

# HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

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## NEWSLETTER

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September 2010



**Spring Bank about 1906**

Source: Tuck's Postcard from the Editor's collection

*In this issue: Subscriptions, Programme 2010-11, Website, Brian Randall, Alan Plater, Romany – a Hull-born Pioneer, Government changes to the planning regime, Good Mark – 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hull Daily Mail, South Cave Visit, Walks & outdoor events – bookings & cancellations, Good Mark – Hull College Alex Henderson Building, The home of Hull's written heritage – the Hull History Centre, Spring Bank Walk, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (Part One) Spring Bank and Hull's Water Supply, Planning & Buildings, Heritage Open Days 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> September 2010, The Hull Pevsner Guide, January Newsletter, President, Officers & Committee 2010*

**£1.50 where sold**

### Subscriptions 2011

Subscriptions have been held at £10 (£7 for additional family members) for a number of years. After implementing all possible economies, we have decided that increased costs of postage and room rent for public meetings makes it necessary to increase subscriptions to £12 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011. It will still be £7 for additional members at the same address, making it £19 for a couple. If you pay by standing order, please remember to advise the increase to your bank. We hope that members will understand the reasons for this modest increase and will still regard their membership as being good value for money.

### Programme 2010 – 2011

Non-members are welcome to join us for meetings and visits.

For advance bookings please contact the Hon. Secretary, Ken Baker, (number & email are on p.16)

### Public Meetings

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

**11<sup>th</sup> October** – Hull's Maritime History – *Arthur Credland, former curator of Hull Maritime Museum.*

**8<sup>th</sup> November** – Annual Keith Trevor Lecture – Restoration of Hull Charterhouse Tower and Pickering Railway Station - *joint meeting with the Chartered Institute of Building.*  
**(Please note the revised date and subject).**

**13<sup>th</sup> December** – Sculpture and Decoration in Hull's Old Town – *Paul Schofield.*

**10<sup>th</sup> January** – 'Rethinking the Spaces and Places of Hull' – *David Atkinson, Geography Department, Hull University.*

**14<sup>th</sup> February** – Public Transport in Hull – *Philip Miles.*

**14<sup>th</sup> March** – **7.00 pm** – AGM, followed by Cannon and Bollards – *Geoff Bell.*

**11<sup>th</sup> April** – **7.00 to 8.30 pm at Hull History Centre** guided tour behind the scenes.

### Spring & Summer Visits (dates to be announced in the January Newsletter)

**South Cave** – a second opportunity to visit this interesting village.

**New Earswick** – a guided tour of York's "Garden Village" developed by the Rowntree Trust.

**Wassand Hall** – a visit to one of East Yorkshire's less well known houses.

**Witham & Holderness Road** – a guided walk.

### Hull Civic Society Website

Our Newsletter comes to you three times a year and we hope you enjoy reading it. Now you can also find out about the Civic Society's activities on our website, [www.hullcivicsociety.org](http://www.hullcivicsociety.org)

This website is updated regularly by our Website Wizard, Chris Lefevre and contains updated information about many different concerns, ideas and forthcoming activities.

### **Brian Randall**

It is with deep regret that we announce the sudden death of Brian Randall, who became ill on holiday in Shanghai in July and died shortly afterwards on his return home.

For a number of years Brian was our contact with the Chartered Institute of Building, and each year we were in consultation with him as to who would take the joint Keith Trevor Lecture held each November. Before he left for his latest trip to Shanghai, he offered to give a talk to Hull Civic Society on his return.

Brian had a long association with the Chartered Institute of Building, firstly as a Student in 1957, later becoming a full member in 1972. In 1984 he became Chairman of the Hull, York & North Yorkshire Centre of the Chartered Institute of Building, and in 1987 Chairman of the Yorkshire Region.

Brian was a well known figure in the local Building community, having worked in the business all his working life. After formal retirement, he worked on a number of schemes as a Project Manager.

On behalf of all the members of Hull Civic Society we offer his wife and family our deepest sympathy.

### **Alan Plater**

Alan Plater was best known as a gifted writer of drama for stage, screen and television, but was also a member of Hull Civic Society. Although he was born in Jarrow in 1935, his family moved to Hull in 1938. He trained as an architect in Newcastle, but decided to pursue a career as a writer in 1961. Many viewers first became familiar with the humour and humanity of his writing style through his screenplay for episodes of two popular 1960s television police series, "Z Cars" and "Softly Softly" and he went on to write many entertaining and thought-provoking scripts for television, radio, stage and film. He was awarded the CBE in 2005. Alan lived in Hull until 1984 and was one of the founders of the Spring Street Theatre, forerunner of Hull Truck Theatre. His interests included jazz and football and he remained a supporter of Hull City even after moving to London in 1984. He also retained his membership of Hull Civic Society and was the speaker at our Millennium Dinner in 2000. We were very sorry to hear of his death on 25<sup>th</sup> June. We offer our sympathy to his wife and family on their sad loss.

### **Romany – a Hull-born Pioneer**

I am grateful to John Rhodes, a friend and Civic Society member, for bringing to my notice another Hull-born "pioneer". This was "Romany", a very popular broadcaster of the "Out with Romany" nature rambles in the 1930s on the BBC radio "Children's Hour". He also wrote numerous books and newspaper articles on natural history.

His real name was George Bramwell Evens, born in 1884 at 3 Argyll Street (now part of the Hull Royal Infirmary car park), the son of Salvation Army members. His mother was a Romany. The family moved to Liverpool when George was still quite young. Even in his childhood his greatest delight was in nature and exploring the countryside. He was ordained a Methodist minister in 1908 and in 1914 he was stationed in Carlisle. From there, his duties and rural excursions with his wife on foot or in their 'vardo' ("Romany caravan), which they bought in 1921, brought them into the countryside around Kirkoswald and into the company of a farming family who happened to own one of the first radios. Hearing broadcasts of concerts from London gave him the pioneering idea that by radio he

could also share with townfolk the beautiful sounds of nature. This novel idea became a reality in his broadcasts, which ran from 1933 until his death in 1943. The programmes introduced a new element into broadcasting and must have struck a deep chord in the listeners, to judge from the number of people who still remember “Romany” and his dog Raq with great affection.

“Romany” was not a city-lover, but he might have been pleased to find that the city of his birth has so much more green space than in 1884 and that it is still small enough for the countryside to be very accessible.

John Scotney.

## **Government changes to the planning regime**

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announced the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2010. This is what the Government calls Localisation, where planning decisions are made locally instead of being imposed by a regional body. As part of this the Government will: -

- a) Support the development of local enterprise partnerships, particularly those based around England’s major cities and other natural economic areas, to enable improved coordination of public and private investment in transport, housing skills, regeneration and other areas of economic development.
- b) Consider the most appropriate framework of incentives for local authorities to support growth, including exploring options for business rate and council tax incentives, which would allow local authorities to reinvest the benefits of growth into local communities.
- c) As part of the shift to a more locally driven planning regime, promote the role for a more simplified planning consents process in specific areas where there is potential or need for business growth, through the use of Local Development Orders.

It would seem that there are going to be radical changes to planning processes. Under the Regional Strategy Hull was a Regional City, which included the outlying areas of Hessle, Anlaby, Willerby, Kirk Ella and Cottingham together with the City of Kingston upon Hull. The two local authorities seemed unsure of how to deal with this. Now it seems that Hull is not a Regional City and Hessle will not have priority over Beverley for office development; also planning consultants will not be able to calculate the need for retail development in Kingston upon Hull by claiming that Goole and other areas on the south bank are in the Regional City of Hull’s shopping catchment area.

The level of housing provision, which was determined by the Regional Spatial Strategy, will now be determined by local planning authorities; although some may decide to retain the existing targets given in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

Local authorities will now be responsible for determining the appropriate level of traveller site provision.

Although the Infrastructure Planning Commission is a quango, it may continue its work in deciding nationally important infrastructure schemes until April 2012.

The full implications of these radical changes will eventually become clearer and all involved in planning processes will have to readjust to the new regime.

Walter Houlton.

## **Good Mark awarded on the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hull Daily Mail**

During its 125 years of existence, the Hull Daily Mail has, day by day, observed, recorded and published the life and times of our city.

Its births, marriages and deaths; its crime and the meting out of justice; the ups and downs of its economy and the comings and goings of our local government; our sporting triumphs and missed goals.

All of this has been laced with the stories of the people of the city and its surrounding villages – their successes and their problems and their involvement with the myriad of community activities which are such a vital part of local life and make Hull the vibrant place it is today – the things which recognise achievement and promote pride and confidence.

We are lucky to have our own daily paper in this age of rapidly changing media ownership and technology.

Some people claim to love their daily paper and others are sometimes critical, but most people read it and would know little of the life unfolding around them, were it not for the daily diet of the happenings of Hull.

Hull Civic Society are always pleased to see the extensive coverage the paper gives to the physical developments going and planned – chronicling the history of the city through its buildings, people, streets and trade – particularly in these days of unprecedented and rapid change in the fabric of our homes, schools, health centres, and improvements to the public realm.

Through its main paper and the numerous glossy supplements, its adverting and public notices, there is something for everyone and the Hull Civic Society is pleased to help to celebrate the paper's 125<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

John Netherwood

### **South Cave Visit**

The Society visited the picturesque town of South Cave on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010. This visit was part of the continuing programme of visits to nearby towns and villages of historical interest which our members often only ever pass through.

South Cave is clearly this type of place lying on a Roman route north from the Humber to rural East Yorkshire and lying also on an important 21<sup>st</sup> century link from Beverley and Market Weighton towards the A63 / M62.

The “walkabout” followed part of the South Cave Heritage Trail, published in 2009 and commencing at the imposing Town Hall. Only used for this purpose since 1906, it had in fact been built in 1796 as a Market Hall and Schoolroom and was extensively renovated in 1999 by the Parish Council as part of the Millennium celebrations. Features of the building were shown to us by our two very informative guides, Mrs Jenny Stanley and Mrs S. Heathcoate, local residents with up to 50 years' knowledge of the town. Both had worked on the Trail as part of a local history initiative.

Firstly, the reason for the “Cave” part of the name was explained: “cave” in Anglo-Saxon means a fast-flowing stream. These water courses (often covered over in the last 50 years) were traced and a host of pantiled cottages, old inns, churches and even a former cinema were shown to us and looked resplendent after the rain on a sunny June evening.

Local residents such as Henry Bolders Barnard and Robert Sharp were mentioned frequently. The former was a local landowner and benefactor who built the town's prominent and, arguably its best-known feature, Cave Castle, a Gothic-designed manor house of 1797 with castellated towers. The latter was a local headmaster at the village school from 1804 to 1843, who produced a vast diary, since published (in 1997), providing a fascinating insight into life in the town in the first part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The walk ended passing the parish church and entering the "great park" of Cave Castle, its tall trees and rolling lawns looking as magnificent as when it was laid out over two centuries ago.

When written 70 years ago, "The King's England" series of guides by Arthur Mee described South Cave as "a pretty medley of russet roofs and grey gables nestling by the trees, the church standing above them by the gatehouse of Cave Castle". Today, this small town at the foot of the Wolds has been developed to sustain a population of 4,500. Its thriving main street has managed to hand over its traditional shops such as grocers and butchers to specialist retailers selling items such as kitchenware and antiques and the impression given is that the town is well and thriving and pleased to welcome visitors to surely one of the area's most picturesque towns.



Cave Castle. (Photo: J Netherwood)

Why not see it for yourself? Copies of the Trail are obtainable from the town Hall, 40-42 Market Place, South Cave, telephone 01430 421044 and cost £3.

If you were disappointed at not being able to make the walk, the Society hopes to return to South Cave in June 2011. Mrs Stanley advises me that a different walk can be taken, once again starting at the town Hall, so another excellent evening is guaranteed - and anyone who came on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 will have even more to see!

Further details will be in the next Newsletter, so watch this space. Places will be limited!

Colin Cooper.

### **Walks and Outdoor Events – Bookings & Cancellations**

It was very disappointing that a few people who booked on the South Cave walk where places were limited did not, in fact, turn up on the evening and did not notify the Secretary. While emergencies can always happen, the fact that we operate a booking system on virtually all of our walks and visits means that any changes can easily be advised to people and, more importantly, our hosts know how many to expect, especially useful if hospitality is arranged. Also, by booking for a visit where places are limited and then simply not turning up, you are denying somebody who really wants to go on the visit the opportunity to come along.

So remember, it only takes a reasonably-timed phone call, text message or email to prevent this happening and saves embarrassment to the Society where (as happened two years ago at East Park) only a handful of people eventually turn up for the visit.

Colin Cooper.

## Good Mark - Hull College Alex Henderson Building: a Construction Skills Centre of Excellence



Hull College Henderson Building (Photo: J D Scotney)

The most recent of Hull College's new buildings is the Alex Henderson Building, located on the opposite side of George Street from the rest of the Queen's Gardens site. Viewed from the outside, it is an attractive building which, unlike many modern ones, has been designed to fit the site. Opened in September 2007, it provides modern, environmentally friendly accommodation for courses in professional construction studies such as materials' science, draughtsmanship and the use of computer-aided design (CAD) in architecture. On the ground floor there are electrical training and testing facilities. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor there are gas engineering training facilities and a separate ACS Gas

Installers testing unit.

The building itself, designed by architects Gower & Bell, sets an example to the students of how energy- and water-saving can be achieved in practice.

Entering the building, you find yourself in an atrium which circulates air right up to the top and throughout this "porous" building. Wherever possible natural light has been maximised through the atrium glass panels, windows and skylights and where artificial light is used, there are sensors to ensure that lights in unoccupied rooms switch themselves off.

The floor of the atrium is heated and cooled by a ground-source heat exchanger in which glycol and water are pumped through pipework in 24 boreholes. These go down 100 metres through the overlying deposits and clay into the chalk aquifer, where the temperature is approximately constant at 12°C. The building is very well insulated and the glass of the atrium is solar reflective "K glass" to reduce the greenhouse effect.

The "passive ventilation" system is independent of the heating. A "stack effect" pulls air through external vents in the same way that a chimney draws up air. Sensors in the rooms detect temperature, humidity and the CO<sub>2</sub> exhaled by occupants. When the CO<sub>2</sub> builds up to a certain level, additional fresh air is drawn in.

Every drop of rainwater is harvested and stored in a tank under the car park. This is then filtered and used for flushing of toilets with a resultant saving of mains water.

Although planning permission was granted for a wind turbine, neither it, nor any solar panels are to be seen. While these two features are popularly associated with energy-saving, they are expensive. Here, the energy conservation has been achieved instead by intelligent and sophisticated design.

We are very grateful to Brian Kerridge, our guide on the occasion of our committee visit on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2010, for a most informative tour.

Hull Civic Society is pleased to award a well-deserved Good Mark to Hull College, the architects Gower & Bell and the builders, Geo Houlton & Sons for a building that sets such a good example of eco-friendly construction to the students who are learning construction skills which they will apply to the buildings of tomorrow.

John Scotney.

## THE HOME OF HULL'S WRITTEN HERITAGE: THE HULL HISTORY CENTRE

The City and the University of Hull have united their Archives and Local Studies resources in a pioneering partnership in this unique centre which is open to all free of charge.

In the History Centre you can use and view collections of both local and national significance that date back over seven hundred years. The range includes the 1299 Royal Charter (which marks the birth of Kingston upon Hull as a strategic port) as part of an extensive local history library collection.



Hull History Centre (Photo J D Scotney)

The concept of uniting the City Archive and the University local History Collection was given form by the invitation to architects Pringle, Richards and Sharratts, whose design concept saw the possibilities inherent in the Worship Street site and its relationship with the city and the public realm.

The PRS solution evolved and the completed building is largely in keeping with the original plans formulated to meet the specific needs of such a centre. It has done so by creating a building unique in Hull and significant nationally in the range of services and support provided within.

Completed in 2009 the official opening took place on 7 June 2010 by the maritime historian and broadcaster, Dan Snow. The Building provides an extraordinary first impression when viewed from the Jarrett Street corner. Its southern elevation is a public concourse taking the form of a covered arcade supported by 25 laminated birch-wood arcs covered in a lightweight plastic envelope. This is spectacular as well as functional, having an undulating wave-like bottom edge which ripples along the whole length of the building. The arcade is divided into inner and outer arcades which help unite the natural landscaping along the former line of Mason Street with the relatively simple block form of the main two-storey building. This 'Winter Gardens' covered arcade is a very positive design statement redolent of the sea through its detailing which is reminiscent of state-of-the-art yachting technology. The curtain walling creating the inner arcade has a rhythmic rippling form which projects such ripples as shadows on to the floor. The tiled terrazzo flooring is a light conglomerate of pebble forms and reflects light so effectively that it feels like Italy rather than Humberside. This arcade certainly provides the WOW factor!

Upon entry, the central focus is the reception desk which is easily accessible and well resourced. Behind this are the toilet facilities and lockers (both unisex) to provide for comfort and convenience prior to study. The Signage is minimal but effective, being appropriately made and simply presented. This uncluttered space is easy to navigate; everything about this space says 'good design' because of the quality of the materials and carefully proportioned elements.

Within the arcade there is a mobile Fair Trade coffee stall, £1 per cup! 10 sets of black plywood and chrome – Rennie Mackintosh inspired - table and chairs exude pristine economy. Each piece perfect individually, put together even more so.



Sliding glass doors lead to the Lecture Theatre/ Education spaces. Automatic doors lead into the Library Resources and revolving doors are placed at each end of the inner arcade. All glazing is supported by slender matt-black frames and so elegantly proportioned as if to declare - this is architectural detailing of the highest order and is to be enjoyed!

Space for temporary exhibitions is available within the arcade. At the time of writing, adults and children alike seem to be at home looking at the temporary exhibition featuring 'Fish and Chips and their place as part of the British way of life'. George Orwell said 'fish and chips averted revolution' when writing *The Road to Wigan Pier* in 1937. The Exhibition Space, it must be said, is very hot in August!

The Library, Microfilm and Computer reference area is, like the remainder of the building, air conditioned and comfortably furnished although it only occupies one third of the ground floor area. Items are available on loan with a Hull Libraries ticket and materials may be down loaded on to member's own laptops.

Adjacent to this area is a Search room where more rare and important archive material may be accessed by those with a Special County Archive Research Network card (CARN). Also on the ground floor is a Lecture Theatre/Education Room (both equipped with modem and audio visual equipment). This multi-functional public space seems to sum up the design ethos of the architects and perfectly illustrates the restraint employed in the design of the public access areas. Less is more.

The supporting concrete columns which divide the modular bays of the building are highly finished exposed concrete with shuttering marks showing. The ceilings too are concrete and highly finished needing no surface treatments. Illumination is by suspended grey metal batons or panels allowing fluorescent light up and down – simple but effective. The grey neutrality extends to storage cupboards finished in grey faced board. The beautifully designed sliding room dividers and the impressively high tech lectern with computer, microphone and induction loop all built in. A secret sliding wall hides sinks and craft facilities so any potential mess does not offend the purity of the modular simplicity.

The calmness of the interiors is enhanced by the carpets which are overall charcoal with an abstract small scale ripple pattern, perfectly complimenting the ribbed ventilation panels – the architects seem to have thought of everything down to the smallest detail.

The surprise is that behind the scenes, the finishes are even more minimal and all process machinery – box makers, guillotines, large scale digital cameras, conservation supports and examination screen lights are all brutally free-standing and evident but subject to the ubiquitous pale grey conformity. The two large Conservation rooms are spacious and impressively 'state-of-the-art' in their potential to support the skill of the conservators.

A central spinal column of a staff only corridor links the main areas of the building to the administration area. The main building is twelve bays long by two bays in depth and is two storeys high. The ground floor has some public access whilst the first floor is solely storage for historic records. The scale of the collection is overwhelmingly large and varied and there are separate climate zones for optimum preservation. All light, heat and humidity are artificial and controlled. However, amongst this is an intriguing block of shelves which contains Philip Larkin's personal library. He and I have some of the same books but, alas, I don't share an interest in jazz!

Fortunately, the cataloguing and planning work done in anticipation of the move to these new premises has made every item immediately accessible. ‘Could you please find me a copy of Paul Gibson’s 2010 Hull Then and Now 2?’ ‘Certainly Sir, no problem, here it is’.

The Hull History Centre is a superb solution to very complex need, housing as it does our written history collection. It also contributes to the public realm as a high-spec building, restrained and functional in parts, yet demonstrating some degree of imaginative flamboyance to raise our aspirations.

The Centre is already enhancing our lives by providing a significant new destination. Here we might satisfy our curiosity to know who we are and how valuable our heritage is deemed to be to warrant such a prestigious public building for our use.

An impressive and unique building, it well deserves current appreciation as one of the country’s most exciting archival research and resource centres.

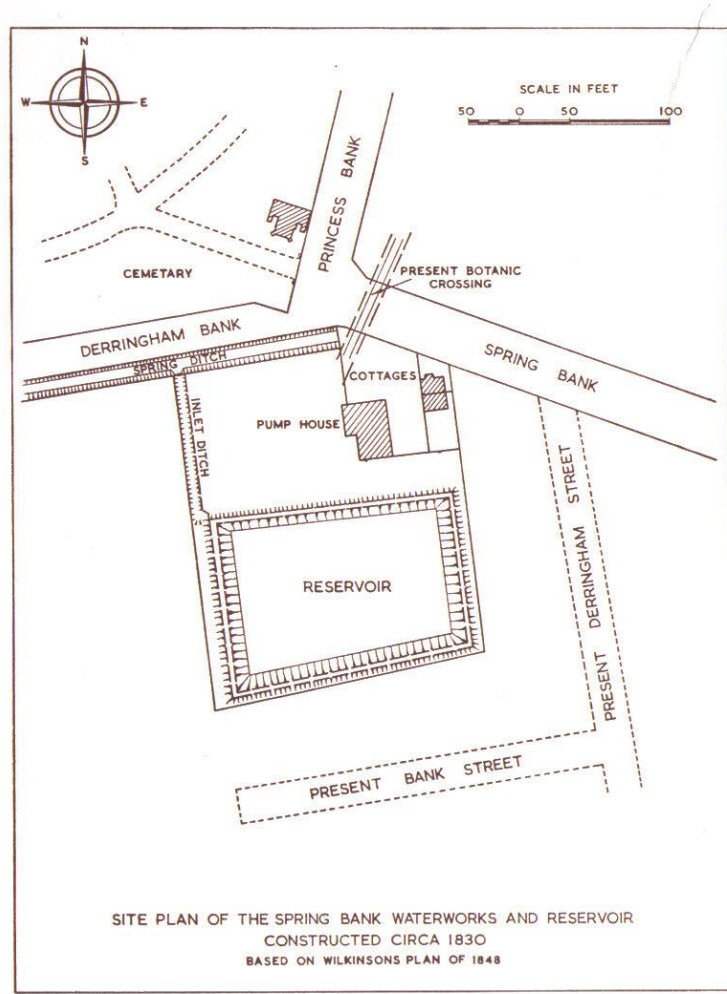
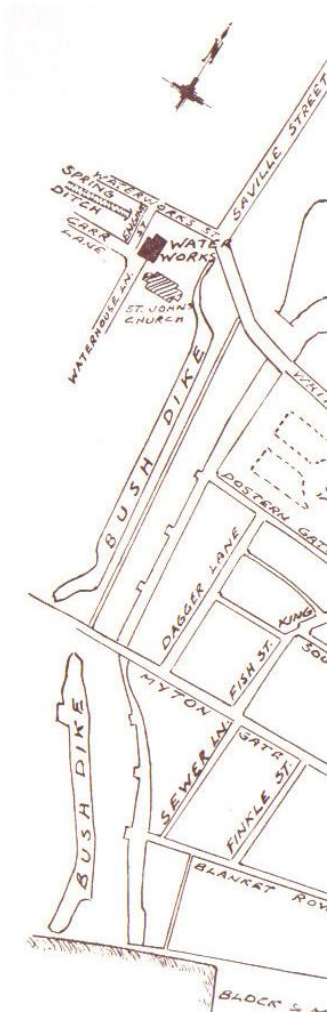
Malcolm Sharman,  
Good Mark Secretary

### **Spring Bank Walk, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (Part One) Spring Bank and Hull’s Water Supply**

Spring Bank is one of Hull’s busiest streets today, but it was a relatively late addition to Hull’s road system. Its origin, as the name suggests, lies in the town’s water supply. After years of friction between the inhabitants of Hull and the inhabitants of villages to the west of the town over Hull Corporation’s attempts to channel fresh water from the springs at the edge of the Wolds, the County of Hull, created by charter in 1440, was enlarged to include villages such as Hessle, North Ferriby, Anlaby, Willerby and Swanland under a new charter of 1447, which also granted Hull Corporation powers to purchase one or more springs at Springhead and construct a new artificial water channel directly from Springhead to Hull. Known as the Spring Dyke or Spring Ditch, it was completed in 1538 and flowed along the line of what is now Spring Bank West, Spring Bank, Prospect Street and down to a point just west of the town walls where it seems originally to have just had an outfall into the river (presumably through the moat). Later a reservoir called the Bush Dyke was created alongside the town walls and a waterworks constructed. It is was remembered in names such as Waterhouse Lane, Waterworks Street (the old name for the part of Paragon Street on the north side of the City Hall) and Engine Street, closed when the City Hall was built. In 1790 the work to cover over the Spring Ditch began with the sections along Prospect Street and down to the waterworks.

The Spring Bank Improvement Society was formed in 1824 to provide a public walk along the line of the Spring Ditch, funded by public subscription, including a contribution from Hull Corporation. Lime trees were planted down the middle of the road and these survived into the 1920s when they were felled as a hazard to the increasing amount of traffic.

In 1830, the old waterworks at the top of Waterhouse Lane was replaced by a new one on what is now part of Jackson’s bakery site. It was closed in 1863, but the two waterworks cottages survived for more than a century. A new road, Derringham Bank (now Spring Bank West) was constructed in 1830 from the waterworks westward alongside the Spring Ditch which was initially still uncovered between there and Springhead. This scheme was also funded by public subscription with a contribution by Hull Corporation.



Left: the first waterworks as it was in 1786. Right: the 1830 waterworks. Both plans are from the Kingston upon Hull Corporation Water Department booklet, 1970.

All trace of the Spring Ditch has long been covered over, but its course is preserved for the foreseeable future in the name and line of Spring Bank and Spring Bank West.

Our walk on 19<sup>th</sup> June started at the little garden in front of Britannia House and followed Spring Bank as far as the Old Zoological pub (the site of Botanic Gardens railway crossing at the corner of Princes Avenue. Detours included Hall Street, a visit to the Hull & East Riding Institute for the Deaf and a walk along Park Street as far as Grey Street and Park Row.

In part two of the article I will describe what we learnt about the buildings and history of this famous street.

John Scotney

## Planning and Buildings

### Old Town

Continuing small scale developments in Humber Street are proving that a grand comprehensive plan is not the only way to regenerate an area. Two examples of permission being granted for change of use from fruit warehouse are at 62-65 Humber St to create a “multipurpose event space, gallery, arts studio, rehearsal space, workshop & office” (early June) and at 69-73 Humber St to create “light industrial use, exhibition space, office, shop & café” (early July).

I must apologise for an incorrect report in the last Newsletter about another Humber Street conversion. Fortunately, Steve Plater of Dinostar has emailed me to set the record straight:

*“The planning application for 10 & 11 Humber Street has no connection with Dinostar - the Dinostar building is 28-29 Humber Street, at the opposite end of the street to 10 and 11. As you have probably read subsequently, the museum at 10 & 11 will be “The Museum of Club Culture”, in no way connected to our own museum.”*



Humber Street, looking from Queen Street.  
(Photo: JD Scotney)

This scheme was among those approved between 9<sup>th</sup> June & 15<sup>th</sup> July. August brought approval for 1-8 Humber St (at the Marina end of the street) to become a “jewellery workshop with gallery space, sales area, training and financial advice for starter businesses in the creative sector” and an application to change 26-27 Humber St from fruit warehouse to studio, workspace and storage was approved in mid-September.

These are low-budget conversions and unlike a lot of high-capital projects they are already in progress or finished, as a walk down Humber Street shows.

Elsewhere in the Old Town, Listed Building Consent approval was given in early September to convert the upper floors of the Jaz Bar (corner of Scale Lane & Lowgate) into flats, the conversion of former court rooms at the Guildhall into a Coroner’s Court was approved in the week ending 4<sup>th</sup> September and the Arc Exhibition Centre applied in July to stay put another four years until 30/11/2015. That decision is still pending.

### City Centre

Since the last Newsletter, there have been no applications or decisions of particular interest to the Society in this area. In Story St, the steelwork for the new Wilberforce Health and Wellbeing Centre (I hope the staff don’t have to trot out that mouthful every time they answer the phone!) appeared by mid September to have reached its full extent, ready to be given floors and walls. It is due to open in November 2011.



Contrasting building methods: Above left: Wilberforce Health Centre, Story St, on 22.9.10: Above right: artist's impression on the hoarding. Below: Travelodge, Prospect St on 22.9.10. (Photos: JD Scotney)

The other multi-storey building, the Travelodge at the corner of Freetown Way and Prospect St, is being constructed by a different technique. Instead of beginning with the steel frame to the full height, it began with steel work to the first floor then upper floors have been added one at a time, with the insulated walls appearing first.



### Paragon Station and St Stephens

As expected, listed building consent was granted at the beginning of August for the Larkin Society to erect a statue of Philip Larkin (by Martin Jennings) on the station concourse.

### West

Coltman St has about 15 listed houses and many were refurbished for letting in the 1980s. On a walk led by Hilary Byers around Boulevard and Coltman St in mid-September we saw that the shine had worn off some of the refurbished properties, though others had recently received attention. In late August, Listed Building Consent for another refurbishment was given for re-roofing 179 Coltman St and replacing window timberwork with historically appropriate materials.

Permission was granted in late May for a 3-storey extension to the Eye Hospital at Hull Royal.

In early July, the full planning committee gave Mr Aziza Ahmed permission to convert part of the listed but disused City Temple, 161 Hessle Rd into a charity shop & café, with internal alterations (new partitions) and external alterations (new door and platform lift to west elevation). This is an important building, visually because of its position at the Daltry St “gateway” to Hessle Rd and historically because it is one of Hull’s last surviving Primitive Methodist chapels (1880-81).

In August the planning committee considered Tesco’s application to build a store at the Tradex site (Anlaby Rd – Boothferry Rd roundabout). They were “minded to approve” subject to Tesco signing a “Section 106 agreement” (usually agreement to provide some community facility), but this has not yet been signed so permission has not yet been granted.

## East

Steelwork for the new Homeless & Rootless hostel on Great Union St has now reached full height and has an interesting shape. Work is also progressing well on the Archbishop Sentamu Academy, on Preston Rd. On Hedon Rd, the Humbrol factory, identified by the fighter jet plane in the forecourt, has now been demolished, a last reminder of boyhood (and girlhood?) Airfix construction kits!

Alterations & a rear extension at the listed former Garden Village Shopping Centre, Beech Ave, were approved by the planning committee in early July. Over the years, the shops and even the branch library have been turned into flats. The same committee approved 65 new houses south of Preston Rd on land off Cambridge, College, Pembroke & Bilsdale Groves.

Bransholme's new 5-storey health centre at North Point Shopping Centre was approved in early August.

An outline application for a "retail superstore, petrol filling station (and kiosk), shop units fronting onto Holderness Road, access roads, service roads, car parking, public art, and associated works" in place of the old parade of shops on the north-east corner of the Holderness Rd – Mount Pleasant junction was submitted in early July. It is still under consideration and, if permitted, would rival the Mount Retail Park Asda, just across Holderness Rd. Tesco was rumoured to have been a possible tenant, but have since denied involvement.

Another, more revolutionary scheme (a consultation under the Transport & Works Act 1992, not an application) was submitted in late May for a 500KW tidal energy device in the River Humber 52 metres from the promenade, south of Camilla Close. The council has formally advised that it has no objection.

## North

In July the full planning committee decided to approve the hotly opposed outline application to erect a new 2 & 3-storey secondary or academy on the north-western part of Princess Elizabeth Playing Fields at the corner of Beverley High Rd and Hall Rd, opposite Tesco. The local opposition was about loss of recreational public space, so the approved application includes the "formation of new park and playing pitch areas (including green corridors) in nearby locations" (unspecified).

The YPI's application to build 8 houses facing onto Chanterlands Ave has also aroused a great deal of local opposition, largely because of the loss of an open view for neighbouring houses, but also because many people object to the principle of house-building upon open land given specifically for recreation. It was approved in September.

The Society was one of the many objectors to the application by a Dr R Raut, the present owner of Lambert St

Methodist Church, to extend the planning permission to convert it into flats for another 3 years. Nothing has been done by any of its owners in the 16 years since it was closed and the building is gradually decaying. The sad thing is that by the applicant's own admission, this is likely to mean another three years' inactivity. There is less of a market for flats than before and there are other potential buyers, including the Vineyard Church, whose plans would restore this fine listed church to its original use. To us, the approval seems to have simply endorsed the practice of land-banking – obtaining planning permission to improve the value of a property then selling and re-selling at a profit without implementing the approved scheme, while the building itself decays.

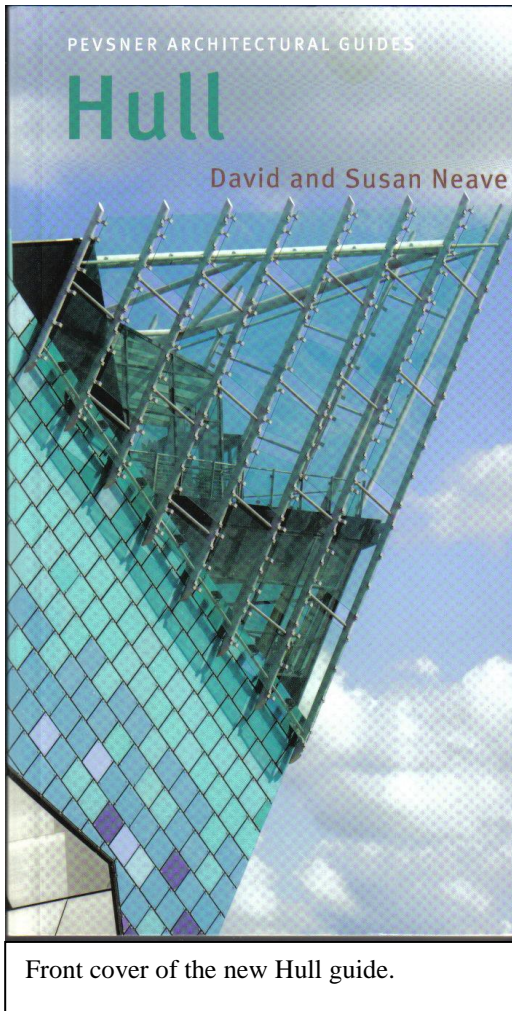
After two rejections, approval came at last in September for the application to build a multi-sports pavilion and 10 all-weather pitches within the Ipark Industrial Estate on Bankside, near Clough Rd.



Lambert St Methodist Church, seen from Princes Rd (Photo: JD Scotney)

## Heritage Open Days 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2010

Congratulations to Phil Haskins for organising and publicising another year's successful Heritage Open Days. The programme included numerous interesting talks and walks as well as the historic buildings open to visitors. Thanks are also due to the volunteers, speakers, walk-leaders and English Heritage without whose support the whole event would have been much lower-profile. Well done to all concerned!



### The Hull Pevsner Guide

On 21<sup>st</sup> September, Hull joined the select number of cities covered by a new Pevsner Architectural Guide, a recognition of its rich architectural heritage. Many readers will be familiar with the “Buildings of England” series of guides for each pre-1974 county, originated by the late Nikolaus Pevsner. These give valuable information about the architecture of churches, schools and other buildings of historic and architectural interest in every town and village in each county. The East Riding volume, which included Hull and York, was updated and expanded by David Neave in 1995.

The new Hull Pevsner guide by David Neave and his wife, Susan, brings up to date the account of Hull's changing architectural scene in a new format with splendid colour illustrations and suggests walks for seeing the city's many interesting buildings. The guide also does justice to Cottingham and the West Hull Villages, Beverley, Hedon and Burton Constable, but we are delighted that the introduction recognises Hull's special nature as “one of only a handful of English cities that have experienced an unbroken position as a leading centre of population and economic activity from the Middle Ages to the present day... reflected in its buildings and urban form”. In his introductory talk, David Neave actually referred to Hull as “Yorkshire's other historic city”, placing it second only to York in historic importance and character among the major cities of

Yorkshire. Our copy was a joint birthday present, eagerly awaited and every bit as good as expected!

This book, published by Yale University Press, will be an invaluable source of information for anyone interested in Hull's history and buildings and is available in “all good bookshops”. The ISBN number for ordering is ISBN 978-0-00-14172-6.

John Scotney.

### January Newsletter

Many thanks to all our contributors. Please submit items for the January Newsletter by 30<sup>th</sup> November. All contributions which reflect the aims of the society are welcome, though it may be necessary to edit them or hold them over to later issues for reasons of space. Items may be sent to the Editor, John Scotney at: 126 Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RZ or (preferably) e-mailed to [john.scotney@talk21.com](mailto:john.scotney@talk21.com).

## Civic Society President, Officers and Committee 2010

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### Annual Membership Subscriptions

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\*£10 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010, £12 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011

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### Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Full Membership subscription: individual £12.00, couple £19.00 per annum (from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011).

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