

# HULL CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2024



## **Paragon Arcade**

(Photographs are by John Scotney unless otherwise stated)

*In this issue: Programme; Other People's Events; Membership Update; Corporate Members; Invitation to become a Corporate Member; What's in a Name?; Lowgate, Part 2; Good Marks - Astoria Bingo and The Mill public house; Stepney High Street Accelerator Scheme; 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary DVD; Maritime Hull; Planning & Buildings; Committee; Situations Vacant; Original Hull DVD; Membership form.*

[www.hullcivicsoc.info](http://www.hullcivicsoc.info)

## Programme 2024

*Meetings are on Mondays at the Holiday Inn Express, Ferensway*

*Free Tea & coffee is available for all before, during and after meetings.*

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> April 7.00 p.m.:** Annual General Meeting, followed by a talk by our Webmaster Simon Green and Treasurer, Ian Pearson.

## Walks & Visits 2024

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> April, 6.00 p.m. Victoria Dock Heritage Walk (in memory of the late Colin McNicol)**

*Led by Ian Pearson. Meet at Victoria Dock Village Hall, South Bridge Rd.*

**Sat 11<sup>th</sup> May Yorkshire Heritage Summit:** stalls of many Yorkshire amenity societies in Hull Minster (including Hull Civic Society stall).

*Details to be confirmed.*

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> June, 6.00 p.m. Visit to former Sculcoates railway goods depot, Bankside** (opposite Wilmington Bridge) now owned by PBS (NE) Construction Ltd.

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2.30 p.m. Visit to Aura Innovation Centre,** Bridgehead Business Park, Boothferry Road (just beyond the Humber Bridge roundabout) followed by an optional visit to the nearby Wingfield Farm Restaurant.

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 10.00 a.m. Visit to Hedon Museum and Hedon** – meet at the museum.

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30 p.m. Wincolmllee Walk** *led by Colin Cooper.* Meet at Blaydes House, High St.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1.00 p.m.**

**Hull Civic Society 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Buffet at The Charterhouse**

*The event will include a guided tour of one of Hull's most historic buildings.*

*Price to be confirmed and full details to follow. All welcome!*



## Winter Programme 2024-2025

*All talks are on **Mondays at 7.30 p.m.** (unless otherwise stated)  
at the Holiday Inn Express, Ferensway*

14<sup>th</sup> Oct: The Early History of the Municipal Parks of Hull *Richard Clarke*

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hull Civic Society 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Exhibition 1964-2024 at *Carnegie Heritage Centre, Anlaby Road*

11<sup>th</sup> Nov – The sailing ship, Garthpool, *Ian Pearson*

9<sup>th</sup> Dec – The Guildhall Time Ball *Robert Kingdom*

13<sup>th</sup> Jan 25 – The Pavement that walked *Michele Lewis*

10<sup>th</sup> Feb 25 – *details to be confirmed*

10<sup>th</sup> Mar 25 - *details to be confirmed*

14<sup>th</sup> April 25 at 7.00 p.m. - AGM

## Other People's Events

**Saturday 15 June 2024** 11 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. **Day Conference**  
**IMMANUEL KANT AND HULL**

At Hull History Centre Worship Street, Hull, HU2 8BG

**Georgian Society for East Yorkshire and Friends of Kant and Königsberg**

in association with Hull University Maritime History Trust & Hull History Centre

Commemorating the tercentenary of the birth of the most

important German philosopher Immanuel Kant (1724-

1804) and celebrating his close friendship with Joseph

Green and Robert Motherby, merchants from Hull. It has

been said that Green's effect on the philosopher 'cannot

be overestimated'. The Königsberg firm of Green and

Motherby managed Kant's finances, and Kant had a great

influence on the education of Robert

Motherby's children, one of whom,

William, founded The Friends of Kant in

1805

Fee including all refreshments £30

(Georgian Society & Friends of Kant and

Königsberg members £25)

*For booking / further information please contact [susananeave@gmail.com](mailto:susananeave@gmail.com)*



Drinking glass engraved with the names of Immanuel Kant and four men from Hull, 1763 (East Prussian State Museum, Lüneburg, Germany)

## **Other People's Events (continued)**

### **Barton upon Humber Civic Society**

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month at 7.30 p.m. (unless otherwise shown) at Joseph Wright Hall or the adjacent Wilderspin School, Queen St, Barton.

### **Beverley Civic Society**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month (except June to August) at 7.30 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, Beverley.

11<sup>th</sup> April "Beverley's part in in the Peasants' Revolt of 1380"

9<sup>th</sup> May East Riding Yeomanry *Neil Hutty*

### **Cottingham Local History Society**

Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of the month 7.45 p.m. at Cottingham Civic Hall,

3 April Annual General Meeting and social event for members

### **Hedon & District Local History Society**

Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2 p.m. at Hedon Methodist Church, 5 Church Lane, Hedon HU12 8EL 5 Church Lane

9 April: Sam Bartle, 'Exploring the "What Was Where" App: Historic Photos and Maps of the East Riding'

14 May: tbc

### **Hessle Local History Society**

Meets in Hessle Town Hall from March to November at 7.15 pm on the third Thursday of the month.

### **Hull & East Riding Historical Association**

Meets at the Danish Church, Osborne St, Hull HU1 2PN at 7.30 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

### **National Trust East Yorkshire Association**

Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except December) at 7.30 pm at Cottingham Civic Hall

21 Mar "Susannah Wesley – Mother of Methodism" *Catherine Fordham*

18 Apr Robert Adam – Architect to the Nobility" *Tony Burkitt*

## **Membership Update**

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their memberships already this year. It is much appreciated and as you know the Society relies on this form of income for its survival!

As membership secretary and treasurer, I keep a record of who has paid and when, on an Excel spreadsheet and it's easy to let members know

when their subscriptions have lapsed when I know email addresses. It's a bit trickier when I only have postal addresses as it then means a stamp has to be bought for a letter.

This year we have already lost a number of members, for whatever reason, but fortunately gained a few more. We would like to ask all our members to try and recruit new members by asking friends, family, colleagues and other interested folk to join our Society. To help with this we have attached a membership form and article about Hull Civic Society which explains what we do and have been doing for the last sixty years. Thank you for your help.

We will be having membership leaflets on display at libraries, museums, galleries, centres and other places in the city for people to complete and join us.

We hope that you enjoy this year - our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and we look forward to seeing you at our walks, talks and events.

Ian Pearson

### **Hull Civic Society's Corporate Members**

[Odlings](#) Established in 1870, Odlings has been on the site that is now New Cleveland Street, employing local staff since 1899. Odlings Ltd are manufacturers of high-quality memorials to our Local bereaved families and the Monumental trade, supplying Granite, Marble and Stone sourced from the UK and around the world. Our team of craftsmen and women are multi award winners in our trade Competition, "Craftex". Their enthusiasm and passion for design work to produce truly personalised memorials shine though with each memorial they work on. Our aim is to continue to produce innovative and creative designs, setting the standard in the trade.

[Regent House Estates Ltd](#) became Corporate Members in 2023.

[Wykeland](#) has been leading the way in property development and regeneration in Hull and the East Riding for over fifty years. With over 2million sq.ft leased to over 200 tenants ranging from sole-traders to large

multi-nationals, our portfolio includes commercial offices, urban regeneration projects and retail and leisure space. Recent projects include the award winning Fruit Market regeneration in Hull and Treadmills, the redevelopment of the old prison site in the centre of Northallerton. We are currently restoring and repurposing the Burton Building at the entrance to Whitefriargate in Hull and are working with Trinity House to reinvigorate Whitefriargate.

[Allenby Commercial](#) are an established Hull-based family business, who have been developing high quality commercial construction projects throughout the UK for over 30 years. Their track record of delivering high specification projects across various sectors including industrial, office, retail, leisure, and hospitality, has allowed them to gain a great reputation as one of the areas leading and most trusted developers.

[Delaney Marling Partnership Ltd.](#) As Chartered Building Surveyors we operate mainly within the north of the country but will travel as our clients require. We provide comprehensive advice and services to clients on all forms of built property. Our service is based on practical building surveying skills, undertaken by our qualified staff, with experience in dealing with commercial, Education industrial, retail, leisure, ecclesiastical and residential properties. With extensive experience between our two directors, we offer a high-quality service with fast response times, whilst maintaining the competitive edge required in today's property market.

[Rix](#) A sixth-generation family business, the Rix Group's origins date back to 1873. Now operating an extensive range of business activities across the UK, the Group's roots remain firmly placed in Hull with a business portfolio ranging from oil distribution, coastal & estuarial shipping and holiday lodge manufacture to renewable energy installations, digital financial services and more. Our desire to celebrate and preserve Hull's rich, unique heritage is matched by our passion and vision to build stable businesses for the city's current and future generations.

[John Good Group](#) Building Businesses Together. We're a sixth-generation company that creates strategies and provides investment for performance, growth and enhances lives for long-term success, with a commitment to sustainability.

Ian Pearson, Membership Secretary

*We are very grateful to our Corporate Members, not only for their support to the Society, but also for the contribution of each one of these companies to our shared aim of making Hull a better place to live, work and enjoy leisure.*

*John Scotney.*

### **INVITATION to Become a Corporate Member of Hull Civic Society**

The Hull Civic Society would like to restore our links with Hull companies by offering you Corporate Membership of the Society to actively and financially support our work in making Hull a better place in which to live, work and invest as well as visit. We also currently have over 240 Individual and Family Members.

Our motto is 'Promoting the future - Protecting the past' and this neatly sums up what we do, through working in active partnership the City Council, other organisations, community groups and with local businesses to improve the quality of life, appearance and image of our city.

Although not actively involved with the organisation of Heritage Open Days any longer, a number of our committee members and members do help out by leading talks and participating in events in this extremely worthwhile occasion.

The cost of membership is £100 per annum for which we provide:

- The three times per year Newsletter – always a very good read, these can be read on our website going back to 2004.
- An annual programme of interesting walk and talks.
- A communication link into the planning process through our working with the City Council and other agencies in the development and promotion of our city.

- A mention of your Company's support in our recently overhauled and modernised website <https://hullcivicsoc.info/corporate-members/> and in our Newsletters.

To join, please contact our Treasurer and Corporate Membership Secretary Ian Pearson [treasurer@hullcivicsoc.info](mailto:treasurer@hullcivicsoc.info) or our Chairman John Scotney [chair@hullcivicsoc.info](mailto:chair@hullcivicsoc.info)

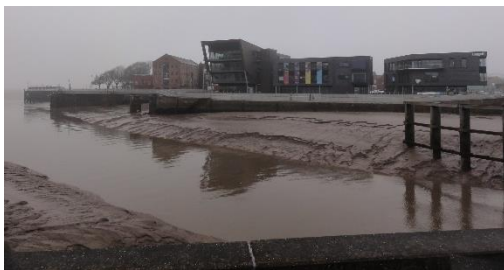
The Hull Civic Society will celebrate its 60th anniversary in midsummer 2024 and we hope that you will consider joining us in time for this notable achievement. We'd like to have you on board!

Ian Pearson, Membership Secretary

### What's in a name?

The first sentence of Hull Civic Society's Constitution (see Hull Civic Society's website) states, 'The name of the Society will be Kingston upon Hull Civic Society but will be known for practical purposes as Hull Civic Society'. This is a reasonable conclusion given that over the centuries the name has varied.

From the time of the earliest surviving documents Hull is the name given to the river flowing from many dip slope springs of the Yorkshire Wolds to its confluence with the Humber Estuary. Volume 14 of the publications of the English Place Name Society, *The Place-Names of the East Riding of Yorkshire and York* lists some variations across the centuries, e.g. Hulla aqua and Hulle, but none stray far from the name we have today. Etymologists give differing opinions on the origin of the word hull. In Danish it translates as 'hollow', a reasonably accurate term for the river at low tide, while another idea is that the name is pre-Scandinavian (Old English/Anglo Saxon) defining a 'muddy pool' or 'the muddy one', again feasible. So, Hull is the



Mouth of the River Hull at low tide



historic name of the river, not, at first, the town.

Today, like most urban areas, the city has expanded in area across former settlements, parishes and manors, their identities in some cases all but lost. But why would these places have their identity subverted to the name of a river? The answer is steeped in History.

The simplest starting point in unravelling the story is the final decade of the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It was at this time that the king of England, Edward I, purchased some of the area on which Hull now stands west of the River Hull from the Abbot of Meaux Cistercian Abbey and granted that area a royal charter, thus the area became a 'King's Town', and to establish its location 'upon Hull', meaning beside the river Hull. Of course, this was not the only settlement to be granted a royal charter, the fact surviving in some other place names today e.g., Kingston upon Thames.

The area of low-lying land on the west bank of the River Hull which received the status 'Kings Town' had been/was an area called Myton. As Hessle parish ran east to the bank of the River Hull Myton was in the parish of Hessle. As the lands of the manor of Ferriby ran east to the same riverbank Myton was in the manorial lands of Ferriby. However, the manorial status was complicated by the fact that Myton was a berewick, an area semi-independent from the rest of the manor. When, back c.1160, the then abbot of Meaux had purchased the land later to become 'Kings Town' the surviving document of sale uses the phrase 'Wyk of Mitune'. Etymologists have variously interpreted 'Wyk' as meaning the site of a dairy farm or a creek or inlet, the latter seeming more plausible. A few other phrases in the bill of sale refer to other features in Myton but none relate to a port or warehousing. And so, the word Wyk has become Wyke in modern parlance.

There was a flurry of interest in Hull's origins in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and one antiquarian, J. Travis-Cook, concluded that the area of Myton (berewick) on the map of Hull today extended from the Humber bank north to Spring Bank West and from the lower Hull riverbank west to Walton Street. So Wyk/Wyke was the name of the emerging settlement, Mitune/Myton the name of the manor/berewick and Hulle/Hull the name of the River.

A curious 'spin-off' from this study is the term 'Wyk in Holderness', a name that apparently crops-up in some early medieval documents. Given what is stated in the previous sentence, and given that the River Hull was traditionally the boundary between Holderness and Harthill wapentakes, how could Wyk have been in Holderness? 19<sup>th</sup> century antiquarians, such as Frost, Tindall Wildridge, Travis-Cook and the famous/infamous Thomas Sheppard took this issue seriously.

A main hypothesis was that up to the 12<sup>th</sup> and just into the 13<sup>th</sup> century the lower River Hull followed a different course to that of today, a meandering 'old' riverbed from approximately the Stoneferry area, west of the current lower river and exiting to the Humber roughly where the Albert Dock lock now is. Thus, if the trading settlement that developed into Wyk had been on the east bank of this river course early Wyk would have been in Holderness. A fact that adds weight to this idea is that some 18<sup>th</sup> century maps of Hull (K. upon H.) show a stream following this same course and called Limehouse Creek. Another is that there is evidence for a channel having been dug through the area currently followed by the lower River Hull and that in the Great Flood of 1253 the River broke into this channel and abandoned its earlier lower course, this gradually becoming silted-up. If this were to have been the case any early settlement at Wyk would have had to have been moved from the earlier site to that of the later Old Town.

By a series of land exchanges in 1297 the settlement of Wyk was granted a royal charter by King Edward 1, thus becoming the Kings Town upon (beside) (the) River Hull, Kingstown upon Hull. Some research I have been doing recently for another project showed me that 17<sup>th</sup> century travellers to the area called the town 'Kingston', but by the 18<sup>th</sup> century the name 'Hull' was used.

Does all this matter? Well, like all things in History it matters because it happened. Personally, I think that successive town governments would have done well to stick to Kingston upon Hull, however 'We love Kingston upon Hull' doesn't sound so catchy, neither does 'Kingston upon Hull is never dull'. Actually – the second doesn't sound too bad!

R. Clarke, 4/12/23.

## Lowgate Part 2

St Mary the Virgin church is first mentioned in a document in 1327 and described as “new built” in 1333. It was rebuilt in the 1390s with a tower, which collapsed in 1518. The present tower was built in 1697 in brick, later covered in Roman Cement. During 1861-63 the tower was given ashlar stone facing and a stone-vaulted walkway through the base. The south porch, second south aisle and vestry were also added. The restoration was to the design of Sir George Gilbert Scott, cousin of the vicar, John Scott. Further restoration was carried out in 1936-37. The church was listed Grade 2\* in 1952.



Left: St Mary's north aisle. Middle: St Mary's, showing the two south aisles. Right: War Memorial. Below: St Mary's Court

Saint Mary's began as a Chapel of Ease, enabling the clergy to conduct baptisms, weddings and funerals in Hull instead of travelling to the parish church in North Ferriby. The Grade 2 listed war memorial in the churchyard is in the form of a stone Calvary cross, completed 1921 and designed by Leslie Moore.



It stands under a gable and is on a moulded octagonal plinth and square base of four steps.

St Mary's Court, now offices, was built as the vicarage in 1864 to the design of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. Built of red brick with dressings (window or door surrounds) of ashlar and blue and yellow brick. The oriel window is an attractive, feature.

Lowgate House is a 1970s block of offices faced in brick, with 6 storeys and a mansard roof, which looks out onto the churchyard and backs onto Bishop Lane



Previously, the site was occupied by Yorkshire Buildings a 3-storey office building in polychrome brick, also with a mansard roof. It was built for the Yorkshire Fire & Life

Insurance co. (later just Yorkshire Insurance), but most large offices housed several tenants. Mainprize, Whitworth, Solicitors, occupied the 1st floor. In this picture (dated 1.5.1973) a "sold" notice was the first step to demolition.

Above: Lowgate House.  
Below: Yorkshire Chambers in 1973

Middleton Chambers was designed by B.S. Jacobs. The plans are dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 1907 and show 12 offices and a caretaker's flat occupied in 1913 by Mrs Barbara Holt. The main material is red brick, with ashlar dressings. The building was commissioned by Henry Samman, ship owner, but apparently as a



speculative development, as in 1913, the occupants of the main 4-storey part of Middleton Chambers included the Royal Exchange Insurance Corporation, two other insurance companies and several companies in the coal industry. The whole of the



Above: beer garden.  
Below: O'Leary's Bar



ground floor was most recently a cafe bar. The 3-storey section of the building, at the corner of Bishop Lane, is shown on the 1907 plans as a shop and in 1913 the North Eastern Railway had a “General Enquiry Office” here. It was later Larard’s Estate Agency. Planning Permission was given on 7/1/2020 for conversion of Middleton Chambers and an 18<sup>th</sup> century former

house at 14 Bishop Lane into 15 apartments. Although Henry Samman owned Middleton Chambers, his ship-owning company appears to have stayed at Sun Chambers on the west side of Lowgate. Number 40 Lowgate is currently the beer garden associated with O'Leary's, the cafe bar at 41. This open space was

donated to the city by the Luftwaffe during the 2nd World War. Prior to that, the building on this site housed Richard Johnson & Co., engravers, and Hull Corporation's Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratories. Number 41, currently O'Leary's Cafe Bar and previously called Jaz, was

built in 1900 for the National Provincial Bank, later National Westminster Bank. It was designed by Brodrick, Lowther and Walker and is faced in Ashlar with a granite plinth.

It is listed Grade 2 and has very delicate carved panels above the door and on the side walls.

John Scotney

*Editor's note: All four parts of the article can now be read on our website*

[www.hullcivicsoc.info](http://www.hullcivicsoc.info)

## **Good Marks: The Astoria Bingo Club Holderness Road The Mill public house, 602 Holderness Road**

Two businesses on Holderness Road have been awarded a Good Mark.



Left: Astoria Bingo Club

Right: The Mill public house

The Astoria's award is for maintaining the building in a very attractive condition with a colour scheme that is sympathetic to the architecture and makes a positive contribution to the townscape of Holderness Road, and for creating a welcoming interior.

The award to The Mill is for the renovation of the historic windmill tower brickwork. The owners of The Mill are to be congratulated for conserving this windmill, which is not only an interesting part of Hull's townscape, but also nationally significant in the history of flour milling as the birthplace of Joseph Rank.

## **Stepney “High Street Accelerator” Scheme**

Stepney was chosen to be part of the Government’s “High Street Accelerator Scheme” pilot programmes, aimed to rejuvenate shopping districts and surrounding communities. The aim is to form a “grassroots” partnership between local residents, businesses, property-owners community organisations and the City Council. Two meetings have taken place so far and an Action Week of litter-picking etc. came in mid-March.

## **Hull Civic Society 60th Anniversary DVD**

Ian Wolstencroft, one of our Trustees, is going to produce a DVD to mark 60 years of change in the city of Kingston upon Hull, decade by decade. This DVD will be ready later this year.

Ian has asked if any members, or their family or friends have any old photographs or film in any format which could be used in the video. All footage and photographs will be copied and returned to owners and all contributions will be acknowledged.

The video will be available as a hard copy DVD and hopefully also sold on line, with all proceeds, after deduction of expenses, donated by Ian W towards Hull Civic Society funds.

This is something that we are sure you will agree is something to look forward to. Thank you in anticipation.

Ian Pearson

## **Maritime Hull Project – and other parts of Hull’s maritime history**

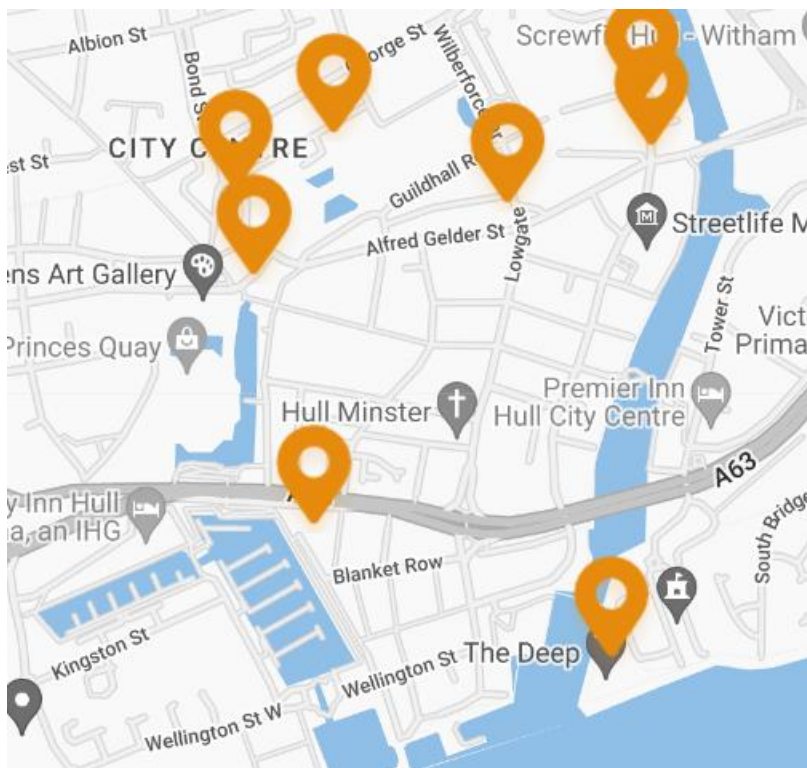
Maritime Hull is an exciting and important project, which will give Hull’s citizens and visitors a new understanding of the city’s origins and encourage pride in its history. The project website shows eight places on the trail, but anyone following the trail would pass other important structures, which we believe should also be recognised as part of the story.

As we follow this trail in this article, we shall look at the eight official locations and at the missing elements.



Many people will begin the Trail at the Maritime Museum, which emerged from its mantle of scaffolding, in late summer, 2023, cleaned in a way that has preserved all its carved details. It is due to re-open in 2025.

It was built to the design of Christopher Wray in 1871 as the Hull Dock Company's third Dock Office. The windows of the former Board Room look out onto both Queen's Garden's (formerly Queen's Dock) and Prince's Dock, opened in 1829.





As part of the project, Dock Office Chambers at the corner of New Cross Street and Queen's Dock Ave, has been reconfigured to store part of the museum collection and conduct research and conservation work. This will free up a whole floor of the main museum for display space. Currently omitted from the Trail are the original uses of this prominent grey-brick building. Dock Office Chambers (the section with its main entrance facing onto New Cross St), was built in the 1890s and in the 1913



Dock Office Chambers, the Warren (former fire station) and Queen's Dock Chambers.

Kelly's Directory it housed Parker & Gains Ltd, wine & spirit merchants, and the North Eastern Railway (NER) District

Superintendent's Office. The long central section of the

structure facing the west end of Queen's Dock is now mainly The Warren Young People's Centre, but in 1913 housed the NER Dock Superintendent's Office, Miss G Harrison, dressmaker, and NER Fire Station no.3. The three large ground-floor windows were originally archways into the fire-station yard to enable passage of the fire engines. The block at the corner of Vernon St is called Queen's Dock Chambers and in 1913, it housed the offices of Heaven & Kesterton, timber merchant, Arthur H Heaven, oil merchant, J Jamieson & Co consulting engineers and another consulting engineer, Hector Fourny, who was born in Boulogne sur Mer and is buried in Hull General Cemetery. There was also a branch of Bell's United Asbestos Co. Ltd.

Queen's Gardens, is the next location on the official trail. Hull's first dock, opened in 1778, closed in 1930 and was filled in by 1935 to form Queen's Gardens. The gardens were remodelled in 1960 and are being

completely remodelled again. Most of the original trees have been felled but many semi-mature mature trees were planted between November 2023 and February 2024, with more to be planted.

Also featuring on the Council’s Maritime Hull Trail is the Guildhall Time Ball, which was restored to working condition 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023. A time ball, linked to Greenwich Mean Time by wireless was an important innovation that enabled ships to set their chronometer more accurately than using the sound of the Guildhall clock chimes.



Artist’s impression of the completed North End Shipyard (from the Maritime Hull website).

Work to complete the visitor centre in North End Shipyard was still in progress in mid-February, in preparation for the berthing of the Arctic Corsair in the dry dock, which was the original lockpit entrance from the River Hull into Queen’s Dock.

In w/c 30.10.23 there was an application (still pending decision) to create a fixed

dock gate once the Arctic Corsair is berthed there.

High Street, in many towns, is the main shopping street, but in most places, as in Hull, it was originally the street where the “high”, or important people of the town lived. Hull’s High Street is still not a shopping street, but should be recognised as part of Hull’s Maritime Story, for here were the residences and warehouses of the town’s most influential merchants.

Blaydes House, Wilberforce House, Maister House, Bayles House and the other merchants’ houses in High Street are as much part of Hull’s

Maritime History, as ships, docks and dock offices, for no ships would cross the seas without the financial motive of merchants' trading activities. Though not currently mentioned on the Maritime Hull website, we believe the Maritime Trail would be incomplete without mention of the role of the merchants and the scope of their trading links.

Until 2023, Blaydes House was home to the Maritime Studies course of the University of Hull. It is still owned by the university, but it urgently needs a new use for its long-term future. It was built for Benjamin

Blaydes, merchant and shipbuilder, in about 1740, with alterations by Joseph Page in about 1760. Victorian alterations were reversed in 1976, thanks to the Georgian Society for East Yorkshire.

Wilberforce House, in the care of Hull Museums is a link with the Listers, another leading merchant family, for whom the front part of the house was built in the 1660s.

Re-opening of Maister House, owned by the National Trust, awaits completion of the work to make the lantern watertight. The music school, Eclectic Music, is the tenant and continues to breathe life into this precious building, constructed in 1744 for Henry Maister after the previous house was destroyed by fire.

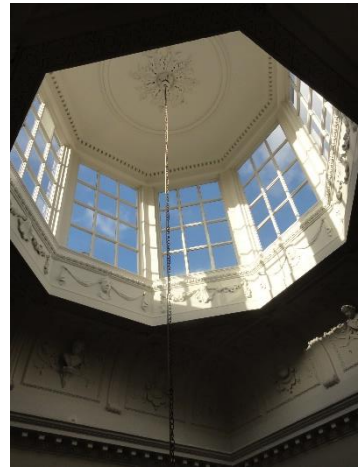
The 19<sup>th</sup> century warehouses, on High Street represent a later phase of Hull's maritime story after many merchants ceased to live at their place of



Above: Blaydes House (19.3.14)  
Below: Wilberforce House (15.1.07)



business in the Old Town. These warehouses, too, belong in the Maritime Trail and the former bonded warehouse on High Street is a particularly interesting example.



Above left: Maister House. Above right: The lantern.  
Below: bonded warehouse.

Hull's draft Maritime Trail includes the South Blockhouse of Henry VIII's 16<sup>th</sup> century fortifications, built in 1541-43. This was linked by a strong curtain wall to a larger Castle and a mirror-image North Blockhouse. This line of Tudor fortifications protected shipping in the Old Harbour section of the River Hull and the original North Bridge.







The South Blockhouse was excavated in the summer of 2022 and the Maritime Hull Project will interpret the South Blockhouse site.

Above: part of Hollar's plan of 1640, showing Henry III's Castle linked by a curtain wall to the North Blockhouse (left) and South Blockhouse (right).  
Below right: excavations at the South Blockhouse, 8.9.2022



The eighth official stop on the Maritime Trail is the Spurn Lightship.

It moved to its permanent berth near Murdoch's Crossing at the end of February. This will then be open again to visitors

Right: Spurn Lightship (6.2.24), at its temporary berth.



However, there is still one more element of Hull's 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century maritime story that should be recognised for its importance: the fishing industry.

We are very fortunate to have the Hull Fishing Heritage Centre, a community-based project established in 2014 by ex-trawlermen who have kept alive the memories. Its location since 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023 is in a former bank at the corner of Hesse Rd and the southern part of Boulevard, in the heart of the former fishing community. The database of trawlers and crews is a superb resource for researching the family of anyone linked to fishing.



Hull Fishing Heritage Centre,  
255 Hesse Road

While the Maritime Hull Trail will be concentrated in the Old Town and, we hope, will include the merchants' houses and warehouses, we believe that the Hull Fishing Heritage Centre should also be recognised Maritime Hull publicity, website and signposting.

John Scotney.

## Planning and Buildings

### Old Town

In w/c 11/12 there was a re-submitted application to add a second storey (rooftop) office extension (ref: 23/03491/FULL). at The Counting House (former British Waterways offices (corner of Nelson St and Pier St. While retention of the pediment is a real improvement on the hideous proposals submitted in February 2023 and refused in May, the December 2023 version would still alter the roofline and character of the building.



The Counting House  
(white building)

The “@The Dock” complex of offices, entertainment & dining facilities was completed in early February with the office building facing onto “Little” Humber St (Observed 6/2).



Above: final section of @The Dock, “little” Humber St.

New windows and doors have been



Left: north end of King William House.

inserted into the formerly blank brickwork of the former Argos store facing Liberty Lane at the north end of

King William House, Market Place (observed 6.2.24).

Nearby, backing onto Liberty Lane at the rear of the site 9-11 Scale Lane, erection of a building for use as dwellings in multiple occupancy (3 units - each 4 bedrooms) was proposed in w /c 23/10. The design is very much out of keeping with the character of the Old Town (Ref.23/03090/FULL).



Proposed Rear Elevation to Liberty Lane



Below left & right: Drawing from the planning and the site on Liberty Lane (6.2.24);

In w/c 23/10 there was an application to convert for 7 Land of Green Ginger Brewer Wallace, Solicitors) to be converted from offices into 3 spacious two-bedroom flats (Ref: 23/02836/FULL)

No. 1 Parliament St has changed use from Evans Auctioneers to Cock of the Walk bespoke tailors, formerly in Grimston St. Next door at 2 Parliament St, permission was given in w/c 13/11 for the offices to become 4 flats.

The process of planting semi-mature trees in Queen's Gardens began in November and the old avenue of trees down the centre of the gardens has been felled (observed 25/1). The promenade along the south side has been constructed and is being paved.



7 Land of Green Ginger



The Burton's Building 28.2.24

The renovation of the Burton's Building is still in progress. The interior has been completely gutted and the black marble panelling removed. Now metal strips are being installed, presumably as fixings for the new black marble panels, which

are being sourced from the same quarry as the originals. This is one of Wykeland's largest projects in the Old Town (observed 5.3.24).



At Kingston Chambers, 17 Princes Dock St - permission was granted in w/c 23/10 for vacant offices on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors to be converted into 3 apartments (2 x studio and 1 x 2-bedroom) and the ground floor hairdresser's to become a delicatessen (Ref. 23/00508/COU).

In Zebedee's Yard, there was an application to install a brushed stainless-steel figurine of a mariner using a sextant onto a masonry pier (Ref: 23/03526/FULL).

### City Centre

An application was approved in w/c 11/3 to build a Community Diagnostic Centre at the corner of Albion St and



Right: Artist's impression of the proposed CDC  
Below: The Rhythm Room.

Bond St, with an external space for a mobile scanner (23/03547/FULL). This would mean a significant change to the Albion Square scheme.

Permission was granted in w/c 22/1 for the Rhythm Room, 5 Baker St,



to be changed from a night club into a Further / Higher Education facility for the TEC Partnership of East Riding College. The premises have been empty for some time, so this is a welcome new use. (Ref:23/03475/FULL)



The New Clarence, Charles St

In w/c 19/2 a revised proposal was submitted for the use of the New Clarence pub, 77-79 Charles St. Instead of the whole building becoming a 29-bed “house in multiple occupation”, there would be 20 rooms in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors and the ground floor would be retained as a “community pub”.

This, however, depends on raising enough money by crowd funding by 31<sup>st</sup> March. (Ref: 24/00129/FULL)

While Hammonds of Hull, Paragon Square, is still vacant, the upper floors are still fully in use by ResQ call centre and in w/c 22/1, permission was granted to build a new roof terrace or “break-out area” and make internal and external improvements to the West St staff entrance (23/03453/FULL)

In w/c 29/1 a controversial application was submitted for change of use of the vacant Kingston Tavern pub (76 Paragon St) into an “Adult Gaming Centre” open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (Ref: 24/00043/COU)



Kingston Tavern



Castle Buildings 6.2.24

Castle Buildings at the corner of Waterhouse Lane

and Castle St is now divested of the scaffolding that has hidden it for decades, so that work can begin to bring it back into use

and to re-erect the Earl de Grey in its new position facing Commercial Rd instead of facing Castle St.

The city centre has seen approval of numerous plans for conversion of offices to flats.

- Dunedin House, 45 Percy St (on the corner of Albion St) (originally built for the Commercial Union in the late 1960s) 29 apartments w/c 2/10 (Ref. 23/03021/PCOU and: 23/03017/FULL).

- Silvester House, Silvester St, at The Maltings - 11 apartments w/c 26/2 (Ref: 23/03551/FULL).

- 11-13 Baker St: w/c 15/1 - 14 flats (Ref 21/00623/LBC).

- 6 Wright St - w/c 15/1 ground floor office into a 2-bedroom flat (Ref: 21/00968/COU & 21/01163/LBC).

- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floors 40 Paragon Square, 90 and 88 Paragon Street, 32-40 Paragon Square, 95 Jameson Street w/c 12/2 – 14 one & two bed apartments (Ref: 23/03415/COU & 23/03416/LBC)



Above: Paragon Square & Paragon St  
27.2.24. Below: A63 works 27.2.24

### Castle St / A63:

Work has been in progress, with road closure at weekends, to lower the road to create a grade-separated junction where traffic will go over the A63 from Ferensway to Commercial Road on a bridge. 2025 is the target for completion, according to Highways England.



### East

A revision of the approved plans for 77-79 South Bridge Rd was proposed in w/c 29/1 in an application to raise the height of the ground floor and add dormer windows (Ref: 24/00065/S73).



Cargill's Isis Mill 9.11.23

In Morley St, Stoneferry Rd, the Isis Oil Mill, now owned by Cargill UK Ltd, closed earlier in 2023, although the silo tower is listed, Cargill's have submitted several applications to demolish other buildings on the site. Planning references include: 23/03069/LBC, 23/03072/LBC and 23/03080/LBC

*Why is Hull Civic Society interested in this redundant industrial complex? Oil milling (seed crushing) is an important part of Hull's history and current economy. Hull was the largest centre of oil milling in Europe in 1900, and the industry is still important.*

At Kingswood, there was an application in w/c 27/11 to develop two parcels of land between Richmond Way and the River Hull with 214 homes in Zone A and 236 homes in Zone B and landscaped "aquagreen" for flood protection. (Ref: 19/01511/FULL)

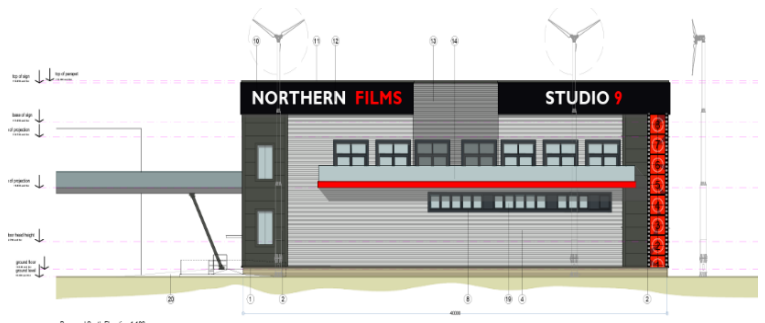
In Sutton Park: there was an outline application in w/c 11/12 to erect a multi-purpose public building on land to the south of Grandale for indoor sports, medical or health services, nursery/creche, education, display of art, public hall, place of worship, local community shop, local community meeting place, of outdoor sports. (Ref 23/03495/OUT)

### West

Permission was granted in w/c 29/1 for a 2-storey side extension and single storey rear extension to the Al-Salaam Mosque at 153-157 Boulevard and for landscaping the adjacent ground (Ref: 23/03535/FULL).



Two buildings to form a studio for Northern Films were proposed in w/c 22/1 for a site at



8 Saltmarsh Court, Henry Boot Way on Priory Park (Ref: 23/03464/FULL & 23/03465/ADV).

### North

In w/c 12/2 a scheme was submitted to build a new PDSA PetAid Hospital at 20 Brunswick Avenue, Waterloo Street following the demolition of the existing one (Ref 24/00120/FULL)



Above: Proposed PDSA Pet Hospital  
Below: Brunswick Arcade

Brunswick Arcade (1890), 52a-54 Beverley Rd, has emerged from its scaffolding with three new shop units. This is one of the “Major Projects” of the Beverley Rd Townscape Scheme. The upper storey details have been faithfully restored. Across the road, the restoration of the former Trafalgar Street Church is the other Major Project of the BRTH Scheme and work is still in progress (observed 1/3). Next door, refurbishment work has started on listed 53-55 Beverley Rd. In w/c 23.10.23 applications were submitted to install new boundary treatments





(walls, gates & railings) to the front of the former church and houses (Refs. 23/03315/FULL and 23/03317/LBC)

Hope of a new future for the handsome 1850s John Symons House in Park Row, off Park St came with approval on 15/1 of a new, more sympathetic application for conversion to a 23-bed house in multiple occupation (23/03371/FULL).

The extension at the rear of the Kurdish Mosque and Community Centre, Spring Bank (former Nat-West Bank) has been demolished. A new extension was approved on 14.6.23 (Ref: 23/00412/FULL).

At 480-498 Beverley Rd there was an application in w/c 18/12 to erect a 3-storey building to provide 14 self-contained flats and a two-storey terrace of four 2-bedroom houses with private gardens. (ref: 22/01078/FULL).



St Mary's Care Home 22.1.24

The new St Mary's Care Home (behind St Mary's Nursing Home on Chanterlands Ave), is structurally complete (observed 2/3).

### Hull Civic Society Committee

**Honorary Secretary:** Cynthia Fowler  
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**Chairman,** Newsletter: John Scotney  
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**Treasurer & Membership:** Ian Pearson

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**Hull History:** Ian Wolstencroft

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## **Situations Vacant**

Richard Clarke, our Vice Chairman, has decided to step down from the Civic Society committee, for health reasons, though he will continue as a member of the Society. He has been an active committee member since 2021 and has contributed experience from his work on Barton Civic Society and Friends of Pearson Park. This has brought perspective to our decision-making. His presence and helpful comments at committee meetings will be missed, though his continuing interest in the Society is much appreciated; he has already submitted an article for this Newsletter.

We are always ready to welcome new (and especially younger) committee members, but an appeal for reinforcements on the committee has now taken on a new urgency.

If you are interested in joining the committee, please email us via the "Contact us" page of the Hull Civic Society website or approach one of the committee members at one of our monthly meetings at the Holiday Inn Express. The committee normally meets at 7.30 p.m. at Ye Olde White Harte, Silver Street, on the first Tuesday of each month, though the date may be changed for the benefit of a member if he or she will be unable to attend on the usual date.

### **The original Hull DVD is still available - *Price £10.00***

**Available at:** - Civic Society meetings; - Dove House Hospice, Chamberlain Road, Hull; - Hull Fishing Heritage Centre (corner of Hessle Road and Boulevard); - Sutton & Wawne Museum, Church Street, Sutton on Hull (Friday mornings from 10 a.m. only); Orders can also be placed with Ian Wolstencroft tel. 01482 504381

Email: [iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk](mailto:iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk)

## Application for membership of HULL CIVIC SOCIETY

Annual Membership: £15.00 (£24.00 for two people living at the same address). Please pay by bank transfer or Standing Order to Hull Civic Society, Sort Code 20-43-47, Account No. 50568724, or send a cheque to our Hon Treasurer at 218 Saltshouse Road, Hull, HU8 9HH.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

The details on this form will be held securely by Hull Civic Society and not shared with any third party.

**I consent to Hull Civic Society holding the details on this form (please tick)**

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Boost your subscription or donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. To Gift Aid your subs /donation please tick this box

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Please notify the Hon Secretary if you: • want to cancel this declaration •change your name or home address •no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. **Note:** If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.