

HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

June 2017



Humber Street (Photo: John Scotney)

In this issue: Paul Priestley-Leach; Programme; Heritage Open Days; Other People's Events; Hull in Paint; The Society's New Website; The Genesis of the Hull General Cemetery, Part 2; Chairman's Report to the 53rd AGM; Joseph H. Hirst, Hull's first City Architect; Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!; Planning & Buildings; Officers & Committee; September Newsletter; Newsletters by email; Membership.

All photographs in this edition of the Newsletter are by the Editor.

Website: www.hullcivicsoc.info

 Find us on
Facebook

Paul Priestley Leach 1939-2017



We were very sorry to hear of the death of Paul Priestley Leach on 28th May and we would like to express our condolences to his wife, Margrit and their family.

Paul was born in Bradford. He read Modern Languages at St John's College, Oxford, and later taught German and French at Sydney Smith High School in Anlaby. Paul's last teaching position was as Head of Modern Languages at Wyke

College.

As a Civic Society project, he and a group of Sydney Smith pupils rescued and restored the bell post from Victoria Dock. It now stands at the Marina next to the Humber Dock lockpit.



The Marina Bell Post, restored by Paul Priestley-Leach and his pupils from Sydney Smith High School

An early member of Hull Civic Society, Paul 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.

In the 1970s he created the Civic Society's first Old Town Trail and designed a Hull Civic Society tee-shirt. He

was Newsletter Editor in the 1970s and early 1980s. His artistic talent was apparent, especially in his amusing cover illustrations, such as this one from May 1980.



He was elected Chairman from 1981-83 and continued for many years after then as an active committee member. Paul stepped down from the Civic Society committee for a few years as he became more involved with matters in Swanland, such as the Swanland Village Association and the Twinning Committee (with the French village of Lestrem). He also served as a Parish Councillor, later stepping down from that to take part in the successful campaign to retain Swanland's old school as a village hall and he then became a trustee of the Village Hall Committee. He also found time to scrutinise the Draft Local Plan for the village.

Paul's view of King William House, Market Place (May 1980 Newsletter).

Paul always took a keen interest in the arts, especially sculpture, including the Open Competition in the 1990s to provide sculptures for the Marina. He and Margrit also hosted a regular summer exhibition of local sculptors' work in their own garden for several years running.

Nevertheless, Paul never lost touch with Hull Civic Society and in 2014 we welcomed him back to the committee where his most recent role was as Good Mark Secretary. I was personally very grateful for his meticulous proof-reading of the Society's special booklet "Hull and the Civic Society 1964-2017".

Paul will be remembered with great affection for his lively intelligence, good humour, thoughtfulness and fair-mindedness, but most of all he is greatly missed by all of us as a good friend.

John Scotney.

Winter Programme 2017-18

All meetings are at the Royal Hotel, Ferensway, on Mondays at 7.30 pm (unless otherwise stated).

9th October. "A63 Castle Street" The Highways England Team

13 November "A History of Public Transport in Hull" Paul Morfitt

11th December *Cinemas of Hull*" Mike Wood

8th January "Sewell Construction" Paul Sewell

12th February "The history of Hessle Common and West Hull"
Richard Clarke

12th March TBC

9th April 7 pm AGM followed by Paul Schofield.

Full details will be in the September 2017 Newsletter

Heritage Open Days Tuesday 5th to Sunday 10th September

Brochures and online information will be available in August for this year's HODs, which will run over six days, with the widest ever range of open buildings, factory visits, talks and walks to celebrate Hull and the East Riding's historical heritage and modern developments.

Details will appear in various forms, including Hull Civic Society's new website: www.hullcivic.soc.info

Other People's Events

Thursday 22nd September: 'War Time' Meal at Hitchcock's Vegetarian Restaurant, Bishop Lane, 8pm. £18 per head. Book via Hilary Byers hilary@amskaya.karoo.co.uk; 01482 445747.

Saturday 28th October: Local History Book Fair EYLHS): at Hull Minster (Holy Trinity Church) 10.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Free Admission.

Hull in Paint - A heritage art exhibition for the City in 2017 from the Hull Civic Society



The Hull in Paint exhibition brings together local artists offering their unique take on the buildings, landmarks and people which make up the heritage of our city. The paintings reflect a unique view of Hull as seen through their eyes, capturing the excitement and positive feeling that exists in Hull and reflects the rich diversity of its heritage and history.

For Hull, UK City of Culture year, the exhibition will start its tour from the established retail and leisure centre– Princes Quay. It will then move onto the following venues:

- Princes Quay, Harbour Deck - Thursday 8 June – Wednesday 21 June.
- St John the Baptist Church, St Georges Road - Monday 10 July – Sunday 30 July
- Orchard Park Health Centre - Monday 31 July – Friday 11 August
- Hull Show, East Park Art and Culture Marquee - Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 August
- East Park, Animal Education Centre - Monday 14 August – Sunday 20 August

of Hull and its environment, enhancing the quality of life of its residents and promoting enlightened planning whilst protecting its rich heritage.

Ian Goodison

All civic Society events are to be found on the Society's new Website:

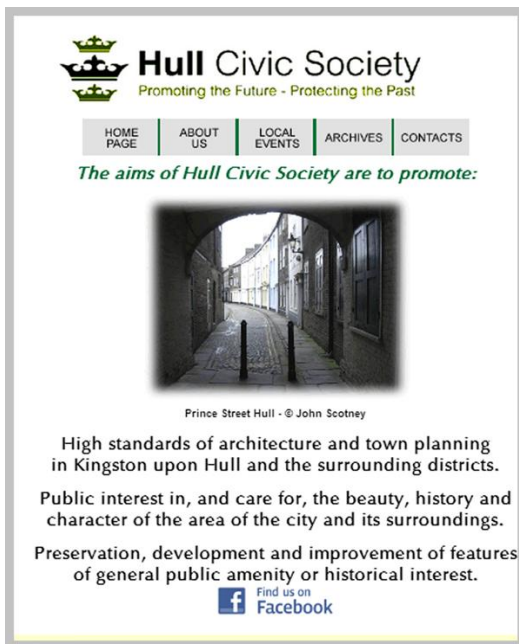
www.hullcivicsoc.info

The Society's new Website: www.hullcivicsoc.info

The Society's new website was launched on March 10th 2017 and has already had many hits. It is the Society's "shop front" to the Internet and should also prove a useful reference point for members.

Graham Latter, the Website Designer, gave a brief presentation at the AGM on April 10th, outlining a very simple design comprising just 5 easily navigable pages, which will be kept fully up to date.

The **Home** page is shown on this picture.



The **About Us** page depicts some of the many topics that the Society is involved with.

The **Local Events** page lists forthcoming meetings, talks and other activities.

The **Archives** page contains downloadable pdf files of past Newsletters and the Society's Golden Jubilee book, "Hull and the Civic Society, 1964-2017".

The **Contacts** page shows some of our committee members with their particular spheres of interest and contact details. There is also a downloadable membership form.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the website please communicate them to John Scotney.

The Genesis of the Hull General Cemetery Part 2.

Finally in the August of 1840 an advert that appeared in most local newspapers would have led to an outpouring of civic pride. **(Fig.3)** At last a general cemetery was to be developed for the use of the townspeople of Hull and its neighbours.

The press reacted supportively and encouraged investors with the hope that,

“We trust the support necessary to carry the object of the company into effect will be properly rendered... Public cemeteries have been rendered ornaments to the towns where they have already been constructed, and have besides, we believe, been found highly remunerative to the public spirited projectors.”

In the Hull Advertiser of September 1840 it was reported that the share list of subscribers was nearly complete. And there the matter appeared to rest. In the Hull Advertiser in November 1841 under the “interesting headline” Noxious Effluvia, a Dr Gordon spoke to the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society about “the effects of decomposing animal and vegetable substances upon the human constitution”, where the subject of the need for a public cemetery for the town was again raised.

By the following April the whole idea of a general cemetery run privately appeared to have disappeared entirely and once again Holy Trinity Churchwardens were discussing the need for a new cemetery and believed that Mr Broadley had offered some 2 acres for their use.

During this discussion the vicar counselled prevarication as future legislation regarding urban cemeteries was going through Parliament at the time. By the June of 1842 a Select Committee recommended that every large town should have a cemetery but “not within 1,800 yards of the same.” So effectively the cemetery should be a mile outside the town or city. Of course the Select Committee made no regard to the urban centres increasing in size and that any future cemetery would eventually be swallowed up by urban sprawl.

By the April of 1843 such legislation necessary to implement these changes was dragging its way through parliament. Of course the ramifications of such legislation would make it a necessity that a general cemetery would have to be forthcoming as it would be illegal, unless in a private vault, to inter anyone in a public churchyard or burying ground,

that was not yet full, after the 31st December 1843. The same legislation made it easier for committees to be set up to purchase land, develop cemeteries and to run them. The door to Hull gaining its first general cemetery was not only open but there was a welcome mat just inside the door.

Still, however, no apparent movement to establish the cemetery appeared evident. Letters to the newspapers increased. A savage

correspondent to the local press in February 1843 going by the name

“Investigator” decided to intervene. His reasons remain unclear but his main brief was that the burial of the dead within urban centres, especially in the over full church yards of the two churches in Hull would lead to disease and a rise in mortality to those frequenting those places and those who were unlucky enough to live near them. In essence this continued practice he said was demeaning to both the dead and the living. He signed off with the message that, “It degrades religion, brings its ministers into contempt, tends to lower the standard of morality and is a foul blot upon our boasted civilization.”



Fig 3. Hull Packet, August 1840.

A further correspondent in December 1843 lamented that the Zoological Gardens had been established in Hull when he states the discussions had been about establishing a cemetery and refurbishing the Botanic Gardens. The writer said he “gave up his cemetery, accepted the monkeys and the parrots, and concluded to wait for a more favourable opportunity of again bringing forward that which everyone must feel the necessity and importance of.” In the May of 1844 an impassioned correspondent using the title, “Amicus” wrote feelingly of how he had watched a gravedigger in St Mary’s church cut through coffins and human remains to effect a burial in the churchyard there which perhaps implies that the recently enacted legislation alluded to previously was not being fiercely implemented. Of further interest was his comment that,

“A public cemetery, it is true, was agitated through your columns and, if I am not mistaken, a feeble movement was made in consequence out of doors, but the project appears to have been abandoned; at least I for one have not heard lately that anything is being prosecuted towards securing the accomplishment of so vital a

desideratum.”
Eventually, in the October, The Hull Advertiser, somewhat curtly, printed this notice in an attempt to hold back the numerous letters it was receiving on the subject.

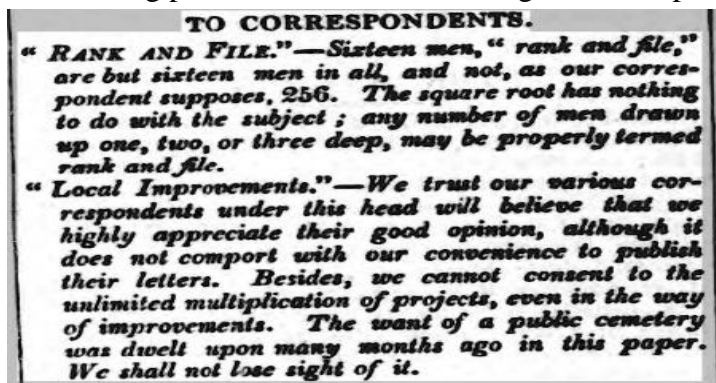


Fig 4. Hull Advertiser, 4th October 1844.

Likewise the Hull Packet one week later published a scathing editorial of the lack of will and motivation to provide a proper cemetery for the town of Hull. It opened with the statement that,

“Of the many improvements that are called for in Hull, there is not one so important, or so urgent, as that of its burial places.”
Going on to state, both in an emotional sense and by dry factual evidence, that burying in the old churchyards and burying grounds could no longer continue it argued the case. It concluded

thus: "It is high time that, in Hull, the subject engaged the attention which its importance demands. The evils there is so much reason to complain of admit of an easy remedy. All that is wanted is a public cemetery, at a suitable distance from the town; and whilst there are many desirable situations for such a purpose that might readily be obtained, there can be no doubt of such an undertaking proving abundantly remunerative to those who should engage in it. We have discharged our duty in thus bringing forward the subject. But we shall be ready to render any assistance in our power towards carrying out an object in which all classes of our townspeople are so deeply interested, as one which concerns, not only their most sacred feelings, but the health of the town, and its character also for morality and humanity." (Hull Packet, 11th October 1844).

In the January of 1845 a small news item in the Hull Packet said that, "a scheme for a new cemetery had been mooted" but they were not sure of the details. Complicating matters at this time was a proposal from the Dock Company to buy the Castle Street burial ground as it already had adjacent land upon which it intended to build Railway Dock. This proposal to the churchwardens of Holy Trinity could well have allowed the creation of yet another burial ground under the auspices of the church. And although the churchwardens carried the day, at a very rowdy meeting, for accepting the offer from the Dock Company, nothing came from this plan.



Memorial to the Milner family.

In February 1845, at a public lecture at the Mechanics Institute, the speaker, Mr Milner, later to be a prominent member of the directors of the General Cemetery, stated that, "no town is in greater need of a general cemetery than Hull, and I do hope and trust ere long that one may be formed in every way befitting a town of such importance as ours." As if by magic that month the first advertisement relating to the Hull General Cemetery appeared in the local press. *To be continued*

Pete Lowden.

Hull Civic Society 53rd AGM 10th April 2017 - Chairman's Report

Introduction: Last year's AGM began on 11th April, but had to be adjourned to 12th September, pending receipt of the full audited accounts. This year, we have received the accounts from our new auditors, Smailes Goldie. As an updated Chairman's report appeared in the September Newsletter, I will concentrate mainly on the Society's activities between September 2016 and April 2017.

Programme: Our winter programme started a month early with part 2 of the AGM, followed by a talk "Converging on Hull" about 19th century migration into Hull, attracted by local industries. Subsequent topics included "*250 years of Jewish Life in Hull 1766-2016*" by David Lewis, "*Modern Iconic Buildings*" by Paul Priestley Leach, "*Sons of the City*" by Charles Trafford, "*Heron Foods*" by Michael Igoe, "*The Pease Family of Hull*" by Michael G Free and "*Surviving Dresden*" by Sonja Christiansen. The visit to the Hornsea Collection was cancelled last summer for lack of support, but today we have a talk entitled "*Hornsea Pottery - how it all began*", by Carol Harker, Curator of Hornsea Museum's Hornsea Pottery Collection, Our first summer visit this year will be a guided tour of Holy Trinity church on 22nd May, by which time it will be "Hull Minster".

Tours: Last summer, we hosted tours of the Old Town for Leeds Civic Trust and Lincoln Civic Trust. We have groups coming from Huddersfield and Retford this summer and in July we will also be visited by the Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society, who have chosen Hull for their AGM this year and have invited us to join in with their Tile Walk on 1st July.

Heritage Open Days: In September 2016, John and Christine organised another successful Heritage Open Days, with an even wider range of historic buildings and industrial premises open and a wealth of talks and guided walks. One of the new venues was McAusland Turner (marine surveyors) in Victoria Dock Village from whose roof platform we had splendid views. Rollitts Solicitors (High St) very kindly hosted the launch event on Wednesday 7th September 2016. This year's launch will be at WISE, also in High St.

In honour of City of Culture, HODs will be a six-day event, running from Tuesday 5th to Sunday 10th September. Congratulations to everyone concerned.

Friends of Hull General Cemetery: One of the guided walks for Heritage Open Days was around Hull General Cemetery. The Friends of Hull General Cemetery group (formerly Friends of Spring Bank Cemetery) is a sub-group of Hull Civic Society which has been very active in caring for this unique wooded area, and celebrating its many historic memorials, but there is a constant battle against fly-tipping and Japanese knotweed. We are currently preparing a "monument trail leaflet", obtaining costing for some information panels and working with tree and wildlife experts to manage the site for wildlife and accessibility to its memorials.

Hull in Paint: In the summer of 2016, 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 Park Centre and East Park. We congratulate the artists and the organisers, Ian Goodison and Doug Smelt. On 31st October we held a "thank you" event at Silvers for the artists our corporate members.

Good Marks: We have been awarding Good Marks since 1968 and this year we have awarded them to Probe and their architects Delaney Marling Partnership for the restoration of Rank House the Holderness Rd birthplace of J Arthur Rank, Paul Schofield for his services to Hull Tourism as a guide, to the Roach Brothers for sensitive restoration of the block which extends from Paragon Square along Ferensway and round the corner to include 26 Anlaby Road and to Hull City Council and sculptors from Hull School of Art & Design for the landscaping of the footpath around the Siemens wind turbine factory at Alexandra Dock.

This year, we have been very grateful to Paul Priestley Leach for co-ordinating the arrangements for Good Marks from commissioning the citations to arranging the presentation of certificates. Paul has now stepped down from the committee, but I'm pleased to report that his excellent work will be continued by Hilary Blackstock, newly elected to the committee.

Website: After difficulties with the Society's original website during the second half of 2016, we are very grateful to Paul Priestley Leach for putting us in touch with Graham Latter, a website designer who has designed a completely new and very user-friendly website for us. At the start of this AGM, he explained to us that it is best accessed directly at www.hullcivicsoc.info as search engines such as Google do not direct enquirers to a website until it receives a significant number of "hits" (visitors). However, it works very well and is being updated regularly with Graham's help.

Facebook: Many thanks to Paul Schofield, who has been operating a Facebook account for the Society for some time, to alert people to meetings and events.

Newsletters: We publish the printed form of the Newsletter three times a year and I would like to thank our contributors for some very interesting articles. The email version is available to those who request it and the website now has the current Newsletter on it and back-issues for 2016, 2015 and 2014. We will gradually be adding earlier Newsletters and Graham has added a search facility to the website to aid research.

Hull and the Civic Society 1964 to 2017: This booklet should by now have been received by all individual and joint members. Originally conceived as a Golden Jubilee booklet for 2014, we eventually decided to issue it as part of our contribution to mark Hull's special year as UK City of Culture. Several people have contributed articles and it has been very interesting to edit and illustrate. I am very grateful to all contributors and to proofreaders, especially Colin Cooper and Paul Priestley Leach, who have done the bulk of this painstaking task. We have budgeted for one copy per individual or joint membership. Additional copies are available for £4 each (£3 to Hull Civic Society members), plus postage where applicable.

Planning: Monitoring planning applications week by week and commenting where necessary is a basic activity of the Society. Some applications this year have heralded major projects in the city centre, many now taking shape. These include the New Theatre extension, the Ron Dearing University Technical College, the Hull Venue concert hall on

Osborne Street, the Hilton Hotel on Ferensway, new retail units and waiting room inside Paragon Station and the rejuvenation or rebuilding of properties in Humber Street and elsewhere in the Fruit Market.

Beverley Road Townscape Heritage Scheme: We have a representative on the board of this City Council-led scheme, under which Heritage Lottery Funding is available for tree planting and to improve property appearance and property boundaries on Beverley Road. The scheme also includes two major projects: Trafalgar Street Church and to deal with the derelict section of Brunswick Arcade, the shops between Kingston Youth Centre and Strand Close.



Above: Trafalgar St Church
Below: Brunswick Arcade

A63 Castle Street: In January 2017, Highways England held further consultation on the future of Castle Street, with proposals that would make this trunk road even more of a barrier to north-south pedestrian movement than it



already is. We are now pressing for the option of elevating the trunk road along this section to be looked at again, as we have come to the conclusion that if tunnelling is not a viable option, elevation is the only way to solve the problem of east-west motor traffic versus north-south pedestrian and local vehicular traffic. A show of hands at the AGM indicated that a large majority of those present supported this view.

The Executive Committee: Finally, there are a few changes to the committee to report. We were sorry that Liz Gowland (Welcomer at public meetings & representative to St Mary's Lowgate) and John Sharp (Corporate Membership) both decided to step down from the committee

last September and Paul Priestley Leach (Good Marks Co-ordinator) stepped down on health grounds in December. We are grateful for all their contributions to the Society's work. Subject to your approval, we welcome two new committee members: Hilary Blackstock, (Good Marks Co-ordinator), and Lisa Hewson, who is going to work with Cynthia Fowler on the Society's day-to-day financial matters. Other committee members are: Ian Goodison (Vice Chairman / Hull in Paint), Cynthia Fowler (Secretary), Allison Marling (Assistant Treasurer), John Netherwood (HODs Organiser / Director of Projects), Christine Netherwood (HODs Organiser / Membership Secretary), and Colin McNicol (Old Town) 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.

John Scotney, Chairman

Joseph H. Hirst 1863-1945: Hull's first City Architect

Joseph Henry Hirst was born in 1863 in South Milford, near Selby, and began his training articulated to William Henry Wellsted, described in the Pevsner Guide as "civil engineer and architect". In White's Directory of Hull for 1882, he is listed as "Wellsted, William Henry, civil engineer, architect, surveyor and valuer, and engineer to the Newington Local Board, Manor street; h[ouse] 14 Arlington street".

Hirst's career with Hull Corporation (fore-runner of the City Council) began in 1885, when he joined the Borough Engineer's Department as a draughtsman. In 1892, he became a building surveyor. He was appointed to the newly-created post of City Architect in 1900, aged only 37. He married a Hull woman, Hannah Whitehead, in 1890 and by 1911 they lived at "York Cottage", 8 Hymers Avenue, with their two sons, a daughter and one maidservant. The earliest building attributable to Hirst is East Hull Baths, Holderness Road (1897-8). The asymmetrical facade, with its bands of red brick and yellow terracotta, decorative gables and scrolled pediments above the main entrance and ground floor windows, is described by Nikolaus Pevsner as "showy", though he describes the tiled interior as "splendid", which indeed it is. Alternate light and dark bands - "streaky bacon" - were very fashionable in the 1890s and Hirst clearly caught the fashion of the age in a building that was both recreational and a valuable

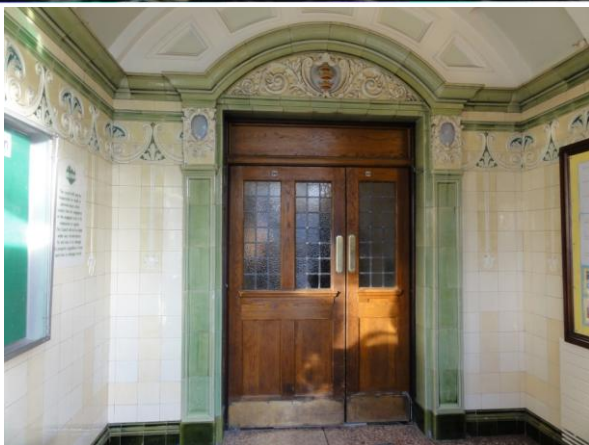
public health facility at a time when few houses had bathrooms.

In 1905, Hirst designed Beverley Road Baths in a rather more formal style, with cupolas a classical main doorway, surmounted by a pediment, and a large Venetian window lighting the end of the main bath hall. This building also has some fine examples of tiling. Much less grand, but equally necessary were Hull's first council dwellings, built to re-house people displaced by the creation of Hull's new city centre streets, King Edward St, Queen

Victoria Square and, particularly, Alfred Gelder Street, which cut through numerous alleys and courts. Hirst designed three blocks containing 40 flats built in 1899-1900 in Great Passage Street (to the south of Osborne Street and now demolished) and a group of terraced



Above: East Hull Baths. Below: Beverley Road Baths: exterior and tiled entrance





Council houses in Rustenburg Street



Central Police Station, Alfred Gelder St in June 1963 and the scene in June 2017

houses (1902-03), which are still occupied, in Newbridge Road, Steynberg Street and Rustenburg Street, in East Hull. After the Great War, many more council houses were built to re-house people from slum properties and Hirst designed the layout of the city's earliest housing estates.

One of the new public buildings in Alfred Gelder Street was the Central Police Station (1902-04). Designed for a "serious" purpose, it was a symmetrical building with horizontal bands of brick and stone at the ground floor corners, heavy, rather forbidding rustication to the window surrounds and pilasters, pediments at the ends of the facades and a tympanum above the entrance bay, reflected by the shape of the porch. Its grim appearance must have stricken fear into every malefactor arrested!



Parliament St - surviving sections of the old Central Police Station.

Most of the old police station was demolished for the construction of Littlewood's (now New Look) store, but the overall shape and scale of the new store's Alfred Gelder Street facade echoes the old police station, especially in the rough stone plinth, and the corner pediments. There are also two original surviving sections of the old building in Parliament Street.

The first municipally-owned crematorium in Britain was built in Hedon Road Cemetery in 1899-1901. It is believed to have been designed by Joseph Hirst, who also designed a number of Cemetery Keepers' lodges, quite simple and usually coated in pebbledash - commonplace in the 20s



Crematorium, Hedon Rd Cemetery

and 30s but very "modern" before the Great War. Hirst also designed the chapel at the Northern Cemetery, Chanterlands Avenue North, in 1912.



Northern Cemetery chapel and lodge.

The expansion of the city brought a need for new parks, each of which required at least one Park-Keeper's lodge. Hirst is known to have designed those at East Park (1903) and West Park (1910). At Pickering Park, he designed the lodge, gates and the almshouses flanking them (1909) as well as the 1912 Museum of Fisheries and Shipping (now a boxing club), collaborating with Christopher Pickering on the design.



Pickering Park - Park-Keeper's lodge, gates, almshouses and former museum

According to David Neave's Pevsner Guide to Hull, Hirst also designed many half-timbered cabmen's shelters in various locations around the city, but these have all vanished, made redundant by changing technology. I wonder if the once-ubiquitous police boxes were his design as well?

By 1900, the open market had moved out of Market Place into the open space to the west of Holy Trinity church, then just called King Street, but now called Trinity Square. Hirst designed a new market hall, now called Trinity Market, with a corn exchange on the upper floor (1902-04).

It is currently undergoing refurbishment and has fewer and more varied stalls than in earlier times, but I recall that up to the 1970s most of the stalls in the main part sold fruit and the post-war extension eastward to the Market Place entrance had meat and fish stalls. In fact, it was often referred to

colloquially as "the fruit market". The main part of the interior is a large shed with steel columns with glass panels in the roof, while the exterior is pleasing in its Art & Crafts style with its handsome domed campanile on North Church Side.

This section has a first



Above, below and left: Trinity Market



floor hall, originally the corn exchange. That was re-located to the Cattle Market in Commercial Road in 1945 and the corn exchange hall is now a boxing club. At the Trinity House Lane entrance, the first floor Corporation Chambers, into which Bob Carver's fish & chip shop was inserted in the 1980s, are also part of the development.



Above: The Empress, Alfred Gelder St
Below: Rise Academy (Fountain House), Fountain Rd

In 1903, Hirst designed the conversion of the Empress public house from a warehouse. One assumes that the warehouse had been purchased by the Corporation in connection with the development of Alfred Gelder Street, as all his other work is municipal in origin.

Most of the 19th century schools erected by the Hull School Board after 1870 were designed by the firm of Botterrill & Bilson, but after education came under the direct control of the Education Committee in 1903, the design work for new schools was done by Joseph Hirst. An early example (1904) was Fountain Road School, recently called Fountain House (now Rise Academy) and used as a Years 10 &



11 pupil referral unit. Later schools by Hirst include Sidmouth Street (1911-12), now Sidmouth Primary, Southcoates

Lane (demolished), and Newland High (1914), now Newland School for

Girls. Also in 1914, Hirst designed the School for Fishermen on Boulevard, later re-named the Hull High School for Nautical Training. This building is now called the Boulevard Centre and houses the School Girl Mums Unit, aimed at enabling teenage single mothers to continue their education.



Above: Sidmouth Primary and Newland School for Girls
Left: Boulevard Centre
Below: Carnegie Heritage Centre



Hirst's Carnegie Library of 1905, (now the Carnegie Heritage Centre) is a favourite of many people, for its originality of design and half-timbered

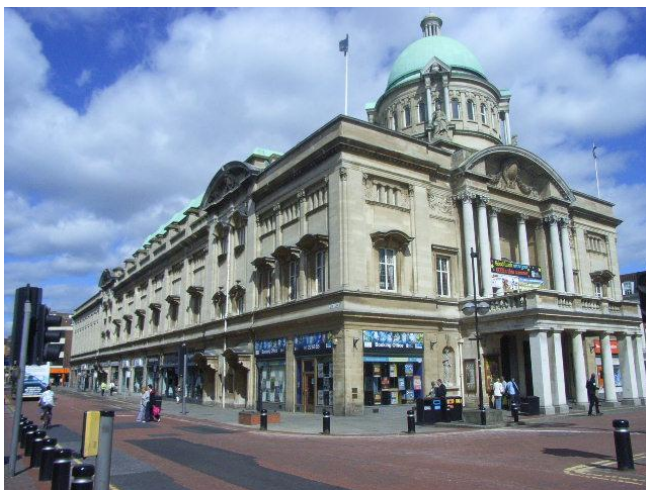
Arts & Crafts style. The library was paid for by the Carnegie Foundation. After it closed as a library in 2003, a Carnegie Heritage Action Team was set up. They managed to acquire it in 2006 and it opened in 2008. Part of the building is used as a book bindery, the East Yorkshire Family History Society is based here and it is the venue for regular local history courses.

However, Hirst's finest work is also his largest project: the City Hall, which forms part of a group of fine buildings surrounding Queen Victoria Square.

“Music is liquid architecture; Architecture is frozen music”, words attributed to Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), would have been a fitting inscription to place in the foyer of the City Hall. Begun in 1903, and completed in 1909, this was Joseph Hirst's largest commission.

It forms one element of Queen Victoria Square, laid in 1899-1900 out as the focal point of Hull's new city centre planned by Alfred Gelder. The stone ashlar materials and columned façade surmounted by green copper dome adds a

touch of dignity to Queen Victoria Square. The Baroque style is, somehow, made lighter by the distinctive Edwardian elements, such as the curved porches over the side doors and the use of the ground floor for shops ensures that it is truly part of the working city centre scene. Initially planned as a concert hall, the decision was taken in 1906 to add an art gallery to the western end of the building opened in 1910.



City Hall
exterior





City Hall: staircase
and main hall.
Bottom:
Central Fire Station

This can be distinguished by the blank first floor walls, with each bay bearing a roundel with artists' names and images in bas-relief. After the opening of the Ferens Art Gallery, the art gallery in the City Hall became home to the Mortimer Museum until the mid 1950s, when the exhibits were moved to High Street.



Before Hirst retired, in 1926, he designed the new Central Fire Station in Worship Street, a replacement for the old one on the same site. The new Central Fire Station opened as a combined fire and police station in 1927 and closed in 2016 for incorporation into the re-developed New Theatre. It was added to the Local List in 2007.



Hirst died in Selby in 1945, aged 81, having

given Hull many interesting and handsome municipal public buildings, worthy of an important modern city.

John Scotney.

OYEZ! OYEZ! OYEZ!

Be it known by all and singular

On this 23rd day of April in this the year 2017

As the East Riding of Yorkshire Town Crier

I loudly and proudly proclaim that:

Four centuries ago, Beverley Gate was the original drawbridge entrance to the 17th century walled town of King's town upon Hull. At this very location, history bore witness to an act of defiance that shaped not only British parliamentary democracy but also the independent spirit of Hull people.

A re-enactment of the unfolding events of 23rd April 1642 by the legendary Hull Playgoers, in the company of civil war re-enactment group the Earl of Manchester's Regiment of Foote, will now take place.

Be it further known

On this its 375th anniversary, how fascinating to discover that here in Hull, as portrayed by the Hull Playgoers' re-enactment, the actions of 23 April 1642 precipitated the English Civil War leading to the beheading of King Charles the First and the termination of the Divine Right of Kings to rule.

As such, without hyperbole, this very spot is truly the ground zero of British parliamentary democracy and Hull can be considered responsible for the very first job-creation-scheme for politicians! However, let us finish today on a cheerier note. Indeed, please join me in giving a cry of three cheers.

**To the past, to the present and to the future
of Beverley Gate, Kingston upon Hull**

HIP HIP HOORAYHIP HIP HOORAY HIP HIP HOORAY

And an extra cheer for our great city in a year that has witnessed so many astounding events and which has many more to come.

To Hull, UK City of Culture 2017

HIP HIP HOORAY

God save the Queen

Proclaimed by Michael Wood

East Riding of Yorkshire Town Crier



Planning and Buildings

River Humber

A "Scoping Opinion" application was submitted in w/c 2.4.17 to improve flood defences all the way along the River Humber frontage from St Andrew's Quay in the west to Lord's Clough in the east of the city.

Old Town

On 20th May Holy Trinity Church was re-named Hull Minster, in a ceremony led by Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York, with Alison White, Bishop of Hull, Neal Barnes, Vicar, and other clergy taking part. Elder Brethren of Trinity House and the Lord Mayor were among the honoured guests. The service, held in Trinity Square, attracted a large crowd. In the nave, the piers are swathed in scaffolding to allow work on the ceiling and there is now a concrete floor throughout, replacing the rubble on which the pews rested. York stone flags will be laid on top of the concrete. The font has been moved further from the West Door. Movable chairs will allow flexible use of the space for worship and concerts and the nave pews, reduced in length will be placed against the walls. The poppy-head pew ends will all be retained but some surplus Victorian pew woodwork will be re-used in new furniture and cupboards elsewhere in the Minster.

The Kingston Hotel (Trinity House Lane / North Church Side) has re-opened. Internal alterations were approved in w/c 9.4.17. Refurbishment of Trinity Market and conversion of the 1980s buildings next door into the new "Boutique Hotel" are both still going on.

Work (best seen from Liberty Lane) is in progress at the rear of 9, 10 and 11 Scale Lane to convert them from offices into dwellings. An application of w/c 7.5.17 proposed multiple occupation and a 1st-floor rear extension at no. 10. With conversions already approved for other properties, Scale Lane is becoming a mainly residential street.

The land at both sides of Blanket Row is surrounded by hoardings (observed 22.5.17). In w/c 28.5.17, conversion into flats was proposed for the 1st & 2nd floors of No 60 Humber St. At the "new" White Hart, Alfred Gelder St, alterations to change the 1st floor rooms into ensuite bedrooms, received LBC approval in w/c 21.5.17. and the same week saw a listed building application to change the upper floors at 3 Parliament St into 4 one-bed apartments.

Marina – West Side

At the Holiday Inn, permission was given in w/c 19.3.17 for a 3-storey extension to provide extra bedrooms and a lounge extension.

City Centre

Approved in w/c 5.3.17, the custody suite has been demolished at the former Queens Gardens Police Station in preparation for conversion into flats. The application was approved in w/c 2.4.17 for change of use into 89 apartments (68 in the original building and 21 in a new 2-storey roof extension), with shops, a cafe or 6 more flats in the south-east corner of the ground floor and pedestrianisation of Queen's Dock Avenue.

On George St, permission was granted in the same week to convert Valbon night club into 18 flats. At no.83 George St, LBC approval was given for two ground floor apartments and an electricity substation in the basement. The Dram Shop pub at the corner of George St and Savile St, has now re-opened. Prior approval was granted in w/c 2.4.17 for the

Lloyds Bank (originally Hull Savings Bank) at the corner of George St and Bond St to be converted into 10 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. Next door, there was an application in w/c 14.5.17 to replace metal window frames with UPVC ones at Kingston House, Bond St.

Approval was granted the same week for 42 flats in the upper floors of Ferens Court, 16-20 Anlaby Rd. Opposite, at the Admiral of the Humber Wetherspoon's pub, conversion of the upper floors into a hotel had started by 10.4.17.

An application to fill in part of the City Hall's basement beneath the portico was approved in w/c 12.3.17.

As part of the upgrade of Princes Quay, an application was approved in w/c 7.5.17, for new structures at the Carr Lane and the Monument Bridge



Ferens Court (flat topped building to the right)

entrances. Work is in progress on the "Outlet Deck", due to open in the week commencing 19.6.17. There will be 24 outlet stores including Next.

The steelwork of the new "Hull Venue" now reflects its upward-curving main facade and the large scale of the building (observed 9.5.17).

At the New Theatre, work is in progress within the old Central Fire Station on Worship St to convert it for theatre use and the Kingston Square extension is structurally complete. Next door, at the Ron Dearing University Technical College cladding was nearly finished but some glazing remains to be done (observed 2.6.17).

Conversion of offices into extra bedrooms at the Royal Hotel was proposed in w/c 12.3.17. In the station, work has started to convert the "Pumpkin" buffet, into the new waiting room & toilets (observed 10.5.17).

The former C&A / TJ Hughes / Poundland store is being converted into the new Sports Direct store, with some structural additions at the rear. Further along Ferensway, steelwork for the new Hilton Hotel is growing. Behind it, between Pearson St and Spring St, the new Central Fire Station is now in use (all observed 8.5.17).

East

At the Energy Works on Cleveland St, there are now several mysteriously-shaped structures on this riverside site, north of Swann St Bridge (observed early April).

Reckitt Benckiser's new 3-storey Research & Development Building is under construction.

The attractive new block of 156 extra care apartments at the corner of Leads Rd and Tweendykes Rd is structurally complete (observed 7.5.17).

An application to built six 3-storey houses on the land in front of 33 Lowgate, Sutton, (a locally-listed house called The Lawns) was refused in w/c 2.4.17 on the grounds that their design, height and siting would not enhance the character of the Sutton Village Conservation Area, would harm the setting of The Lawns, would constitute over-development of the site and fails to provide publicly-accessible greenspace.

In w/c 9.4.17, there was an application to erect an "energy storage system" on Bransholme Rd, capable of exporting 18 megawatts into the grid. In making renewable solar or wind energy more efficient, this is quite important to the future of the environment.

On Wawne Rd, two "Discharge of Conditions" applications, approved in w/c 5.3.17, are another step towards the construction of 750 houses and shops. Land on the western side of Wawne Road has been cleared for the first phase (observed 28.5.17). In w/c 9.4.17 there was an application to build 10 retail units and a pub/restaurant on land to the west of Wawne Rd.



Next store at Kingswood

At Kingswood, the new Next store is open, selling household goods as well as clothes (observed 6.5.17).

The new Lidl at the corner of Hedon Rd and Mount Pleasant is now open (observed 9.5.17). At the corner of Holderness Rd and

Mount Pleasant the Cornmill Hotel and the ground floor "Osteria" restaurant are now open (observed 9.5.17).

At the Woodford Leisure Centre, East Park, work is still in progress on the extension for a 25 metre (82ft), six-lane swimming pool, a learner pool and improved changing and catering facilities (observed 2.6.17).

Opposite, at the corner of Southcoates Ave, work is well advanced on conversion of East Park Baptist Church into flats and the adjacent block of three new houses (observed 22.5.17).

West

On Boothferry Rd beyond the city boundary, just past the road onto the Humber Bridge, Beal Homes (re-located from Hedon Rd) was the first business to move to part of the Bridgehead Business Park on the northern side of the road. Now access roads are being laid for phase two, on the southern side of the road.

Land clearance for a new Lidl has started on the corner of Hessle Rd and Brighton St, beside the flyover, to replace the existing Lidl on the north side of Hessle Rd.

LBC Approval was granted in w/c 28.5.17 for two stained glass windows to be relocated from St Matthews, Boulevard, to St John the Evangelist, St Georges Rd, with replacement plain leaded glazing at St Matthews.

North

At the university, approval was given in w/c 5.3.17 for 1,462 student bedrooms in new buildings ranging from four to nine storeys high, with provision of retail floorspace, sports changing rooms and landscaped open space on the west side of the campus. Permission has also been granted for a 522-space decked car park on the site of the existing car park north of the Wilberforce Building, improvements to Salmon Grove Car Park and temporary parking to the south of the University Sports Centre off Inglemire Lane. Work has begun on these projects. In w/c 7.5.17, a new sports hall and part demolition of the 1950s brick-built changing rooms, facing Inglemire Lane, were approved. The listed Sports & Fitness Centre (1963-5) is not affected.

An application was submitted in w/c 7.5.17 to convert the former



Endsleigh Convent

Endsleigh Convent (1905) into 50 ensuite rooms, the former chapel into 18 flats and to erect 64 new apartments on the site in four 4-storey blocks. and the elevations of the original buildings would be unchanged. All in all it is a sympathetic scheme, retaining plenty of open space. The application does not affect

Dawson House (formerly Wyke House), the Italianate villa, built in 1876-7 by Smith & Brodrick for the brewer William Glossop.

There were two applications to convert pubs into flats: the listed Bull Inn, Stepney (246 Beverley Rd) to 5 flats (w/c 19.3.17) and the Bay Horse, Wincolmlee to 6 flats (w/c 7.5.17).

An application for a 10-bedroom extension at Cottingham Hall Care Home, on Cottingham Rd was submitted in w/c 28.5.17.

A rear extension, internal refurbishment and new entrance were approved in w/c 7.5.17 for the Unitarian Church in Park St.

Permission was granted in w/c 12.3.17 to turn the Hull Training building in Raywell St into a gym. Nearby, the extension of the Sanctuary Housing offices between Raywell St and Francis St is nearly finished (observed 16.5.17).

Civic Society Officers and Committee 2017

Chairman, Newsletter, Planning	John Scotney 492822 john.scotney@talk21.com
Vice Chairman & Exhibitions	Ian Goodison 791439 iangoodison445@gmail.com
Hon. Secretary & Planning	Cynthia Fowler 377434 pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk
Assistant Treasurer	Alison Marling 702246 marlingx4@marlingx4.karoo.co.uk
Heritage Open Days & Projects Director	John Netherwood 653657 jnetherwood@jnetherwood.karoo.co.uk
Membership Secretary & HODs	Christine Netherwood 653657 chris.netherwood@outlook.com
Old Town Regeneration	Colin McNicol 229891 cmcnicol@cmcnicol.karoo.co.uk
Good Mark Secretary	Hilary Blackstock hilary.blackstock23@gmail.com
Friends of Hull General Cemetery, Heritage	Lisa Hewson lisahewson999@hotmail.co.uk
<u>Non-committee post</u>	
Hull Civic Soc Representative to Yorkshire & Humberside Association of Civic Societies (YHACS)	Malcolm Sharman 561611 malcsharman@hotmail.com

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 preferably, by e-mail to john.scotney@talk21.com by 28th August.

Please note: items may sometimes be held over for lack of space.

Welcome to our two new committee members, Lisa and Hilary, both elected at the AGM on 10th April.

www.hullcivicsoc.info

Would you prefer to receive your Newsletter by Post or Email?

At present, we post about 350 Newsletters to Civic Society members, but it may be that some of our readers would prefer to receive it by email (in full colour!). If you are on our mailing list, you will continue to receive it by post, but please email the editor if you wish to have your Newsletter by email instead.

If you want to continue receiving your Newsletter by post, but would like to receive notice of additional events by email, please let us know about that, as well.

Your email address will not be passed on to anyone else without your permission and notices are sent our “blind” so that recipients’ email addresses remain confidential.

Editor john.scotney@talk21.com

Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Annual Membership subscription: £15.00 individual, £24.00 for two people living at the same address.

If you are a tax payer, a Gift Aid declaration can make this subscription worth more to Hull Civic Society at no extra cost to yourself. If you would like a Gift Aid form, please tick the box (Charity No 236485)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Tel. _____ Email address _____

Date _____

Please send with your subscription to our Honorary Secretary,
Cynthia Fowler, 998 Holderness Road, Hull, HU9 4AG