

HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

May 2011



Archbishop Sentamu Academy, Preston Road

(Photo: JD Scotney)

In this issue: Programme, September Newsletter, Summer Outings & Walkabouts June & July 2011, Heritage Open Days in Hull, More City Centre Masterplan Madness, Memories of Hull by Lily Bee (nee Marlow), Spring Bank Walk (Part 3), Planning & Buildings, President, Officers & Committee, Committee Changes, Tigers v Roundabouts.

Please note the Society's new address for correspondence

All correspondence should now be directed to our Honorary Secretary:

Mrs Cynthia Fowler, 998 Holderness Road, Hull, HU9 4AG,

Tel 01482 377434, Email: pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk

£1.50 where sold

Spring and Summer Programme 2011

Advance booking is essential lfor most of these visits. To book, please ring the Hon. Secretary, Cynthia Fowler, on 01482 377434 (if no answer, please leave a message and your phone number) or email her on pinkhouse1@hotmail.co.uk. If you have to cancel, please tell us, so that we can offer your place to someone on the waiting list. Visits are open to non-members.

Mon 6th June: South Cave – (booking essential - limit: 12 people).

A second opportunity to visit this interesting village, with a guided walk by the south Cave Local History Society on a different route from the 2010 visit. *Meet outside the Town Hall at 7 pm.*

Fri 10th June: Wassand Hall – (booking essential – limit: 20 people).

A guided tour of the house and gardens of one of East Yorkshire's less well known houses. *Meet 2 pm at Wassand Hall, near Seaton, Hornsea. Own transport, but lifts can be arranged. The charge for this visit is £8, including refreshments (payable at the hall).*

Sat 25th June: New Earswick – (booking essential – limit 25 people)

A guided tour of York's "Garden Village" by a member of the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust. *Meet 11.00 am at the Folk Hall, New Earswick.*

Mon 4th July 7 pm Exploring Hull's Industrial Past – (booking essential - limit: 25 people).

A guided walk by Colin Cooper. *Meet outside Blaydes House, High Street.*

Thur 8th - Sun 11th September – Heritage Open Days – (no need to book!)

Our annual opportunity to visit many historic buildings in Hull that are not usually open to the public. There will also be a programme of history walks and talks. The brochure will be available in late summer at various locations within the city and details will also be available online.

Public Meetings 2011 – 2012

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

All meetings are open to non-members.

First meeting: Monday 10th October – "Winfred Holtby" a talk by Jill Crowther about one of the East Riding's most famous authors. Her best-known work, "South Riding" is set in East Yorkshire.

Other meetings will be on Mondays 14th November, 12th December 2011, 8th January, 13th February, 12th March (AGM and talk). The first visit of 2012 will be to the Carnegie Centre on Monday 14th April. **Full details will appear in the September Newsletter.**

September Newsletter

Many thanks to all our contributors. Please submit all items by 28th August to the Editor, John Scotney, 126 Cottingham Rd, Hull, HU6 7RZ, or preferably, by e-mail to john.scotney@talk21.com. Please note: items may sometimes be held over for lack of space.

Don't miss out on trips and walks! If you send us your email, we can advise you of any extra visits or changes to the programme between Newsletters. Just email the Hon Sec or the Editor. Don't worry – they are both too busy to bombard you with unnecessary information!

Summer Outings & Walkabouts in June and July 2011

The Civic Society continues with its programme of visiting local attractions and nearby places of interest in 2011.

South Cave Part 2 (Mon 6th June)

On Monday 6th June it is the second part of the South Cave Heritage Trail. Members may recall the original visit to this fascinating town in June 2010 - unfortunately it suffered from World Cup competition!

This year's tour is not a repeat of 2010's, more a second part of the trail around this beautiful town, and will once more be led by Mrs J. Stanley (assisted by Mrs S. Heathcote), who helped to produce the trail in 2010. The walk will last approximately 1½ hours. This time, the best place to park is adjacent to All Saints' Church, where the walk will start at 7.00 pm.

Wassand Hall (Fri 10th June)

The second visit is a daytime tour of Wassand Hall, which is near to Seaton on the B1244 Hull to Hornsea Road, approximately 18 miles from Hull city centre. This is a fine Regency house and the estate has been in the ownership of one family since 1530! With a fine collection of 18th and 19th century porcelain, paintings and furniture, it also has beautiful walled gardens with fine views of Hornsea Mere, Yorkshire's largest lake, which also forms part of the estate.

The visit is on Friday, 10th June, 2011 at 2.00 pm and a charge of £8.00, payable to the owners on arrival, will include a house and grounds tour plus "excellent tea and home-made cakes". We hope that the weather is on our side for both visits, which should be booked early, as the South Cave walk is limited to 12 members and Wassand Hall is limited to 20.



Wassand Hall (Photo: JD Scotney)

New Earswick (Sat 25th June)

Our third visit outside Hull is to New Earswick, on the outskirts of York. The Rowntree family, like the Reckitts in Hull (Garden Village) and the Cadburys in Birmingham (Bourneville), believed that the solution to poor, overcrowded urban housing was to build a garden suburb for their employees and other tenants. A member of the Joseph Rowntree Trust will give us a guided tour at 11.00 am on Saturday 25th June. There is a large car park behind the Folk Hall, our meeting place.

"Exploring Hull's Industrial Past (Part 1)" (Mon 4th July)

Finally, on Monday 4th July 2011, the Society is having a local evening walk led by Mr Colin Cooper, a long-term Civic Society member and local history enthusiast, with special interest in Hull's maritime and industrial heritage.

The walk will trace the development of Hull from the "Old Harbour" to Drypool and East Hull and will be an opportunity to visit some of the city's valuable, but rapidly diminishing industrial heritage. The title of this walk is "Exploring Hull's Industrial Past (Part 1)". The walk will last for 1½ to 2 hours. Members should meet near Blaydes House, "Little" High Street (between the rear of Hull College and Drypool Bridge) at 7.00 pm. This walk is limited to 25 people. Hopefully, Part 2 will be on the programme of events for 2012/2013 and will cover Wincolmlee, east Sculcoates and "The Groves" areas of Hull.

Please book early to ensure your place on these outings!
Heritage Open Days in Hull 2011

Preparations for the Society's Heritage Open Days open days this year are going well. Society member Phil Haskins and members of the Society's Committee, including John Netherwood, Cynthia Fowler and Colin McNicol, have been busy registering properties and organising a series of events, including tours, talks, exhibitions and other activities which will take place during the 4 days from Thursday September 8th to Sunday September 11th.

If you haven't been to any of the following **properties**, now's your chance as they're all opening their doors for the first time for HODs - they include:

The Humber Museum on Cleveland Street, St Matthews Church on Anlaby Road, The Fishing Heritage Museum in the Museum's Quarter and Church on the Way on Princes Avenue. Old favourites such as Holy Trinity Church, St Charles Borromeo, Trinity House Chapel and Hull Charterhouse will all be featuring as in previous years.

Like last year, there will be **tours** of other properties such as Hull Truck Theatre, Hull City Hall, Hull New Theatre and the Guildhall. Also returning will be the wide range of other tours, many of which are being delivered by members of the Society so please do your best to turn out and support them.



Bellringers in St Mary's
Lowgate
(Photo supplied by Phil Haskins)



It's easy to forget that some companies in Hull have been going well over a hundred years, and some, like Crown Paints, for 200, so this year we've decided not to overlook this aspect of the city's heritage and are trying to arrange a '**Commercial Programme**', which is a fancy name for putting together a series of tours of some of these companies. But we do feel that the city's commercial heritage is worth highlighting in this way and will be an excellent opportunity for all of you to get your foot in a chief executive's office!

We are also hoping that you can make it to our two day **talk/lecture programme** which we are hoping to hold over two days at Hull History Centre on the Thursday (8th) and Friday (9th) of the open days. The first day will have a decidedly eclectic feel, including a history of local duelling by David Smith (not for the squeamish!), a look at the story of the Priestman firm in the city, old rivalries will be on show when David Sherwood covers the history of the city's two rugby league teams and rivalries of a cinematic variety between Hull and Hollywood will be looked at by cinema aficionado and local Town Crier Michael Wood (though he has assured me that he'll only be doing one peal of O Yea, O Yea, O Yea).

The next day of talks will bring a more watery feel and remind us that Hull is very much a maritime city, especially when Kenneth Deacon tells us about the history of Airships on the Humber, including the dramatic last moments of the massive R38 as it plunged into the estuary in 1921 killing many onboard. Something not to miss will be a dramatic multimedia performance of Coleridge's The Ancient Mariner. Classical actor Colin Pinney will narrate Coleridge's poem using Gustav Dores striking pictures in a performance which has been described as 'stunning'.

Our '**Heritage Fun Day**' (named by our Chairman) in Trinity Square is also back, if not by popular demand then certainly by the positive response to last year's vintage prams, poetry competition and especially the guided bus tours. We're hoping to join these features with some heritage craft displays, so people can see hands on how centuries old crafts and trades are performed.

Naturally we'll be aiming to get the message out there as soon as we can via all means possible (except perhaps smoke signals) and will be producing another extensive brochure which was so well received last year, even the heads of English Heritage were cooing about the Society's efforts. We'll also be backing this up with a local website www.hodshull.co.uk which will have all the information in it, plus we've also put together a few audio programmes/tours to add spice to the site - check out in particular Chris Mead's contribution on the Street Furniture in High Street.

We're always looking for people to help out with the Open Days, be that sitting at the Society's information desk, leading tours or meeting and greeting visitors at various properties. Times are flexible and eternal gratitude is guaranteed, so if you feel you can help, please contact a committee member or organiser Phil Haskins on 01482 646683 / p.haskins@pffhproductions.co.uk . We look forward to seeing you all in September!

More City Centre Masterplan Madness

It is beginning to look as though the City is lumbered with Nora Galley's City Centre Masterplan. It was originally based on false logic that, as Hull had an internet provider in Kingston Communications, this would help Hull to become a centre for internet technology. The plan was conceived at the height of the dot com frenzy but it was adopted by the City Council after the dot com bubble had burst. The Fruit Market area was supposed to become a hive of internet technology firms employing hordes of staff living in the Boom development on the east bank of the River Hull!!!

Looking back, it is hard to see why so many people thought that this was a sensible plan. Did Nora Galley beguile or bewitch the planning authorities? The City Council and Yorkshire Forward have wasted millions in buying up land, at inflated prices, for development planned in the Masterplan, which it is now clear will never take place. Yet some people still hanker after the idea that the Fruit Market area could become a centre for internet technology.

The latest idea is to have a hub for internet technology in the Fruit Market area and build an office block for local I. T. firms. Has any major internet technology company grown out of an internet technology hub? Did Google, Facebook or Twitter develop like this? Dell, one of the largest makers of computers, started making computers in a bedroom! An internet technology hub in the Fruit Market area seems certain to be a failure and yet bids are being made for grants to build it.

It is high time that the City Centre Masterplan was pruned to remove the deadwood. Sensible development might then occur in the areas known as the Fruit Market, Quay West, East Bank & Blaydes Dock and Humber Quays.

Walter Houlton.

Memories of Hull by Lily Bee, nee Marlow

Family connections with the pub trade

My grandfather, Mr Mumby, had the Portland Arms in Porter Street and attended St James Anglican Church. Before taking on the pub, he had had a haulage business. My aunt married George Livesey, who had the Darley Arms at the corner of Porter Street and William Street. My mother's younger brother had the Clarendon on Londesborough Street. Her older sister and brother-in-law,

Beatrice and Billy Craig started with the Crown and Cushion in Land of Green Ginger in the mid 1920s and later moved to the Crown and Anchor on Waterhouse Lane before the end of the 20s. One of my cousins was called Catherine Alexandra because she was born in the Alexandra Hotel on Hessle Road. My mother's sister, Lily, was married to Walter Foster, who had a grocery shop. His brother, Fred, was proprietor of the Tivoli Hotel, 1 Mytongate in the early 1920s. By 1926, he had moved to the Manchester Arms, 6 Scale Lane, which is still open. Fred Foster had two daughters, Faith and Hope. Faith married into Bob Carver's family, still famed for their fish & chips at Hull market. Four members of the Carver family bore the name Bob.

Three Family Tragedies in the 1930s

When I was 12, my grandfather was walking along the quayside and fell into the river. The cause of death was not drowning, as there was no water in his lungs. Shortly after, Uncle Billy tried to stop a fight at his pub, the Crown & Anchor. He was knocked down and kicked savagely. He died of the pneumonia which developed as a result. The third loss was my Uncle Charlie. He worked at Barnaby's coachbuilders (Neptune Street) and was killed when the car which he was driving collided with a horse & cart.

Working at the Regal Cinema

I started work in 1937 at the age of 15, selling chocolate and ice cream at the Regal Cinema on Ferensway. I had the distinction of being the first ice cream girl to have her own trailer on the screen. It was there that I met and started going out with a stage electrician, Edward (Eddie) Bee.

When the war started, the ABC Regal Cinema closed for a time. I still have photographs of the staff standing on the roof and in Collier Street beside the cinema just before it closed. It re-opened later.



Lily Bee, nee Marlow (Photo supplied by Mrs Lily Bee)



Regal Cinema Staff (Photo supplied by Mrs Lily Bee)



Left, above & upper right: Regal staff (photos supplied by Lily Bee)

Wartime

In 1941, I went to a job as conductor on the trolleybuses. I worked on the number 61 to Chanterlands Avenue, which we referred to as “the dead route” as it passed three cemeteries! My job involved jumping off to pull the “frog” the lever that changed the points in the overhead wires at Prospect Street and Botanic.



A 61 trolleybus in King Edward St in 1961 (Photo: JD Scotney)

Charlie Straker was the timekeeper at King Edward Street. When there was an air raid, he used to send our buses away to the outskirts of Hull, where we were safer. In the city centre, we were usually sent into the Dock Offices air-raid shelter, but I remember one bad raid when Charlie, my driver, and I were sent into the shelter under the Prudential tower. The Mecca Café which was down there had mirrors and wooden seats. There was one entrance, which led to a lift and stairs. Additional props were installed to help to hold up the ceiling. When things quietened down, my driver and the timekeeper went out. They returned with faces like sheets. The Shell Mex building was ablaze. In the dark, my driver thought he had kicked a body, but it turned out to be a dummy out of Fifty Shilling Tailor’s window!

We found we were walking on plate glass back to our bus, but we found it was already full of passengers. I had just started to take tickets when decided to go back to the shelter. A bomb went off and I was blown into the entrance of the Prudential building, where we stayed until the “all clear” went. Some of the passengers were still sitting on the bus. We didn’t get very far before the bus was stopped by red lights just past Jameson Street. The Metropole, a dance hall in West Street had been bombed. If we had set off earlier we, too would have been hit by the bomb. The King Edward Street Woolworths (now Ethel Austin and Au Naturelle) now covers the site of the Metropole. For a time, the trolleybuses had to turn round at the Beverley Road end of Spring Bank.

A wartime wedding

I was married to Eddie Bee at St John’s, Newington (in St George’s Road), on 19th July 1941. A mock invasion exercise was in progress that day, with the city partitioned down the middle, and East Hull people stopped from getting through to the west. People acting as “spies” had the task of trying to get through. To reach the church from East Hull, the groom had to show his army pay book to get

through the cordon. Eddie got married in uniform, as his suit didn't fit. My father's suit had little holes from broken glass in the tailor's window (it was replaced after the wedding!) and the photographer had been bombed out! Our first home was in Woodcock Street and I liked it there. Later we lived in Ingleton Avenue. We celebrated our golden wedding in 1991 at the Tranby Club.

Life after the war

When my husband came home from the war, he did a course at Gregg's College and took a job at De La Pole Mental Hospital (NHS "B Group"). Later, he worked for the Joseph Rank Benevolent Fund.

After having my family, a son and a daughter, I used my professional knitting skills working for the NHS as a technical instructor in occupational therapy. Initially I was based at Coltman Street, doing home visits, then at Hull Royal Infirmary as a technical instructor.

After my husband died in 1999, I lived for two years near my son in York, but when he moved to Cheshire, I moved up to Gosforth, Newcastle, near to my daughter, but Hull is a place that holds many memories for me.



St John's Newington, St George's Road
Photo: JD Scotnev

Lily Bee.

Spring Bank Walk, 19th July 2010– Part 3

After visiting the Deaf Institute (see part 2, February 2011) and looking at Minerva Terrace, we walked down Park Street as far as the first junction, for a distant view of several more buildings of interest. In Part 2 of this article, I mentioned that the "Hull, East Yorkshire & Lincolnshire Institution for the Deaf & Dumb" moved in 1866 from 179 High Street to 4 Belgrave Terrace (renumbered 53 Spring Bank in 1883). In the section headed "Charitable Institutions", Bulmer's Gazetteer of 1892 states that "At the back - in Grey Street - a school has been erected, and furnished with the most approved appliances for teaching, under the new system. The institute is supported by voluntary contributions." I think it is a reasonable assumption that this is the original use of the dilapidated double-gabled building on the north side of Grey Street at the rear of 51 and 53 Spring Bank. Across the road, the single-storey premises of the Hull Photographic Club present a windowless, grey brick façade to the street, but it has a walled garden to the rear. It was built in the 1870s as a meeting room for the Plymouth Brethren (a rather reclusive Protestant sect, hence the lack of windows) and was listed as such in Kelly's 1897 directory. The Hull Photographic Club had bought the premises by 1902, when they submitted a



Above: the former Deaf & Dumb School, Grey St.
Below: Hull Photographic Club (former Plymouth Brethren meeting house), Grey St
(Photos: JD Scotnev)



planning application (now in the History Centre archives) to add a dark-room extending into the garden.



Victoria House (formerly Victoria Hospital for Sick Children, 1891 - 1967) (Photo: JD Scotney)

On Park Street itself we had a distant view of the listed Victoria House, currently NHS offices, but built as the Victoria Hospital for Sick Children. The first children’s hospital was in Story St (1873), then in Boulevard until the exuberant Gothic-style hospital in Park St opened in 1891. The larger, plainer extension dates from the 1920s. It closed in 1967, when the new Hull Royal Infirmary opened on Anlaby Road. Quern House, at the corner of Grey St was a nurses’ home for many years. The grand terraces of houses in Park St are long gone, but one large 19th century house survives in Park Row. Now called Sir John Symons House, it was built in 1862 as a pair of semi-detached houses.

The southern side of Spring Bank developed more quickly than the northern side, but neither side developed in a steady westward progression. Back on Spring Bank, we crossed to the north side to look at St Stephen’s Church. It became an Anglican church in 1973, but was built in 1959 as Spring Bank Methodist Church, (architect: Bernard Blanchard), to replace Jubilee Primitive Methodist Chapel, designed with seats for 1030 people by Joseph Wright in Italianate style. It opened in 1864 and was demolished in 1958. The proprietor of Daniels Turner, Opticians, very kindly came out with a framed photograph of the same scene over a hundred years ago. His shop was then a house and he showed us the surviving hallway and splendid staircase.



St Stephen’s Anglican (formerly Spring Bank Methodist) Church (Photo: JD Scotney)



Jubilee Primitive Methodist Church, Spring Bank (Postcard from the author’s collection)

John Markham’s “Streets of Hull” tells us that Freehold Street and the parallel Morpeth Street were developed in 1850 by the Hull and East Riding Freehold Land Society, whose aim was to give more men the right to vote. Members of the society, as owners of freehold property worth 40 shillings had the right to vote in the East Riding constituency elections.

Continuing across Freehold Street towards Botanic, we noticed the houses of Carlton Terrace on the south side of Spring Bank, first mentioned in Freebody’s 1851 directory. Some of their stylish features such as bow windows, door cases and wrought iron handrails on the entrance steps, have survived unsympathetic alterations to the lower floors. The two halves of Carlton Terrace are separated by a

Kwik-Fit tyre depot, built on the site of the Presbyterian Church (1875, Smith & Brodrick), which closed as a church in 1931 but had other uses until it was demolished in 1966.

The line of Spring Bank was determined by the course of the Spring Ditch (see the September 2010 Newsletter). The other major influence on Spring Bank's character was the long-vanished Hull Zoological Gardens, which opened in 1840 and closed in 1862.

Two pub names refer to it: the Polar Bear at the corner of Derringham Street and the Old Zoological at the corner of Princes Avenue. A third pub, the Tap, was originally called the Eagle. The Polar Bear is first listed in the 1842 directory, located at 10 Carlton Terrace (later renumbered 117-121 Spring Bank) almost opposite the end of Hutt Street, next to Sainsbury's Local. In 1860 the original Polar Bear closed and the landlord, John Seaman, opened a museum and Museum Hotel (later renamed the Polar Bear) at the corner of Derringham Street. The Old Zoological pub stands on the site of Botanic Gardens station. Its name refers to the Zoological Gardens, but is also a reminder of the pub at 3 Beverley Road, built as the Ship in about 1830 but renamed as the Zoological by 1842.

A more direct link with the zoo can be seen in the building line of Hutt Street and Peel Street, built directly on the site of the Zoological Gardens. Looking down the two streets, we saw that the houses nearer to Spring Bank were set back from the pavement, while those at the northern end faced directly onto the street. The change in the building line marks the northern boundary of the zoo. The earliest houses in Hutt Street and Peel Street, were built at the northern end while the zoo was still there and the two streets were cul-de-sacs off Leonard Street. Numbering is consecutive in both streets and



8 Hutt St (Photo: JD Scotney)

starts from the Leonard Street end, another small indication that the streets were developed from north to south. Originally the newer sections of Hutt Street and Peel Street were called East Grove and West Grove, but had gained their present names by 1882.

The zoo's buildings were designed by HF Lockwood and there is a picture of it in Iain Rutherford's "Hull as it was" (1982, Hendon Publishing). It has sometimes been stated that the curious mock-half-timbered house, number 8 Hutt Street was a gatehouse or keeper's house of the Zoological Gardens. The exotic style suggests that it may have been intended as such, but the planning application to the Local Board of Health to build a house on this site is dated 1862, the year that the Zoo closed. On maps showing the zoo, the site appears as a garden (or perhaps a small orchard). The applicant was John Seaman, who, according to Paul Gibson, was a multi-talented man, being superintendent of the zoological gardens, a taxidermist, and landlord of the Polar Bear public house. He is not shown in any of the directories as living at 8 Hutt Street.

Hi-Q tyre depot at the end of Hutt Street is on a site that became a static water reservoir during the Second World, but was previously a tennis ground. Livingstone House and Pine Villa on the western corner of Hutt Street date from 1871.

Peel Hall, on the eastern corner of Peel Street was a house until 1937, when it became the Seventh Day Adventist Church, a Christian sect whose members worship on Saturday, the original Sabbath. In the 1980s, the congregation moved to the city centre and Peel Hall was sold to an evangelical congregation. Continuing on the north side, we stopped to admire the unusual tiles surrounding the arched porches at numbers 160 & 162 dating from the 1860s.

The creation of the Botanic Housing Action Area in the 1970s ensured the refurbishment of many of the houses in the streets on the northern side of Spring Bank (Freehold, Morpeth, Hutt, Peel, Albany, Mayfield, Middleton and Louis Streets) and they still retain their mid-19th century appearance. Albany Street has some particularly fine houses, with decorative woodwork and the house on the south-eastern corner with Spring Bank still has a coach house at the rear, now converted for residential use.

Although most of the buildings on the south side of Spring Bank are still Victorian, the 19th century houses in the streets to the south were all demolished and replaced by new council houses in the 1960s houses. Collingwood Street is a new, but convincingly Victorian-sounding name for the northern section of Clarendon Street, blocked off by construction of Collingwood Primary School in the 1960s to replace the old Wawne Street School.



Bekhal International Food Store, Spring Bank (Photo: JD Scotney)

We observed an interesting multicultural mixture of local shops and takeaways on Spring Bank. One of the most colourful is the Bekhal International Food Store, which sells “Asian, African, English, Kurdish, Eastern European, dry foods and fresh fruit & veg.” For good measure, its nameboard also displays the Hull City tiger’s head logo! A little further on, the Polski Smak shop is no longer Polish-owned but the new Kurdish owner still stocks Polish food and has learnt Polish to communicate with his customers! The Kurdistan Restaurant has been established for a number of years. Other shops are English, African, Iranian, Arabian, or Polish, some selling food from three continents in the same shop, according to some of the signs. Nawrooz Café (literally New Day) is named after the Iranian and Kurdish New Year (21st March).

We also noticed the 167 Centre which, for the last ten years has provided advice, guidance and support for local members of ethnic minorities, refugees and asylum-seekers.

The Tap, at the corner of West Parade, (until recently Tap & Spile) is a Victorian pub which first appeared as The Eagle in the 1842 directory and retained that name until 1994. The pub and the adjoining houses (now all shops) were shown as Zoological Terrace in the 1851 directory. At the moment, it appears to be closed and to let.

The International Christian Fellowship Church next to this terrace was converted back into a church in 2006 after many years as a second-hand furniture store, though I recall that for a time in the 1980s it was used by the congregation of Peel Hall, in some capacity or other. It was built originally as the New Jerusalem Church of the Swedenborgian sect in 1875 and closed in 1948. The short tower was originally topped by a spire.

The building that houses Iceland frozen food store dates from 1925, built as St Jude’s Church Hall. The car park is the site of St Jude’s Anglican Church, built in 1874, closed in 1973. After it was demolished, the church hall first became Jude’s Garage, displaying the slogan “Have your car blessed at Jude’s”! It then became Fulham Frozen Foods, before being taken over by Iceland.



The International Christian Fellowship Church and the Kurdish Restaurant, Spring Bank (Photo JD Scotney)

Tesco Express, on the far side of Stanley Street, is on part of the site of the Seaman's and General Orphan Asylum and its adjoining school. The structure, dating from the 1870s, became Government Buildings when the orphanage moved to Hesslewood and was demolished in the late 1980s despite strenuous efforts to have it listed. We noticed the surviving gate piers and the weed-grown vacant land behind, subject of one or two abortive schemes.



Hull Civic Society
NEWSLETTER

MAY 1987

HULL SEAMEN'S AND GENERAL ORPHAN ASYLUM, SPRING BANK.

THE ORIGINAL BUILDING AND SCHOOL DESIGNED BY T. H. WYATT, LONDON

THE NEW WING (ON THE LEFT) BY SMITH & BRODRICK HULL

Seaman's & General Orphanage, later Government Buildings, Spring Bank.

Next to this site is the Polar Bear Inn, noted for its fine curved, tiled bar.

The walled enclosure of the Thrifty car hire depot was the site of a monumental mason's premises and Ebenezer Primitive Methodist Church, opened in 1878, with 900 seats. After closure in 1944, it became a warehouse and was demolished in 1976. The adjoining houses, which retain their decorative ironwork, have been quite sensitively restored, albeit for commercial uses.

On the south side of the street, just beyond the Botanic Hotel and a few disused shops, we noticed that the building line gave way to a wall and a fence. Behind this now is the yard of Jackson's Bakery on the site of the 1830 waterworks, described in Part 1 of this article. From 1853 to 1968, there was also a railway level crossing, controlled from a signal box on the south side of the road. Beyond this, the line continued past Botanic Gardens Motive Power Depot (engine shed) to Paragon Station. Botanic Gardens station, originally called Cemetery Gates (after the General Cemetery), was on the north side of Spring Bank. It closed when the passenger service from Hull Paragon to Hornsea and Withernsea was withdrawn in 1964, but the line remained open until 1968 for freight trains, many of them carrying timber from Victoria Dock. There was also a coal yard on the site now occupied by shops and a petrol station.

The Botanic Gardens were originally established in Linnaeus Street in 1812, but moved to a new site off Spring Bank West (then still called Spring Bank) in 1877. By 1887, the Botanic Gardens company had gone into liquidation and the land was bought for a new school, Hymers College, opened in 1893. As sixth-formers studying Geography in the 1960s, we were fascinated to find that some of the Botanic Gardens' features, such as the rockery, the trees and the lake (and in prolonged dry spells even the lines of the paths) were still identifiable with those shown on the 1891 Ordnance Survey 50inches to the mile map. The lake has since been filled in, but other features may still survive. However, on this occasion, we did not have time to venture beyond the end of Spring Bank itself. It is strange to think that the Botanic Gardens which lasted for just ten years have given their name to a railway station, a railway locomotive depot, and an entire ward of the city. If you were unable to take part in this walk, I would strongly recommend a walk of your own along one of Hull's most interesting 19th century streets – perhaps on Spring Bank Holiday!

John Scotney.

Planning and Buildings

Old Town

After a period with very little activity, work has re-started on the new footbridge across the River Hull from Scale Lane Staith to the eastern bank near the Premier Inn. In early April, there was an application to create three flats on the 1st and 2nd floors of Hesslegate Buildings, the grand 1884 fruit warehouse on Humber Dock St, recently the Baltic Wharf pub. Nearby permission was granted in mid-March for another former fruit warehouse, no 1 Humber St, to receive a new shop front and entrance doors. Both are examples of the low key redevelopment that is gradually taking place in the Fruit Market area.

City Centre

The new Hull Central Travelodge, at the corner of Pryme St, Prospect St and Freetown Way, opened at 3 pm on Friday 13th May and adds a welcome bit of life and colour to the corner.

In the second week of March, there was an application for redevelopment of the Lexington Avenue (LA's) dance hall site on Ferensway with a 4 storey "enterprise & activity centre for young people incorporating a performance venue, workshop, music & dance studios, café, juice bar, multi-agency uses (whatever that means!), office spaces and external sports & activity spaces". It is apparently going to be called "My Place".

Although a minor matter, the application to open up the ground floor of the NHS Conifer House, Prospect St, (originally Cowley's shoe shop) will improve the appearance of the building next to Debenhams, after years of being hidden behind roller shutters.

Late March saw an application to build a 4 storey building for 9 apartments at 11-12 School St (off Waltham St), next to the Wilberforce Health Centre, which is due to open this summer. This, too, will help to regenerate a rather neglected corner of the city centre.



The new Travelodge, corner of Pryme St, Prospect St and Freetown Way (Photo: JD Scotney)

East

In mid-March, permission was granted for Craven Park's new 2,600-seat spectator stand, with business and training accommodation and extra car parking. Amateur recreation grounds are sometimes an attractive target for developers, but the application to build houses on part of the Brooklands Club Recreation Ground on Chamberlain Rd was refused in early March. Another leisure facility, the Rambler pub on Pennine Way, North Bransholme, will become a community & youth centre, if an application submitted in late March is approved.

One of the historic features of Victoria Dock Village is the former winding house (on South Bridge Rd), which hauled ships out of the river and up onto the slipway for repair. An application was approved in early April to convert it into a café, exhibition & multi-function space on 2 floors.

The Great Union St hostel for homeless people is nearing completion. Insulation panelling was being applied in April before the outer skin of bricks is added. With its pitched roofs, it is quite a striking building which will enhance a rather dismal street.

Another striking building, the new Archbishop Sentamu Academy on Preston Rd is now complete and the main visible activity now is landscaping work.

West

An application was submitted in mid-March to build a 2-storey NHS health centre with a retail unit on the ground floor, 102 car park spaces and a public square on Hessle Rd on the cleared factory site between Wassand St and Walcott St. This would bring a dull part of Hessle Rd back to life.

Permission was granted in early April for an extension to the Western Branch Library on Boulevard. The work will also include re-installation of stone features and new and replacement roof lights on the original building.

Two blocks of flats in Linnaeus St, Coniston House and Kendall House, are to be heated by a district heating scheme, the boilers being located in two converted garages. This was approved in April.

The work in West Park is now complete, but many people are disappointed with the simulated rust colour of the entrance piers and lamp posts, which are, to put it kindly, rather chunky. The colourful planting at the rear of the Carnegie, however, is a real delight. The Walton St area may see more changes if the owner of Hull City is allowed to buy the KC Stadium and the fairground to develop it into a "sports village".

The new care home in Albert Ave on the site of the Newington Hall is nearing completion and is very much in keeping with the scale and design of the surrounding early 20th century houses.

North

The largest construction project on Beverley Rd is Alexandra House student flats, consisting of the former Mainbrace (more recently the Fubar) public house at the corner of Alexandra Rd, the adjacent houses (which were turned into licenced premises for a time) and new flats built with bay windows and gables reflecting the surrounding style of houses.

At Newland Homes, a new student house is under construction on the site of the demolished Sailors' Families' Society office to match the older orphanage (now student) houses.

On Clough Rd, the site for the new police HQ is being levelled and prepared. In late March, a much smaller police station at the corner of Princes Ave and Queen's Rd, was the subject of a conservation area application to demolish. It is proposed to build a 2-storey building for "financial/professional use or non-residential institution".

John Scotney

Civic Society President, Officers and Committee 2011

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Committee Changes

At the AGM on 14th March, we elected one new officer and four new committee members. Cynthia Fowler is now officially our Honorary Secretary, having covered the work (and her many other jobs!) since December, when Ken Baker was taken ill. Working at a pace which leaves most of us dizzy, she is still our representative on the Conservation Areas Advisory Committee (CAAC), minutes secretary, member of our programme-planning team and involved in planning issues, as she has been for many years, in addition to her many outside activities. This is, perhaps, a good opportunity to express our appreciation for all the work she does for Hull Civic Society.

We are also pleased to welcome Committee and She has served on the committee as minutes worked hard for our new Honora We were very pleased to welcome four new,,: Mike Bisby Patrick Horton, who is employed with the NPS Group and brings with him expertise in development and architecture,

Tigers v. Roundabouts – a Personal View.

Hull City football club and Hull Fair are two well-loved Hull institutions. Mr Assem Allam, the new owner of Hull City has stated his wish to buy the KC stadium and develop it and the Hull Fair site into a “sports village”. If he is refused, he has alternative plans to develop a sports village around a new stadium 10 miles outside the city at Melton. The Melton option would not benefit the city at all and for Hull such a move would be an “own goal”. It would also penalise supporters who walk or use local buses to get to home matches.

So what is to become of Hull Fair? I, for one, would be very sad to see an annual event that has given pleasure to people of all ages and all backgrounds for more than 700 years just disappear into history. If Mr Allam’s “sports village” becomes a reality, Hull Fair will have to move to a new location. There is a precedent: the fair has been in Walton Street since 1885, but before that, it was held on Corporation Field, Park Street, now covered by the Tesco car park and rear entrance to St Stephen’s. Some readers will remember the wholesale fruit market on Corporation Field, which was later acquired for a dairy by Northern Foods.

If the proposals for the KC Stadium go ahead, it must not take place until we have provided an agreed alternative site for Hull Fair and the Sunday and Wednesday markets. Provision of the new fairground must be part of the deal and the fairground operators must be consulted as well.

The nearest vacant site is about half a mile away at the former Hull College Riley Centre site. Like Walton Street, it could be reached from both Spring Bank West and Anlaby Road and it would still be within walking distance for many people. On the other hand, there may be objections by residents of the area. I’m sure readers will have their own suggestions to make. If you have, please email them to me at john.scotney@talk21.com or write to 126 Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RZ.

One thing is certain; there will be winners and losers whatever decision is taken. You could say it’s a matter of swings and roundabouts!

John Scotney

September Newsletter

Many thanks to all our contributors. Please submit all items by 28th August to the Editor, John Scotney, 126 Cottingham Rd, Hull, HU6 7RZ, or preferably, by e-mail to john.scotney@talk21.com. Please note: items may sometimes be held over for lack of space.

Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

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in a future Newsletter, we plan to celebrate Hull’s longest-lived companies, starting with those in Hull’s first phone book.