

# HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2014



**Queen's Gardens** (Photo: JD Scotney)

*In this issue: Jean Atkinson, Programme, Feedback Form, Subscription Reminder, Corporate Membership, Hull City of Culture, Hull in Paint, Bristol's Twisting Bridge, Good Mark: Cottingham Croxby Primary School, Heritage Open Days 2014, Heritage Open Days Award, Hull General Cemetery, Good Mark: The bloc, Planning & Buildings, What Future for Hull's Old Town? Committee Changes, Officers and Committee, February Newsletter, Updating the Membership Database, Newsletters by Email, Membership.*

## **Jean Atkinson**

We were sorry to hear of the death of Jean Atkinson on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, at the age of 93. For many years from 1992, Jean was Hull Civic Society's Assistant Secretary, first to Donald Campbell, then to Ken Baker. Jean was a great help to both of them, and to me as Newsletter Editor, taking on many secretarial tasks, including typing the Newsletter and much of the Society's correspondence.

## **Winter Programme 2014-15**

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

*Following a decision at the 2014 Annual General Meeting, non-members are invited to make a donation of £2 per session. Admission is free to Hull Civic Society Members.*

**13<sup>th</sup> October: Hull and the Civic Society Since 1964:** *John Scotney.*

### **10<sup>th</sup> November: Any Questions?**

*An opportunity to pose questions to Mark Jones (Head of Economic Development, Hull City Council), Kathryn Shillito (City Centre Manager, HullBID) and Jon Pywell (Assistant Head of Service, E D & R., Hull City Council). Chaired by Adam Fowler (Manager, City of Hull & Humber Environment Forum).*

**8<sup>th</sup> December: Beverley's Georgian Festival:** *Professor Barbara English*

**12<sup>th</sup> January: The lost Buildings of High Street:** *Alan Richards.*

**9<sup>th</sup> February: New Buildings of Hull:** *Malcolm Sharman.*

### **7:00 p.m. 9<sup>th</sup> March: Annual General Meeting**

Followed by **Cuthbert Brodrick, Architect**

*John Scotney*

**13<sup>th</sup> April: Hull and Goole Port Health Authority – Keeping Disease at Bay:** *Roy Kaye*

## Feedback Form

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a copy of the questionnaire which was handed out during many of the Heritage Open Days events. If you would like to use it to give us your comments about the Society, please pass your completed questionnaire to a member of the committee at the next Civic Society public meeting (Mon. 13<sup>th</sup> October) or post it to the Honorary Secretary, Cynthia Fowler, 998 Holderness Road, Hull, HU9 4AG. If you have the facilities to do so, you could also scan and email it to Cynthia at: [pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk)

### Subscriptions Reminder

If you pay your annual subscriptions by standing order, please remember to amend the amount to £15 (individual) or £24 (two people at the same address) from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

### Corporate Membership

The Civic Society would like to welcome new Corporate Members Handelsbanken & G.F. Smith.

Handelsbanken have recently opening a new bank branch at 18 Marina Court, Castle Street. Hull.

G.F. Smith, Lockwood Street, Hull, however, is a long established paper company in the City, dating back to 1885.

We would like to thank both companies for their valued support of the society.

Kevin Marling  
Corporate Secretary

## Hull City of Culture 2017

It will be here before we know it, time passes so quickly. Will the city be ready? Can we deliver? How will we exploit our outstanding assets? Are we agreed and clear as to what they are? What blights our city? Is there sufficient time to eradicate the 'eye sores'? Have a look at the lists below and see if you agree with them, or feel free to express other views. It will surely focus minds on delivering a successful 2017.

**\*\*What / which features would you use to promote Hull?**

- A city centre full of lovely buildings



Music in a lovely setting –  
Heritage Open Days 2013  
choral singing by various  
choirs in Holy Trinity Church -  
Hull Choral Union.  
(Photo: JD Scotney)

- Compact and close city centre: it is easy to get around on foot, safe streets, lots of safe crossing points, well lit at night.
- Safe Pub and club scene, (purple flag)
- HODS: Heritage Open Days, when the city celebrates the normally closed buildings and businesses that are made accessible to the public
- Freedom Festival: the annual event when the city celebrates the legacy left by local politician, William Wilberforce, the great emancipator.
- Sport: Rugby League – two professional teams in the Super League, Football – Premiership football at the KC, Ice Hockey at the Ice Arena.
- The Deep: the Submarium, Britain's most successful Millennium project
- Parks and Gardens: East Park, West Park, Pearson Park, Queen's Gardens and Pickering Park
- Hull Fair: the annual and largest travelling fair in Britain

- Culture: a wide variety of free walks and trails exploring different aspects of the city
- Friendly people: Hull people are renowned for their friendly disposition
- The Marina: a waterfront area surrounded by lovely old buildings with pubs and restaurants.
- Ferens Art Gallery: the best provincial gallery in Britain
- Excellent theatres: New Theatre and Hull Truck Theatre
- Old Town and Museums Quarter: the founding corner of the modern city where the medieval street pattern is still preserved.
- The Avenues area: a sophisticated quarter comprising pubs, clubs and restaurants as well as quiet, elegant residential avenues

**\*\*What do you consider Hull's worst features are, when considering attracting visitors / tourism**

- The mountain of litter on the rail side approach to Paragon Station and graffiti covered trackside buildings
- Other litter spots in Hull, particularly on the walk to the KC Stadium.
- Chewing gum trodden in on the city centre streets
- The number of undeveloped plots in the city centre including Edwin Davis, New York Hotel, Lord Line Building and St Andrews Dock, Earl de Grey and others.
- The scruffy A63 corridor as it passes through Hull, particularly the litter strewn soft estate and verges
- Lack of available public toilets in the city centre
- The number of beggars in Whitefriargate and surrounding area
- The number of empty shops in the city centre
- A number of badly maintained and potholed roads
- The approach to the Northern Gateway on Hedon Road – there are grey concrete blocks lining the roundabout, unkempt verges, untidy, unlocked after. What a poor welcome to Great Britain in general and Hull in particular!

Your views, as always, are welcome.

Colin McNicol.

## Hull in Paint Exhibition 2014



Queens Gardens, Hull, by Maureen Richardson.

Last year, Hull Civic Society launched Hull in Paint (HiP), a successful series of exhibitions held around the city showing paintings that reflected the history and heritage of Hull.

While the exhibitions were running, it was announced that Hull had been successful in its bid for UK City of Culture for 2017. What a 'buzz' that's created in the City, and what interest it has generated nationally and worldwide!

With this in mind, the Hull Civic Society invited local artists, amateur and professional, individuals and groups to participate in a city-wide touring exhibition in 2014 to capture the excitement and positive feeling that exists in Hull and the rich diversity of its heritage and history.

Hull in Paint 2014 aims to present the unique heritage of Hull through a series of original new paintings produced by local artists and exhibited in a number of venues across the city. The key objectives are to promote the culture and heritage of the city and instil local pride in Hull's rich history, to identify and promote examples of local heritage and develop a historic sense of place within the wider community.

Representatives from the Hull Civic Society will be responsible for the management and delivery of this project. A project working team was

formed to progress and implement the exhibition and venues. The team consists of John Netherwood, Ian Goodison and Paul Priestley-Leach from the Hull Civic Society with Doug Smelt and Mark John Rodgers, both local artists.

The exhibition is funded by Hull City Council City Arts.

Hull in Paint will be touring around the city at the following venues and dates:

- Holy Trinity Parish Church – 12 September to 02 October
- East Park Community and Conference Centre – 03 October to 24 October
- The Orchard Centre, Orchard Park Road – 25 October to 13 November
- Western Synagogue, Linnaeus Street – 14 November to 12 December

To coincide with the first Hull in Paint Exhibition at Holy Trinity Parish Church, a live heritage mural event is planned at a stall in Trinity Market from 15 – 20 September 2014.

Doug Smelt and Denise McCoid, two artists 'Born and Bred in Hull', will be creating the mural, which will depict landmarks and heritage of four key Hull roads – Holderness Road, Hessle Road, Beverley Road and Anlaby Road.

While painting the mural, the artists will be interacting with the local community sharing their own memories and stories about these four famous Roads.

Both Artists have exhibited work at the Ferens Art Gallery.

Doug's work appears in a number of clubs and restaurants around the city, as well as exhibitions, locally and nationally.

Denise, a professional illustrator, with work appearing in a number of publications, won the 2013 Absolute Vodka Design Awards and has recently had some of her work exhibited in POP gallery in Princes Quay.

Doug has been involved in developing the project since its launch and Denise was one of the exhibiting artists from last year.

Ian Goodison  
Hull Civic Society

## **Bristol's Twisting Bridge**

Whilst we in Hull are waiting with bated breath to see what the city and Highways Agency come up with as a proposed design for the bridge across Castle Street, Bristol is grappling with a similar problem. The developers of an area known as Finzel's Reach alongside the river Avon wanted to have a pedestrian connection with Castle Park on the other side of the river. As in the case of Hull's proposal for a bridge across Castle Street they also had the problem of allowing sufficient headroom under the bridge (in this case for navigation), and of avoiding pedestrians and cyclists having to use a lift to get onto the elevated bridge at one end. Hence the designers have come up with a gently sloping bridge 90 metres long which gently twists firstly to achieve its length and secondly to connect the two landing points at Castle Park and Finzel's Reach, which are not opposite each other on the two banks. The result is an elegantly curving bridge which has become known as the Twisting Bridge.

However, Bristol Civic Society has objected to the project and queried whether the project is needed at all as there are more pedestrian friendly crossings nearby which can be used. (In the case of the Castle Street bridge in Hull there is now no question that the crossing is vitally needed i.e. vital to the life of the southern part of the Old Town.) But interestingly enough Bristol Civic Society has also objected to the design. At first sight the



bridge looks like an extremely elegant solution. But Bristol Civic Society feels that it is too long and pedestrians would be intimidated when using it at night. At one end of the bridge there is a blind corner which again the BCS find could be intimidating. The bridge also conceals part of the attractive façade of an old brewery building. The bridge also stands on heavy concrete supports.

I am sure that the designers of the iconic bridge across Castle Street will be looking closely at the progress of the Twisting Bridge in Bristol and grappling with similar problems. They certainly have a huge task to fulfil, and we hope that the end result is something really special and much used.

Paul Priestley-Leach





## **Good Mark – Cottingham Croxby Primary School**

Hull Civic Society has awarded a Good Mark to Cottingham Croxby Primary School, which celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year, for the extension built to accommodate the Breakfast and After School Club, and the school's new reception area.

The idea was first proposed by the Head, Mr Ledgard, who used his expertise from his earlier career as an architect to draw up initial plans. These formed the basis of the working plans developed by ESA, Chartered Architects. F Hall Ltd won the contract and the new extension opened in November 2012.

As you approach the school, the most striking feature of the new entrance is the warm colour of the wooden fascia. In the past, timber has often faded within quite a short period, but this has been impregnated with copper to prevent fading and is guaranteed to retain its colour for at least 25 years. To the left of this section, there is a canopy to protect waiting parents from the elements.



Above: Cottingham Croxby Primary School – the new extension.  
Below: the reception area. (Photos: John Scotney)



Entering the reception area, there is more evidence of thoughtful planning. The semi-circular reception desk is normally staffed by one person, but backs onto the office, so that other members of staff can easily come through to the reception desk if several visitors are waiting for attention. The colour scheme and light woodwork is welcoming. The reception desk has sections low enough for children to see over, as well as a higher section for adults. Another useful feature is a “drop box” where people just calling to leave letters can deposit them through a slot in the counter, even when the receptionist is busy with another visitor.

Access from Reception to the main Breakfast & After School Club area is through a door controlled by the reception staff for security. This is one of the features designed to make the Breakfast & After School Club a place where parents know that children are safe. However, for the children, the most important part is that it is run by Croxby staff whom the children know and see at other times during the school day and who share the “Croxby ethos”.

The space used for the Breakfast & After School Club is light and well equipped for activities. It also has dividing screens so that it can be used as two classrooms during the school day. Like other classrooms, it opens onto the hall.

We are pleased to award this well-deserved Good Mark to Mr Ledgard (Head), to ESA (architects) and F Hall Ltd (contractors) for an extension which shows evidence that it has been carefully planned with thorough understanding of the needs of the school. The plans have been very successfully executed, greatly enhancing the school’s facilities as well as creating a visual impact.

John Scotney.



Mr Ledgard (Head), Duncan Shaws (Chair of Governors), Mike Beal (Hall Construction Goup), Garrard Dennis and Nigel Waumsley (ESA Capita – formerly Elsworth Sykes), architects. (Photo: JD Scotney 2.7.14)



## **Heritage Open Days September 2014**

In last February's Newsletter, we put on record our thanks to Phil Haskins, who had decided to make 2013 his last year as coordinator of HODs, which he had remodeled since 2009. We commented then that it would be a hard act to follow. John & Christine Netherwood decided to carry on Phil's work and have made a great success of the enterprise. I would like to express the Society's thanks to them for all their planning and hard work (and no doubt a few sleepless nights!).

There are many other people and institutions to thank as well. Hull Daily Mail has printed and distributed the brochure, with further distribution by VHEY (Visit Hull & East Yorkshire) and many volunteers. Society members (mainly volunteers) have given talks, led walks and been in attendance at Hull History Centre and venues open during that weekend. Heritage Learning has run numerous events in the Old Town. Many churches, firms and institutions have made visitors welcome in their premises. Generous financial help towards the expenses of Heritage Open Days 2014 has come from Hull City Council, Efficiency North and numerous local companies, including a large number of advertisers in the brochure. Full details will appear in John & Christine's report in due course.

Together, everyone who has been involved has done a great service to Hull's image in the wider world. WELL DONE!

Editor.

## **Heritage Open Days Awards June 30<sup>th</sup> 2014**

What an evening! On Monday June 30<sup>th</sup> Heritage Open Days celebrated their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in style at the Freemason's Hall in London.

With Lloyd Grossman hosting the ceremony, along with a speech from Simon Jenkins, Chairman of the National Trust, and winners being awarded by Griff Rhys Jones – President of Civic Voice .... We knew it was bound to be a fantastic night.

There was an air of excitement generated by so many wonderful people from the heritage sector sharing their enthusiasm for Heritage Open Days but not really knowing who was there for what.

Soon we were to be assured that the judges had spent days reviewing the nominations until in the end it came down to the winners whose submissions really shone and displayed requisite pride and commitment.

Emphasising the tough decision making was Lloyd Grossman, who said “Heritage Open Days is unique because every one of the thousands of events is different – organised by individuals who care passionately about their town, village or region and the history that has created it; our winners exemplify that passion and creativity”.

It was all smiles inside the spectacularly lit and decorated temple as the ceremony proper began.

The categories included community champions, pioneers, star organisers and the category for which we were awarded: Creative Minds.

It was with great pride and rousing applause that John and Christine Netherwood took to the podium with Griff Rhys Jones, who explained that Hull’s programme had expanded hugely and HODs had become a significant moment in the city’s calendar. By working with the City Council, 50 local businesses and over 200 volunteers; Hull Civic Society runs an especially diverse range of events aimed at highlighting every aspect of the city’s heritage.

Brighton also won an award in this category and Stockport and Oxford were highly commended. So ... Hull did win something this year!

Malcolm Sharman.

*Editor’s note: This award was, of course, based on Heritage Open Days up to last year, which were organised by Phil Haskins from 2009 to 2013 in co-operation with our chairman and other members of the Society. Although Phil was, sadly, not able to attend the ceremony, Hull Civic Society owes him a huge debt of gratitude for his contribution over the previous years.*

## Hull General Cemetery

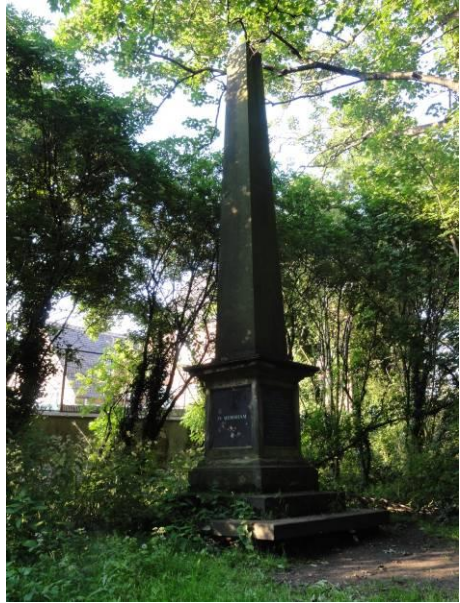
The northern side of Spring Bank West between Princes Avenue and Walton Street railway level crossing is a continuous green open space comprising two separate cemeteries: to the west is the neatly-mown Western Cemetery, where burials still take place. The eastern half is the General Cemetery, laid out in 1847 by John Shields for the Hull Cemetery Company.



General Cemetery, Spring Bank West. (Photo: JD Scotney)

In 1972, Hull City Council took over responsibility for its maintenance, but as urban greenspace rather than a working cemetery. To some, its overgrown state is a disgrace; to others, its “gothic” decay, air of romantic melancholy and abundant trees, shrubs and wildlife (including the occasional deer!) makes it a delight.

There are also some important reminders of Hull’s history in the graves of eminent residents and the 1849 Cholera Monument and mass grave.



Monument to the victims of the 1849 cholera epidemic, which claimed 1,860 victims. (Photo: JD Scotney)

It is much appreciated by local residents, especially dog-owners, (who are usually very responsible about cleaning up after their pets), but they are also dismayed by four other groups of “users”.

Like all parks, and gardens, it attracts the occasional al-fresco consumer of alcoholic beverages. They are not a danger or aggressive, but do tend to leave their cans – or worse still, broken bottles – behind. More annoyance is caused when owners of motor scooters and small motorbikes take it into their heads to ride along the paths. Then there are the occasional wood-cutters who hope to make money out of a trailer-load of wood after unauthorised pruning.

However, the biggest visual and practical problem is the dumping of rubbish – mattresses, televisions, cans, and old clothes and other items.



The environmental health department does manage to clear it from time to time, but it is a constant struggle to keep this beautiful place free of rubbish. Last summer, a large and smelly heap of rubbish accumulated on the northern margin, dropped over the fence that separates the cemetery from Welbeck Street. That can only have come from irresponsible residents. However, most contributions come from the Spring Bank West side and could have come from anywhere.



How to spoil natural beauty. (Photo: JD Scotney)

One deterrent to fly-tippers and illicit wood cutters would be some sort of simple fencing along the Spring Bank West side, at least enough to keep vehicles out. The other deterrent, of course, is prompt reporting and prompt removal.

At a time of budget austerity, maintenance of a disused cemetery cannot be high on the council's list of priorities, but it would be a great loss to the city if this beautiful wild green space became too polluted by rubbish to be enjoyed by the city's many nature-lovers.

John Scotney

**GOOD MARK: The Bloc, Springfield Way, Anlaby, Hull, HU10 6RJ**  
**Development by Andrew Allenby**  
**Architecture and Design Consultants Guy Dawson and Alex Jennison**

The Springfield area of Anlaby is famous for its Frog migrations – Well, at last a home has been provided for at least one lucky frog! (see later).

Springfield Way (Anlaby by-pass) is rapidly being developed as a mixed use business estate serving as a home for a variety of first class local amenities including a supermarket giant and a national touring bus company.



The Bloc, Springfield Way (Photo: JD Scotney)

Most plots have been developed and one of the latest has uniquely transformed the site and structure of a former building to create a prestigious and striking edifice which greatly enhances its surroundings. This building is The Bloc, a purpose built business accommodation centre. It appears to be a radically new construction which takes the place of the former Cattles Holdings office block dating from the early 1960s. This was a stereotypical glass and panel façade wrapped around a flat roofed two-storey framework.

The appearance of the building is now astonishingly different even though it occupies the same ground plan and integral courtyard. It reuses the structural framework, floors and ceilings – the transformation

achieved can only be described as phenomenal and its impact immediate and avant-garde.

A defining characteristic of the building is its simplicity and attention to detail. The use of an unconventional sloping parapet wall device raises a leading corner of the building to create a dramatic skyline which exaggerates the sense of perspective where two walls meet. This effect is simple and effective in establishing the currency of the building as something out of the ordinary. This applies also to both the internal and external detailing which is subtle, artful and well considered. This introduction is my immediate subjective response.

The remainder of my assessment of The Bloc is based on current Civic Trust Award criteria.

The scheme is well related to local facilities and public transport and its siting and orientation keep it in context with its surroundings. Its Spatial Configuration is determined by a rectangular central courtyard which provides sheltered open space and a green outlook for all clients. There are clear paved routes across this space which is kept simple and uncluttered as part of the design philosophy and enables ease of maintenance.

In terms of commodity this scheme supports its current use as well and has the capacity to support future changes. There is direct access to the road and ample parking provision.

The original structure and the services within are honestly exposed and seem to be performing well. Elements of the girders and beams are revealed to provide essential character to the building and the patterns and textures of original flooring systems are exploited robustly.

One major feature of the interior is the use of Cable Trays to carry the essential wiring to each unit and workstation. These perforated powder coated metal trays are suspended just below the ceiling and left open to provide easy access from both sides – Brilliant!

Lighting can be integral with these trays or by free-hanging strips or roundels, produced by “HACEL” and of a quality which enhances each interior. Some lighting is incorporated into suspended ceiling panels thus providing a variety of interest in ceiling height and treatment.

The air conditioning pipes are well engineered and coordinate visually as they snake throughout the building to maintain user comfort. The building is insulated according to BREAM specifications.

It is attention to detail in terms of materials, texture and colour that the scheme has such a strong identity and character. This impacts on the personnel and their clients in a very positive way. (To ensure the design integrity of the whole scheme the developers have predetermined the style of furniture throughout).

The Bloc is exemplary in its re-use of the existing structure and apart from its sustainability some of the innovations are inspirational. For example, the non-provision of urinals in the gentlemen's toilet which means no smell or lack of privacy; consequently the washrooms can look out through clear glass onto the green sward of the quad. Simple! The thought processes which have gone into the creation of this building at every level provide for the individual and joint needs of the clients. Individually no two units are exactly the same although the shared refreshment areas provide a collective sense of comfort, safety and wellbeing.

The entrance portal is imposing and the ante-room is subtly designed to provide a comfortable meeting and greeting space. Interestingly, visitors are welcomed by a giant toad sculpture created for the Larkin 25 Festival. This is a potent reminder of the creative and cultural energies evident within this City.

In my view this building is a worthy contender for a Civic Society Good Mark Award.

Malcolm Sharman

## **Planning and Buildings**

### Old Town

Permission was granted (w/c 9.6) for window replacement and amendments to door & window openings at Cerutti's (11-12 Nelson St, opposite the pier).

Declared unsafe in May, Wellington House, the Cuthbert Brodrick building at the corner of Queen St and Wellington St was demolished at the beginning of September.

On 7<sup>th</sup> July, Paul Gibson advised me that demolition had started on the buildings on Humber St (eastern section) and Queen St that surrounded Central Dry Dock. By 1<sup>st</sup> September demolition was more or less complete and hoardings were being erected around the site, where Hull’s new Centre for Digital Initiative (C4DI) is to be built. This will, according to the website, be Hull’s first dedicated workspace and venue for digital and technology companies. The new buildings are expected to be open in 18-24 months’ time, but an interim “C4DI Beta” membership is available for people and companies wishing to get involved early, housed on two floors of the Wykeland Building on Queen St. As a Civic Society, we think this is an exciting enterprise that could develop a lot of local talent.

In w/c 30.6, flexible planning permission for a variety of possible new uses (retail, professional services, restaurant/cafe, drinking establishment, offices or art gallery) was granted for two groups of former fruit warehouses in Humber St (2-9 and 71-72). A change of use application for various ground floor uses and four flats on the upper floors, with external alterations, at 12-18 Humber St was approved in w/c 3.8.

Kings Building on South Church Side (by William Botterill) was built in 1875 for King & Co, one of Hull’s foremost hardware dealers. Since it closed, it has had various uses, including an indoor market. In w/c 3.8, permission was granted for its latest use: 24 one-bedroom flats.



King’s Building, South Church Side (Photo: JD Scotney)

At present there are two flats on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of 10A King St (fondly remembered as the former Studio 10½ cafe and gallery). In w/c 20.7 an application was submitted to change the rear roof slope to accommodate another two flats.

Permission was given in w/c 7.9 to convert 51-52 Market Place (next to Trinity Market) from offices into a backpackers' hostel. It began as the Gaiety Cinema in 1913, became the Gaiety Theatre in 1915 and the Playgoers Theatre from 1928 until closure in 1934. Since then it has had various storage and office functions.



51-52 Market Place (built as the Gaiety Cinema 1913). (Photo: JD Scotney)

Boyes' new department store at 4-5 Whitefriargate opened on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Boyes, a Scarborough firm, is long established in Hull, with shops in Hesse Rd, Holderness Rd and North Point (Bransholme). Its wide range of useful goods and reasonable prices will attract a great variety of shoppers to this part of the Old Town, increasing footfall in the market and surrounding shops. The building, last occupied by Peacocks and earlier by Woolworths, was originally Smith's Bank of 1829-30, by Charles Mountain Jnr. Its fine pediment was carved by Thomas Earle.



Permission for conversion of the yard at the old Trinity House School was announced just after the June Newsletter went to press (w/c 9.6).

An application was submitted in w/c 6.7 for 19 Silver St, the Grade 2\* listed former Nat West Bank at the corner of Land of green Ginger (1873, by Smith & Brodrick). Internal and external alterations to ground floor, basement and mezzanine are proposed for change of use to mixed use restaurant and drinking establishment. We have written in support.



19 Silver St – former Nat West Bank (Photo: JD Scotney)

The future of the former Hull Stock Exchange in Lowgate (1866, by William Botterill), with its fine barrel ceiling and etched glass windows at the rear, was secured some decades ago when it became the juvenile courts. More recently, it became the Barracuda pub, but this is closed and to let and therefore vulnerable to vandalism and decay.

New signage for the listed Empress Hotel was approved in w/c 23.6.

## City Centre

Although it appears that nothing is happening to the former Goose & Granite pub on George St (previously Manchester Hotel), there is plenty of building activity to the rear, where the building is being remodeled into flats. This work is visible from New Garden St, which runs parallel to George St.



Rear of the Goose & Granite (Manchester Hotel) (Photo: JD Scotney)

From this street, you can also see the work being carried out at the rear of Venue night club, George St, formerly Carmichael's department store. In w/c 3.8, there was an application to convert 22-23 Albion St from offices to 6 flats. These are part of the fine 1790s terrace on the north side of the street.

In w/c 10.8 a listed building application was submitted for alterations to the waiting room between platforms 3 and 4 at Paragon Station.

An application was submitted in w/c 30.6 for a block of 98 flats at 20-24 Baker St on the site of the former chapel of rest, house and Baker Street Garage. We objected to it on the grounds of over-development of the site, but it was approved on 3/9 subject to finalising a Section 106 Agreement.

In w/c 3.8 approval was given to use some of Pryme St multi-storey car park's spare capacity for storage of large objects for Hull Museums.



54-60 Paragon St, the former Bradford & Bingley office, became redundant when Santander took them over, as they already owned former offices of several other building societies nearby. In w/c 31.8 an application was submitted to increase the height from 3 to 5 storeys for student accommodation, put cladding onto the facades and change the ground floor into a restaurant.



Former Bradford & Bingley office at the corner of Paragon St and Chapel St  
(Photo: JD Scotney)

## East

An extension to the Post Office at 110 Holderness Rd (between Franklin St and Brazil St) was approved in w/c 9.6, in place of the more ambitious scheme to replace it with a 3-storey block of shops and flats, which was withdrawn the same week.

In w/c 20.7, permission was granted for conversion of the former Methodist Sunday School building on Durham St into 2 flats. Holderness Rd Methodist Church itself is still in regular use.

Detailed applications were approved in w/c 31.8 for the Alexandra Dock Green Port Complex: demolitions, refurbishment and erection of new buildings for manufacture, of wind turbine components and equipment, service and logistics building and electrical sub-station and landscaping.

Permission was granted in w/c 31.8 for “reserved matters” (details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) relating to Phase One of redevelopment of the site of Hull’s old Maternity Hospital and the adjacent allotments. The scheme is for 3-storey buildings for office and/or research space. This was originally the site of the City Hospital built in 1885 to deal with infectious diseases. It was relocated to Castle Hill in 1928 and the buildings became the Maternity Hospital, from 1929 to 2003.

Kingswood is growing steadily, with new houses, a primary school and other local facilities on roads to the north of the main shopping centre.

### West

In weeks commencing 20.7 and 27.7, Smith & Nephew received permission for alterations to their southern and northern frontages to provide “flood resilience measures” with relocation of some entrances and installation of ramps, steps, flood walls and gates and new landscaping.

There are new housing developments at Hawthorn Ave and adjoining streets, the former Boothferry Park football ground on Boothferry Rd, “The Sidings” on the former Jewson’s timber yard (previously a railway coal depot, hence the name) on Calvert Lane and “Scholars’ Gate” on Spring Bank West (on the site of Riley College, near the overhead railway bridge). They are all growing quite quickly and residents have moved into all four developments.

### North

The site of Municipal Buildings on the north side of George St, between Carroll Place and Trippett St, was cleared last year. An application to use it as a temporary car park was submitted in w/c 13.7.

Sanctuary Housing, 160 Francis St, applied in w/c 13.7 to build a 3-storey extension.

Change of use of 29 Park St (next to Hull College Park St site) from a night club to a performing arts academy was approved in w/c 31.8.

The former Tap (originally Eagle) pub at the corner of Spring Bank and West Parade has been refurbished in a manner that retains its traditional pub appearance, but a notice in the window shows that it is to let as retail premises.

A new application was submitted in w/c 7.9 to develop the former Government Buildings site on the south side of Spring Bank (between Stanley St and Derringham St). The proposal is for two buildings, one 4-storey and one up to 7 storeys) to provide 37 flats and 3 shops, with an access road and parking. An application to build two 4-storey buildings for 73 flats was refused in March 2008.

In w/c 20.7, an application to convert the listed High Flags Mill, Wincolmlee, into 44 flats was submitted. The scheme is sympathetic to the buildings and would give a new use to an important historic industrial building that has been disused for many years. We have written in support.



High Flags Mill – a listed relic of Hull’s important oil-milling industry  
(Photo: JD Scotney)

An application was submitted in w/c 23.6 to demolish 61 Beverley Rd, (formerly a security firm’s premises and more recently used as a training base), and erect a new 3-storey building for 2 flats.

In w/c 13.7 permission was granted to change the rear part of Amazing Grace Chapel (71-73 Beverley Rd) into 3 dwellings.

In w/c 10.8, the National Civilian WW2 Memorial Trust submitted an application to alter the listed remains of the National Picture Theatre by

removing the advert hoarding, erecting gates across the original entrance, erecting an education room and air raid shelter, a folding screen and boundary walls plus landscaping and five parking spaces.

Another application relating to this site (submitted in w/c 20.4), for a 2-storey extension, with a timber-framed canopy, to the rear of the Swan Inn was approved in w/c 31.8. The Rose Hotel, 245 Beverley Rd, was one of a concentration of pubs in Stepney, but has been closed for some time. Permission was granted in w/c 9.6 for a re-submitted application to convert the ground floor from pub to flats. The proposals retain the building's distinctive appearance.

Further north on Beverley Rd, the Dorchester Hotel has re-opened for business with a ground floor restaurants at the front. Some work is continuing on the front part. Although it appears as one building, it was originally three separate residences.



Dorchester Hotel, Beverley Rd (Photo: JD Scotney)

Lidl at the corner of Beverley Rd and Cottingham Rd received permission in w/c 20.7 to build an extension for a bakery preparation area and freezer store and to infill beneath the canopy to create a shoppers' café.

In w/c 16.6 Hull University submitted an application for alterations and an extension to Middleton Hall to provide an ambisonic studio, plant room and new stage deliveries entrance.

Demolition of the old (1970s) Orchard Park shopping centre began at the end of June. Now only the post office and Woodcock's bakers are left trading on the north side of the car park, though there is still the older row of shops on Orchard Park Rd itself. In early September, trenches had been dug on the large site east of the post office as the first step towards construction of the new shopping centre.

John Scotney

## **WHAT FUTURE FOR HULL'S OLD TOWN?**

This was the working title of the Urban Panel Report Discussion held on Thursday 4 September at the Mercure Hull Royal Hotel. Our Chairman was among those invited to attend.

English Heritage's Urban Panel, a group of independent advisers from across the country, visited Hull on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July. Their remit was to explore ideas for the future of the Old Town and how Hull can make the most of the accolade that 2017 City of Culture can bring.

The Panel was extremely impressed by the extent and quality of the heritage in the Old Town which it felt to be special and unique. The Chair, Charles Wilson, and Panel Member, Derek Latham, kindly agreed to return to discuss their findings and recommendations with stakeholders in the City.

The purpose of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September was to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the findings with members of the Panel and consider what next steps might be appropriate.

This was followed by the Urban Panel's, full report and recommendations, to all the city's Stakeholders. We have recently received a copy. This will be made available to Society Members in due course.

Editor

## **Committee Changes**

In the last Newsletter, I failed to mention Christine Netherwood, whose membership of the committee was approved at the March AGM. She has shared the heavy (and at times stressful) task of organising the 2014

Heritage Open Days with her husband John, but also makes her own contribution to the committee's work. Welcome Christine!  
 In September, Colin McNicol announced his wish to step down from the committee. Since he joined in 2008, Colin has made a tremendous contribution to the Society's work, representing us at meetings with the City Council, the Highways Agency and other bodies, sharing ideas, writing articles and proposals and wrestling with the difficulties of revamping the website. We shall all miss him at committee meetings, but we are pleased to hear that he is still going to be active in many facets of the Civic Society's work.

### **Civic Society Officers and Committee 2014-15**

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### February 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](mailto:john.scotney@talk21.com) by 10<sup>th</sup> January. Please note: items may sometimes be held over for lack of space.

### Updating the Membership Database

Following the sad loss of Walter Houlton, our new Membership Secretary, Paul Schofield, is embarking on updating the Civic Society's membership data base. Details are purely for the purpose of contacting members and will not be shared with any other organisation.

Members are politely reminded that subscription fees for 2014 are now due. Cheques can be sent to the address below, or payment can be made through the website.

**It would be extremely helpful if ALL members could fill in their details below, and return to:**

Paul Schofield (Membership Secretary),  
34, Roborough Close, HULL HU7 4RW  
email:schopaul@hotmail.com

Name(s):

Address:

Contact Phone Number:

email:

## 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](mailto:john.scotney@talk21.com)

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### 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)*

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