

Newsletter:

April 2023

<http://www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk/>

**BEVERLEY
CIVIC
SOCIETY**

Founded 1961

Chairman's Remarks

New life at the Spring Equinox.



At last, we welcome a warm spell to revive nature and lead us into an early Easter.

We have our final two public talks in the calendar before the recess; our offering covers a really diverse range of subjects to inform and entertain you. You'll remember that March talk was on the highly topical Siemans Gamesa developments in Hull. The April talk is titled 'Tales from the Archive - a buzz around the beehive with a bit of history thrown in', and then in May "'1066 and All That', the first Illustration of the coronation of an English King". We are most grateful to Eva La Pensée who brilliantly organises the programme.

As mentioned before we are always open to members getting involved in the running of the Society, and we welcome Peter Stevens onto the Executive committee.

Happy Easter; may you have many egg hunts!

Dick Lidwell

BEVERLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Civic Awards 2022-23



On March 2nd, Beverley Civic Society was delighted to receive the 'Good Neighbour Award' from Beverley Town Council. This was in recognition of our continuing work to preserve and maintain our beautiful town and its priceless heritage. It was particularly pleasing to have our continued challenge to local planners being noted and supported.

The award was presented by the Lady Mayor to Dick Lidwell, as Chairman of the Society, and Rosie Ryan, who has been instrumental in facilitating the planting of many new trees within the town.



The presentation, held at the East Riding Theatre celebrated a number of organisations which make important contributions to our community as fellow 'Good Neighbours'

- Andy's Man Club, supporting good mental health
- The Armed Forces Veterans Breakfast Club
- The Park Run
- The Wombles of Beverley (Guess what they do!)
- Beverley against poverty
- The Lions Club
- The Community Ward at the East Riding Hospital

It was heartening to see so many organisations involved in make our town a better and more compassionate place in which to live.

There were also some presentations from current Town Council Partners and new partners for 2023, all to be funded for three years. They included Beverley

in Bloom, Two Churches One Town and The East Riding Theatre amongst others.

Finally, three Honorary Freemen and Women of the Town were announced: Steve Rial, Joanne Ramsey and Roland Deller. Civic Society members may know that Roland and his partner Libby Burgess have over the years been instrumental in raising Beverley's national music profile with their 'New Paths' festivals featuring talented young musicians. Roland was the Development Director of St Mary's for many years, being instrumental in achieving the great restoration and creative works there.

A thoroughly enjoyable and well organised evening was rounded off with my first rendition of 'God Save The King' with music provided by the Bay Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

Lesley Blucke

Planning Matters

As expected, the plans for the redesign of the services within Champney Library, Treasure House, Tourist Information Centre, and Gardens were approved. Works will start soon and there will be, no doubt, announcements by ERYC about the how the services will continue to be provided during these substantial works which will take some time. Members may recall that the Registry Office is to be relocated from Walkergate House into the Champney building.

Works have commenced to install four EV charging points at the northern end of North Bar Within between the entrances to Coombes Yard and St Mary's Manor.

The Society has always supported the residential use of empty premises above shops and offices within the town centre; ref: 'Living above the Shop' scheme. We are waiting patiently for the approved plans for the conversion of the former Sofa Warehouse in Saturday Market to take place, and have just supported plans for residential accommodation on the first and second floors of Joules, also on Saturday Market. One hopes that the retail business under its new owners will continue to trade successfully.

Updates:

We welcome that works appear to have started in the former Grant's Bistro on the corner of North Bar Within and Hengate. The plans are for ground floor office and commercial use with two residential apartments above. This fine listed building is an asset to the street scene, especially being so visually important in the views of St Mary's.

At time of writing, the outcome of the plans to relocate the Household Recycling Centre is not known, nor does the Society have any further news on the England Springs railway crossing, nor on the commencement of works to the listed pedestrian bridge at the station, and we await any developments for the Lord Roberts Road housing plans.

Dick Lidwell

New Faces Join Executive Committee

Following our newsletter appeal for people to help manage the affairs of your Society we were very pleased that three members have been along to observe the workings of the Executive Committee. Two of these have joined the Executive and we are delighted to have them on the committee.

In February Rich Fatkin joined the Executive and has already played a leading role in our response to the relocation of the Household Recycling Site. He is also heading up our project team to try and get a new blue plaque marking the Crugers at North Bar Chambers.

Rich lives in Molescroft and works as the Business Development Manager at International Plywood. He is married with two grown up children. His interests include historic architecture and artefacts, antiques (especially clocks), classic cars and walking.



At the March meeting of the Executive Committee Peter Stevens was voted in as our latest Executive member and we look forward to working with him in whatever activities he chooses to participate in.

Peter lives in Beverley and works as a Project Manager within the NHS. He is a massive History buff with a particular interest in Military History.



We are very grateful to these members for volunteering to help the Society and we would welcome more members who have a few hours a month to assist us. Why not come along and observe our Executive meetings and see what we do and how we make our decisions?

If you might be interested please contact our Secretary: **Chris Burrows**
goodtimeshull@hotmail.com
01482 866252 / 07922148662.

David Hockney Exhibition



There is a remarkable Hockney exhibition now running at the Lightroom, London, a new gallery 8 minutes from Kings Cross station. It is an immersive experience with some of David Hockney's paintings projected on four walls and the floor of the gallery as stills and as videos. It takes about an hour to see the whole (I stayed for a second hour, lots of seats). There are some Los Angeles pictures, his famous swimming pools, wonderful opera sets, and a large number of the

East Yorkshire pictures from his time in Bridlington. If you like Hockney, do go: his voice-over explains some of his painting ideas, especially about perspective. The exhibition lasts till 4 June.

Barbara English (who also took the photos)



A Beverley Trawler Helps Make History

On 10 September 1912, the Hull Daily Mail carried a brief report about a ship launch from Beverley, under the heading 'BEVERLEY TRAWLER FOR COLUMBIA':

'A fine modelled screw steam trawler, designed and built for the Canadian Fisheries for the Atlin Construction Company, Prince Rupert, British Columbia, was launched from Messrs Cook, Welton, and Gemmel's shipyard at Grovehill, Beverley, on Monday, being christened the *James Carruthers*, by Mrs. F. W. Robinson, daughter-in-law of Mr. T. Robinson, J.P., steam trawler owner, of Grimsby'.

The *James Carruthers* was one of three Yorkshire built steam trawlers specially designed and built for the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Company (C.F.C.S.C.) based at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, with the intention of inaugurating deep sea trawling along the Canadian Pacific coast, and then, by means of the Company's newly built cold storage facilities, the Canadian Trunk Railway and refrigerated coaches, supplying all of Canada with the fresh fish so caught. Thomas Robinson had joined the Company as a director and was in charge of the whole operation.

The Beverley trawler was 118ft. long, 22 ft wide and 11.5 ft depth in the hold. She was fully equipped for cold storage, and carried electric lighting, and adapted for trawl, drift and line fishing. Once launched and fitted, the first challenge was to get her on station - a journey of some 15,000 miles, including rounding Cape Horn. From the newspaper reports she did not have a smooth journey. When she had rounded the Horn, she put in to the port of Lebu in



James Carruthers - Photo Courtesy of Nauticapedia Collection

Chile, for provisions and coal, supposedly sufficient to get her the 6,000 miles to San Francisco. On this leg, however, she struck heavy gales, made worse for the ship by the heavy load of coal she was carrying. It took another 31 days before she reached San Francisco, by which time she was out of both water and provisions. Eventually she arrived at Vancouver on 9 February 1913, after 95 days, some three weeks longer than had been estimated. After refuelling and overhauling, she continued on to Prince Rupert, where she joined her sister ships, the *Andrew Kelly* and the *G.E. Foster*, all three trawlers named after men of note in Canada.

The new deep sea fishing regime seems to have got underway in the late spring of 1913. By then the C.F.C.S.C. had acquired two sailing schooners, to act as storage vessels. The trawlers' catches would be transferred to the schooners, where they would be salted down, until a full load could be returned to Prince Rupert. In addition to the schooners, five smaller Canadian fishing vessels made up the fleet. Once back at Prince Rupert, the fish was transferred to the cold storage facilities there, before being distributed across the country by rail. The scheme, however, was not limited to fish for Canada. Early in December 1913, the first consignment of halibut from the Canadian Pacific Fishery was landed at Liverpool, by the liner *Dominion*. Despite there being a ready demand for the fish at Liverpool, it had been agreed that this catch should be sent to the Grimsby and Hull markets, from where the project had originated. It was brought by rail to the east coast where 'the fish in its frozen and glazed condition'

was found to be 'in excellent marketable form', and rapidly sold out. According to the *Lincolnshire Echo*, the good reception of the fish gave a seal of approval to the whole project.

The *James Carruthers* spent the rest of her working life on the Canadian Pacific coast. In February 1915, she was noted for making a record catch - 120,000 lbs of halibut on one 10 day voyage. By the end of the First World War, regular large shipments of fish were being sent back to Britain.



R5BJR1 View of the Trawler James Carruthers Courtesy of UBC Library

Although sunk in 1920, after a collision with an American ship, the *U.S.S. Surveyor*, she was salvaged and at some point became a tug rather than a trawler. Then, in 1948, she was converted to a whaler, yet another new initiative for

British Columbia. Now she was equipped with echo sounders, radio telephone and harpoon guns. Sadly the last record of the ship is that she was lying as a hulk at North Vancouver in 1956. Nevertheless 44 years service for such a small ship in such stormy waters, was no small achievement both for the ship and her crew, and for her Beverley builders.

Jane Bowen



Date for your Diary – Heritage Open Days -2023

Don't forget to make a note of the dates for this year's Heritage Open Days, Friday 8th to Sunday 17th September. This year the theme is 'Creativity Unwrapped'

Details to follow but meanwhile PLEASE consider acting as a steward for half a day in one of the amazing places that will be on show.

News on Trees

So far this year we have planted 75 trees with the help of ERYC (East Riding of Yorkshire Council), who have planted the trees where we have asked for them. The picture shows a newly planted sweet chestnut filling a gap on the central reservation on Manor road.



We have planted some fruit trees on a small piece of land between two new building plots behind Holme Church Lane. This was made possible by a resident contacting the Civic Society to ask if we could help. After Humber Forest established that it was ERYC owned land, we were able to plant the trees.



Beverley Lawn tennis Club has had several evergreen shrubs and trees planted along a new fence



We were pleased to see that two mature lime trees in Langholm Close, which had been in close contact with McCarthy and Stones lorries, have been saved from a felling request. The survival of these goes a small way to compensate for the loss of countless others on this now abandoned concreted site.

Not such good news is that the Beckside hedge, home to flocks of sparrows has been removed, the tunnel of thicket at the top of Newbald Road has been chopped to knee level and a copse of hawthorn has been felled on the golf course.

However, Tesco have chosen our cause 'Street Trees for Beverley' for a Community Grant, whereby we receive between £500 -£1500 depending on how many blue counters are dropped into the Perspex collecting box at the front of the store.

**PLEASE COLLECT
COUNTERS AND VOTE
FOR US!!**



Engineering the Future: Siemens Gamesa & Hull

Last month's talk to the Society was from Mark Jones M.B.E., Director of Regeneration for Hull City Council, who shared with us Hull's route to regeneration from 2006 to the present.

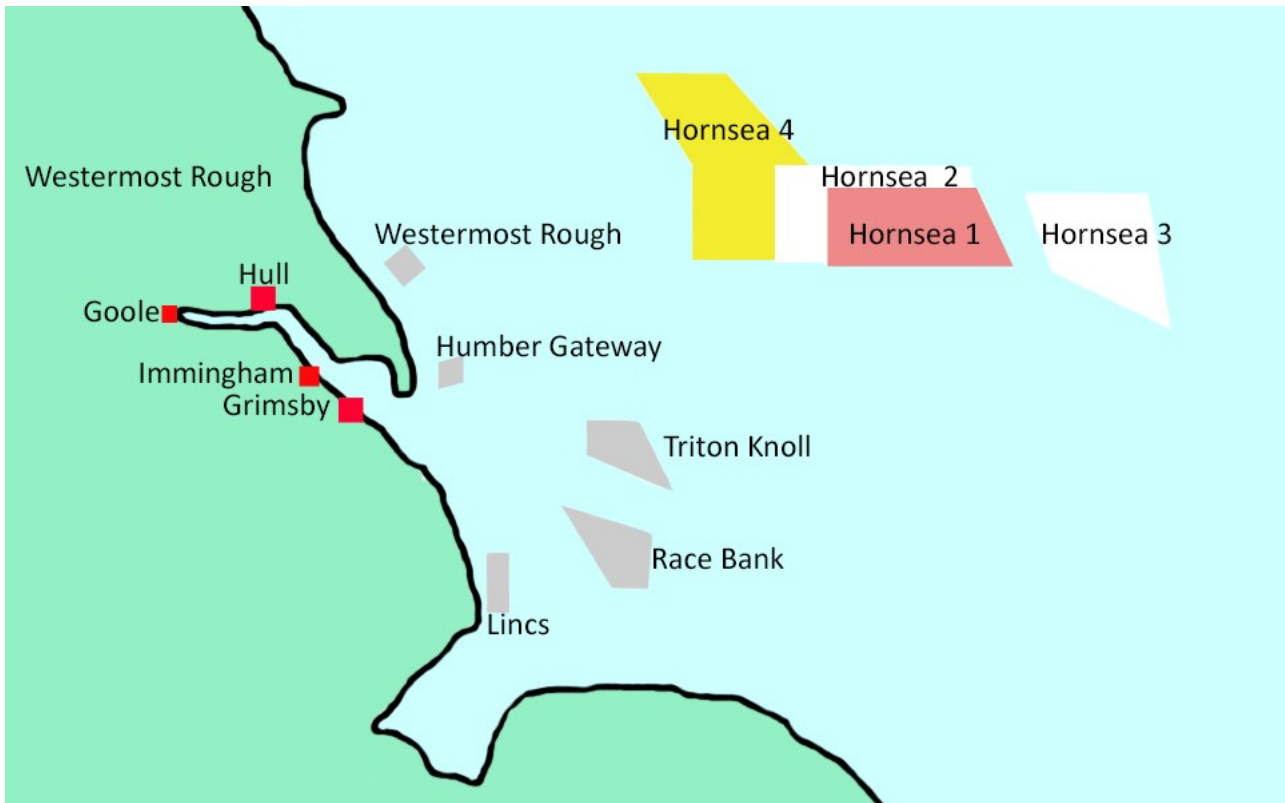
In 2006, a report highlighted that the three best growth areas for Hull were Renewables, Culture and Health. Following this, the Council looked for opportunities to participate in the development of wind farms in the North Sea. Against considerable international competition, and supported by government regeneration funding, the city succeeded in convincing Siemens Gamesa that Hull was the appropriate site for a factory for the development. This in itself was not straightforward. In mainland Europe, port sites are owned either by the national or relevant provincial governments, and Siemens Gamesa did not appreciate the delays caused by dealing with private ownership. The location chosen was the old Alexandra Dock, a listed site, along the edge of which was a well used coastal footpath, so both English Heritage and the Ramblers Association raised difficulties which also had to be resolved. Eventually in 2014 satisfactory solutions were found and building began. The Environment Agency also had had concerns. These were in part met by the creation of viewing and roosting platforms for the wildlife in the estuary.

Hull's share of the wind turbine development was the making of the turbine blades. Siemens Gamesa already was involved in building generators at Cuxshaven in Germany, and the turbine towers were being constructed in Vietnam which had superior robot technology. Hull, however, was well placed to move the unwieldy blades to the North Sea sites, and with long experience of caravan building in the area, the skill set needed to create balsa wood blades coated in fibre glass was readily available.



75m turbine blade in Hull City Centre - Hull City Council

The factory opened in 2016. Siemens Gamesa's employment practices supported the Council's aims - they looked to have a workforce 98% of whom lived within 45 minutes of the factory; they had policies to encourage women and the longer term unemployed into the workforce. For its part, the Council, in conjunction with East Yorkshire, received funding as an enterprise Zone in 2012 and 2016. This enabled it to use the business rates from the Siemens Gamesa development to fund other linked aspects. These included an Employment Hub which very successfully attracted workers to fill the vacancies created by those moving to employment with Siemens Gamesa, and encouraged the unemployed back into the work place. Other related developments included the encouragement of electrical engineering in local schools and colleges where students worked to produce electric powered vehicles; and the infrastructure to move the blades from the factory to the designated North Sea sites, and then their installation.



Plan of North Sea Windfarms based on Ørsted map

At the present time, eight wind farms off Hornsea are operational, while one is under construction, as is the Dogger Bank wind farm which is a long term development. In addition Siemens Gamesa exports blades to the rest of the world, so the future of blade manufacture seems secure.

Wind farm electricity generation, can produce gluts of electricity, but also in calm weather, shortages. Initially this was managed by creating battery banks to store the excess electricity until it was needed. Now, however, in conjunction with Norwegian developers, plans are being developed to use the excess electricity to treat North Sea Gas to create pure hydrogen which can be used as a power source while the carbon dioxide released by the process can be safely captured and stored undersea.

At the end of the talk, the range of questions showed the interest of the audience, and there was palpable excitement at the thought that our area of England was at the forefront of such green developments.

The Historic Town of Beverley : because of a saint

On Thursday 27th April at 7.00pm, Barbara English will be giving a lecture on Beverley as part of the British Association for Local History's series of lectures ' Mapping our Past, Shaping our future'.

Click on the link below if you would like information on how to book for this virtual event. Booking is open until 6.30pm on 27th April.

https://www.balh.org.uk/event-balh-the-historic-town-of-beverley-because-of-a-saint-2023-04-27?utm_medium=email&utm_source=BALH&utm_campaign=newsletter-1491



For your Diary



Tales from the Archive - a buzz around a beehive with a little bit of history thrown in

Wendy Maslin, Master Beekeeper



Thursday 13th April 2023 – 7.30pm
at St Mary's Church, Beverley

Wendy Maslin will sell jars of her finest honey at £ 5.00 per lb.

Members are reminded to bring some cash if they would like to like
to buy some.

Disclaimer

The Beverley and District Civic Society assumes no responsibility or liability for any
errors or omissions in the content of this Newsletter.