

## *Newsletter:*

**September 2022**

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

**BEVERLEY  
CIVIC  
SOCIETY**

*Founded 1961*

### **Chairman's Remarks**



August appears to have been Beverley's month for visitors; indeed all summer. The town buzzes with whom I call in-tourists, not with the former Russian Intourist agency! but visitors from all parts of the UK, in addition to our international tourists; many with maps in their hands following the town trails, visiting the brilliant Lego exhibition in the library, and the Guildhall to learn about Beverley's Lost Streams Pumps and Privies; also children, and adults, admiring the invading Puffins. Beverley has so much to offer, and it has been great to talk and welcome them to our beautiful town.

Members may be aware of two other major town matters that are being discussed; ERYC's plans to revitalise the library, relocate the Registry and Customer Services, and improve the Tourist Information Centre. The public exhibition for these plans was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, not always the perfect time with many people on holiday, but we look forward to seeing the results of the consultation. Also we await the results of the consultation on the future for Saturday Market's pedestrianisation. We were pleased that the Society's Executive Groups were invited to contribute to both of these consultations.

Maybe by the time you read this the heat of summer will have passed and we'll be into the start of a cooler autumn! We look forward to seeing you at our first public talk on 'A Humber What?' an illustrated talk on the history and development of Humber Keels and Sloops, on 8<sup>th</sup> September in St Mary's Church.

*Dick Lidwell*

### **Subscription Reminder**

May we remind all members that the Annual Subscription is due at the beginning of October, still only £15.00. This allows members access to the monthly talks presented by the Society, as well as open forums, visits and study days. It also includes 12 Newsletters which provide up-to-date information on what's going on in Beverley. Above all it supports an organisation designed to watch over the planning and development of our beautiful town.

The Society is part of a group of Yorkshire and Humber Civic Societies and is affiliated to the national organisation, Civic Voice.

### **How to join**

If you would like further information regarding the Society, the benefits of Corporate Membership, or how to join please contact the Honorary Secretary: Chris Burrows by email: [goodtymeshull@hotmail.com](mailto:goodtymeshull@hotmail.com) or Telephone 01482 866252 / 07992148662

## Planning Matters

### Saturday Market Pedestrianisation.

ERYC are reviewing the Saturday Market pedestrianisation scheme and have been consulting extensively, including with local business, Ward Councillors, Town Council, market traders and Hackney Carriage representatives, our MP, Chamber of Trade, Emergency Services, Portfolio Holders, and the Civic Society. Responses had to be submitted by 26<sup>th</sup> August. The Executive has responded supporting the continuation of the scheme, which it thinks should become permanent, but with a number of suggestions for improvement; namely an increase in disabled drivers' parking spaces, and (noting the beneficial impact of Wednesday Market's trees), some 'greening' of the space with trees in large planters as seen in other towns and cities. We also support better provision of well-designed seating to cater for the general public wishing to sit down, perhaps after shopping; and for tourists wanting to enjoy the environment without having to patronise the cafes/pubs. In addition, reinforcing the Society's interest in traffic management and a 20mph speed limit throughout the town, we would like to see the provision of more cycle racks to encourage cycling, and a revised scheme for the parking spaces layout to help reduce 'space hunting' which can cause confusion, frustration and pollution.



Example of tree planters in Oxford

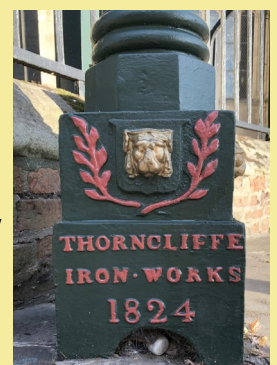
### Development Plans for the Library, Treasure House, and Champney Gardens.

ERYC held a public exhibition of the plans for this development on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, which we hope you may have attended. Your Planning Group had a constructive meeting with ERYC's representatives at the end of July, and fed back comments on the proposals. The plans are in-line with the Authority's reorganisation for the provision of public services into 'one stop' buildings to be known as 'Hubs'. The current plans include moving the Registry Office from Walkergate House, providing more space for the Tourist Information Centre within an enlarged downstairs' vestibule area, providing space for Customer Services (which will move out of its current building in Cross Street), provision of an 'Activities' room, and re-organisation and modernisation of the library, including moving the reference library upstairs. The current reference library space is planned to become the registry office, providing an attractive room for wedding ceremonies and including access to the rear gardens for wedding photographs. There are also plans to improve the gardens which have been neglected for many years.

*Dick Lidwell*

## Gas Lamps

The 39 historic gas lamps of Beverley have now been painted in green, red and gold and stand proudly awaiting our visitors during the Heritage Open Days. Thanks are due to Beverley Town Council who have paid for the painters from Bell & Co; thanks also to ERYC who contributed the green paint. The Civic Society provided the red and gold paint and supervised the work. All the lamps have been photographed in their renewed livery and a catalogue recording them is under production by Barbara English, Kloskk Tyrer and Mike Farrimond.





# heritage open days 9-18 September 2022

A national celebration of our countries' historic past, and the largest FREE Festival of history and culture takes place in September each year. It is the result of a 1991 European initiative to raise appreciation for cultural assets, and their need for care and protection. Heritage Open Days, as it is called in England, comes under the aegis of the National Trust, which relies on local organisations and enthusiasts to arrange programmes of events. Here in Beverley, over a number of years the Civic Society has organised events, ably led by Barbara English. This is no small undertaking - arrangements need to be made for the opening and stewarding of properties with volunteer recruits, walks organised and speakers found, all to create the programme which has to be submitted to the national office in the early spring. Our Civic Society goes further, however. On the previous page, our treasurer describes the work that has gone into celebrating the town's early gas lamps, part of this year's emphasis on 'Astounding Inventions'. It has also contributed to the accurate commemoration of William Crosskill, one of the town's important ironmasters, and helping ensure that a plaque commemorating tragic events in 1689 was not lost for ever.

## William Crosskill's House

Records show that, in retirement, William Crosskill lived at Walkergate House. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, however, there were two houses with this name - the current Register Office, and the Grosvenor Club. Originally a plaque to Crosskill was placed on the Register Office building, only for it to be discovered that he had actually lived in the Grosvenor Club building. The Civic Society took the lead in negotiating with the powers that be for the removal of the wrongly placed plaque, and for one to be mounted on the correct building. Meanwhile, the Georgian Society for East Yorkshire provided funding for the new plaque, with text by Susan Neave. This will be unveiled on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 5.30pm, in the presence of one of William's descendants, Stuart Crosskill.



## The Danish Soldiers Plaque



In 1689, William of Orange hired Danish mercenaries to support his invasion of England at the time of the 'Glorious Revolution'. Many of these mercenaries were billeted in and around Beverley. Two of the soldiers fought a duel in which one was mortally wounded, and, in accordance with Danish military law, the other was then executed. Their deaths were commemorated on a plaque on the exterior south wall of St. Mary's Church, believed to be the earliest Danish War Memorial. For a number of years both the church and the Civic Society have been concerned by the serious erosion of this memorial. The Society made a significant contribution towards a replica carving which has now been affixed to the wall, the original being conserved in the Priests' Rooms in the church.

The replica plaque being hoisted into place  
*Image courtesy of Neil Harris*

# Local Heritage Open Day Attractions



1. Aike, Laurel Vines
2. Barges on Beverley Beck
3. Beverley Grammar School
4. Beverley Guildhall
5. Beverley High School
6. Beverley Minster
7. Minster Sanctuary & Herb Garden
8. Minster Secret Garden
9. Bishop Burton College walled garden
10. Butt Farm Battery
11. County Hall
12. East Riding Theatre
13. Friary
14. Highgate No 2
15. Lairgate Hall
16. Monks' Walk
17. Norwood House
18. Beverley Allotments
19. Skidby Mill
20. St Mary's Church
21. Talk: The History of Gas
22. Toll Gavel Church
23. Treasure House
24. Walk: Feminist & Philosopher, Wollstonecraft & Arden
25. Walk: Lairgate Gossip
26. Walk: The Gasman Cometh



Free programmes for all the events taking place in Beverley, Hull and elsewhere in the East Riding can be obtained from the Treasure House. Full details are also available on line at <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

## Beverley's New Enterprise Centre

Members driving down Grovehill Road couldn't have failed to notice the stunning new building occupying the former unsightly derelict site on the corner of Beckside View:



This houses Beverley's new Enterprise Centre, a project costing £4.8 million, which was partially funded by £1.5m from the European Regional Development Fund and £500,000 from the 'Getting Building Fund' via the Hull and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership. Designed and project managed by ERYC's own Infrastructure and Facilities Service, and built by Houltons, it provides a mixture of 14 light industrial workshops and 17 offices (from 17sqm to 79 sqm) on attractive terms to encourage local start-ups, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). Lettings have taken off very quickly with most of the 31 units being taken already. The Centre also provides business support and conference facilities.

Of particular note, though, are the environmentally friendly green features incorporated in the building; namely a 200 square metre solar array, EV charging points, a low emission and refrigeration design, plus the utilisation of locally sourced sustainable building materials. The building has been awarded the prestigious British Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method Excellent Design Certificate.

A very welcome addition to Beverley's commercial offering, not to mention a brilliant building too. Gold Stars all round ★★

*Dick Lidwell*

## A Londesborough Visit

At the end of July, while researching examples of work from James Elwell's woodworking business in Beverley, I visited All Saints Church in Londesborough to follow up a reference to a rood screen which he made for it. Indeed it was still there, an elegant, almost airy piece, very different from the detailed figurative carvings I had seen elsewhere. Even more interesting, however, were the rare survivals of funeral arrangements for the well-to-do in ages past, in this case the first Earl of Burlington and his family.



Richard Boyle

Londesborough Estate had belonged to the Clifford family until 1643, when the last male Clifford died. The estate was then inherited by his daughter, Elizabeth Clifford, who married Richard Boyle, a son of the Earl of Cork. Boyle was an ardent Royalist, fighting for Charles I during the Civil War, and when the Restoration came in 1660, Charles II made him High Treasurer of Ireland. In 1664, he was created first Earl of Burlington, and two years later Lord Lieutenant of



Elizabeth Clifford's Coffin Plate

Yorkshire. Richard and Elizabeth had Londesborough Hall rebuilt, and carried out improvements to the village, including an almshouse for six men and six women.

Elizabeth died in 1690, followed by her son Henry in 1694, and Richard himself in 1698. All were buried in the Church crypt. Unusually, the funeral helmets, crests and gauntlets for both Richard and Henry survive, as do silk banners, and metal coffin plates for the family, all displayed in the church. These helmets, crests and gauntlets, which were originally developed in the later middle ages as tournament accoutrements, had become purely ceremonial by the 17<sup>th</sup> century. They would have accompanied the coffins of the Earl and his son to the church as part of the funeral procession, and then most likely would have been hung above the coffins in the vault. Their removal to cases in the main church came later. Such burial decorations were fairly common for the nobility in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries, but few now survive in situ. Many rotted away, others were stolen or acquired by ambitious nouveau-riche Victorians to decorate their mansions.

The Church is only open on a Wednesday from 10.00am to 4.00pm, and then only till the end of September - so if you are curious, do plan a visit for September.

I began this article mentioning that I was looking at examples of James Elwell's wood work. At its height, his company employed some 80+ men. If any BCS members have ancestors who worked for James, and are willing to share any information about the business, I should very much like to hear from you. ([boward@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:boward@hotmail.co.uk))



Richard Boyle's Funeral Helm etc.

Jane Bowen



## 'A Humber What?'

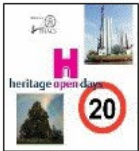
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm**

A talk on the history and development of Humber Keels and Sloops.  
The poster for September's talk says that summer is coming to an end.

Humber keels and sloops won't excite us with stories of maritime daring on the high seas. Nevertheless, over the centuries these river vessels were adapted to manage a variety of waterways deep inland. Without them many goods and raw materials from far flung places would not have reached their destination and industry and commerce in our area could not have flourished the way it did.

Over 30 years, David Parker and his colleagues have dedicated their spare time to restoring and preserving some of these boats and recorded their history. We are looking forward to gaining an insight in their work.

*Eva La Pensée*



## 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.....



## 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.



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

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

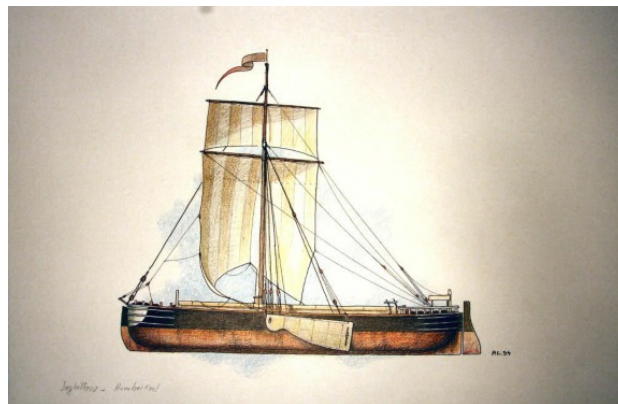
Every town or hamlet once had its own brewery and malting. Beverley was no exception. Malting and brewing were traditions that go back to the ancient Babylonians, although it could be older. Perhaps, they were merely the first to record their alcoholic endeavours. Clive will speculate on how the ancient 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?

# BEVERLEY CIVIC SOCIETY



## **‘A Humber What?’**

**An illustrated talk on the history and development  
of Humber Keels and Sloops  
by Dave Parker**



**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
7.30 p.m.**

Non-members welcome £5.00  
[www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk](http://www.beverleycivicsociety.co.uk)