



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER  
Association of Civic Societies

Member of



# SOCIETY INSIGHT

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Volume 15, Issue 3

**"HERITAGE & CULTURE"**

## HERITAGE AND CULTURE IN HALIFAX

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### Did you watch the recent TV series "Gentleman Jack"?

If you did, I bet you were gobsmacked by Anne Lister. Did such a woman really exist in the early C19? Yes, she was a real Halifax landowner, businesswoman, traveller and lesbian who died in 1840 in the Russian province of West Georgia. It was all true, give or take a bit of dramatic licence. Even the carriage driven by Miss Lister is an accurate replica of the one in the museum. The TV company put it and the original furniture into store for safe keeping.



Photo by Alexander P Kapp / Shibden Hall,  
Halifax / CC BY-SA 2.0  
(Wikipedia)

Everything is documented in the minutest detail in her correspondence (1850 letters) and diaries (27 volumes, millions of words), some of which were so explicit that they were written in code. When the code was cracked years later the last Lister to own the house was advised to burn them. Luckily for posterity, he hid them behind the panelling of Shibden Hall (left). If you visit the house the guide will show you where.

Rediscovered in 1988 they are now safely archived and available to historians who have done painstaking research, deciphering the code and tiny handwriting. Several books are available giving a fascinating in-depth picture of her life and times. And more still to be revealed.

Shibden Hall and estate dates back to the early C15. The original timber-framed house was extended in the C16 and partly encased in stone in the C17. Many medieval features remain. By the time Anne Lister inherited it the house would have been dark and gloomy. She added a tower and an east wing, raised the ceiling of the main house body and installed panelling and a grand internal staircase. The previous one was outside! No fun if you were a maid or footman carrying – whatever. She made substantial improvements to the estate, much of which has been restored in recent years to its original design with authentic plants. It is now operated by Calderdale Museums department who have created a viable tourist attraction.

Both Shibden Hall and its notorious occupant are therefore an important part of the rich Heritage and Culture of Halifax, which during the past year has enjoyed an upsurge of interest generated by the TV series. Probably greater than visits to the award winning Piece Hall the previous year. The council has even appointed an officer to work on the "Gentleman Jack effect".



Watercolour portrait of Lister, probably by a Mrs Turner of Halifax, 1822



Walker Pit Tower  
Photo: Courtesy of David Glover

What role has Halifax Civic Trust played in all of this? Some of our members conduct history walks, others give lectures, demand for which has rocketed, with some people even coming from the USA. Not long ago we hosted a YHACS meeting in the new visitor centre by the lake. This year we erected a blue plaque to Anne Lister, the wording of which was difficult considering the many sides to her character (see pages 6-7). It was installed in an arch by the front door at a well-attended event in Shibden Hall at which two of the historians spoke. Unfortunately it then had to be removed for the filming of *Gentleman Jack* and will not reappear until they have finished the next series, or the one after that.

In November 2017, a member informed us that a drone had been flown over the estate and revealed that the Walker pit tower (*below, left*) needed urgent repair (*right*). This tower was a ventilation shaft for one of the coal mines mentioned in the series. Designed in neo-Gothic style it is now a scheduled ancient monument. Council officers were immediately notified and an inspection of the tower revealed stones were missing and various repairs were needed. Advice was sought from Historic England and I am pleased to report that the work was completed by June 2018.



Walker Pit Tower damage  
Photo: Courtesy of David Glover

Those who have read any of Anne Lister's diaries will have noted that each day she stated where she had walked or ridden, precisely how far it was and how long it took to the nearest minute. Some days she covered surprising distances. Before the turnpike roads between Halifax and Wakefield were built (one is now the A58), people from Shibden would have used an ancient medieval route called Wakefield Gate. According to HCT publications in 1987 and 1991, it went from the then parish church, now the minster, up the very steep Old Bank mentioned in the diaries, past the beacon that gave warning of the Spanish Armada in 1588 and along various lanes. In 1724 Daniel Defoe described Old Bank as "exceedingly troublesome and dangerous". One section, Dark Lane, has been a scheduled ancient monument since it was damaged by a bulldozer in 1986.

In 1983/4 Halifax Civic Trust had supervised a task-force which cleared the route, uncovering setts that had been hidden for many years and installed interpretation panels at each end. In 1990, HCT raised money for more repairs, which were carried out by the council under the supervision of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service. Recently some of our members walking the route discovered that it was overgrown in places and damaged by flooding indicating drains were probably clogged, and a panel was missing. We heard that footfall had greatly increased this year due to visitors to Shibden Hall. Once again, we contacted the appropriate council officers who have already organised an inspection. Remedial work will be subject to statutory permissions due to its historic status. The missing panel is on our agenda as are more blue plaques for local worthies mentioned in the diaries, some requested by present occupants of the premises.

All of which helps to raise the profile of Halifax Civic Trust as well as drawing attention to our local heritage and culture.

**June Paxton-White**

## VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

### Richard Ward

Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will find a tribute to Richard Ward, the YHACS treasurer for many years. I was on a Wakefield Civic Society excursion when the email came through from Peter Cooper telling me the sad news of Richard's passing. Both sad and upsetting as it was so unexpected. Richard and his wife Pam have become good friends over the years and no meeting would be complete without Richard's 'treasurer's report'.



Anyone who is in a leadership role will know that after the initial shock of such news, you immediately start thinking through the implications for the organisation. I have often said that while a voluntary organisation can get by for a while without a chairman or a secretary, if you don't have a treasurer, you are in big trouble as you can't pay bills or bank payments. Richard had been our treasurer since the beginning and we more or less left him to get on with it. He knew what he was doing and was fairly self-contained in dealing with the responsibilities of the role. It's easy to take such competence for granted – until it's too late.

However, the YHACS committee did have contingency arrangements in place and I was able to take over as an interim treasurer and gain access to the YHACS bank account fairly swiftly as I was already a nominated counter-signatory and had access to the on-line account – I just needed to get it 'unlocked' to keep things going. At no time were we unable to bank cheques or pay bills. This wasn't down to luck – it was about contingency planning. I do urge all societies to make sure they have arrangements in place for sudden loss of personnel whether it be through resignation or, as in the case, death.

On a happier note, I am pleased to report that YHACS committee member Alan Goodrum of Halifax Civic Trust has agreed to step up and become the new YHACS treasurer. Many thanks to Alan for volunteering, especially as he only joined the committee this year!

### Keep it lively!

**Our theme for this issue is 'heritage and culture'.** In its simplest forms, heritage is often seen as the 'buildings' and culture as the 'people' and there's a lot of interest in both – but what can a civic society do to spice things up a bit and generate fresh interest, particularly from people who might not be members of the society? Well, as it's almost Halloween, let me tell you about something I've been doing in recent weeks at Wakefield Civic Society – leading Wakefield's Historic Ghost Walks.

At the end of 2018, I was contacted by Wakefield BID company to explore the possibility of my doing some ghost walks around the city centre. It was pointed out that many cities have them and they can be a big draw: they are an increasingly popular way of finding out something of the history of a place while also having a bit of fun. Having been on one myself in York a few years back, I said I'd give the idea some thought.

The first problem was that I don't personally 'believe' in ghosts! I also had the credibility and reputation of the civic



society to consider so I couldn't just make things up. What I eventually came up with was more a 'Murder and Misery' tour, telling the rather sad stories of the malcontents and miscreants, the misfortunates and the miserabilists, who inhabited Victorian Wakefield. And if ever there was a time to take off the rose-tinted glasses about the 'good old days' my stories certainly had that effect!

Although the walks were advertised as 'Historic Ghost Walks', the historic part was really that these were the first ghost walks to ever be offered in Wakefield (as far as we know!). We were also very clear in our promotions that there were no *actual* ghosts on the walks – well, none we expected anyway – and the 'Ghosts not included' strapline was prominently displayed. Despite this, the first batch of four ghost walks booked up solidly in a matter of days. We didn't charge for the walks (thanks to a grant from Wakefield BID) and we had the usual problem of people booking and then not turning up (but these were compensated for by some people turning up who hadn't booked) but nonetheless over 100 people took part. So popular were the walks (and the demand expressed on social media was palpable) that I asked Wakefield BID to sponsor more walks, which they agreed to do. So, another four walks were offered in the autumn and they too were solidly booked, with bookings coming in within minutes of the walks being promoted on social media. A further 100+ people took part in the second set of walks.

The walks looked at some actual cases reported in the local press in the Victorian era and some original court records. I didn't have to do much research of my own as the late Kate Taylor, a local historian and writer, had written a book (*Foul Deeds and Suspicious Deaths in Wakefield*) which contained many of the stories I needed (there are similar books in the series for other towns and cities written by different authors). All I had to do was to identify suitable stories, plot a route which took me past the crime scenes or where the stories had unfolded and then, on the night of each walk, help to set the scene by explaining some of the history of the buildings and the streets we were walking, adding some overarching social history about living conditions at the time and tell the sometimes gory stories that made up the walks. A little embellishment and improvisation here and there, not to mention some occasional extemporisation, all helped to add colour.

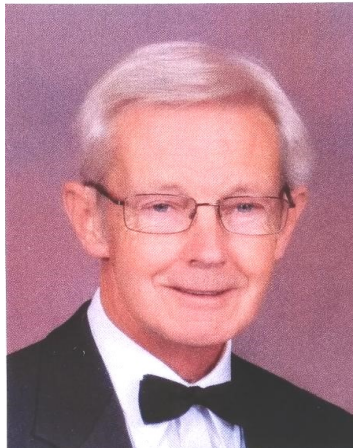
Well, guess what? People loved it! They laughed a lot (yes, I know, people will laugh at anything!) and were very complimentary in their feedback. There's now talk of my being booked to do more next year.

So, what were the benefits for Wakefield Civic Society? Well, the donations from Wakefield BID were very welcome, of course, but the publicity and press coverage were equally useful in raising our profile. We recruited a few new members and received a couple of personal donations. Members of my committee got involved (without having to don white sheets or jump out of doorways!). And finally, we established closer links with members of Wakefield's business community who are very keen to see a programme of events and activities happening around the city centre – all helping to bring extra footfall into the city.

Oh, and they were also great fun to do: we may not have seen any spirits on these walks, but I'd like to think that I raised a few.

**Kevin Trickett MBE, Chair.**

## RICHARD MICHAEL WARD 1946-2019



**YHACS members were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of our treasurer, Richard Ward. Richard died following a brain haemorrhage on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.**

Richard attended the inaugural meeting of YHACS (then YHASA) in November 1999. He represented Huddersfield Civic Society at YHACS events until, in 2013, he added Scarborough & District Civic Society and Scalby Village Trust to his portfolio.

Richard was born and brought up in Doncaster where he attended Doncaster Grammar School. His father was a railwayman and this may explain Richard's lifelong interest in railway matters. He qualified as a solicitor after moving to Scarborough and then practised for over 40 years in Huddersfield before retiring back to Scarborough in 2013. In his curriculum vitae Richard, with typical modesty and understatement, mentions that he had 'numerous roles in and by virtue of membership of Huddersfield Civic Society, including ten years as chairman, currently President'. At Scarborough Richard became planning officer for the civic society for a while, a role that he fulfilled with care and consideration for the views of others. For over ten years Richard was treasurer of YHACS. A regular feature of the YHACS AGM was the vote held to elect the treasurer for another year; Richard was always elected unanimously apart from one dissenter with his hand up, R M Ward. There were always very few questions for the treasurer, a testimony to the efficiency and skill with which the job was accomplished. Richard described his role as a 'background man', happy to work on the detail and nuts and bolts of the work involved rather than being centre stage. But in committee he was a great asset, always keeping an eye on governance issues and fearlessly arguing what he thought to be the right approach to problems.

Away from civic societies Richard was an avid railway enthusiast. He was a keen member of the LNER Coach Association, restoring coaches at Pickering for use on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and was a regular attendee at model railway exhibitions. He was in the process of creating a splendid shed in his back garden to house a new layout but he was not to see this finished.

Richard leaves his wife Pam and daughters Sarah and Vicky. His contribution to YHACS affairs as a committee member and friend will be badly missed.

**Peter Cooper**

## HALIFAX CIVIC TRUST'S BLUE PLAQUES

**Halifax Civic Trust's blue plaques scheme has stepped up a gear with five new plaques in 2018 and at least another five on walls or in the pipeline for 2019.**

Our first plaques were installed in the 1990s but since the scheme was restarted in 2010 we have rarely attempted more than one a year except in 2013, when we honoured the Halifax sculptor Jocelyn Horner and the socialist historian E P Thompson, who wrote his seminal *The Making of the English Working Class* while living with his fellow-historian wife, Dorothy, in Halifax.

Last year's list began in May by marking the 100th anniversary of votes for women when, in partnership with the Halifax Opportunities Trust, we honoured two suffragettes by unveiling plaques while on a commemorative walk through the town. **Dinah Connelly**, who formed the Halifax branch of the Women's Social and Political Union, was jailed for campaigning for women's votes and in November 1918 became the first woman to vote in an election in Halifax. **Adela Pankhurst**, suffragette daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, came to Halifax in 1907 to speak at a rally organised by the Halifax branch of the WSPU.

*Emily Bronte plaque:  
From the left: Mick Darby, of Law Hill House, Sue Newby, of the Bronte Society, Halifax Civic Trust vice-chairman David Glover, deputy Mayor and Mayoress Coun Chris Pillai and, Beverley Krishnapillai and Nicky Darby, of Law Hill.*



The next plaque, in August, honoured **Emily Brontë**, author of *Wuthering Heights*, in the bicentenary year of her birth. For six months in 1838 and 1839 Emily lived at Law Hill House, Southowram, where she taught at a school for girls. The plaque was sponsored by the owners of Law Hill and placed on a wall at the house following a well-attended talk on Emily and her sisters by

Susan Newby, of the Brontë Society, at nearby St Anne's Church.

Later in August we commemorated Chartist **Benjamin Wilson**, campaigner for parliamentary reform, at the Standard of Freedom pub in Skircoat Green, Halifax, a meeting place for political activists in the mid-19th century. The plaque was sponsored by the pub's landlord and installed as part of the pub's summer charity day. The last plaque of 2018 commemorated **William Priestley**, founder of Halifax Choral Society, during the year of the choral society's bicentenary. The plaque, sponsored by the choral society, was presented to its conductor and artistic director, John Pryce-Jones, by our chairman, John Hargreaves, on stage at last year's November performance of *Messiah*.



Our first plaque of 2019, in April, commemorated **Anne Lister** (*left*), lesbian landowner, businesswoman, traveller and diarist, of Shibden Hall, Halifax. Known locally as Gentleman Jack, her 5 million-word diaries recorded much of her daily life, about a sixth of it concerning her romantic and sexual relationships being written in code. Anne Lister experts Helena Whitbread and Jill Liddington spoke about Anne at our blue plaque event at Shibden Hall before the unveiling of the plaque by the Mayor of Calderdale. Our plaque,



Unveiling of the Anne Lister blue plaque at Shibden Hall, Halifax. From the left are Calderdale Museums manager Richard Macfarlane, Anne Lister codebreaker and author Helena Whitbread, West Yorkshire Deputy Lieutenant Chris Harris, Anne Lister researcher and author Jill Liddington, the Mayor of Calderdale, Coun Marcus Thompson, the Mayoress, Nicky Chance-Thompson, and the chairman of Halifax Civic Trust, Dr John Hargreaves.



sponsored by Calderdale Museums Service, was intended to pre-empt the TV series *Gentlemen Jack* - with Suranne Jones as Anne Lister and Sophie Rundle as her lover, Ann Walker - which is likely to confirm Anne Lister as Halifax's most famous citizen. The number of visitors to Shibden Hall is said to have increased by 700 per cent because of the TV series!

In May we honoured the Halifax broadcaster, actor and author **Wilfred Pickles** (right) as part of the first "Up North Film and Television Festival" at Square Chapel Arts Centre, Halifax. Wilfred a founder member of Halifax Thespians in 1927, famously during the second world war became the first BBC newsreader with a regional accent, signing off with the phrase "...and to all in the North, good neet". From 1946 to 1967 Wilfred hosted the radio show *Have A Go*, when he, with his wife, Mabel, toured the country, talking to ordinary people about their experiences and asking quiz questions for very small monetary rewards. Wilfred also starred in such films as *Billy Liar*, *The Gay Dog* and *The Family Way* and in TV sitcoms such as *For the Love of Ada*. He also wrote several volumes of biography. The plaque, sponsored by the Up North festival, was presented on stage to Wilfred's great niece, actor Carolyn Pickles, after a showing of *Billy Liar*, followed by a question-and-answer session with Carolyn Pickles about her career and her great uncle Wilfred.



The Wilfred Pickles blue plaque held by Wilfred's great niece, actor Carolyn Pickles, and Halifax Civic Trust vice-chairman David Glover at the Up North Film and TV Festival.

Other blue plaques planned for 2019 include a remarkable woman engineer, a famous Halifax composer and an outspoken political commentator. Watch this space!

**David Hanson**  
**Blue Plaques Co-ordinator**  
**Halifax Civic Trust**



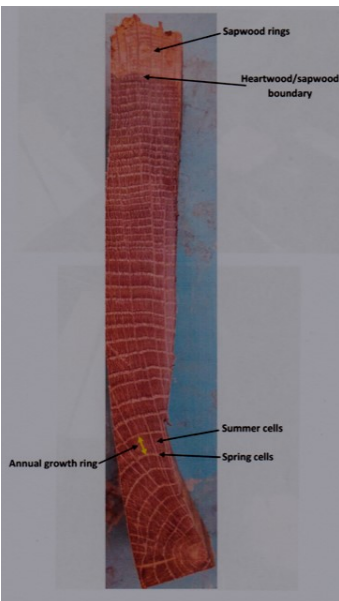
## HISTORIC FIND IN ADDINGHAM!

**At the top of Sugar Hill, a small lane located just off Addingham's Main Street, is a barn attached to Crayke Cottage.** In 1999, when experts (including Oliver Rackham from Cambridge) looked inside, they found timbers, much older than the barn itself, which they thought were the remains of what once had been a half-timbered house, probably located a short way down Sugar Hill.

So, when builders started completely renovating the barn earlier this year, and some of the old timbers became redundant, an approach was made to the owners to see whether they would agree to the timbers being sampled by a tree-ring dating laboratory in Nottingham. This has established that, although the barn was built in 1760, the second-hand timber used in its door lintels and parts of its roof is over 500 years old!



The annual growth rings of trees are visible whenever a branch or trunk is sawn through. The rings vary in width because, in some years when the weather is good for growth, a tree will put on a much wider ring than in a cold, dry year when it does not grow very much. The irregular succession of years with good or bad growing weather produces a corresponding sequence of wide and narrow rings. After study of hundreds of timbers going back many centuries, scientists now have a record of characteristic patterns of wide and narrow rings for oak trees from most periods of history. Comparing this data with tree rings from timbers in Crayke Cottage barn has shown when each of the oak trees from which the timbers came were growing, and when they were felled.



The **first photo** (left, upper) shows two old timbers that have had to be removed from Crayke Cottage barn during the recent alterations, with an end sliced off to show the growth rings. A small segment cut from this slice is in the **second photo** (left, lower) and shows the detail that is examined under the microscope, with a considerable contrast between the centre of the trunk (bottom of the picture) and the rings nearer the bark (at the top). Measuring the width of tree rings shows that this is from an oak that was a sapling in 1411 and was felled some time between 1481 and 1502.

Several timbers in the roof of the barn are from oaks that were growing from 1697, 1700 and 1711, and were felled in 1759-60. The latter must be roughly the date of construction of the present barn. It is known that Michael Craik, after whom it is named, owned the site from about 1760, so this confirms that he began to build it as soon as he became the owner. Some purlins in the roof were clearly obtained second hand and had previously been used in other buildings. One of these gave a date between 1584 and 1609.

One other tree-ring dating project which the Civic Society supported fifteen years ago established that the roof of St Peter's Church was replaced in the 1520s, probably just before 1524.

The expert analysis from which the details above have been taken, was funded by the Society at a cost of £800. This is an exciting find and historically important for the Village. The four timbers will be transported from the grounds of the barn into storage until we decide, what to do with them! The Village will be asked for suggestions....

**Jim Robinson**

## LADY BETTY LOCKWOOD

### PRESIDENT OF ADDINGHAM CIVIC SOCIETY 1999 – 2019

**Our Civic Society was well represented at St. Peter's on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July for a memorial service to celebrate the life of Lady Betty Lockwood along with her family, friends and colleagues.**

We are very proud that Lady Betty Lockwood was our President for twenty years. She moved to Addingham with her husband Lt. Cedric Hall in the early 1980's. Cedric immediately became involved in village life and was a founder member of the Society, becoming our first Chairman in 1986. Sadly, Cedric died in 1988. At this time Betty was fully involved in the politics of the House of Lords but remained committed to life in Addingham. The Society was delighted when she agreed to become Vice President in 1991, and President in 1999.

For the last few years of her life she lived in Abbeyfield in Ilkley where she was kept up to date with all our news and events. She was a great supporter of the Society and only last November sent a best wishes' message to be read out at the Society's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

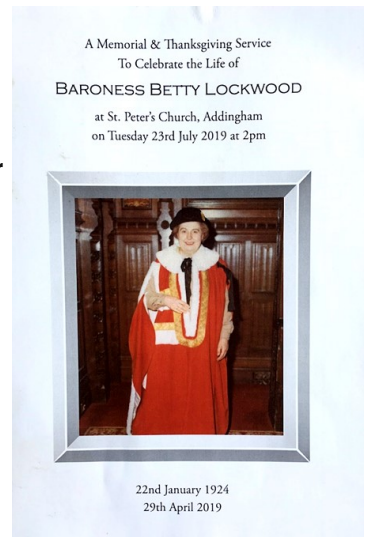
Following a private funeral earlier in the year her memorial service at St Peter's gave an opportunity for us all to celebrate her exceptional life. The service was led by Rev. Jill Perrett who welcomed the congregation and explained that Betty, true to form, had left detailed instructions for the service.

Betty's niece, Val Taylor, gave a moving family tribute describing Betty's humble beginnings in Dewsbury, the early accident which later led to the amputation of her foot, a disability that she never referred to in later life, her lack of early education and her fortitude and determination to gain an education and make a difference. Undeterred by her disability, at the age of fifteen Betty started work in a local hat shop, from which she moved to work at the switchboard of the local electricity company. She joined the Labour Party at the age of eighteen and started night school. From here she won a scholarship to Ruskin College, Oxford where she studied economics, political theory and history. She then had a thirty-year career working for the Labour Party focussing on equality issues for women. In 1978 she was made a member of the House of Lords where she became an active member and Deputy Speaker for eighteen years. During this time Betty held many influential positions, some of which are quoted at the end of this article.

The esteem in which she was held was reflected in the tributes paid by Paddy Tipping, Nottingham Police & Crime Commissioner on behalf of Baroness Joyce Gould of Potternewton, Dr Margaret Faull OBE from the National Mining Museum of England, Dr Linda Pollard CBE from the Equal Opportunities Commission and Emeritus Professor Christopher Malcolm Taylor from Bradford University.

Threaded through every tribute were references to Betty's influence, determination, common sense and friendship. Indeed, Dr Pollard added an additional tribute at the end of the service, something she felt Betty would not necessarily have approved of – a personal tribute to Betty as a friend, "Daffodils" by William Wordsworth read by family member Susan Taylor and "These Things Will Be" spoken and recorded by Betty herself.

A truly remarkable woman.



**Guardian 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019,  
Julia Langdon**

*House of Lords Deputy Speaker  
from 1989 to 2007*

*Member of the Department for  
Employment advisory committee  
on women's employment (1969  
-83)*

*The council of the Advertising  
Standards Authority (1983-93)  
Chair and later president of  
the National Coal Mining  
Museum for England, from  
1995 until her death*

*President of Birkbeck College  
from 1983 to 1989*

*President of Hillcroft College,  
which offers women a second  
chance to secure advanced  
education, from 1987 to 1995*

*Chancellor of Bradford (from  
1997) and Leeds (1985-91)  
Universities*

*Chair of the Mary Macarthur  
Educational Trust (1971-2002)*

*President of the Mary  
Macarthur Educational Holiday  
Trust (1990-2002)*

*Honorary degrees awarded by  
the Universities of Bradford,  
Strathclyde, UMIST, Birkbeck,  
Leeds Metropolitan and  
Edinburgh.*

## SOUTH HOWDEN STATION

**Sixty years ago, the Hull and Barnsley Railway closed for the last time. With it went South Howden station.**

The station served passenger and goods traffic and had been the starting point for day trips to the seaside in the last few years up to 1959 as regular passenger services had ceased in 1955 for financial reasons (not due to Beeching).

This station had been the main intermediate point between Hull and South Yorkshire since the line opened in 1885, the line being built primarily to transport coal from the South Yorkshire coalfield to Hull for export, but which also carried passengers and other goods.

Howden Civic Society commemorated this anniversary, showing memories of the line, and demonstrating a working scale model of the South Howden station and its goods yard. An illustrated talk was given by a representative of the Hull and Barnsley Railway Stock Fund on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April in Howden's Shire Hall and an exhibition was held on 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April between 11.00 a.m. and 5.00 each day. We welcomed over 320 visitors during those three days and did much to raise awareness of the existence of the station and the line amongst local residents. The exhibition was also informed by Oral Histories collected from several people who had worked on the railway or had memories of travelling on the line.

This was the first 'Pop-up' exhibition held by the Civic Society since it had to close its Heritage Centre in December 2018. Since April we have provided a talk about the history of the Metham family, a wealthy local family of medieval times in Howdenshire, and more recently a Heritage Art Exhibition with paintings and other work, excluding photographs, showing local scenes by local artists both past and present. Both were well supported.

We will be showing progress made with our archaeological dig of the Bishops Palace in Howden at the Howden Show on 1<sup>st</sup> July and then having a break before the Heritage Open Days in September.



The photograph shows parts of the reconstruction of the station in 'n' gauge produced by Alwyn Pulleyn, a resident of Howden, which had to be seen to be believed.

**Philip Mephram**

## HERITAGE WITH THE COOLER KING

### HERITAGE OPEN DAY AT THE KASBAH CONSERVATION AREA



**On a hot but successful Heritage Open Day, Saturday 14 September, 'The Kasbah' Conservation Area – the historic fishing dock of the Port of Grimsby – was open for a pre-booked event which quickly sold out with a waiting list.**

Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust, in partnership with North East Lincolnshire Council and Associated British Ports is working towards the regeneration of the Kasbah Conservation Area. Grimsby Ice Factory sits on the edge, but outside of the Conservation Area (although of course it has its own protection as a Grade II Star listed building). The Kasbah is the authentic setting which contributes to the uniqueness of the Victorian Ice Factory, and we hope that renovation and re-use of those buildings will foster the regeneration of the Ice Factory.

The current aim is to bring one of the vacant Grade II listed smoke houses back to life and also regenerate a neighbouring store. Fleet Architects and BB Heritage Studio have been retained to create a development proposal funded by the National Lottery and the Architectural Heritage Fund.

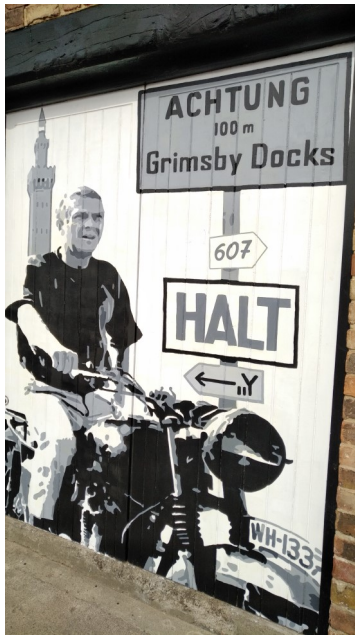
Support is also on offer for existing and future tenants to sympathetically restore their premises through a Conservation Area Grant Scheme, partnered between North East Lincolnshire Council, Historic England and Associated British Ports.



This jigsaw of funding comes under the wider Grimsby Town Deal which aims to kick-start the economic life of the area and the Heritage Action Zone, which aims to regenerate the many historic assets within the town.

In order to show off the secrets of the Conservation Area, Associated British ports agreed to hold a one-day ticket-only event for Heritage Open Days.

Stella Jackson, the Heritage Action Zone officer for North East Lincolnshire Council pulled together a programme which was a mathematical challenge on the same scale as the daily brain teaser on Radio 4's Today programme.



Ticketholders were given an initial timeslot on Eventbrite so that vintage buses could take them on a ten-minute journey from the Fishing Heritage Centre in central Grimsby to the docks. Between the first trip at 11am and the last return bus at 4pm, they could also book separate activities. All Stella had to do was balance off the following; 193 people on ten separate walking tours of the Kasbah led by ABP's Garry Crossland (co-author of *Grimsby: A History of the World-Renowned Fishing Port*) and Tom Jeynes; 160 people on six separate tours of Alfred Enderby's Victorian Smoke House led by Patrick Salmon and 101 people booked for three separate visual presentations on the history of Grimsby Ice Factory by our trustee Chris Lester. Somehow, despite the inevitable slippage, the event stayed on schedule – even if it meant departing Conservation Officer (and now Great GIFT Trustee) Emilie Wales spending her last day at work running around the Kasbah chasing up stragglers.

As a vivid example of heritage-led regeneration, the Ice Factory talks were based in the former offices of Consolidated Shipping – now the imaginatively redecorated base of charity Creative Start. Together with Veterans Still Serving, Creative Start had decorated the side of the building with “The Great Escape” – a stunning image of Steve McQueen on Grimsby Docks – the ‘cooler king’ looking straight across at the Ice Factory.

With the benefit of a lovely sunny day, visitors were able to stroll around stalls from organisations including Grimsby, Cleethorpes and District Civic Society sharing their memories of life on the docks and enjoying a taste of Enderby's Grimsby Smoked fishcakes.

The main question on visitors' lips was, “When can we do it again.”

**Graeme Bassett**  
Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust

## BEVERLEY'S HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2019

**Our three September days as part of the national festival of Heritage Open Days have just ended.** We offered open buildings, gardens, historical walks, talks and water tours, advertised through 10,000 copies of a printed programme where Beverley is the junior partner to Hull Civic Society, and also advertised on the national website <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

We had a wonderful time this year, helped by three sun-drenched September days. The numbers of ‘visits’ (not visitors, too complicated to calculate) was 6642, much the greatest total we have recorded. ‘Clickers’ helped the recording – when a single-fronted Georgian town house is getting more than 100 visitors an hour, recording on paper is tricky.



*Clicker and City of Culture volunteers at the Beverley Friary*

Beverley Civic Society are lucky to be helped by Hull's wonderful City of Culture volunteers, (we requested the services of over a hundred this year). We also joined forces with the East Riding Walking & Outdoor Festival, and all the walking places were filled. Everything is free. Numbers are important to organisers, but the effect of Heritage Open Days is much more than numbers: people came from all over to see our town, learn more of its past, and appreciate the history around us. Our town becomes better known, we increase our Society's profile and add to its membership.

Highlights were Beverley racecourse, the walled garden at Bishop Burton College, and Beverley Minster, all singled out by the national HOD team as star attractions. Beverley Guildhall had a resident prisoner for the day, picking oakum. The largest number of visitors, 650, came to a medium-sized Georgian town house, more than a hundred each hour.

The national theme for 2019 was People Power: in Beverley we had a talk on the 1536 Pilgrimage of Grace (the people lost) and the eight-year strike of the 1380s clergy at Beverley Minster against the archbishop of York (the clergy won).

Special features this year were the ancient street leading to the Minster, called Highgate, and the wonderful pairing of a medieval church and an 18<sup>th</sup> century house both with unusual histories, standing in green countryside without a village.



*One of the striking canons, Nicholas of Louth (brass at*



*Queuing for a Highgate Beverley house and visitors to Rowley church*

We intend to take part again next year. HOD could not happen without great good will on the part of all those who open their buildings, lead walks, put up special exhibitions, with the generously given help of many volunteers. The London HQ too is unfailingly helpful, and supply us with great publicity, and bags of banners, bunting, balloons and other gear.

**Barbara English**  
Beverley Civic Society

All pictures courtesy of Barbara English

## NEW GOVERNMENT DESIGN GUIDES PUBLISHED

The “**National Design Guide**” and “**Design: Process and Tools planning practice**” guidance, updated on 1st October 2019, are now available on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/design>

The “National Design Guide” forms part of the suite of planning practice guidance and is capable of being a material consideration for planning decisions. Both the “National Design Guide” and the “Design: Process and Tools PPG” should be read alongside each other.

As well as the design guidance, a written Ministerial statement has also been published setting out the following:

- The intention to consult on a National Model Design Code in 2020, which will set out recommended parameters for key elements of successful design
- That the National Model Design Code, and the requirement for local planning authorities to produce local design codes or guides, will be informed by consideration of recommendations made by the *Building Better, Building Beautiful* Commission when they report in December 2019.

The guidance sets out principles for design review which suggests that there should be a mechanism for involving local communities and that the findings are transparent and accessible.

**Abstract by David Moss**

## NEW ART DECO SOCIETY LAUNCHED.

**The UK now has its own Art Deco Society.**

Launched during the summer of 2019, Art Deco Society UK (ADSUK) is now open to membership and costs just £15 per year for an individual and £25 per year for a couple with a special opening offer that anyone joining now won't need to renew until April spring 2020.

Having taken out membership myself, I'm able to announce that I am now the newly appointed regional representative for Yorkshire and Humber! This means that I'm going to be arranging events for ADSUK members in the coming months – and this is where I need your help! I'm looking for ideas for interesting Art Deco buildings or cafés, bars, restaurants and hotels that are decorated in the Art Deco style that it would be possible for ADSUK members to visit either for a tour or to meet up. As the society is still building its membership, I've been asked to ensure that there is no admission charge for members, at least for now.

If you have any ideas for Art Deco-related visits to suitable buildings in your area, please do let me have details. It would be really nice to link up ADSUK visits with local civic societies where possible. Do get in touch via email to [kevintrickett@msn.com](mailto:kevintrickett@msn.com)

If you'd like to find out more about the new society, one of several such societies around the world, do have a look at the website:

<https://artdecosociety.uk/>

**Kevin Trickett MBE,**

**Art Deco Society UK Regional Representative for Yorkshire and Humber**



## SCARBOROUGH'S "BATHING BELLE" TAKES HER PLACE BY THE SEA



On a windy but sunny day in April the Mayor and Mayoress of Scarborough came along to our ceremony to celebrate the new home for the Bathing Belle.

The statue was originally in the pedestrian precinct but when this was re-paved, we decided to move her next to the sea.

We also took this opportunity to install an interpretation board which is much viewed and it has been good to see people spending a few minutes to learn the significance of the work of art and the history of Scarborough.

When the Society decided to raise the funds for the Bathing Belles the only other significant public art in Scarborough was the statue of Queen Victoria. Now because of the generous donations there are other interesting works around the town.

We are now in the process of creating an updated version of our "Stepping out in Scarborough" leaflet which will be a free leaflet and promote one of our key Society objects: to promote civic pride in the beauty, history and character of Scarborough and its surroundings.

The leaflet is designed to present a walking tour which includes fascinating information about Scarborough's built environment, history and public arts trail. The leaflet will also be a membership application form.



**Adrian Perry**

## HERITAGE COMES IN ALL STYLES IN ST ALBANS!!?



*Photo Courtesy of David Winpenny*



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER  
Association of Civic Societies

Reg. Charity No. 1112290

[www.yhacs.org.uk](http://www.yhacs.org.uk)

Please send any articles,  
comments, letters or  
questions to the editor:

David Moss

Email:

Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> October	YHACS Autumn meeting in Pontefract
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 11.30 for 11.45	YHACS 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch at the Principal Hotel, York
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> January	YHACS AGM in Cedar Court Hotel, Harrogate
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> April	YHACS Spring Meeting in Beverley
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> July	YHACS Summer Meeting in Addingham

### NEXT YHACS MEETING

SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 1:00 - 4:00 PM

MEMBERS' MEETING

AT

THE TOWN HALL, NELSON ROOM, BRIDGE STREET,  
PONTEFRACT, WF8 1PG

GUEST SPEAKERS

Councillor Lynn Masterman, Heritage Champion for Wakefield Council  
Jenny Layfield, Director of the National Coal Mining Museum for England  
John Walker, Stakeholder Engagement Adviser for Historic England, Yorkshire & the North East

CONTACT: KEVIN TRICKETT [INFO@YHACS.ORG.UK](mailto:INFO@YHACS.ORG.UK)

### Executive Officers, Committee Members and Portfolios

The Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies (YHACS) is the distinct voice of the civic society movement in the Yorkshire and Humber region, and our vision is to enhance the quality of life for all citizens in the region by engaging citizens not only in the protection of local heritage but also in the promotion of sustainable economic development and urban renaissance.

- **Chairman**, Kevin Trickett (*Priorities for Growth*)
- **Vice Chairman**, David Moss (*Newsletter and Communications*)
- **Secretary**, Helen Kidman (*Planning*)
- **Treasurer, Co-opted Committee Member**, Alan Goodrum
- **Exec Committee Member**, Malcolm Sharman (*Heritage & Culture*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Tony Leonard
- **Exec Committee Member**, Margaret Hicks-Clarke (*Civic Pride & Engagement*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Jim Robinson (*Infrastructure*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Paul Cartwright
- **Exec Committee Member**, Martin Hamilton (*Housing*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Phyllis Barnes
- **President**, Peter Cooper (*Website; Towns, Cities & Public Realm*)