only when you've lost it? For information about the Friends of Hull General Cemetery, please contact: <u>email</u>: fohgc@outlook.com or chair@hullcivicsoc.info <u>facebook</u>: Hull General Cemetery Group Pete Lowden.

12

Hull Civic Society 54th AGM 9th April 2018 - Chairman's Report

Programme

Our winter programme included talks about the Castle Street scheme, Hull's trolleybuses, the Cinemas of Hull, Sewell Construction the History of Hessle Common and West Hull. Paul Schofield gave us his Review of City of Culture 2017 in March.

After a successful trial of the Pentaclass speaker system, the committee has decided to purchase one in time for next year's winter programme.

Tours

Last summer, we hosted Old Town tours for Huddersfield, Skipton and Retford Civic Societies. Hull was also the venue on 1st July for the Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society's 2017 AGM. We were invited to join their city centre Tile Walk ending at Studio 11 in Humber Street.

Heritage Open Days

In September 2017, John and Christine organised another very successful Heritage Open Days programme, running from Tuesday to Sunday and with an even wider range of historic buildings and industrial premises open in Hull,

Beverley and the East Riding and a wealth of talks and guided walks. Congratulations to everyone concerned.

Ten more listed buildings.

On 17th July 2017, the Department for Culture, Media & Sport announced ten more listed structures in the Hull area: Humber Bridge (Grade I), and nine Grade II: the Tidal Surge Barrier, the public toilets and William De La Pole statue (both in Nelson St), Standidge buildings, Chapel Lane (now Hull Lighting) Chestnut Villas (homes to Alfred Gelder and the Rank family), 32 Pearson Park (where Philip Larkin lived for 18 years), St Michael & All Angels church, Orchard Park, and the grave of Edward Booth. Full details are in our October 2017 Newsletter, (available on the Civic Society website).

Friends of Hull General Cemetery

Although the Friends of Hull General Cemetery group is still affiliated to Hull Civic Society, it now has a separate bank account and its own



Tiles in King Albert Chambers, Jameson St committee, which meets rent free at the Avenues Centre, Park Avenue, thanks to Mike Tindall from the Wyke Area Team. We have also had good support from the local ward councillors. The cemetery monument trail leaflet produced by members of the group has sold well at £1.

Lisa Hewson has set up a Facebook Group, which has attracted a large following and elicited new information from relatives of people buried in Hull General Cemetery. Litter picking activities have been supported by local residents as well as regular group members. This year each of our four programmed litter-picking walks is combined with themed study: monuments, flora, fauna and trees.

The group led two walks around for HODs. We have had a very active year and while the battle against fly-tipping and Japanese knotweed continues, both are reduced from a year ago.

In December 2017, Dr Sonja Christiansen and I were invited to attend the National Railway Heritage Awards in London, as the restoration of the Edward Booth gravestone (with its carving of the locomotive on which he and the driver were killed in a railway accident) was shortlisted for an award. We didn't win, but the "highly commended" certificate was an honour for Hull Civic Society, the North Eastern Railway Association, the Ken Hoole Trust and Sonja who all contributed and for Everingham's monumental masons, who carried out the restoration.

Hull in Paint

In the summer of 2017, Hull in Paint produced another very successful travelling exhibition of Hull scenes by a wide variety of local artists. Venues were Princes Quay, St John the Baptist (St George's Rd), the Orchard Centre and East Park. We congratulate the artists and the organisers, Ian Goodison and Doug Smelt. Hull in Paint is now financially separated from, but affiliated to Hull Civic Society and the competition for 2018 will be organised by Doug Smelt's company "Ol' Town Arts".

Local History Book Fair

For the first time we had a stall at East Yorkshire Local History Society's Local History Book Fair on Saturday 28th October. It was held in Hull Minster (Holy Trinity Church) and our stall, staffed by Hilary Blackstock, Sonja Christiansen and me, generated some sales and, even more important, brought in five new Civic Society members. Hilary has booked our stall for this year's book fair there.

Good Marks

We have been awarding Good Marks since 1968 and this year's recipients include Allenby Commercial Ltd for the Hideout Apartment Hotel in North Church Side in the Old Town and Humberside Fire Brigade for the new Central Fire Station in Pearson Street, just off Ferensway. We are very grateful to Hilary Blackstock for co-ordinating the arrangements for Good Marks from commissioning the citations to arranging the presentation of certificates.

Website

Our website <u>http://www.hullcivicsoc.info</u> was designed for us by Graham Latter and inaugurated a year ago. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Graham for the efficient way in which he maintains the website, always making the requested changes and additions very promptly and quietly removing outdated material. He has provided us with a very effective medium of communication and his work is much appreciated.

Facebook

We are very grateful to Paul Schofield, who has been operating a Facebook account for the Society for some time, to alert people to meetings and events.

Newsletters

I would like to thank our contributors for some very interesting articles and our printers, Kall Kwik for the excellent service we receive. The email version is available on request, and the current Newsletter and back-issues from 2013 to 2017 are also on the website. Earlier Newsletters will gradually be adding and Graham has added a search facility.

Hull and the Civic Society 1964 to 2017

This booklet was issued to all members as part of our contribution to Hull's special years as UK City of Culture. Many thanks to all contributors, proof-readers and to our printers Jadan Press. Copies are still available at £3 each.

<u>Planning</u>

Monitoring planning applications week by week and commenting where necessary is a basic activity of the Society. This year has seen the start or completion of several important schemes planned last year and some important ones have been submitted or approved since January. Cynthia Fowler and John Netherwood represent us on the Conservation Areas Consultative Committee which meets monthly to look at planning applications, mainly affecting the Old Town Conservation Area. A63 Castle Street

We have met several times with Highways England about the upgrade

of the A63, the Never-Ending Story, as Colin Cooper called it in our 40th Anniversary booklet in 2004! We have failed to get a second pedestrian bridge from Market Place to Queens Street, so are concentrating our efforts on improvements and better lighting for the route under the Myton Bridge approach - essential for the Fruit Market area to continue thriving.



Beverley Road Townscape Heritage Scheme

We have a representative on the board of this City Council-led scheme, which provides Heritage Lottery Funding for new tree planting (already completed), and improvements to property boundary and the condition of property on Beverley Road. Owners have to submit costed applications for small grants. The scheme also includes two major projects: bringing



Brunswick Arcade, Beverley Road

Trafalgar Street Church back into use and re-building a derelict section of Brunswick Arcade (currently shrouded), the parade of shops between Kingston Youth Centre and Strand Close. Hull City Council has purchased the derelict section of this property and the detailed rebuilding scheme is now being prepared.

Paul Priestley Leach

Last May, we were saddened by the death of Paul Priestley Leach, an early member of Hull Civic Society. He made a great contribution over the years, always bringing clear thinking to discussion in the committee and to his articles, salted with lively wit and good humour.

Colin McNicol

In mid-February, we were sorry to learn that Colin McNicol had decided to step down from the committee because of ill health. (Sadly, Colin died on 15th May. He will be greatly missed).

The Committee

At the 2016 AGM, we welcomed two new committee members, Hilary Blackstock, who is our Good Marks Secretary, and Lisa Hewson. Since September, Lisa has had to concentrate on her intensive professional training course for her new career, but she has been able to maintain the Friends of Hull General Cemetery Facebook Group and we wish her well in her studies. Other committee members are: Ian Goodison (Vice Chairman / Hull in Paint), Cynthia Fowler (Secretary), Allison Marling (Assistant Treasurer), John Netherwood (Heritage Open Days Organiser / Director of Projects), Christine Netherwood (HODs Organiser / Membership Secretary), Malcolm Sharman (re-appointed at the AGM) and myself, (Chairman / Newsletter Editor). I would like to thank all my fellow committee members, past and present, for their active support and hard work for Hull Civic Society and you, our members, for your continued support.

John Scotney.

Flooding in and around Kingston-upon-Hull: a Few Misnomers Part 1

Editor's note: while the views on Climate Change expressed in this article may not necessarily reflect those of the Civic Society, the writer has included a lot of scholarly and interesting material that is well worth reading.

The year 2007 was for many of us a true *Annus Horibilis*; made all the more dreadful in that it occurred during the summer, in the month of June, *not* in the winter. All across the City of Hull and into the East Riding hundreds of homes were flooded, farmland wasted and many must have thought the End of the World was here. Not so; we have recovered and we live to fight another day. Hull people are resilient, tough, hardy, people and

in the face of adversity they pull together as they did during the "Blitz" and doggedly fight on. However, fighting water is a very different sort of battle and we need to learn some serious lessons from the events of 2007 if we have to face a similar deluge in the future. Our fishing community comprised people from many lands who turned Hessle Road into a legend, and the sheer determination of people like Mrs.Lillian Bilocca, who fought long and hard for improved conditions for the fishermen, who braved the elements and the storms to bring fish to our tables. Many never returned. Hessle Road abounds with the legends of the fishing community and now 'Big Lill' forms part of a mural on Anlaby Road at St.Luke's Street corner.

Last year we celebrated being the "City of Culture, 2017". Much work was undertaken in the city in preparation for this, but we can never forget all those citizens whose homes were flooded and whose lives were changed by a freak act of nature. Of course, the whole event was put down to Global Warming, the convenient magnet used to explain the inexplicable and a neat, handy device to excuse the ineptitude of the "quangos" who failed to be prepared for just such a nightmare situation. They were all caught on the hop and many lessons have now been learned, hopefully, because of this. In the period post 2007, I set about my own researches that have revealed some fascinating and interesting items of study. In this short essay I cannot explain all, but some of the things I have discovered in my researches, I hope will be of interest to our members and to the wider public.

What should be understood and accepted is the geological fact that *we are still coming out of the last (Devensian) Ice Age.* The harbingers of doom like to show us film footage of the melting ice caps and glaciers as if this was a new phenomenon, the direct result of Man's activities. It has been taking place on and off for thousands of years. That is not to say human interference and the burning of fossil fuels *et al* has not made a considerable yet small, contribution. In fact, the vast majority of CO2 is generated by the world's large oceans. I'm sure there is evidence to support the arguments of the Greens and our wholesale rape of the earth's resources since the Industrial Revolution isn't helping the situation; far from it. In his book: "*Climate, History and the Modern World.*" Professor H.H Lamb (Emeritus Professor in the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of East Anglia) points out that the world has been '*warming up*' for the past 5000 years. "*The most distinctive feature of early post*- glacial times was, of course, the globally increasing warmth. In most parts of the world the climate between 5,000BC or even earlier and 3,000BC seems to have been generally warmer by 1-3'C than it is today." (p.116) H.H.Lamb is a well respected authority in his field of study and it would be prudent to take his researches and conclusions seriously. He affirms that sea levels were already rising as the ice sheets began to recede about 15,000 BC. Some would have us believe this is the effect of Man's impact on the environment. This is distorting the evidence to further an argument put forth by the Green's and pressure groups such as Friends of the Earth. There have been warm and cold periods, which Lamb has investigated thoroughly. The paintings of Pieter Brueghel, for example show snow scenes in the 16th century. The River Thames froze over in the mid 17th century and fairs were held on the frozen surface. These are known as 'Little Ice-Ages'. Many of us can remember the bitterly cold winter of 1962-3. Prior to that, it was the weather that largely defeated Hitler's armies in Russia and earlier, in 1812, Napoleon's famous 'Retreat from Moscow' was more due to the freezing weather than the efficiency of the Russian army to beat him in the field. However, of interest to us is where we live on a so-called 'flood plain' situated on the most recent piece of land added to Britain about 15,000 years ago. We don't have to go far to see the effects of the last Ice-Age. It's here, on our doorstep.

When we take a trip out to Hornsea, Withernsea or any of our sea-side places we stare out at the horizon on the sea but 13,000 or more years ago this was all land. Recently called "Doggerland". In 1902 a map of this now flooded landscape was drawn up by Clement Reid. Recent researches as a result of oil exploration in the North Sea have helped paint a fascinating picture. When one drives down Staxton Hill on the way to Scarborough, in the distance can be seen the waters of the blue (?) North Sea on a fine summer's day. Near Seamer there is a prehistoric site (Starr Carr) still being excavated. Many of the people who lived there probably travelled overland from as far away as Denmark or Germany. River systems - including the Humber, Great Ouse, Tyne, Tees and the Thames - all flowed into this vast, marshy plain. A large hill, similar to that near Holme-upon-Spalding Moor stood out. This was the Dogger Bank as it was later called. Items such as bone harpoons, flint axe, spear and arrow-heads have been trawled up along with the stumps of long dead trees and animal bones. The earlier pre-glacial North Sea washed up at the foot of the Wolds and the ancient chalk cliff line can be seen exposed at a quarry, now used as allotments in Ferriby Road, Hessle and at 'Little Switzerland.' The ancient River Humber once flowed into the earlier North Sea at Hessle where the Humber Bridge now strides across this vast river. The last glaciers pushed debris up against this ancient cliff. As the glaciers receded they left gently sloping, smoothed boulder-clay that has hidden the ancient coastline ever since. As sea levels rose the chalk was re-exposed at Flamborough Head, curving round underneath the land to re-appear at Hessle Cliff. Driving up Boothferry Hill, Tranby Lane, or Castle Road Cottingham you are climbing this 'Glacial Slope'. Holderness is made up of many materials including boulder clay. Silts, sands and all manner of ground pebbles lay beneath its surface, that is why in recent years sand and gravels were excavated at Brandesburton and near Keyingham and Burstwick. The glacier left large lumps of rubble termed by geologists moraines, drumlins and erratics. On these small hills grew up settlements above the surrounding marshland and 'meres', such as Preston, Hedon, Tickton and Swine. Through this marshy landscape flowed many streams. There was almost certainly from time to time large inundations by the sea creating what was later called by an Anglian monk, the "The Humbrian Sea" (Nennius) The River Hull is all that remains of this once vast, shallow, reed strewn lake. Until recent times, Holderness was covered by shallow 'meres' the last of these is Hornsea Mere. As recently as the 18th century a huge mere and fishery existed on the shallow valley just to the north of Sutton-on-Hull, now houses stand on its dried out lake bed. It is also fair to point out that York stands on a moraine and the Vale of York was also once a large, deep lake the western edge of which lay near Kirk Hammerton where shells and beaches can still be found. Little wonder there has been a constant battle with the sea and the many rivers that flow through our region, especially in times of flooding. (To be continued) Peter Asquith-Cowen

Planning and Buildings

Old Town

The southern part of the Old Town continues to attract new employment as well as leisure and residential development. At 48 Queen St, the 1980s two-storey office building opposite the former Pilot Office, there was an application in w/c 6.5.18 to extend it upwards with a pod on top of its flat roof. Nearby, at 31-38 Queen St, the owners of the grass-roofed Nibble Café applied in the same week to enlarge it by 18 square metres, and add new facilities to serve the increased catering demands of the dry dock amphitheatre and the C4DI complex.

Approval was given in w/c 25.3.18 for refurbishment and alterations to 'Fruit', 61-63 Humber St, to create new gallery space at ground floor with new studio and workshop above. When complete,

there will be a courtyard next to the restored bacon smokehouse,



"Fruit" extension seen from Wellington St (from the Design & Access Statement by id Architecture).

surrounded by a new building facing onto Wellington St for retail & craft units and storage, with flats in the upper floors.

New window frames have been installed at 60 Humber St, which has permission for a flexible range of uses (professional services, retail or food and drink) for the ground floor and two flats above. A similar range of uses (without flats) was approved in February 2018 for number 59 (at the eastern side of the alley) and the new single-storey rear extension (approved in July 2017) was structurally complete by April. My grandmother (born 1885) was a scholar at the Wesley Hall Sunday School held in the upper floor of this and the adjacent building (originally called Victoria Rooms). Wesley Hall was the Methodist chapel at the corner of Pier St, used after 1905 by the Humber Growers and replaced by the present warehouse after it was destroyed in the Blitz.

Permission was granted in w/c 8.4.18 for new shop fronts to 26-29 on the north side of Humber St, with change of use of 26-27 from art gallery to flexible commercial uses.

Foundations and piling were in position for the dwellings on both sides of Blanket Row by the end of March.

An application was approved in w/c 29.4.18 to give King William House, Market Place, a new façade in place of the existing reflective one and create a set-back glazing line and colonnade on the ground floor.

Change of use from just retail (Argos) and offices to a wider range, including a microbrewery with a visitor centre were approved in w/c 11.3.18. One hopes that these developments will bring more footfall to a street that was once the lively heart of the Old Town.



King William House - present and proposed (artist's impression)

Following the extensive interior work, Hull Minister was officially reopened on 19th March by Rev Canon Neal Barnes (Vicar) and Cllr Steve Brady (Leader of Hull City Council), who together ceremonially opened the West Door.

Permission was given in w/c 6.5.18 for conversion of 20-22 Hepworth's Arcade (Harrington's shop next to the Market Place entrance to the arcade) into a gin distillery, shop and educational workshop & events space.

External work to convert Liberty House, at the corner of Liberty Lane and High St, from offices to flats, was approved in w/c 11.3.18. The building (2004) was previously used by the Probation Service.

The listed Danish Buildings and Bayles House, 44-46 High St, at the corner of Scale Lane Staith is a group of buildings that illustrates clearly the historic development of High St. Behind Danish Buildings, the 1858 office block designed by William Botterill, is Bayles House, a merchant's house (17th century with later alterations) with its warehouse behind stretching down to the River Hull. We wrote in support of Andrew Allenby's application (approved in w/c 1.3.18) to refurbish all the offices and convert the disused 2nd floor of the warehouse into an apartment hotel accessed from Scale Lane Staith through gates and a new entrance.



In w/c 6.5.18, an application was submitted for prior approval of change of use of Wilberforce Court, the modern office block opposite Wilberforce House from offices to 144 flats.

If approved, the application (w/c 15.4.18) for reinstatement of the Guildhall's time ball mechanism and associated structural work to replace the present replica glass sphere. The original time ball was installed in the new Guildhall (designed by Sir Edwin Cooper) in 1915, It signalling the time (1 p.m.) to enable ships' chronometers to be set more accurately by sight than by the sound of a bell. The mechanism is the latest example in Britain and was activated by wireless from Greenwich Observatory. It was not in operation until 1921 and only worked for a few years. This

restoration would add Hull to a select group of places that boast a working time ball: Royal Greenwich Observatory; Margate Clock Tower; Deal, Kent; Brighton Clock Tower and Nelson's Monument in Edinburgh.

The listed "new" White Hart (1904) on Alfred Gelder St re-opened in April, complete with its fine tiled bar and beautiful woodwork.



"new" White Hart (1904), Alfred Gelder St

Listed Building Approval was given in w/c 4.3.18 for sensitive internal

alterations to maximise office working space at 5 Parliament St, a fine Georgian house of the late 1790s.

City Centre

In w/c 6.5.18, permission was granted for re-glazing work at the Hull School of Art & Design buildings on Wilberforce Drive and to the windows on the south side of the adjacent tower block of Hull College.

Further north on Wilberforce Drive and facing Queens Gardens, the former police station has been thoroughly gutted as part of the scheme to convert it into 89 new flats, some of them in an additional two storeys. At Valbon nightclub on George St (formerly the Queen's Hotel), which faces the end of Wilberforce Drive, the process of clearing out interior fittings had begun by late March, in preparation for conversion into flats. Residential development continues on and close to George St, with more dwellings approved in rear premises at 90-92 George St and 14-18 Grimston St.

In w/c 11.3.18 there was an application for change of use into a training gym and clinic on the ground floor of 12 Dock St. The upper floors are flats, but the ground floor has remained vacant. This building, together with numbers 10 & 11, originated as part of the "Georgian New Town" development linked with creation of "The Dock" (1778), now Queen's Gardens. They were rescued from demolition by the Planning Committee's refusal of a demolition application in 2005.

At 29-31 George St (former Biarritz club), an application was approved in w/c 8.4.18 for a new building to extend the existing building to create a 20-bedroom bed & breakfast establishment. Next door, behind 13-25 George St, an application was submitted to erect a 4-storey block of 7 flats with ground floor parking, with access from New Garden St.

Plans to convert the former Lloyds Bank (originally Hull Savings Bank) at 1-7 George St into a 7th Day Adventist Church (approved in 2015) seem to have stalled, as w/c 15.4.18 saw an application to convert the ground floor banking hall into 14 flats. The 32 flats in the upper floors were approved in January 2018.

Kingston House, Bond St is now back in use as the K2 "multi-space complex", with cafés, bars & restaurants, a luxury hotel, 1- & 2-bedroomed serviced apartments and a business centre with serviced offices.

By early May, the new Hull Venue and its multi-storey car park were finished and the site bounded by Waterhouse Lane, Osborne St and Myton St, was receiving hard and soft landscaping. The first events are scheduled for 4th September 2018.

At the southern end of Waterhouse Lane, where it meets Castle St, is the listed Castle Street Chambers, long-shrouded in scaffolding. Listed Building Consent approval was given in w/c 4.3.18 for remedial works to the east wall following demolition of the unlisted and fire-damaged buildings on its east site (13-14 Castle St.

Prior Approval for conversion from offices into 58 flats was granted in w/c 29.4.18 for Tivoli House (named after the old Tivoli Theatre on the same site at the north-east corner of South St and Paragon St).

In Paragon Station, one of the new shop units on the site of the 1986 travel centre (later a waiting room) was occupied by Starbuck's coffee shop by April. The other three are still "to let".



Former Hull College, Park St

Listed Building Consent Approval was granted in w/c 6.5.18 to the developer "Townglow Ltd to convert the former Hull College Park Street building into a 35bedroom hotel with 20 serviced apartments. It is reported that two different hotel companies are shortlisted to operate the business.

East

At Siemens' factory on Alexandra Dock, the turbine blade which graced Queen Victoria Square last year is now a feature at the entrance (observed in March).

Woodford Leisure Centre on the fringe of East Park on Holderness Rd opened on Saturday 19th May. The old East Hull Baths, near Mount Pleasant, closed some weeks ago.

Tower Grange Police Station, opposite Portobello St, further along Holderness Rd, is now "Tower Apartments" with three retail units on the ground floor.

Work is still in progress at the Energy Works on Cleveland St, next to Swann St bridge. Further along Cleveland St, conversion of disused industrial premises at the eastern end of Bedford St into a new Sikh Temple was approved in w/c 1.4.18, but with many conditions. One is that there must be no vehicular or pedestrian access from the residential Bedford St, so there will have to be a new entrance to the site from Mount Pleasant between Holderness Rd and Cleveland St. The relocation will transform a derelict site and ease problems of parking and limited space at the present Sikh Temple in Parkfield Rd (off Anlaby Rd, next to the former Carlton Cinema). Given the Sikhs' reputation for generosity and tolerance, the resulting temple will no doubt welcome visitors from the surrounding community.

West

By late March, the new flats and houses on the site of the old Goodwin Centre in Ice House Rd were built to full height and receiving insulation before application of external cladding.

At the northern end of Parkfield Rd and Wold Carr Rd (both off Anlaby Rd), (the site of Riley College and surrounding fields).a whole new estate has been built and most of the houses are occupied.

North

One of the major projects funded by the Beverley Road Heritage Townscape Scheme, is to find a new use for the disused, but listed Trafalgar St Church (1904). In w/c 4.3.18 permission was granted

for change of use into an events space and gym, with necessary internal and external alterations. The other major project in the scheme is to restore and ensure the structural stability of Brunswick Arcade, 50-64 Beverley Rd, the 1890 parade of shops next to Kingston



Youth Centre. The weakest section is the at 52-54a, a building so badly neglected and then abandoned by its owner that complete demolition, rebuilding and reinstatement of the façade is the only option. The city council has already compulsorily purchased the property. Several boundary improvements under the scheme were approved in w/c 29.4.18,

Work is in progress at 61-63 Beverley Rd, the former Securicor depot next to Bed World, to convert these former houses back to dwellings.

The steel figures on the north platform at Stepney Station have been joined by a new information panel, recounting the history of the railway lines to Hornsea and Withernsea. All this has been inspired by Paul Browning, Head of Stepney Primary School.

In early May, window frames and panelling were being installed at the new University Sports Centre on Inglemire Lane. Work continues at the western end of the campus on the construction of new student flats.

CIVIC VOICE DESIGN AWARD 2018

RON DEARING UNIVERSITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE Kingston Square, Hull HU1 3HF 01482 222299

Website: rondearingutc.com

In 2017 in a leafy corner of Hull's Georgian Quarter, under cover of the clamorous City of Culture status something else amazing happened in the City Centre of Hull. A development well deserving of recognition in terms of design and the positive contribution it will make to the local area economy. The opening of RDUTC!

I attended the Open Evening of this radically new education opportunity and was mightily impressed by the range of possibilities for learning. In order to share the philosophy and function of this especially designed space I quote from the excellent website, as follows:

WE OFFER STUDENTS A TOTALLY NEW WAY TO LEARN IN A BRAND NEW BUILDING

Located in the heart of the UK City of Culture our Landmark building creates the most inspiring space to learn in. When you are in the business of revolutionary education you need a revolutionary building. Our innovative high-tech building certainly has the WOW! Factor. Substantial investment from our sponsors has enable us to up-spec our fixtures, fittings and specialist equipment and make RDUTC one of the most technologically advanced schools in the country.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The design of our learning environment replicates the development processes in industry.

- The third floor focuses on academic learning
- The second floor focuses on design and innovation
- The first floor focuses on prototyping, production and manufacture

SPECIALISMS

Our specialisms of Digital Technology and Mechatronics have been carefully chosen by our key employer sponsors because these are the skills that industry is crying out for – a combination of IT and engineering. **MECHATRONICS**

Where engineering meets computers – whether that's developing a F1 car, using drones for scoping out new projects, wind turbine manufacturing or programming machinery.....in order to #GET THE EDGE!

THE LOCATION (within a Conservation area)

This building certainly enhances its location which is situated in a



Georgian Square. The Ron Dearing UTC has a promising site which is counter to the old Assembly rooms (now the New Theatre) which has a classical colonnaded façade. The materials, scale and the use of columns with sympathetic glazing to the front of the College is clever and appropriate. This

Western block of UTC facing onto Kingston Square is only three storeys high and completes a well-proportioned street elevation overlooking the gardens.

This Western block is really the most interesting part of what is otherwise a utilitarian building which although a school for 15 to 18 year olds has more the feeling of a modern University building or a company research establishment.

The rear section of the college makes good use of its site with two 4 storey blocks linked by a 3 storey bridging block – the space underneath allowing sight-lines along St John Street which thus seems to be continuous. This

link block covers a yard which provides an outdoor work space for students and an identifiable muster point. In the covered yard there is some attempt to create on a wall a vertical garden.

The visual interest of the front of the building with its interesting spatial openings allowing large glass windows to reflect the street elevations, has turned this part of a sought after residential area into a better place than the former views of the backside of the old 1930 Fire Station.

Speaking to locals on my site visit they found the College not as intrusive as many feared and the students not a problem.

On the day I visited there was no litter anywhere to be seen.



MATERIALS

The basic materials of the building are red/orange brickwork of standard brick size. Bricks extend to the full height of the building at the front but only to first floor level on other elevations thus acting as a simple base on all other elevations surmounted by 3 upper storeys of cladding.

The fenestration various from elevation to elevation and generally the sense of design and proportion works well against the smart dark grey fluted metal cladding panels. The window area and character coincides with the nature and usage of the interior. Small classroom windows contrasting with large glass expanses for circulation areas.

Any large expanses of brickwork are relieved by rectangles of recessed brickwork to suggest doorways and windows.

OVERALL DESCRIPTION

The building treatment is simple with no relief decoration apart from the stainless steel lettering advertising Ron Dearing UTC and on one facade a list of all the major sponsors.

The use of a common material for all the lettering and logos makes for a unified joint presentation. The College's location makes it contributory to a classic example of a mixed urban development that blends residential, commercial, cultural and entertainment uses that physically and functionally integrate through ease of pedestrian connection.

A visit is essential to grasp the nature of the College's role and the suitability and status that the structure essentially provides. It is well worth a visit as Hull is at the start of the East Coast routes to everywhere else! So, consequently is easy to get to!

Malcolm Sharman (Both photographs in this article are by Malcolm)

Civic Society Officers and Committee April 2018

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Hull Civic Soc Representative to YHACS	Malcolm Sharman 561611	
(Yorks & Humbs Assoc of Civic Societies) malcsharman@hotmail.com		

Committee Changes

We are very pleased to be able to welcome Malcolm Sharman back to the committee with effect from the 2018 AGM, after his year of high office with the Masonic lodge.

John Scotney

Committee Vacancies

We could do with more members on the Committee; is there anyone out there who would be interested?

Public talks, summer visits and Heritage Open Days events are all important Civic Society activities, but the Society is also active throughout the year in protecting our city's historic heritage and helping to shape its future. Do you want to be more involved? Would you be interested in joining the committee? If so, please contact our Chairman, John Scotney (email: john.scotney@talk21.com or phone: 01482 492822) or our Secretary, Cynthia Fowler (email: pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01482 377434). You would be most welcome to come and observe one of our monthly committee meetings before you decide whether to join the committee!

General Data Protection Regulation

On May 25th the law concerning personal data will change and for Hull Civic Society to be able to continue to contact you we need your permission to do so.

All the information we hold about you has been given to us by you: your name, address and, where applicable, e-mail address, phone number and Gift Aid Declaration. This information is kept securely by the Society, and is never passed to any third parties, except for name & address (used by our printers to produce address labels) and Gift Aid Declarations when required by HMRC.

If you are happy for the Society to retain your data and continue to send you Newsletters and other information about Civic Society activities, then you need do nothing. If you wish to check or to amend your details or remove them from our contact list, please let us know by post or e-mail and we will respond as quickly as possible.

Thank you for all the support you have given in the past and we hope you will continue to enjoy your membership of Hull Civic Society.

Our Data Protection Policy will shortly be available electronically and, by request, in printed form.

John Scotney, Chairman. chair@hullcivicsoc.info

Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

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

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