

# Newsletter:

## October 2022

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



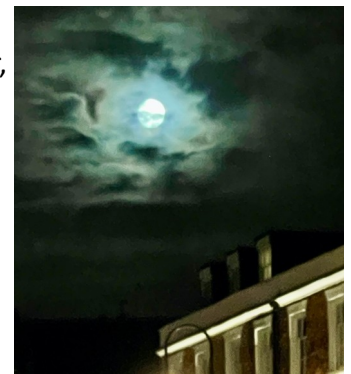
### Chairman's Remarks

May I start by congratulating all the team responsible for another excellent Heritage Open Days' programme. Their continuing achievements have been recognised by the National Organiser, Sarah Holloway, who paid a visit to Beverley and Hull, taking part in several of our events. Her enthusiastic feedback: *'Everything about it was brilliant. Your use of signage so I could stumble across the beautiful gardens, every volunteer I met was welcoming and knowledgeable, and of course the sites and stories themselves were just fascinating and fantastic - Barbara English's walk being a particular highlight – the perfect balance of education and entertainment'*.

Clearly delivering such a programme depends not only on the work of the organisers, but also the volunteer stewards. If you feel willing to help next year, please do contact us via the website.

Autumn has arrived with its customary East Coast blast of lazy winds, but thankfully with some bright sunshine, and an amazing Harvest moon. With its coming, our talks programme has started, and the AGM beckons on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm in St Mary's Church. You will have already received an email outlining the agenda which, for a change, will have presentations from some of our sub-groups to 'entertain' and inform you about their activities.

Dick Lidwell



Harvest Moon over the Beverley Arms

### Planning Matters

#### Green Energy and Solar Farms around Beverley

Members may be aware that during this year there have been a number of proposals for constructing Solar farms around Beverley. To date a 40mw farm has been approved near Tickton, an application decision is pending for a 49.9mw farm North of Wawne, with another 49.9mw in the pipeline just to the north on Carr Farm, and there are now plans for a 25mw farm south of the SRR on White Hall farm land, out for consultation prior to a planning application being submitted (unfortunately to be returned by 25<sup>th</sup> September so late for this article). For more details see: [www.whitehallsolar.com](http://www.whitehallsolar.com) and send any late comments to: [info@whitehallsolar.com](mailto:info@whitehallsolar.com)

Your planning group is currently conferring on this proposal and will have sent in a response to the consultation by the due date. Issues include:

- change of use from agricultural land; loss of visual amenity (including the long views of the Minster over green fields);
- footpath (the Beverley 20);
- security; and
- communal benefits.

All these need to be balanced against the advantages of green energy production, which must be seen as the way forward in reducing the extraction of fossil fuels in this age of increasing disastrous global warming.

On a similar theme, the developer RWE is holding two public exhibitions in Beverley to consult on the proposal by the National Grid to increase the size of the power collection point for the enlarged Dogger Bank wind farm adjacent to the A1079 road to Hull. The first is on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September in Toll Gavel Church from 3.00 - 7.00pm and the second on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October at the Memorial Hall from 11.00am - 3.00pm. The consultation is open for responses until 8<sup>th</sup> October.

See: <https://doggerbank.com/> for details of the project and the means of responding.

### **An Update.**

Unfortunately, despite our and other Heritage Organisations objections to the demolition of the station's pedestrian bridge, it is about to be demolished; a sad day for Beverley's heritage and for the security of listed buildings in general. We must remain vigilant to protect the 450 listed structures in Beverley.

NB: Should you be wishing to catch a train going South you may have to cross the line by the longer route over the level crossing. So do allow extra time, especially important as the crossing may be closed because of your approaching train!!

PS: Rail Track copywriters need some additional training; 'Check, check, and check again!'



## **Civic Society Subscriptions**

Civic Society subs are now due, still at the bargain price of £15.00 ! We thank those members who have already renewed their subscription.

May we remind members that bank charges are now in place when cheques are processed and so the preferred method of payments are as follows

- 1 - Standing order
- 2 - BACS transfer via web banking app
- 3 - By debit or credit card using SumUp at a monthly meeting
- 4 - Cash at a monthly meeting
- 5 - Cheque

If you would like to pay at the next monthly meeting, this will be at the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> October in St Mary's Church.

## **October 13<sup>th</sup> 2022**

The next meeting is our Annual General Meeting which will conduct the normal annual business of the Society including the accounts and the election of members to our Executive Committee. This year the meeting is immediately preceded by a Special General Meeting which has been called to make some changes to the Society's Constitution.

Once we have conducted the above business, we will have some presentations on some of the work of the Society's sub-committees on subjects that members often comment on such as Planning, Traffic and Signage, and Trees. We hope there will be time for questions and answers too.

# Albion House

Standing on the corner of Grovehill Road and Holme Church Lane, Beverley, was once a 19<sup>th</sup> century mill owner's mansion. It was built in 1870 for Mr Josiah Crathorne, a wealthy flour mill owner whose works were on the other side of the river Hull, where the shipyard used to be. It is difficult to discover very much about the owner, except for the fact that he was on the electoral roll as early as 1831.



Image courtesy of 'East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service'

On 12<sup>th</sup> January 1907, the flour mill caught fire for the second time, the previous occasion being in 1858 when damage of £1600 was incurred: the fire, this time, was a great deal more serious and the insurers had to pay out about £12,000. Steam fire engines from Hull and Beverley arrived and managed to contain the fire. Unfortunately, sometime later Mr Crathorne set his bed on fire and so ended his life in a rather tragic manner. Thus, the fortunes of the mill and the various businesses allied to it dissipated over the years and passed to other hands.

Years later the house was bought by the Temperance Society and opened as a house for ladies with an over fondness for alcohol. Those of the ladies who could pay a higher fee lived in the larger more comfortable rooms and they spent their time engaged in knitting and fancy work; the poorer women had to assist with the cooking and cleaning and other manual work.

The scheme fell through as a result of faulty management when a new matron was appointed, possessed of the necessary qualifications, bearing and a charming personality. Unfortunately the lady had only just been discharged for an inebriates home and it was not long before a path had been opened up to the local public house. Mr Abba, the Minister of the local Congregational Church, described how one of the inmates called at different houses, claiming that the Minister was ill and needed a little stimulant if he was to live. These 'littles' accumulated until they became a substantial quantity and that night this woman was found hopelessly drunk in the grounds. Eventually the Temperance Society closed the home and sold it to pay off the debts it had incurred.

During the war the house was occupied by the Manchester Regiment and in turn by foreign troops who did not treat the house with much respect. The troops practised digging trenches in the grounds and bottles by the hundred were dug up, proving the cures in the home had not been very successful. The inebriates were still inebriated and their ghosts are still said to roam the grounds.

After the war the house stood empty and our gang took it over. We stored our savings in a tin under the floorboards, roamed the cellars, held meetings, and in general frightened ourselves to death in that old and very haunted place. Later in our lives we courted the local girls in the grounds or went for long walks across Swinemoor, to Bricky, the local swimming pool.

Before the house came down I had a look around the place and went into the lovely old rooms which still had the remains of Chinese wallpaper on them. Downstairs some of the old bell pushes remained in the kitchens. During that visit I found some old letters which had been stuffed between the floorboards, from wives and girlfriends of the soldiers who had been billeted there. I have sometimes wondered what became of the writers of those letters and whether or not the recipients survived the war.

The house is now gone but its memories survive in my mind and I'm sure in the minds of all those who had personal experience of it.

*Edward Ball*

## Danish Plaque Talk



As many members will know the plaque which commemorates the two Danish soldiers who met their fate in Beverley in 1689 has been replicated on St Mary's Church (see last month's newsletter). The Society made a significant donation to the cost of this work.

I am delighted to announce that a talk by Professor Barbara English and others has been arranged which will tell us the story of these young men and how the plaque was recreated and installed in Hengate.

There is no charge for this event (which is organised by St Mary's Church) but places must be booked via AIR Table by clicking on this link. <https://airtable.com/shr5EF9ALNT82puOP>

The talk will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 4pm in St Mary's Church and will include **Danish Drinks & Pastries**.

*Chris Burrows*

St Mary's now have an information sheet available which tells the story behind the plaque.

## Update on the sale of the St John Ambulance HQ (formerly the Scotch Baptist Chapel) as reported in the August Newsletter

Beverley Town Council is the new owner of the hall (formerly Scotch Baptist chapel) following the auction on 1<sup>st</sup> September. It is to be its new offices and available for appropriate continued access for community uses.

We hope this will now fully ensure that the baptismal elements under the main modern flooring can and will be preserved and a suitable heritage dimension be incorporated into the new uses of the building.

## heritage open days 9-18 September 2022

Despite the unforeseen circumstances, we have had another successful event. We were honoured by a visit from Sarah Holloway (HOD Programme Manager). She was most complimentary about our signage which enabled her 'to stumble across the beautiful gardens'. She also commented on our volunteers 'every volunteer I met was welcoming and knowledgeable, and of course the sites and stories were just fascinating and fantastic'

I personally would like to say a huge thank you to all 25 helpers (particularly those who did two sessions) and hope the experience will have encouraged you to take part in future years.

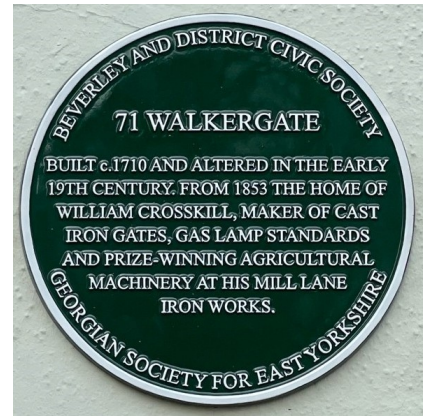
*Sandra Williams*



## The Crosskill Plaque

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September, the Society and the Georgian Society for East Yorkshire unveiled a plaque to William Crosskill, the eminent Beverley Victorian industrialist, on the front wall of 71 Walkergate, now the Grosvenor Club. William Crosskill lived in this house from 1853. Members may remember the earlier plaque on Walkergate House. This was misplaced as both these houses having being called Walkergate at different times. Recent research by Susan Neave showed that 71 Walkergate was indeed the correct dwelling.

The unveiling was conducted by Stuart Crosskill, a descendent of William.



**William Crosskill** was born in 1799 at Butcher Row Beverley. His father was a whitesmith and, following his death, William aged 12, the eldest of seven children, was apprenticed to his mother to continue the business. The business flourished and in 1825 he founded the company of 'William Crosskill' on a seven-acre site in Mill Lane; The Beverley Iron Works. An example of the company's early works are the railings and gates of Coronation Gardens in North Bar Within. He diversified into inventing and designing agricultural machinery, in particular his famous clod crusher, winning the 'Council Great Medal' at the Great Exhibition in 1851. The company expanded producing specialist equipment such as a portable farm railway to facilitate field work in wet weather, heavy castings for bridges, and lamp standards including for the City of Hamburg. By the mid 1850s he was the largest employer in Beverley, employing over 800 men when the company supplied the Government with 3,000 carts for military use in the Crimean War. In addition, walking around Beverley, his name may be seen on the base of many of our original, recently repainted, gas lamp standards.

He was elected Mayor of Beverley in 1848, and died in Kingston-upon-Thames, London, in 1888.

*Dick Lidwell*



Dick Lidwell with Brian Pearson, the Secretary of the Grosvenor Club



3 photographs  
courtesy of  
Austen Redman



## A Humber What?

On 8 September, Dave Parker, the Chairman of the Humber Keel and Sloop Preservation Society (HKSPS), spoke to our society about these ships, and about the society, which he said had a close affinity with Beverley, where one of the two ships they owned had been built, and the founder of the society had lived. Also, it was Humber Keels which brought the stone to build the Minster to Beverley. The Society had been founded in 1973, by which time there were no longer any rigged vessels sailing the Humber. The aims of the Society were to trace the history of the vessels and to sail these traditional vessels in local waters using traditional methods.

Both Keels and Sloops were rigged sailing vessels used along the coast, on the Humber, and on rivers and canals as far inland as Sheffield. They had broad flat bottoms, designed to maximise the amount of cargo which could be carried. Neither had a normal keelboard. Where they were used, and how they were rigged, however, differed.

The Keels were square rigged ships, whose sails were no wider than the breadth of the ships, so enabling them to sail along the inland waters without the sails being fouled by trees or buildings. Their length was limited to the size of the larger river locks. The name is derived from the Anglo- Saxon *ceol*, and in shape and design they resembled the drawings one sees of viking ships. It was possible for the mast to carry one, two or three sails. The topmost sail, the gallant, was used only on very special occasions. A two sailed ship (regatta rigged) provided more speed, but also required a significantly larger crew to handle it than a single sailed ship, so that usually the Keels used only one square sail. They also made effective use of the tides, sailing up river with the incoming tide, and down on the ebb.

In contrast, Sloops were more manoeuvrable gaff rigged coastal vessels, not so limited in length. These were used along the coast, bringing goods into the larger ports such as Hull and Grimsby, from where they could be transferred to the Keels for carriage to West Yorkshire towns and the Midlands. Beyond Sheffield, cargo was transhipped to narrow boats. On coastal routes the lack of a keel board could be problematic, and use was made of leeboards which hung over the sides of the ship and could be adjusted as necessary to steady her.

In port, the ships operated a *free over the side* rule. Ports charged for goods which were offloaded on to the quayside, but if a ship could transfer goods directly to another ship, this was free. Hence, as far as possible, goods were moved directly from ocean going vessels to either Sloops or Keels, but the Keel owners also made use of lighters to store excess cargo, thus avoiding charges.

The HKSPS owns two boats a Keel, *Comrade* and a Sloop, *Amy Howson*.



Comrade



Amy Howson

Images courtesy of <https://keelsandsloops.org.uk/>



# The Daisy Appeal



We are pleased to announce that we will be producing a 2023 calendar with the proceeds to be shared between the DAISY APPEAL and the Society.

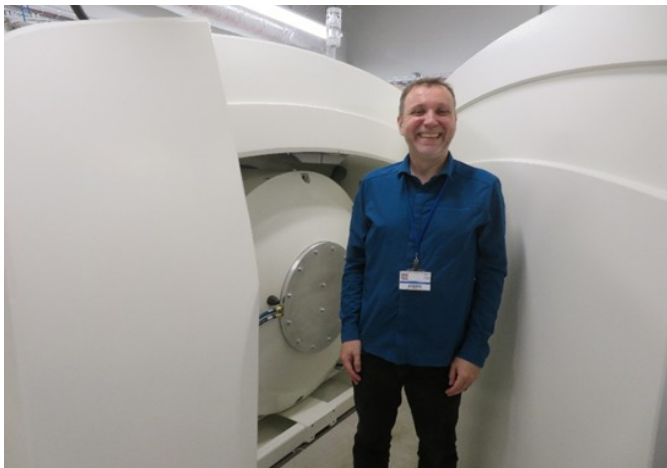
Members of the Calendar Group recently visited Castle Hill Hospital to see the facilities that the Daisy Appeal have been instrumental in supporting.

In addition to being impressed with the facilities, we saw the commitment that the fundraisers and the scientists and medics had. This was demonstrated by the four professors from the NHS, University of Hull and Daisy Appeal who devoted their time to our visit. We thank them for their time and also the fundraisers (Karen Guest and Claire Levy) for organising the visit.



Sarah Young at a Daisy Appeal

The Daisy Appeal exists to help fund the equipment and infra-structure needed to give faster, more accurate diagnosis for **cancer, heart disease and dementia**.



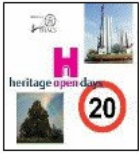
A Molecular Imaging Scanner

Since the charity was established in 2000, over £20m has been raised to fund cutting-edge research and state-of-the-art equipment and facilities which are located at Castle Hill Hospital in Cottingham.

We hope you will support this local charity either directly or by purchasing a copy of the Society's 2023 calendar which will be available soon. (Contact: Chris Burrows for further details [goodtymeshull@hotmail.com](mailto:goodtymeshull@hotmail.com) )

Please visit <https://daisyappeal.org/> to learn more about this charity.





## **The Civic Society's AGM & Presentations from Work Groups and Projects**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 7.30pm**

The challenges for Beverley today – town centre traffic, heritage, more trees, new forms of energy supply.....

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## **New York to North Bar, the de Lanceys, Crugers, and Other Loyal American refugees – Dr Marianne Gilchrist**

**THE MARGARET POWELL MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.30pm**

The Loyal Americans are commemorated in Canada but largely written out of the story of the American War of Independence as told in Britain. In the 1780s, Beverley became the home to some distinguished Loyalist refugees, notably Oliver De Lancey and his son-in-law John Harris Cruger: Oliver's memorial plaque can be seen in the Minster gift shop. Their story is one of survival, courage and resilience.

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## **Brewing and the Beginnings of Biochemistry - Clive La Pensée**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30pm**

Every town or hamlet once had its own brewery and malting. Beverley was no exception. Malting and brewing were traditions that go back to the ancient Babylonians, although it could be older. Perhaps, they were merely the first to record their alcoholic endeavours. Clive will speculate on how the ancient world discovered malting and brewing, why Pasteur journeyed to Edinburgh, what connected Edinburgh, Lairgate and Bombay in 1840. Why did the house-brewery all but disappeared in Britain by the beginning of the 20th century, only to reappear by the 21st?

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