

HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2004



1998



2004

Lovingly restored: Hitchcocks Restaurant, No. 1 Bishop Lane

In this issue: Autumn Programme, Chairman's Report, Jennifer Rowley, Northern Theatre Company, Thanks for Visits, Old Town 1964-2004, Castle Street Policy Statement, The Renaissance of Hull (Part 3), High Street in 1886, Planning & Buildings, Hull Civic Society Proposal for an Annual Plan, Learning About Hull, Blue Plaques, Hull in Bloom, Queen's Gardens Comes Alive, Contacts (Officers & Committee), Membership form.

Autumn Programme – Talks and Visits

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

Our public meetings are all on Mondays at 7.30 pm at the Royal Hotel, Ferensway, which offers free parking and is convenient for train and bus travellers. Please note that many bus services are re-routed during construction of the new bus station.

Places on visits may be limited. To give us an idea of the number of people attending, please book in advance with our Honorary Secretary, Ken Baker, telephone (01482) 224767 or 594348, mobile: 07766 654955 or e-mail kbaker@goodwin-centre.org

Monday 20th September - “Castle Street” – *talk by a representative of the Highways Agency.*
The future of Castle Street and its effect upon the Old Town continues to be one of the Society’s greatest concerns. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear the latest proposals and voice your opinion!

Monday 27th September, 7.00 pm. VISIT to Hull College – an opportunity to see the new buildings and extensive refurbishment of the existing ones.

Monday 11th October – “20 Years of the Local History Unit” – 
Chris Ketchell This talk is sponsored by Hull College

Monday 18th October, 7.00 pm. VISIT to Hull Central Library – a guided tour behind the scenes.

Monday 8th November - “From Tunnel to Bridge – an explanation why the Kingswood Tunnel could not be!” (*Annual joint meeting with the Institute of Building*).

Monday 13th December – “The dawn of a new performance – Hull Truck Theatre”
Joanne Gower, Executive Director.

Monday 10th January 2005 - “CityVision – Hull’s Local Strategic Partnership”
Rachel Mather, Manager.

Monday 14th February – “An evening with the Lord Mayor and Chairman of Planning”
Councillor John Fareham.

Monday 28th March – Annual General Meeting, followed by “City Treasure”
Robin Diaper, Curator of the Guildhall.

In addition to the visits listed above, we have approached the BBC to arrange a visit to their new TV and Radio studios in Queens Court. If we are successful, the date will be announced at the next available public meeting or visit and by other means.

September and January Newsletters - Editor’s Note

Observant readers will realise that this is not the Special 40th Anniversary Newsletter referred to in May! Work is still in progress. Meanwhile please submit all items for the January Newsletter by 30th November to the Editor, John Scotney, 126 Cottingham Road, Hull, HU6 7RZ or e-mail john.scotney@talk21.com. All contributions that 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.

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the Autumn Hull Civic Society newsletter. As ever, this time of the year marks the end of our summer events and start of our winter programme (See our special programme card). Summer was a resounding success with visits to Grimsby, East Park, Market Weighton, Warton and Heritage Open Days. Thanks to all those who contributed. The winter programme is an opportunity to find out what's happening in the City and for us to engage with you. Topics range from the very topical Castle Street to the Lord Mayor and new Guildhall Curator. As well as these talks, we've planned a number of visits including the new Hull College Performing Arts Building and Hull Central Library. Remember all events are free and we encourage you to tell others and invite them to attend.

The Society has recently added its voice to the debate about the large screen currently in Queen Victoria Square. Whilst not against the principle, we feel that the cost is excessive and the resources could be better directed to providing a better quality tourist information facility and larger museum marketing budget. Conversely, the Society is delighted at the progress of Hull's new Centre for the Built Environment. You may recall we featured this as one of the talks in the winter programme. Five staff have now been recruited and a new 'iconic' movable building is about to be built near Castle Street. We shall shortly be announcing new locations for our popular plaque scheme and were delighted to support this year's Hull in Bloom competition again. It is also pleasing to note further awards for CALM – Campaign Against Loud Music and continue to identify additional 'Buildings at Risk' for listing. Finally, we have warmly welcomed proposals to extend some of the City's Conservation Areas.

A busy time. Very fitting in our 40th year!

Adam Fowler

Jennifer Rowley

We were very sorry to hear in July of the death of Jennifer Rowley, a member of Hull Civic Society for many years. She was Head of History at Sir Henry Cooper School before retirement and an eminent historian, able to share her enthusiasm both in talks and in writing. Her book on "The House of Maister", (Hedon Local History Series no. 6), is a very readable source of information about this influential Hull merchant family. Jennifer was also a guide at the Minster and St Mary's, Beverley, Chairman of the Ladies' Luncheon Club and the Membership Secretary and excursions organiser of the Georgian Society for East Yorkshire and a very good public speaker. Above all, Jennifer was a very approachable and friendly person and she will be greatly missed.

Northern Theatre Company and Northern Academy of Performing Arts

Hull Civic Society are extremely pleased to note that The Northern Theatre Company are now resident in the College of Art Building on Anlaby Road.

Richard Green and his associates are to be congratulated on taking over this very important Listed Building, which will continue to generate art, but in a slightly different form. The Building lends itself admirably to what Northern Theatre Company does well: high quality productions. There is space for everything, from a large ground floor area, which will become an auditorium, to large rehearsal rooms for the dance studios.

The Northern Theatre Company has often not been given the credit it deserves from some quarters. For a great many years Northern Theatre Company has pioneered training in all areas of drama and dance for a great many people who live in the area including lots of young people. Many have transferred to the professional stage. In addition there have been regular productions at the New Theatre as well as the Madeley Street Studios which the Company have just vacated.

We wish the Northern Theatre Company well on this exciting venture, and will continue to observe their future development.

Cynthia Fowler.

Thanks

- To the **Park Rangers**, for guiding us round East Park on Monday, 7th June, and explaining the changes that will be taking place as a result of the Restoration Scheme.



East Park - Photographs by Chris Mead

- To **Market Weighton Civic Society** for a most interesting and informative guided tour of Market Weighton on Monday 21st June. The tour included the mediaeval church, and a wealth of interesting streets and historic buildings, some hidden down entries, such as the former Methodist chapel of 1786, now an upholsterer's workshop. The tour ended at the Londesborough Arms, a fine coaching inn built in the 1780s.
- To **Dr David Neave** for his excellent guided tour of Warter on Sunday, 11th July. As well as showing us the houses, former post office, manor house and church, Dr Neave gave an insight into the social context of one of East Yorkshire's prettiest estate villages, developed to house employees of the Warter estate. St James church (1862-3), now deconsecrated and maintained by a trust, has a link with Hull in its memorials to the ship-owner Charles Henry Wilson (Lord Nunburnholme), who bought the Warter estate from the Pennington family (Lord Muncaster) in 1878.
- To the newly-established **Grimsby and Cleethorpes Civic Society and the staff of Grimsby Town Hall** for a very interesting tour, on Sunday 25th July, of the splendid Town Hall and its treasures, followed by a walk round the oldest part of Grimsby, around the Riverhead and West Haven. We learned that Grimsby received its first Royal Charter in 1201, but was already a thriving and cosmopolitan port before the Norman Conquest.



Council Chamber, Grimsby Town Hall



Riverhead and West Haven, Grimsby

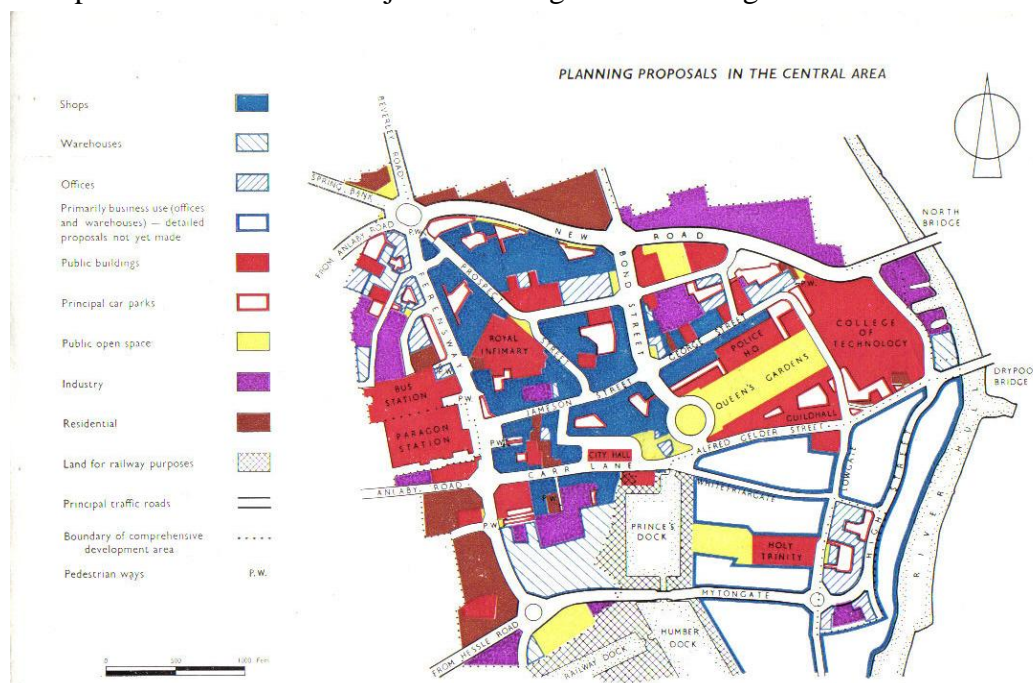
Photographs by John Scotney

Old Town 1964 to 2004

Back in 1964 the historic buildings and character of the Old Town seemed threatened by the planners' enthusiasm for zoning and comprehensive development, which, during the rebuilding of King Edward St, had swept away many interesting buildings that had survived the blitz. In addition there were road plans that included a major road along the line of High St.



High St buildings threatened by road widening.
Photo: J D. Scotney



Map reproduced from "Planning in Action", courtesy of Hull City Council

One of the aims of Hull Civic Society, when it was founded in 1964, was to see the integrity of High Street protected and the Old Town re-vitalised by a mixture of new uses – residential, retail, commercial and leisure – without destroying its surviving buildings. Happily, High Street has survived and has seen its warehouses and offices converted to a variety of new uses including student and residential accommodation, small workshops and a variety of new businesses.

Compared with 40 years ago, there are far more people living in the Old Town as a whole and the residential conversions and new residential developments reported in every issue of this newsletter show that the number is growing. There are also many more restaurants, café bars and pubs in the Old Town and some outstanding attractions for visitors, such as the Museum Quarter, the Marina, the waterside walkways alongside the River Hull and the River Humber and the Deep, now easily reached from High St across the Millennium Footbridge. Many more historic buildings are in good repair than 40 years ago and, even more important, there is a much wider acceptance, especially in the City Council, that it is not just the large historic buildings, but also the more humdrum warehouses, offices and shops that give the Old Town its special character, a philosophy reflected in the concept of Conservation Area status, granted to the section north of Castle St in 1973 and the southern Old Town in the 1990s.

Though we have averted the threat of a dual carriageway up High Street, Castle Street still forms a barrier between the city centre and its waterfront. Our campaign for the A63 to be put into a tunnel, first voiced in our Old Town Report of 1972, continues.

There is still some way to go in the Old Town's rejuvenation but in this slow, organic, piecemeal process the Old Town's character is more likely to survive the changes.

John Scotney

HULL CIVIC SOCIETY – CASTLE STREET POLICY STATEMENT – MAY 2004

Hull Civic Society has re-examined its views and policy on the issues of the traffic management in the centre of Hull – Castle Street. With the current level of debate about the virtues of the various options it was judged to be an appropriate time to re-state our position from the viewpoint of a group who needs only to consider, in the main, the environmental issue without being encumbered with considerations of engineering feasibility, commercial or political interest, or cost.

The obvious problems with the traffic issues in this part of Hull are seen (in no particular order) as:

- 1.Speed of traffic flow at peak times.
- 2.Pedestrian flow, safety and convenience.
- 3.Local traffic flow.
- 4.Air, noise and dirt pollution.
- 5.Visual attractiveness of the city to residents and visitors and investors.
- 6.Re-uniting the two halves of the Old Town.
- 7.The commercial viability of the southern section of the Old Town.

Clearly the other aspects of cost, disruption during construction and timescale, are outside our remit. The options considered were:

- A complementary new route through the southern section of the Old Town to separate cars from commercial traffic.
- Do nothing
- Construct a high level road on stilts above the current route from Daltry Street to the eastern side of the River Hull.
- Construct a tunnel from Daltry Street to the eastern side of the River Hull, leaving the existing road system to handle local traffic (either a conventional bored tunnel or the cut and cover method).

In the Civic Society's view, only a tunnel will allow all of the objectives, stated above, to be fully achieved.

Commercial traffic will have an unimpeded flow to and from the docks; the two halves of the Old Town will be re-united; local traffic will flow freely; air pollution, noise and dirt will be virtually eliminated; the southern area of the Old Town will become commercially attractive to developers and the visual aspect of the city will be greatly enhanced.

The A63/Castle Street is designated as a major European route (the E20), stretching from Limerick in Ireland to St. Petersburg in Russia. The centre of Hull is the only real bottleneck (apart from the ferries, that is!!)

Very many towns and cities in the UK and Europe have tunnels to deal with this type of situation. Kingsway (London) got its underpass forty years ago, as did Leeds with its inner ring road. The A1 through Hatfield was diverted underground twenty years ago. Brussels has its inner ring road almost completely underground. Basle and Berne have complex tunnel systems, and even the most humble Swiss towns have tunnels up to four miles long!

We strongly advocate that a tunnel will liberate the city of Hull commercially, visually and environmentally.

John Netherwood

The Renaissance of Hull - Comments on the Draft Master Plan – Part 3

In September 2002, John Netherwood produced a 40-page comment on the Draft Master Plan, published the previous month. The following is part 3 of our summary of John's comments.

Railway Bridges

Almost all of the twelve railway bridges across Hull's roads are eyesores, but there is little chance of Network Rail's finances allowing for any improvement in their appearance. John suggests that this is the sort of problem that could be tackled by CityBuild and proposes that whilst Network Rail is responsible for their structural soundness, each bridge could be "adopted" by a local firm, who would use this prime site for advertising in exchange for financing the cleaning and pointing of brickwork and the painting of the steelwork. Drypool Bridge is also in need of a more cheerful paint scheme. Hull needs to express its pride in its unique cream telephone boxes by preventing them from looking run-down; each in turn needs to be sandblasted and receive a new powder coat, rather than re-painted over layers of old chipped paint.

Fly Posters

Fly-posters, layer upon layer, look extremely tatty and give Hull a scruffy image. John suggests having authorised areas for this type of free advertising and prosecution for fly-posters elsewhere.

Promoting Hull to Itself

"One of Hull's enduring problems is the attitude of a significant proportion of the population, particularly young people, who perceive it as a place with limited opportunities, not very exciting and not much to do. On the other hand there are many young people who have gone away and been glad to come back, having realised it is not such a bad place after all. There are others who have come to the university and been happy to settle in the city afterwards."

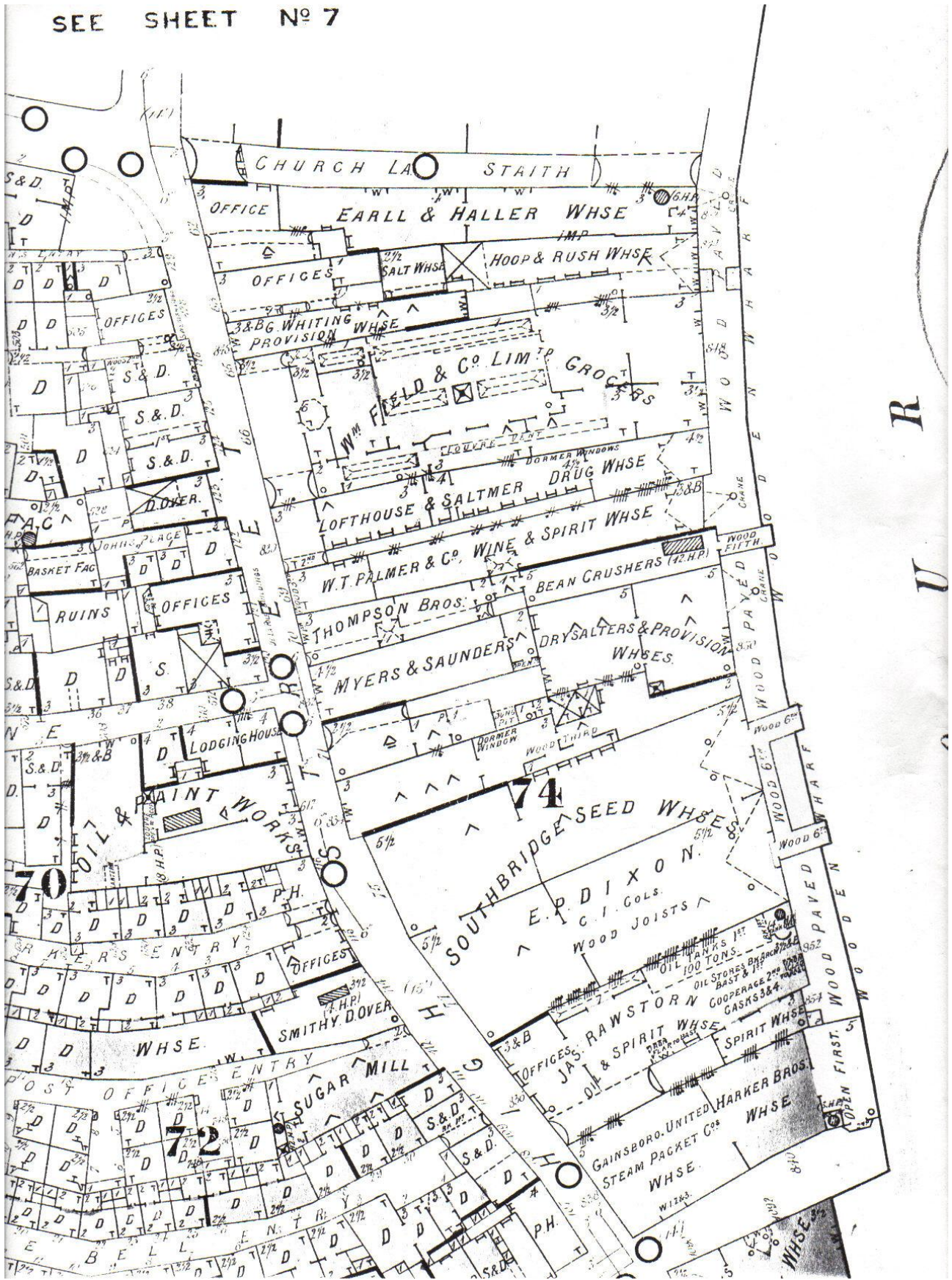
"We need a continuous campaign to promote Hull to its own citizens". John suggests various slogans and more flags to brighten up the city, all helping to project a fun image to residents and visitors, with the aim of helping people to feel that Hull is "a great place to live, work and play". Defining and marketing particular quarters of the city, for example Princes Avenue as the "Restaurant Quarter" could help this process.

To come: Shopping streets, Street-scene Ugliness, The Pioneering City, Sculpture, The City Cable Car.

High Street in 1886

Two photocopies of part of Goad's Map, passed to me by Ernie Cudbertson, our Hon. Treasurer, give a glimpse of the Old Town in 1886, with its close-grained mixture of warehouses, offices, workshops, mills and dwellings (marked "D"). Goad's Map was produced for fire insurance purposes and is not only large-scale (1 inch to 40 feet) but also contains information not found even on the most detailed Ordnance Survey maps: the precise functions of buildings, names of proprietors and the number of storeys of each building and often details of construction materials – notice the remark "Brick & Timber" on the public house opposite South Bridge (usually called "Ha'penny Bridge"). As paper amendment slips were issued periodically and stuck onto the original map (no doubt by office juniors) to keep abreast of demolitions and erection of new buildings, it is doubtful whether any Goad's map exists in its original state.

Editor.





Planning and Buildings

Old Town

Piling work has started for the foundations of the third block of new flats at the Church Lane Staith end of the site at 53-61 High St. Work on the restoration of 52 High St seems to have come to a standstill at present. The front and middle sections have been stabilised and re-roofed but the 17th century warehouse at the back is still roofless and therefore at risk.

Recent applications to convert former offices include 10 flats above Wetherspoon's café bar at 1-3 Trinity House Lane, 6 flats at 8 Dagger Lane and a two-bed flat at 153 High St. At Ye Olde White Harte, permission was granted in June for a covered link from the pub to the manager's flat.

Also approved in June was the scheme for a new café at the pier, using the former ferry waiting shelter and ticket inspectors' room as its core.

Mid-July brought an application to build a 9-storey block of 100 apartments at the corner of next to Drypool Bridge. Whilst it would not be out of keeping with Rank's flourmill and Shotwell, across the river, 9 storeys would completely overshadow the small-scale modern and Georgian domestic buildings of "Little High St", especially Blaydes House. It appears that all the planners' guidelines have been ignored! We and the Conservation Areas Advisory Committee (CAAC) objected and it was refused permission in September. A controversial application to fill in part of the dry dock next to 1 High St was withdrawn.

City Centre

By 26th June, Hull College was able to open its new buildings to the public. The most striking is the Horncastle Building (performing arts theatre, TV studio and café) which occupies the triangular site between George St, Wincolmlee and Charlotte St. Opposite that, at the corner of Charlotte St



Hull College Horncastle Building (Photo: John Scotney)

and Dock Office Row, is the Nursery and Child Care department, housed in a less flamboyant but neat two-storey brick building which fits in well with the scale of the Georgian house and shops on Dock Office Row. The Chesters Building (library, IT suite and administration), a two-storey glass-and-grey panelled structure with a very low-pitched roof, stands immediately to the north of the original Technical College (1960-62) with its workshops and nine-storey block. Although I am not so keen on the design of the Chesters Building, it and the attractive hard and soft landscaping that surrounds it are a great improvement on

the previous hotchpotch of prefabricated buildings. Although one can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear like the Wilberforce block (1960-62, built as the College of Commerce), the landscaping does make it more presentable! The overall result is a more unified campus, bordered by a line of trees on the George St boundary.

Work is well advanced on construction of a small block of flats on Egginton St, next to Theatre Mews, overlooking Freetown Way and a second one to the west was approved in September. There are two schemes by the same developer for flats on the south side of Wright St. One, at 71-76, approved in September, is for a new 4-storey block in the gap between no. 70 and the former Gas Board warehouse (now a furniture shop). The front part of this would be converted into flats, with rear extensions following demolition of the rear warehouses around the courtyard, providing 34 flats in total. The other plan for a new block of 28 flats at 77-81 Wright St, replacing Windsor House furniture store, was welcomed in principle by the Society and CAAC, but with reservations about the design of the façade. It has not yet come before the Planning Committee. The 1790s Georgian terrace on the north side of Albion St is an obvious candidate for returning to residential use, especially now that the houses formerly used by PHD nightclub are for sale. In July

conversion of the upper floors of no. 24, formerly a dentist's surgery, into a 2-bedroom self-contained flat was approved. August saw approval of the revised conversion scheme for 44 flats at the Maltings. Conversion of the upper floors of the King Albert Chambers (Jameson St) into 10 apartments were passed in July and by early September hoardings had been erected and work had started. This development is important both for the long-term future of this listed building and for Jameson St as a whole, which has been rather run-down for several years and in need of an injection of new life.

Road and pavement reconstruction in Albion St, creation of a new bus entrance onto Albion St car park and an application to change one of the shop units in Kingston House, Bond St, into a bus travel centre are the most visible signs of preparations to move all the bus termini out of the 1930s bus station so that the new transport interchange can be built.

The Venue nightclub (formerly Carmichael's store) on George St. is for sale, with its attractive façade now boarded up.

Shop front alterations, change of use to food and drink and conversion of the fountain at the corner of Jameson St and King Edward St into an outdoor seating area were approved in August for Fletcher's, which closed when the whole chain of shops went into liquidation last year. The large shop at the corner of Albion St and Prospect St, disused since Wilkinson's moved into the Prospect Centre extension, was the subject of an application by Iceland Foods in late July to install a new shop front, which suggests that it will soon be back in use! Also in July, proposals were submitted for alterations to the façade of Kemley House (corner of Prospect St and Spencer St) in connection with its conversion from offices to flats.

Ferensway and Paragon Station

The bus station is due to close on 25th September. In September, the Planning Committee considered a new, enlarged design for the 2-storey Travel Centre to be built onto the north side of Paragon Station and announced that it was "minded to approve", which is a recommendation to the Secretary of State. By the end of July, the former ABC Regal cinema and Electricity Showrooms had both been demolished. A revised design for the hotel on this prominent site is still not good enough; it resembles the hated Paragon House and we have objected.

Island Wharf

The office block has now been glazed.

North Hull

A revised application for the Anderson Wharf development of 137 flats for 564 students was refused at the September Planning Committee, despite design improvements that met many of the objections.

The conversion of the former vapour baths section of the listed Beverley Rd Baths into an auctioneer's saleroom was approved in June. The new police station a little further along Beverley Rd, opposite the Dorchester Hotel, opened in August, providing not only a police presence but also a building that fits in well with its surroundings. In June, planners refused the application to add another two old railway carriages to form a 12-bed hotel behind the existing carriages at Cannon Junction. Competition is taking shape next door in the construction of a new café bar, to be named Stax. The building is of a similar style and scale as the pair of Edwardian houses next door on the corner of Ryde St.

Less than a week after voicing my anxieties about Newland House (corner of Beech Grove and Beverley Rd) in the May Newsletter, work started at last on its conversion into 5 flats and construction of 3 adjoining single-storey shop units. Next door, at the corner of Beverley Rd and



Island Wharf offices taking shape in May (Photo: John Scotney)

Cottingham Rd, Lidl's hotly-contested application to build a store on the site of the Turnpike/Main Event public house was approved on 4th August by the casting vote of the Planning Committee chairman. We had twice opposed it on the grounds that the extra traffic it would generate at peak times was more than this junction could cope with; traffic tailbacks already stretch from Beverley Rd to the University at times! We also considered that the single-storey design would do little to enhance the appearance of this prominent junction in the Beverley High Rd Conservation Area, especially as the Cottingham Rd elevation would still be hidden behind advertisement hoardings. Work on the Newland Ave improvements to paving and lighting began in August at the Queens Rd end.

In July, the Planning Committee rejected the design for a new two-storey building which Hull Community Church want to put on the site of their attractive 1967-8 church (built for the German Lutherans) on the corner of Cottingham Rd and Newland Ave. Although the shape of the proposed building is quite interesting, the metal panelling is, in my view, out of keeping with the surrounding buildings. At Hull University's Business School on Cottingham Road (recently University of Lincoln and built as the Municipal Training College 1909-1913), work has already started on the new 500-seat lecture theatre and computer room which will link the central Derwent Building to the



Derwent Building, Hull University Business School. The new lecture theatre will be at the left-hand corner and the lift & stairs shaft will occupy the right hand corner. (Photo: John Scotney).

Esk Building on the western side of the site. The matching corner link from Derwent to the eastern Wharfe Building will be a lift and staircase block.

Two major applications for housing developments off Cottingham Road were submitted in late July and early August, one for 90 dwellings – a mixture of flats, terraced houses and detached houses on the former Golf Course between Golf Links Rd and Hull Rd, the other for 11 detached and semi-detached houses on part of the playing fields to the rear of 260 to 274 Cottingham Rd. An unusual application in June was for a change of use of fields at Snuff Mill Lane from agriculture to cemetery.

On Chanterlands Ave, the new Rix filling station and Tesco convenience store next to the railway bridge are now taking shape quite rapidly.

West Hull

The UCI Cinema closed at the end of June as part of the process of turning St Andrews Quay from a leisure park into a retail park. Atlas Caravans' application to alter its Gypsyville premises (formerly Cawood's kipper factory) to make the two listed fish smokehouses more useable for storage were approved in July. An application was submitted in August for a six-storey 116 bedroom luxury hotel on the nearby Priory Park East for De Vere Hotels & Leisure. We think the design is very attractive.

Plans to improve West Park's facilities with 6 floodlit tennis courts and a clubhouse, a multi-games area on the site of the old tennis courts and extend the skateboard park were refused in September. The planners, unhappy with the break in Hessle Road's building line, had recommended refusal of Lidl's application to build a supermarket at the rear of the site that includes the Eureka cinema façade on Hessle Rd (544-578), but there were no objections and local traders had written in support of a scheme which will remove the dereliction; the September Planning Committee was "minded to approve".



UCI Cinema, St Andrew's Quay (Photo: John Scotney)

East Hull

The steelwork of the new Nestor Grove Community Centre is taking shape on the site of Bilton Grange Methodist Church (1950s), now demolished. A worship area is to be included in the new building. The closed Preston Rd Methodist Church premises are now used by a children's nursery. To the west of Holderness Drain, the Preston Rd "Village Centre" is gradually taking shape.

A decision was deferred on the application for the new East Park pavilion and the two car parks were refused in September. An "animal education centre", alterations to the boat house, new aviaries, play areas, paths and cycle tracks also feature in the park's restoration and these plans were approved.

Business must be booming at the Cornmill Hotel (corner of Holderness Rd and Mount Pleasant) as an application was submitted in August for a 48-bed extension.

Annison's building, lovingly restored for the sale of furniture, has "opening soon" stickers.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to various sources for the information in this article, notably the staff at Hull City Council's Planning Department, Walter Houlton, who attends the Planning Committee meetings at the Guildhall every month and produces a full report for the Civic Society's committee, Cynthia Fowler, our Planning Secretary, who with Ken Baker attends the monthly Conservation Area Consultative Committee (CAAC) meetings and various friends who bring planning and building developments to my attention. Much useful information is also gleaned from the Hull Daily Mail. Most of the historical information about Hull's buildings comes from "The Buildings of England, Yorkshire: York & the East Riding" by Nikolaus Pevsner and David Neave.

Readers can keep abreast of planning applications by visiting the Planning Office, 2nd floor, Kingston House, Bond St or on the Internet at www.hull.gov.uk/planning. I usually find this most easily through Google by typing in "Hull planning applications".

John Scotney

Hull Civic Society Proposal For an Annual Plan

It is proposed that we establish a routine of producing an Annual Campaign Plan, just prior to the AGM, with the objective of telling ourselves and others about our primary campaigning issues for the coming year.

This should enable us "adopt" three or four issues which we can concentrate our energies on and measure progress. The idea is that the chosen tasks should be angled specifically at achieving improvements to the look of our city which have a chance of being achieved within a 1-3 year timeframe. It should enable us to focus on those people in outside agencies that can make things happen, or who control the purse strings and it will enable us to report progress back to our members.

As a starter, I would like to propose my three pet projects for this years plan:

1. Planters - considerably increase the number of planters throughout the city with particular emphasis on the suburban shopping streets between the end of the city centre and the start of the leafy suburbs.
2. A63 - Landscape maintenance and improvement.
3. Railway bridges - improvement to these derelict-looking eyesores which ring the city.

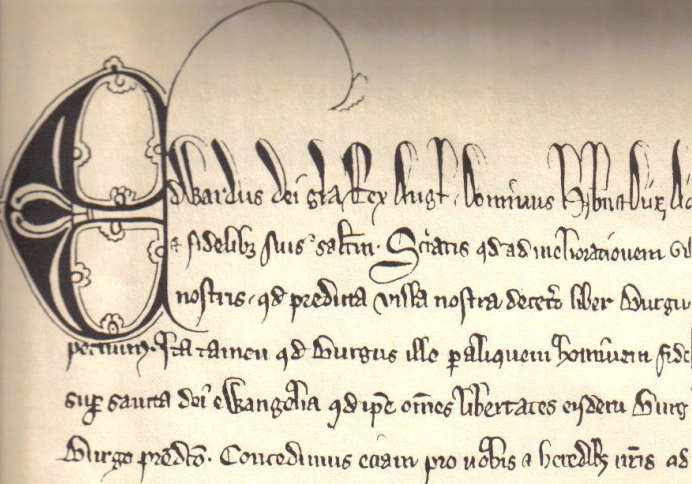
Each chosen task would need to be allocated to a "champion" on the Committee and they could then be reported on each month at our committee meetings.

John Netherwood. May 2004


Learning About Hull

One of the many things that the late Sheila Rooney accomplished when she was on the Civic Society Committee was a set of illustrated history books about Hull, designed to encourage children to take an active interest in local history. These books, entitled “Learning About Hull” included text, maps, quizzes, colouring pages and spaces for postcards. Three periods were covered and they became very popular for school projects, as well as being available for sale at Hull’s museums. My daughters certainly enjoyed them in the 1980s.

Now, Sheila’s husband, Patrick Rooney has donated the remaining stocks to Hull Museums and Galleries and they will soon be available again to another generation. They are well worth looking out for!



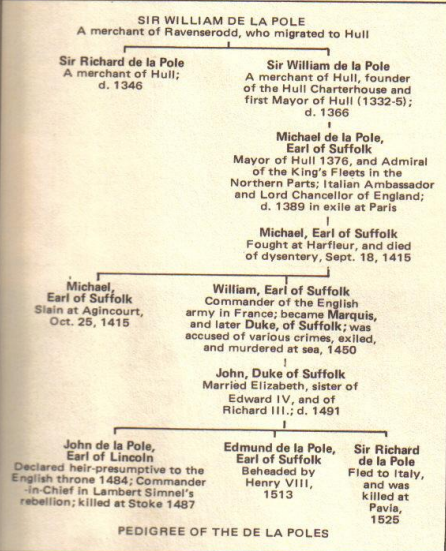
A section of the Charter of Edward I which created the royal borough of Kingstown upon Hull out of the earlier township of Wyke.



KINGS TOWN UPON HULL


The city first received this name in 1292, when EDWARD I purchased some land from the Monks of Meaux. Six years later, the town became a free borough and the **BURGESSES** (who were the free men of the town) elected a **MAYOR** and twelve **ALDERMEN**. They looked after the affairs of the town and told the people what to do through the town crier.


The port attracted other merchants from less privileged towns, and amongst them came a wealthy merchant from Ravenserodd, called William de la Pole. His two sons, Richard and William de la Pole became friends of EDWARD III and lent him money. Their influence with the King helped the town.



PEDIGREE OF THE DE LA POLES

Colour the picture below which is taken from a medieval tapestry





Extract from Learning About Hull, Part 1 – From the Ice Age to the Middle Ages, by Sheila Rooney.

Blue Plaques



J Arthur Rank plaque
Photo: JD Scotnev

The blue Heritage Plaques are a good way of raising people's awareness of the significance of buildings and sites which have links with famous people or have played an important part in local or national history. The first ones, at locations such as Lowgate Post Office (commemorating Suffolk Palace), the western end of Whitefriargate (Beverley Gate), the Old Grammar School and Wilberforce House, appeared as long ago as 1953. In more recent years local firms and, in some cases, Hull Civic Society have shared the cost (currently about £140 per plaque) with the City Council. We have contributed to plaques on the Holderness Road homes of J. Arthur Rank and Sir Alfred Gelder, and are contributing to those at the Pilot Office (corner of Queen St and Nelson St), No.1 High St (home of Samuel Standidge) and the façade of the old Medical School, now incorporated into Kingston Court flats.



1 High Street, home of Samuel Standidge



Humber Pilots' Office (1819)

Hull in Bloom

As usual, Hull Civic Society was involved in the judging of the Old Town section of the annual Hull in Bloom competition for the best floral display. Readers will remember that the competition was initiated by the Civic Society as "Old Town Floral Town". The results were announced at the award ceremony on Tuesday 7th September at the Guildhall.

Five public houses competed in the Old Town & City Centre section of the competition, which is jointly judged by a representative of Hull City Council and a member of Hull Civic Society - Malcolm Sharman. These were: The King's Ale House (King St), the Manchester Arms (Scale Lane), the New Clarence (Charles St), the Olde White Harte (Silver St) and the White Hart (Alfred Gelder St). We offer our congratulations to all the competitors for a fine display, but especially to this year's winner - the Olde White Harte.

Queen's Gardens Comes Alive

In the fading light of an overcast, breezy August Sunday evening, hundreds of men women and children were standing or sitting on the grass or on folding chairs in Queens Gardens. The attraction was the Northern Concert Orchestra, conductor Geoffrey Allen, and some very talented singers: Claire Bradshaw, Lawrence Robinson and a trio called "Tenors Unlimited", with Radio Humberside's Blair Jacobs as compère. The varied programme of light classical orchestral music and song was well chosen and concluded with a firework display. Congratulations to Hull City Council and the BBC for organising an event that brought a large crowd of people of all ages together peacefully and safely in the city centre on Sunday 29th August. We were pleased also that so many people had braved the weather to make this special event such a success.

Editor.

Civic Society Officers and Committee 2004 – 2005

Officers

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| President | Mike Killoran mike@princesquay.co.uk | (day) 586622 |
| Vice President | Donald Campbell | 343588 |
| Chairman, Youth Officer & STAND | Adam Fowler hullef@hullef.karoo.co.uk | (day) 324223 (home) 01430-810425 |
| Vice Chairman, Planning and general projects | John Netherwood john@netherwood.karoo.co.uk | 653657 |
| Honorary Treasurer & Newsletter Assistant | Ernie Cudbertson cudbertson@civic.karoo.co.uk | 228629 |
| Honorary Secretary | Ken Baker kbaker@goodwin-centre.org | 224767 or 594348 Mobile: 07766 654955 |
| Honorary Auditor | Trevor Salton | |

Committee (including co-opted members)

| | | |
|---|---|--------------|
| Planning Sec, CAAC, Good Marks, Minutes | Cynthia Fowler | 377434 |
| Assistant Secretary | Jean Atkinson | 569834 |
| Planning applications reports | Walter Houlton shelagh@houlton1930.fsnet.co.uk | 375605 |
| Planning, Museums, Transport, Industrial Heritage | Colin Cooper | 863339 |
| Tours, visits and local history | Keith Daddy ghostieman1@yahoo.com | 07984 172547 |
| Newsletter Editor, Planning, Transport | John Scotney john.scotney@talk21.com | 492822 |
| Hull Festival, Open House CALM & marketing | Ian Loge ian@ianloge.karoo.co.uk | 07833 657290 |
| Planning and general | Malcolm Sharman | 561611 |
| Hull Festival, Open House & marketing | Karl Loge karl@ianloge.karoo.co.uk | |

Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Full Membership subscription £5.00 per annum (subject to revision from January 2005)

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel. _____ Date _____

Please send with your subscription to:

E. Cudbertson, Hon. Treasurer, c/o Oriel Chambers, 27 High St. Hull, HU1 1NE