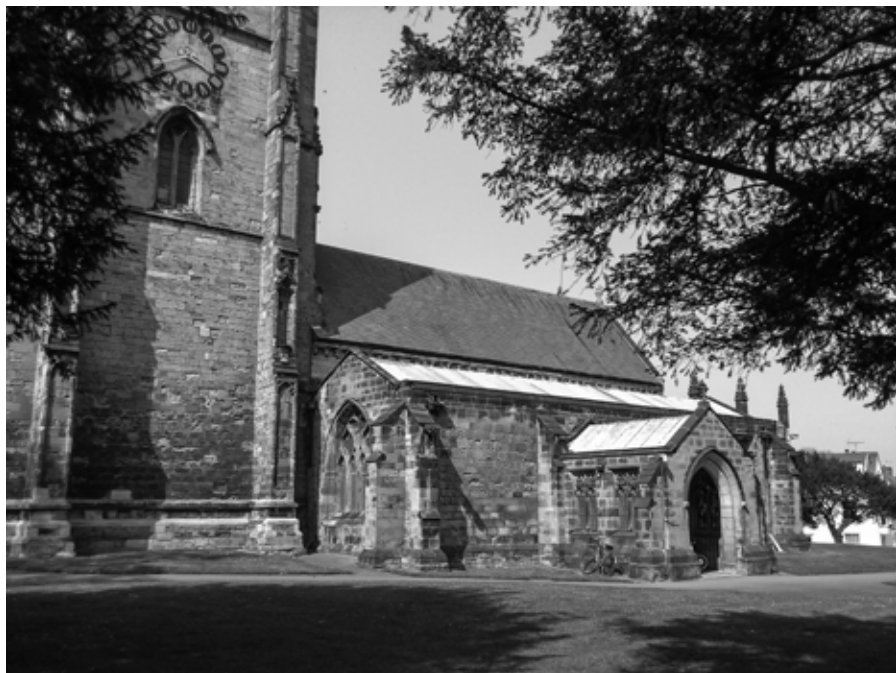


# EYLHS Newsletter 27

Summer / autumn 2012

Newsletter of the East Yorkshire Local History Society



Front cover: All Saints, Drifffield, the VCH launch venue

## **Contributions**

Based in Hull it is not always easy to keep track of events in other parts of the Riding; news that members could contribute on their town or village should be sent to the editor.

Short articles, illustrated or unillustrated, news on libraries, archives, museums, societies or education, queries other people may be able to answer, etc. for inclusion in future newsletters should also be sent to the editor.

### **Newsletter**

**Edited by Robert Barnard**  
825 Anlaby Rd, Hull, HU4 6DJ  
Telephone 01482 506001  
e-mail [rbarnard1@googlemail.com](mailto:rbarnard1@googlemail.com)

**Published by the East Yorkshire Local History Society**

**Secretary**  
**Jenny Stanley**  
15 Southcote Close, South Cave, HU15 2BQ  
Telephone 01430 422833  
e-mail [ianstanley@ianstanley.karoo.co.uk](mailto:ianstanley@ianstanley.karoo.co.uk)

**Printed by Kall Kwik, Hull**

# News from the Society

## Programme

This year we have arranged an extra visit in September.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please make all cheques payable to the East Yorkshire Local History Society. To book please contact Pam Martin using the details below.

Saturday, 22 September 2012

### Guided Tour of Barton

Guide: Richard Clarke

Meet at the Railway Station Car Park at 10am.

Includes visit to St Peter's Church (English Heritage).

Lunch break 12 noon - 1.00pm - Market Place (this hour can be used to visit Museum if wished). Finish about 3.00pm.

Cost: English Heritage Members	£2.50
Non -concessions	£6.10
Concessions	£5.70

Contact details:

Pamela Martin

85, Ancaster Avenue,

Fairfax Avenue,

Hull

HU5 4QR

Telephone: 01482 442221; e-mail;

pjmartin@pjmartin.karoo.co.uk

A neat wall inset with blocks of Spanish tiles is the first clue to what the visitor is about to see. The second is the name 'Farrago' on the gate, meaning 'hotchpotch' or 'eclectic mix'. Neither prepares the visitor for the first sight of the building itself. A meandering path through an attractive garden leads to a narrow, three-storeyed villa, set in the extreme left-hand corner of the site. Multi-coloured tiles cover the façade in zig-zag or geometric patterns; to one side, where one might expect a front door, a tiled gazebo juts out with bathroom above. The front door is positioned as if replacing the lower bay window.



## Review of EYLHS Events

### 'Farrago' –The House of Tiles

Saturday 11 June 2011

The house was bought in the 1970s by Josie Montgomery (now Adams) and her former husband Andrew, whose grandparents once lived there. It was

in poor repair, its extraordinary façade hidden by layers of plaster and paint, but years of painstaking research and restoration have revealed much of its original magnificence. Josie met us outside and gave a preliminary talk about David Reynard Robinson (1843-1913), the Hull master builder who built the house as a retirement home in 1909-10. Born in Skirlaugh, his middle name came from his mother, Hannah Reynard, who died soon after his birth. His father disappeared and Robinson was brought up by his grandparents, eventually serving a seven-year apprenticeship before setting up his own business in Hull in 1876. He worked conventionally throughout his career, becoming a leading master-builder whose projects included the City Hall, Beverley Road Swimming Baths, Endsleigh College and many smaller works such as public houses (The White Hart, The Neptune), schools, churches and warehouses. Tiles were fashionable and he used them in many of his buildings. Robinson's home and builder's yard (now demolished) were on Freehold Street and it was here that a more unconventional approach could be seen. Floor, ceiling and walls were covered with tiles in abstract designs and a similar approach was taken when he built a house in Hull for his daughter, using tiles artistically but with unexpected changes in design and colour. Further examples of unconventional use can still be seen in porches in Hull, but nowhere to such an extent as in 'Farrago'.



Tiles were used in England during the medieval period as a flooring material in churches and monasteries. This had virtually ceased by the 15th century with the dissolution of the monasteries. The technique of producing hand-painted tin-glazed tiles spread through Europe to Holland and thence to England in the 16th century, where they were mainly used as a wall covering for fireplaces, cellars and kitchens. The search for improved production techniques led to the discovery in Liverpool of a method of transfer-printing in 1756 but it was not until the 19th century that the tile industry revived. Co-operation between A W N Pugin and Herbert Minton led to the production of inlaid (encaustic) floor tiles for the many new churches which were being built in the Gothic style. Mechanical inventions led to mass-production and from the 1870s onwards colourful ceramic

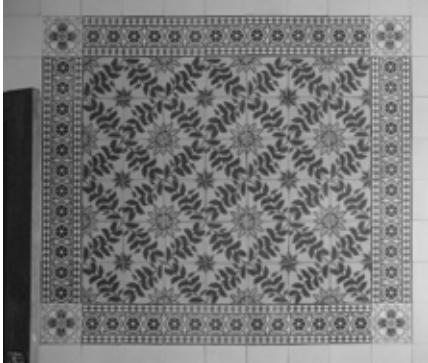
tiles were readily available and cheap enough to be used even in the smallest houses.



David Reynard Robinson first built and lived in 'Migma', No 1, Wilton Road, Hornsea, building No 2, Albany House, speculatively and purchasing land further along the road to build 'Farrago'. The house was a steel-framed structure with concrete floors and brick walls, a modern construction for the time. Prominent on the front of the house are two old alphabet tiles bearing the initials R. T. As Mrs Adams pointed out, the pronunciation of these, ar-tee ('arty'), could be a description of the house itself, a work of art. Patterns of polychromic tiles and glazed bricks meander across the façade in zigzags or blocks of colour; the pediment has a picture of a Scottish loch, bordered by Art Nouveau tiles. Each design contains something illogical – a

patterned tile where one might expect plain, a bright green tile in a block of pale green ones. Five unusual chimney pots adorn the roof and glazed sewer pipes act as a column supporting the bathroom, which is perched at first floor level, projecting out towards a gazebo below. Bathroom façade and gazebo interior are completely covered in multi-coloured tiles, some forming recognizable patterns, others apparently selected completely at random. The ground floor of Farrago is again unexpected. A tiled entrance hall leads through to a cloakroom and small maids' kitchen, but the remaining space consists of an enormous garage. Robinson never owned a car and lack of turning space outside would make it virtually impossible to get a car into the garage. A narrow tiled staircase leads up onto the 'piano nobile', giving a glimpse of the tiled bathroom on the way up and opening onto a landing and dining room tiled from floor to ceiling with a magnificent display of geometric pattern and subtle colour. Tiles of all types and colours are placed in apparently symmetrical blocks but on closer inspection deliberate changes in the design become clear – a block edged with blue tiles on three sides has red tiles on the fourth, a tile of completely different design is inserted into a row of matching tiles, patterned blocks are pushed into corners leaving complete blocks of plain tiles. At the rear of the house there was originally a first floor open balcony across which one could reach the outside toilet, perched high in the corner and again lined with a hotch-potch of tiles. This

area has now been enclosed to form a kitchen. A very steep tiled staircase leads down to the yard at the side of the house and to a tiled wash-house.



Robinson used a wide variety of tiles ranging from floral to landscape, from Art Nouveau to geometric and Gothic reproduction. Many are hand-painted, others machine-made, being sourced from Holland, England and Spain. While some floors are neatly tiled, others *'are made up of broken and cut tiles laid haphazardly in a kaleidoscopic pattern that is comparable to similar mosaic work by Gaudi'*.<sup>1</sup> Panels of a curved mosaic wall have survived from 71 Freehold Street and appear to pre-date Gaudi's work by several years. A further example of mosaic work can be seen in Skirlaugh churchyard decorating Robinson's grave – a subtle design of diminishing circles runs along each side, a fitting memorial created with his own hands.

While half the group were shown round 'Farrago' the remainder of the party was shown the ground floor areas of Albany House by Andrew

Montgomery. Although built to be sold Robinson treated it in the same way – entrance hall, breakfast room and kitchen are all tiled imaginatively, with interruptions in pattern or colour visible on closer observation.



*'Tiles for Robinson were an artistic tool'*<sup>2</sup>. He was unique in using tiles in an avant-garde manner and surely deserves far greater recognition for his work. We are fortunate that the present owners recognise the importance of 'Farrago' and are prepared to devote so much time and expertise to its restoration and preservation.

Shirley Scotney

#### Notes

- 1 Pevsner N and Neave D *Yorkshire: York and the East Riding*. p482
- 2 Montgomery J (now Adams) *Farrago – A History of the House and its Tiles*.

#### Further information taken from:

Beulah K and van Lemmen H *Church Tiles of the Nineteenth Century*.  
Richard Dennis Publications: *Fired Earth 1000 Years of Tiles in Europe*

Montgomery A *Farrago*1909-10: *Modernism in the satiric deconstruction of the English house*. Journal of the Tiles and Architectural Ceramics Society. Vol 16. 2010 pp14-30.

Scotney S *The Use of Ceramic Tiles for Exterior Architectural Decoration on Domestic Buildings in Kingston upon Hull During the Latter Part of the Nineteenth Century and Early Twentieth Century*. Dissertation 2002.

**Guided walk round Hutton Cranswick**  
16 June 2012

On Saturday 16th June, David Neave led a guided walk around Hutton Cranswick. Hutton and Cranswick are still arguably separate villages, but they have always formed the one township, including also Sunderlandwick to the north, and Rotsea to the east. The ‘-wick’ in Cranswick may refer to a dairy farm, but this is not certain.



Pre-eminent among local landowners was the Hotham family, which went back to the 13th century, and which also had seats at Scarborough and South Dalton. Other prominent local landowners included the Lloyd,

Denison and Londesborough families, plus the Reynards at Sunderlandwick.



The parish church of St Peter is at Hutton, which is the smaller of the two villages, and it has some Norman features, in particular the arch of the south doorway. The tower, in perpendicular style, is clearly later than the nave and chancel. Some of the stones have lettering engraved on them—gravestones ‘recycled’ for repair work! The nave itself may have been built in two phases, as the westernmost bays are different in style.



St Peter’s was modernised in 1875-6 by the aptly-named Ewan Christian, who worked on churches and built

rectories all over England. Victorian 'restorations' of churches could be very drastic, extending as far as partial demolition and reassembly. In 1919 the chancel was restored by Temple Moore (another appropriate name!), a nationally-known church architect who had some local connections.

Cranswick has a very large village green—these are rare in the East Riding, in contrast to County Durham (for example), where they had a defensive purpose. It was an 'open village', which meant that there were many freeholders, rather than just one principal landowner. In consequence, it had a large number of tradesmen and craftsmen, whose premises were on the north side of the green. At one stage it is recorded that there were nineteen shoemakers and ten tailors, though they would not all have had individual shops. There were also a number of joiners, carpenters and wheelwrights, but no saddlers.



Cranswick had a Board School, as open villages often did, and this was (and still is) situated on the village green, as was commonly the case. School Boards tended to be dominated by non-conformists, which, in the context of the East Riding, meant Methodists—

Primitive Methodists in the case of Cranswick.

Friendly Societies became important in open villages from about 1830. In Cranswick there were to be found both Oddfellows and Foresters. They provided what we would nowadays call 'social security', i.e. sickness and death benefits. They were very important in the life of the villages, and were particularly long-lasting in Cranswick—through to the 1980s.

Cranswick was an early centre of Quakerism in the East Riding; Quakers referred to their churches, rather quaintly, as 'steeple-houses'.

The population of the twin villages declined in the latter part of the 19th century, as people moved to towns. It is important to remember that the rural population was not static—farm workers had to move round to wherever they could find work. It was the tradesmen who tended to stay put.

At the end of the walk, an excellent tea was provided at the White Horse at Cranswick—one of Cranswick's few remaining pubs (there were once rather more). The weather was rather kind to us, given the unusually wet conditions which prevailed throughout June. The walk was very well attended, as members of the Society will be aware that any event given by David Neave is always most rewarding.

Simon Green.



## **Southburn Archaeological Museum**

7 June 2012.

What a night! What a night, both for the weather and the treat that is the Southburn Museum.

This is a gem. A museum as they all should be, with cases of artefacts outnumbering story boards and interactive displays.

The core of these displays is material collected by the late Brian Hebblewhite during his time as a tractor driver at Southburn Farm. There is something from every period, Neolithic stone tools and antler picks to twentieth century military buttons and cap badges and all from this relatively small area. This is supplemented by donated and loaned items from the East Riding close to Southbum.

The number of exhibits is staggering as is the care taken in displaying them; many larger collections should look to their laurels. A list of artefacts would be tedious but nevertheless there are Roman coins, brooches and pottery. Anglo Saxon dress fittings and coins, including an Anglo Saxon counterfeit coin. Medieval items include long and short cross pennies with details of their coiners together with more domestic items. Post Medieval pottery fragments including Beverley Orangeware and Humberware, coins and most remarkably, a selection of lead shot ranging in sizes of approximately 4 to 12mm. The largest and probably most recognised item is the replica of the Wetwang Chariot, constructed for the TV

programme Meet The Ancestors, on loan from the British Museum.

Yet there is more. An activity room where you can handle the genuine articles, use a reconstructed Warp Weighted Loom and where younger children can learn to be the archaeologists of the future.

Our thanks must go to Mr Coulthard and his colleagues for their time and patience in dealing with our enquiries and to JSR Farms who support and encourage the museum.

Peter Haysom

## **Guided tour of Lockington**

7 July 2012

The weather was wonderful, blue skies, a surprise to everyone! The group was met by our guide, Roger Hateley, at the Village Hall (once the Village School) and after a welcoming cup of coffee we then proceeded to walk round the village. Narrow lanes with lots of traffic due to the church fete being held at the school in the afternoon.



'Dead Lane' was the first lane we walked up, with fields on the right containing humps and bumps; definitely a Time Team investigation needed. Passing cottages belonging at one time to the Hotham estate, Lotties Cottage, The Weaver's Cottages and The Old Rectory to name just a few.

Temple Moore leaving the church as we see it today. To quote Pevsner's Guide to the Buildings of England "one of the most enthralling churches in the East Riding!"

A most enjoyable morning's walk, necessitating another visit soon.

June Solly

### Recent Work in the East Riding

14 April 2012

In April at The Beverley Treasure House, we were given an enlightening talk by Ed Dennison who is a Beverley based Archaeological Consultant and Surveyor.

Out of the many varied and interesting commissions, he selected 4 different projects to illustrate and talk about.

### St. Giles Church Bielby

The church was built in the early 12th century as a Chapel of Ease. The exterior had at some time in the past been totally rendered to 'tidy it up'. Ed's remit was to survey the exterior and once the rendering had been removed, the remnants and features of early stages of how the church had been adapted over the years were revealed. Doorways and medieval arches showed there had been a larger church. Thankfully at the end of the project, it was decided that the historic hotchpotch should be left unrendered. For anyone wanting to visit Bielby, it is about 4 miles south of Pocklington.



The Church of St Mary the Virgin, originally built 1150 by the Norman Lord of the Manor and by 1893 a restoration had been undertaken by



## **Harewood Castle**

Most of the time the survey work is challenging, however Harewood Castle became a bit of a tedious project and required 'the patience of Job' to produce meticulous drawings of all of the interior that had to show every stone and pebble. Normally a special camera is used, but because of the limited space could not be utilised.

## **32,34 & 36 North Bar Within, Beverley, formerly Burgesses Ice Cream Parlour**

This was a much more satisfying project. Because the owners of the property wanted to change the interiors and before Planning Permission could be granted, The East Riding Council required a full 'top to toe' survey. It was fascinating to see the timber framing, some of which has been left exposed.

## **Risby Park**

The last example was a total contrast to the other surveys as it was the task of surveying Risby Park near Little Weighton commissioned by its owners, a large farming conglomerate. Risby Park was owned by the Ellerker

family. All that exists of the house is the terracing and rough outlines of the once magnificent house and front gardens. The pond and a lakeside folly still exist. Risby Park, like many large country houses of the same period, had their own Deer Park. It was here in the September 1541 (possibly the 10th) that Henry VIII was invited to a stag hunt followed by a gargantuan feast. He was at the time, staying at his Leconfield Park estate on his return from the Royal Progress to York.

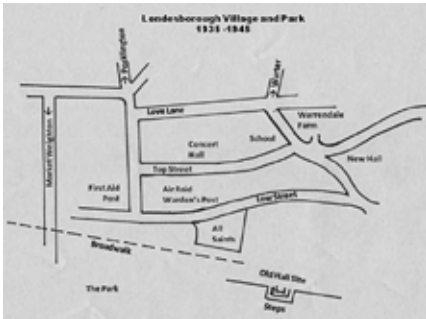
The talk and illustrations were so fascinating that everyone wanted Ed to tell us even more of his work, so hopefully he will back again with another talk.

Keith Wade

## **Holidays at Home: Londesborough, 1935-1945**

Dulcie Huitson has provided notes of childhood recollections at Londesborough between 1935 and 1945. This brief account conjures vivid pictures of life and events in an East Riding estate village. Thinking of Londesborough as a place where the past is revealed, let's imagine Dulcie's world between the lines of her remembrances and see how her life was shaped by the experiences of that decade. Londesborough is still much

as it was at the beginning of Dulcie's story.



### 1935 – A Silver Jubilee at Londesborough

The first memory Dulcie mentions is the Silver Jubilee of George V. Dulcie recalled that "My memories of this event are very vague. I can just remember the sports and teas in the Pleasure Grounds." Among the sports she was remembering were running foot races along the western avenue that leads to the old Burlington gates, and multi-generational cricket matches which have been tradition at Londesborough for nearly a century and a half.

George V, as the Prince of Wales, enjoyed a week of lavish entertainments and shooting at Londesborough in November 1902. Eight years later he took the throne. Dare we hope that he was remembering Londesborough as he looked back on his years of service to the nation? The Silver Jubilee celebration at Londesborough would certainly have been influenced by those who were active in planning for that Royal Visit of 1902, and perhaps by those who prepared the estate for

the visits of his father Edward VII in the 1880s and 1890s. The extravagance of those Royal Visits of bygone times lives on in a lovingly preserved estate village unique to the nation, and thanks to the preservation policies of the Ashwin family.

During his 1902 visit the Prince had planted a lime tree to be a companion to a tree planted by his father twenty years earlier. Edward VII had visited Londesborough four times as Prince and once as King in 1905. Dulcie mentions that Mrs Lupton Booth planted two trees to commemorate George V's Silver Jubilee.

A disturbing political climate was developing which caused great confusion over how to cope with the National Socialist Party that had by 1935 taken firm control of the German government. In March Hitler broke trust with his nation's neighbors to reintroduced conscription, and the Luftwaffe or new German air force became known to the world. The Nazis were doing to their own citizens what the regime would later do to Europe as its occupier.

### 1937 – A Coronation Day at Londesborough

Two years later Dulcie had more vivid memories for a second national celebration; the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the parents of Elizabeth II who celebrated her Diamond Jubilee on June 5 this year. Dulcie wrote:



“The highlight of 1937 was the Coronation. On that day there was a service in church, and sports and teas in the Pleasure Grounds. I had been practicing running for days and I was delighted when I won a prize.

All the prizes for the different races had been donated by Mrs. Booth and they were displayed on a table under the yew trees. The various races were run down the broad walk in the Wilderness and the finishing tape was in the Pleasure Grounds. Uncle Herbert was responsible for getting the runners lined up for the races. He was using a megaphone and his words could be heard quite plainly all over the grounds. ‘Any more for any more?’

There were very few cars in the village at that time, so it was a great novelty that afternoon when Mr. [Kitching] from the Post Office brought his car down to the grounds so that everybody could gather round and listen to the King’s speech. Mr. [Kitching’s] car was the only car in the village to be equipped with a radio, or a wireless as it was called in those days. After the service Mrs. Booth planted two chestnut trees to mark the

event, having planted two trees two years before to mark the Jubilee.”

It was in this year that Jan Struther introduced Times newspaper readers to a fictional character named Mrs Miniver who embodied the British wife and mother of middle resources. Readers went with Mrs M’s household to be fitted for gas masks, as did the families of Londesborough. Mrs M was probably an acquaintance of nearly every British household including Dulcie’s.

### **1938- The First Refugees**

Britain, France and the United States had volunteers working on the Republican side in the Spanish Civil War and those friendly nations hosted Spanish refugees. Dulcie mentions the first stirrings of trouble on the continent coming to Londesborough: “In the summer there was a Boy Scout camp in the big park. We used to go down and talk to the Scouts over the fence. We found out that they had a number of Spanish refugees camping with them. At that time there was a civil war going on in Spain, and it made me realize for the first time the meaning of the word ‘Refugee.’”

The German Luftwaffe was getting war experience on the Nationalist side in the Spanish Civil War. Germany had occupied the Rhineland. Buchenwald concentration camp had opened in August 1937. In March Germany annexed Austria, and in October occupied the Czech Sudetenland. The quiet village of Londesborough may

have had many more visitors passing through as a result of destabilization on the continent. Churchill suggested that Britain was feeding its friends to a hungry lion hoping that it will be eaten last.



### 1939 – War comes to Londesborough

On September 3 Britain and France declared war on Germany when it refused to withdraw its invasion of Poland. Dulcie describes how the village prepared for civil defense:

“One of the first things to be done was to set up an Air Raid Warden’s Post at the Rectory, and a First Aid Post in one of the Almshouses.”

“In June of 1939 a searchlight had come into [Londes] Brough Park mounted by a troop of Sherwood Foresters. A couple of months later, 10th of August, we had the last Girl Guide camp before war was declared. On the last night of the camp the Guides held a farewell camp fire. Children and grownups were invited and some of the searchlight soldiers came and helped to stoke the fire. They had to leave at 10pm. When we all left much later they turned the

searchlight on and pointed it in the direction of the Guide camp to light our way home.”

Mrs Miniver was telling Times readers about hilarious letters from her husband Clem who was stationed with an anti-aircraft battery housed in a girls’ school. Seven “tough, but charming” Cockney children had joined the fictional Miniver family at Starlings. Children living in cities that were targets for enemy bombing were evacuated to areas like Londesborough that were less vulnerable to attack. Each British family was affected by the declaration of war in one way or another. And it wasn’t long before the citizens of Londesborough began to experience the reality of an anti-invasion landscape.

“On the 4th November 1939 I was in Sunday school along with all the other children when suddenly we heard the sound of vehicles on the bottom street. We could hardly wait to see what was going on. We came out of church and went up to Top Street where we saw a soldier standing near the Concert Hall. I noticed his cap badge was a galloping horse, and in answer to our many questions he told us that ‘B’ Squadron of the 3rd Kings Own Hussars had arrived in Londesborough. We dashed round the village and discovered trucks and tanks in the Stable Yard and Wood Yard and soldiers everywhere.”

Dulcie doesn’t say how Londesborough Hall was utilized during the war. Grand homes across the nation became

strong points against invasion, hospitals for the wounded, schools for evacuated children, convalescent homes, or regional headquarters for various defense groups such as the Hussars at Londesborough.

Civil Defense became everyone's civic duty. In *Home Front Yorkshire: 1939-1945* Len Markham describes how social life was affected. At the outbreak of war in 1939 cinemas and theaters were closed in a universal blackout. George Bernard Shaw protested "What agent of Chancellor Hitler is it who suggested that we should all cower in darkness and terror for the duration?" Markham reports "...Adolf Hitler's unmistakable face began to adorn thousands of the nation's chamber pots and dart boards." It was widely believed that Hitler's moustache was a blatant public relations ploy to parallel his persona with world famous British actor/director, Charles Chaplin.

At Londesborough electricity was provided by an electric plant in the estate yard. The power ran to the Hall, Concert Hall, Estate House, the Rectory, the Red House and the Lodge gates. A diesel engine drove machines in the workshops. The estate houses were served by outdoor water taps. Fetching the wood (or coal) and the water was a daily necessity and might have been part of Dulcie's daily chores.

The deer that resided in Londesborough Park were disbursed to quieter pastures than the Hussars could provide. If farmers found deer grazing in their

fields, they had permission to shoot them and enjoy the bounty. All the farms were being worked and more land was made arable to increase crop yields. A primary source of imports into Britain was from the west across the Atlantic. The shipping lanes were constantly menaced by submarines, battle ships and Luftwaffe. The father of Damian Wynne of Darlington described making an air crossing to Canada with his fellow military trainees when the aircraft was shot at from the water by an anxious anti-aircraft crew which had mistaken them for Luftwaffe. Aircraft identification became a national pass time. Real Photographs of Liverpool jumped to fill the gap by publishing a booklet with diagrams and photographs of British and German aircraft. Dulcie and her friends probably saw a brisk trade in aircraft cards from the cigarette packs of grownups and saw fly overs by nearly every sort of craft, bombers or fighters, from both sides of the fight.

#### 1940 – Anti-Invasion Londesborough

The Hussars were making themselves popular with Dulcie and the other children of Londesborough.

"On Boxing Day, the 3rd entertained all the children to a party in the Concert Hall which by now had become the soldiers mess room. When we came out after the party all the tanks were outside waiting to give us a ride round the village. As it was 'B' Squadron all the names of the tanks began with 'B' – Brown Jack, Bison, Belligerent, etc., etc. I rode in Brown Jack with Cpl. Phil Jones

driving. Phil Jones was billeted along with seven other soldiers in a bedroom up the back stairs at Warrendale Farm, so we got to know them very well."

"The winter of 1940 was very severe and there was a lot of snow, so it was impossible to get the tractor at Warrendale Farm through the snow to get a load of hay from the stack up Warter Road. Captain William Powlett, the captain in charge of 'our' troop, very kindly let Phil Jones take a tank to pull a [wagon] up the road to get a load of hay for the cattle in the fold yard at the farm. So the day was saved."

Britain celebrated the New Year with the introduction of ration books. In April the Nazi army began invading the neutral nations of Western Europe to get at their declared adversaries, Britain and France. By June the Allies had been forced off the Continent.

On May 24th British headlines read "Prepare for the Worst". All Saints in Londesborough observed the National Day of Prayer declared on May 26. On May 31 the BBC gave the first reports of the evacuation. All Saints was the social hub of the community. It remains the place for community announcements. During the summer of 1940 the bulletin board inside the south porch held lists of local soldiers who were casualties, prisoners of war, or missing in action.

Battered soldiers from the Dunkirk evacuation returned home on the trains, buses and trucks of East Yorkshire. Plans were finalized for the

defense of Britain in case of invasion. Once the German army controlled the coast of Europe, their Operation Sea Lion began to form along the coast of Normandy in preparation for an invasion of Britain. While the land invasion troops formed, the coastal areas of Britain were subjected to wave after wave of assault from the air as the enemy tried to soften its prey for the planned invasion. Once again an eager invader was thwarted by British weather and a disciplined military. The RAF and anti-aircraft installations received early warnings from Britain's unique and very secret radar stations along its coastline, giving the RAF a chance to get into the air and for citizens to take cover.

Home Front East Yorkshire was made secure in case of invasion by men trained in thuggery and sabotage according to 'Churchill Youth' Alan Williamson in his East Ridings Secret Resistance: 1940-44. These troops were comprised of hunters and farmers who had an intimate knowledge of the local terrain. The regions along the coastlines were vulnerable to invasion and plans were in place to harass invaders off the island. Middleton-on-Wolds east of Londesborough was the headquarters of East Riding's Auxiliary Units. Secret underground bunkers provided bolt holes from which to monitor crossroads, bridges, railway tunnels, radar stations, and assets within 50 miles of the British coast. East Riding's western stopline boundary was at the rivers Ouse and Trent. Once again the Yorkshire coast in its long



history became a defensive landscape against possible assailants.

The British government distributed leaflets to the population in preparation for the event of invasion citing the lessons learned from the Battle of France; to stay put unless instructed by a known authority such as the local Air Raid Warden or Home Guard; secure automobiles, bicycles, fuel and anything that could be used by fifth columnists dressed in plain clothes parachuting in to stir up panic as they did to dislodge the populations of north west Europe, and other measures to preserve the opportunity for national defense.

The 1937-1939 Struther's newspaper columns were published in book form in the UK and then the US. Mrs. Miniver quickly became a Book of the Month and a bestseller in the US and is credited with raising American awareness of the true peril faced by cousins across the sea. By early 1941, American journalists were no longer welcome in the Third Reich and had been driven west to Europe's last stand, the United Kingdom. By the end of the year the U.S. had joined the European Allies.

At Londesborough the peril was nearly in the back yards. Dulcie recalls; "On the 25th August 1940 the air raid siren went during the night. We heard a plane coming over and then the thud of a bomb. Next day we were told the bomb had dropped at Easthorpe. Apparently the German bomber had

been caught in the searchlight beam and not being able to get out of it, decided to dive down the beam. The searchlight crew realized what was happening and switched off. The bomb landed near Easthorpe. It was only a small bomb and didn't cause any damage."

If you stand on the steps of the demolished Old Hall and look toward the east end of the facing wold, you will see Easthorpe farm with its ancient lynchet fields stair-stepping up the hill. That is where Dulcie's bomb landed.

#### **1941**

1941 is considered the worst year of the war. Gas masks were passé. National solidarity was established and all were united under a single banner. Most of the evacuees had gone home if a home still stood. Families were reunited with the philosophy that home was as safe as anywhere else for the time being. There was often the sound of bombs and anti-aircraft fire from Hull. The river Humber acted as a navigational aid for Luftwaffe crews in training. Flight navigation was still dependent on what was called dead-reckoning – speed x distance + visual landmarks, but both sides were motivated to become more sophisticated all the time. During the blitz on Hull 40,000 people were made homeless, food stores were ruined and marine engineering was disabled for two months.

Dulcie's notes are silent in the years that lead to 1944. Perhaps the prevailing philosophy that 'you never know who's

listening' was still embraced at the time of her writing, as was the case with many of her contemporaries. Information is power and one never knew who might be listening. So we will take a peek around the corner of Dulcie's extended discretion on behalf of national security and let the history books help us imagine how things were.

Early in the war it became clear through the government's Mass Observation that censoring the war news was not good for civilian morale. Trust in the government was essential. Every citizen had to know that they were a participant in the challenge facing the nation. The radio or wireless was the daily source of news, entertainment, and education programs. If you owned a wireless set, the BBC was your daily companion. Newspapers were often shared. News documentaries were shown before movies at every cinema. Propaganda leaflets dropped by German planes intended to pacify the British population did service in the out houses of the nation. Waste not, want not!

Waiting in line for rations was an information gathering opportunity not to be sneered at. Dulcie might have used a shopping bag sewn of fabric from a burst barrage balloon. If you have received an apple or an orange in your holiday stocking, it may have been given by one who remembers when those were rare and exciting gifts and the orange peels were saved for marmalade. Ever had a potato peel

pie? It's delicious! Women kept up appearances with rouge or blush made of slivered leftover lipstick mixed with cold cream and eye makeup of burnt cork, soot or shoe polish. Mashed tea bags worked for face masks.

Pause here a moment and imagine a world without Wensleydale, Swaledale or Stilton cheeses. Artisan cheeses were not a luxury to be afforded during rationing. All the basic cheese ingredients went into the vat and out came the National Cheese - 2 oz. per person per week. Even generic cheese is better than no cheese at all. What if Dulcie's neighbor had National Cheese that she did not want and Dulcie had a ration of flour that she didn't want. What if they made a trade? This is hypothetical. Such black-marketeering was commonly practiced but illegal, so I won't say who mentioned it.

### **1942 and 1943**

Jan Struther spent 1940-45 in America where she was a popular speaker and advocate for the British cause. In 1942, writer James Hilton, et al, and actress Greer Garson brought the character of Mrs. Miniver to the big screen. Perhaps Dulcie and her friends saw the film at Londesborough's Concert Hall, or in a hangar at RAF Pocklington just ten miles away, or in York at the popular Fairfax House. I wonder if they all wept as pitifully as I did as Mrs Miniver waited for Clem to return from rescuing troops off the Dunkirk beaches, and clinched their fists as Mrs M had a showdown with the German pilot who had been menacing a seemingly defenseless

Home Front - Ha! At Londesborough these were real possibilities.

On 29th April 1942 the Luftwaffe took advantage of a Bombers' Moon or full moon to make a Baedeker Raid on York. They flew in over Flamborough Head and likely straight over Londesborough to reach the sleeping city. Christmas tree incendiaries were dropped to light up the target. Junkers flew through York machine gunning the streets at 200 miles an hour, followed by Heinkel bombers. After successful hits on the train station the bombers turned their attention to the city center. An essential route to the north, the destruction at York Station was cleared and the station made operational within 48 hours. Perhaps Londesborough's civilian services – firefighters and water wagons, rescue workers, first aid, blood donors, etc. – come to assist.

What might members of the Royal Observer Corps have seen if they used the tower of Londesborough's All Saints Church as a vantage point? May 30, 1942 was the first thousand bomber raid assembled by the Allies now including the Americans. Imagine those gigantic planes massing over the Humber in preparation for their mission. Picture the Luftwaffe bombing and dropping parachute mines into the Humber at the key port of Hull with its warehouses, wharves and manufacturing. Visualize the sky illuminated by conflagrations at York, Hull, Middlesborough, airfield targets, and by search lights shining on barrage balloons bobbing in concussive

breezes. Villagers would have been joined by friends, relatives and other evacuees whose homes were bombed out.

### **1944 Londesborough**

Some of you have been to Londesborough and seen the peaceful pastures of sheep grazing among ancient trees in the park on the south side of the Old Hall. Dulcie describes a beehive of activity accelerating daily. The suspense must have been incredible. Imagine the cacophony of Canadian, Australian, American, French and Polish accents; the grinding of the big machines of war. This is the same peaceful park where everyone gathered around the postman's car radio to hear the King's speech six years before.

"We all knew that D-Day was planned for June 5th/6th 1944, but it was very 'hush-hush' at the time. For months and weeks beforehand there was a great movement of tanks and we all suspected there was something afoot. The Guards Armoured Division was camping in the Big Park. There were soldiers everywhere, even sleeping in the churchyard. Security was very tight and it was impossible to get in and out of the village without an identity card. There were quite a few small aircraft flying about, and I shall always remember the surprise I got when I was cycling to work one morning and saw a Lysander aircraft in the field at the top of Intake."

When the possibility of invasion diminished, the secret local auxiliary units received new orders to utilize their training with underground resistance units in occupied countries and some joined the D-Day invasion forces.

By Christmas the Nazi genie was still not back in its bottle as had been hoped. D-Day and successes in North Africa were encouraging, but the move to free the Low Countries and northern France with Operation Market Garden showed the Allies that the Nazi army could still pack a punch and Allied forces were trapped around Bastogne. The suspense was not over. The unmistakable sputter of stray V-1 rockets launched from Heinkels at the coast missed their mark to hit near Market Weighton, Willerby and South Cliff as an early Christmas Eve surprise. German airfields were still active in Norway and the Netherlands.

I have often wondered what would have happened if Britain had capitulated in 1940? How different our lives would have been if Hitler had been successful in swallowing that last entrance to the European continent. Guided missiles called V-2's were being delivered from German bases across the sea to Britain with guidance systems not requiring a plane or a man to do anything other than press a button to launch a fully calibrated missile. The German missile program would have needed just a little more time to mature enough to launch missiles across the Atlantic. And it is known that Hitler had his

own map of America and had trained administrators to be familiar with the region they would manage for the Third Reich.

### **May 1945 – Victory in Europe**

The German surrender was signed at Reims, France on 7 May 1945 at 2:41 am.

“There was a great deal of celebrating and we collected a lot of stuff together and had a big bonfire in one of Uncle John’s fields up Pocklington Road.”

In closing Dulcie wrote “Hope you can read my writing, DMH.” I hope I have done her memories justice. And so dear reader, don’t be afraid to write your impressions of events in your life. Dulcie’s articulated memories speak also for her education at Londesborough. She would have been a student of Norah Gertrude Hindle who guided the young of the village from 1925 to 1939. The students being educated at Londesborough between 1939 and 1944 saw 6 different head teachers until, in September 1944, Mrs Lillian Laurel Wilkins began a tenure that would last until 1952.

Like Mrs Miniver, I “begin by being methodical and end by being a magpie.” Many thanks to Mrs Barbara Ashwin for sharing Dulcie’s notes. Thanks also to book reviewers Arthur Credland and Rob Barnard who made me aware of some of the sources for this and other articles, and to Alan Williamson for the Beverley walk. Many, many thanks to Miss Pat Aldabella for organizing an opportunity to meet with the EYLHS

board last May at the Beverley Treasure House, and for encouraging my participation in the Newsletter. Thanks also to David Neave for suggesting I join EYLHS.

Candace Fish

### Sources:

*The Daily Mail* – Blitz Special Edition, May 9, 2011; a special supplement marking the 70th anniversary of Hull's worst Blitz nights in May 7/8, 1941. A gift from Pat Aldabella.

*The Identification of British and Enemy War Planes*; (Real Photographs Co, Liverpool, 1940?).

Ainscough, Jim and Margaret; *Pocklington at War*; (2010). Reviewed by Rob Barnard, Newsletter #24.

Bright, Paul; *Air War Over East Yorkshire in World War II* (Flight Recorder Publications, 2005). Reviewed by Arthur Credland, Newsletter #15.

Jones, Derry, "Hull Blitz Surveys: 1941-42, Morale", *East Yorkshire Historian*, Volume 9, 2008.

Kessler, Leo; *The Great York Air Raid*; (Dalesman Books, 1979).

Markham, Len; *Home Front Yorkshire: 1939-1945*; (Pen & Sword, 2007).

Neave, David; *Londesborough: History of an East Yorkshire Estate Village*; (Londesborough Silver Jubilee Committee, 1977; 2006 edition).

Struther, Jan; *Mrs. Miniver*; (Chatto & Windus, London, 1939; Harcourt Brace, New York, 1940). Film; *Mrs. Miniver*; (Warner Brothers, 1942).

Williamson, Alan; *East Riding's Secret Resistance: 1940-1944*; (Middleton Press, 2004).

## The Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessele

Before the Second World War there were approximately 70 Catholic families in Hessele, but this number increased rapidly as the war progressed. The Connaughton family moved into the area in the mid 1930's, and I am very grateful to Dot, one of the daughters (sadly now deceased), to Father Marsden Parish Priest, and Martin Craven for giving me much of the following information:



The presbytery was built in 1928 by Arthur Barker, a parishioner. Until then the priest serving Hessele was the incumbent of Cottingham. The first

Hessle Parish Priest to take up residence in the presbytery was Father Brunner - he now had a lovely new house but no church, and services continued to be held in the leaky, draughty "hut" in Oaklands Drive. He was succeeded as Parish Priest by Father Connelly, and Father Brunner eventually became Bishop of the diocese.

When the three Connaughton sisters first attended mass the organist used to arrive by bicycle from St Wilfred's church in Hull. Father Connelly asked if any of their family could play, and the strong musical relationship between the Connaughton girls and the church was born. Kitty played the first night and Mary took over to become the resident organist. Bob Luke was the original choir master, followed by Dot Connaughton, and the girls continued to be the bed rock of the church music for many years.

Father Fox became the next Parish Priest, but he retired due to illness and was followed by Father Toner, who had been the first curate. The parish included St. Josephs at this time. After the war mass centres were set up in Brough and Anlaby, and St Josephs became a separate parish with its own church and presbytery.

When Father Currie became Parish Priest church services were still held in "the hut". This was a wooden structure in Oaklands Drive which had been an army hut in the First World War. The roof leaked and it was freezing cold in winter, except for the area around

the stove, where the thud of bodies was not uncommon as members of the congregation succumbed to the heat. The seats were wooden benches, some of which had been reclaimed from the bombed St Wilfred's church in The Boulevard, Hull. They were made of ash, with metal ends. They were so rickety that if one person began to shiver the entire row shook, making a welcome diversion for some of the children and more frivolous members of the congregation.

Father Currie discovered that plans had been drawn for a new church, with the main door facing Oaklands Drive, but realised that if they were adapted so it faced Swanland Road the church could be made bigger. He was a dynamic man who wanted his parishioners to worship in comfort, and began to work seriously on raising money for the new build. The foundations were laid in 1939 but construction was held up by the war and the remaining bricks were used to build air raid shelters.

A group of 12 ladies, including the Connaughton sisters, approached Father Currie with the idea of forming a sewing group intending to raise funds for the new church, and requesting initial funding. He gave them £20 (a lot of money in those days) and asked if they thought they would be able to double it. The ladies responded magnificently to the challenge and doubled the money many times over - in fact, Dot said they "knitted the church". The group met socially once a week at each others' houses, taking

orders for anything from jumpers to curtains, and when the funds for the church were complete they started raising money for a church hall.

Meanwhile, the number of Catholics in Hessle and the surrounding villages was increasing as people moved out of Hull due to fear of air raids. One half of the church was now khaki as there were troops stationed in Hessle (the Norfolk Regiment followed by the Royal Enniskillen Fusiliers) with one contrasting splash of shocking pink worn by "Winnie", a flamboyant local lass who liked soldiers.

Miss Kerwin started a catechism class. Initially there were 7 children and a dog, all from the same family, some of whom had hearing difficulties. Mary Connaughton joined Miss Kerwin as teacher as the class began to expand.

After the war, plans for the new build took shape and Bishop Brunner laid the foundation stone on 6 August 1950. The church was built by local builder, Dave Smith, costing approximately £14,000. It opened in 1951, being one of the first Catholic churches to be built in England after the war.

The statues of Our Lady and The Sacred Heart were transferred from "the hut" to the new church. That of St Theresa was donated by a parishioner, but the history of the statue of St Joseph is not clear. The Crucifix above the altar was also donated at a later date. The Stations of the Cross were each paid for by a different family, with the

bishop instructing Father Currie to buy something traditional that the parishioners could understand! The congregation looked forward to using the brand new pews which did not creak, wobble or threaten to collapse, but there was a delay as the pews were found to be infested with woodworm and the church had to be fumigated before they could be used.

Father Currie was conscious that time was of the essence at the main Sunday morning service, as some of the congregation came by public transport from Brough. The return bus did not wait for laggards, and the priest used to speed up as the service progressed to ensure they did not have a long walk home. The regulars were used to this, but visitors were sometimes bemused as his words grew faster and faster and the congregation bobbed up and down like the characters in a 1920s film. Dot recalled one memorable sung mass when he warbled "it's twenty past eleven" in the middle of the Latin chant. The church celebrated its golden jubilee in 2001 with new stained glass by Stephen Hunter of Retford. The design chosen is entitled "the Stream of Life", which depicts water flowing from the sash of the Virgin Mary into the hands of Saint Bernadette, very appropriate considering the name of the church.

From its small beginnings in a hut, the church has grown into a beautiful building, but as Father Michael O'Connor stated in its golden jubilee year; it is the people – not bricks and

mortar (and safe seating!) which makes the church the lovely place it is today.

### **Acknowledgements**

Connaughton, D (May 2009) conversation.

Craven, M (April 2009) conversation.

Marsden, Fr M (April 2009) conversation.

People of the Parish (November 2001) Middlesborough Catholic Voice.

O'Connor, Fr M (August 2001) Jubilee leaflet

Marie Nicoll

(This is an ammended version of an article published in Hessele Local History Society newsletter 64, May 2009.)

## **Christopher Ketchell Memorial Lecture**

The Hull and District Local History Research Group organised the first of what will hopefully be an annual lecture commemorating Chris Ketchell in Hull History Centre on 26 April 2012. David Neave gave the inaugural talk on *Hull architects in the 18th and 19th centuries*, a subject both David and Chris have collaborated on for many years and Dr Neave has correspondence between them dating from 1975.

Despite the title the first architect mentioned was John Catlin, who worked in the 17th century but died in the 18th, just. Catlin built in the

Artisan Mannerist style, which used classical features but in a debased way. Buildings probably designed by Catlin include Crowle House and the very similar Wilberforce House, both in Hull's High Street.

Moving into the 18th century architects start to describe themselves as such, previously they were plasterers or bricklayers. The earliest such architect was Joseph Page who started building in the Palladian style, Maister's House in High Street, but had become influenced by Robert Adams by the time he rebuilt the court room in Trinity House. After Page's death his place as Trinity House's architect was taken by Charles Mountain senior. Mountain also built much of the housing in Parliament Street with his Partner, Riddell. Charles Mountain junior succeeded his father, building Smith's Bank, Whitefriargate in the 19th century. Another significant 18th century architect, George Pycock, built the Royal Infirmary.

Charles Mountain junior was replaced by Henry F Lockwood, we are now in the Victorian era. Lockwood built mainly in the Greek Revival style, Great Thornton St chapel, and also built Trinity House chapel. Lockwood moved to Bradford and built Saltaire with his partner, Mawson. Lockwood's pupil, Cuthbert Brodrick, became Hull's most famous architect although virtually nothing survives in Hull. Among Brodrick's buildings are the Town Hall, Leeds and the Grand Hotel, Scarborough. Brodrick's assistant, and nephew, Frederick S Brodrick, formed



a partnership with Richard G Smith, which became the largest practice in East Yorkshire. Arthur Lowther joined as a partner and after Smith's death William S Walker replaced him. The other significant partnerships in Hull during the 19th century were Gelder & Kitchen and Botterill & Bilson.

The lecture ended by mentioning Hull's first City Architect, J H Hirst, who, although born in the 19th century, built in the 20th, a subject for another lecture.

It is hoped that Dr Neave will be able to publish a work based on Chris Ketchell's notes and correspondence on lesser known Victorian architects of Hull; we look forward to the results.



After the lecture a plaque celebrating Chris was unveiled by his sister, Sue Johnstone, and is permanently on display in Hull History Centre.

Robert Barnard

## VCH Driffield volume launch



Vol IX of the Victoria County History covers Great Driffield and its Townships and was launched in All Saints church, Driffield on 23 May 2012. The principal guest being the Rt Hon Susan Cunliffe Lister, Lord Lieutenant of the East Riding; as the Queen's representative this was very appropriate as Vol IX is dedicated to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to mark her Diamond Jubilee as well as Queen Victoria.



There was a large attendance, justifying the church as a venue. Unfortunately the publisher's representative was delayed on a train but David Neave gave a short speech in her stead. After the formalities tea and cakes were served giving an opportunity to chat with people not seen for many years.



Copies of the book were on sale for £71 rather than the published £95, an offer that is still open to EYLHS members, see insert in this newsletter.

Robert Barnard

## **YVBSG Workshop on Drawing Techniques**

**Saturday 24 November 2012**

Does the thought of producing a drawing fill you with terror? Worry no more – after the day on photographing historic buildings held earlier in the year, here's a further chance to build your confidence and improve your recording skills! Allan Adams (Technical Survey and Graphics Officer at English Heritage), will lead a workshop on drawing techniques with the assistance of Tony Berry (formerly of English Heritage). The event will be held in York and recorders of all abilities should benefit from some useful hints and tips. So that Allan can tailor the workshop according to needs, those wishing to attend are invited to

indicate their preference for topics to be covered, which might include the following:

practical tips on sketching in the field (possibly outdoors, weather permitting) triangulation and setting datums drawing mouldings and other details tips on how to improve a final drawing eg use of different line thicknesses, shading, scales, drawing tricky bits like bow windows scanning and finishing, adding captions and labels bring a drawing to identify how it could be improved any other topics? Numbers will be limited so if you'd like to come, please contact Lorraine Moor ([lorraine.moor@york.ac.uk](mailto:lorraine.moor@york.ac.uk), 102 Queen Victoria Street, South Bank, York YO32 1HN) by 31 October 2012, stating your preferences as above. We'll meet at 10am outside the Priory Street Centre, Priory Street (off Micklegate), York, and will finish by 4.30pm. Confirmation will be provided to those who book. Fee £10, payable on the day. Own arrangements for lunch.

## **Book Reviews**

**Paul Gibson, *Hull – Then & Now 3*, 2012**  
Paul has now reached volume three in his series with the promise of more volumes in the future, funding permitting. As usual the value of this work is in the marrying of uncommon old photographs with well researched and written captions.

This volume is arranged by theme rather than geographical areas.

Chapter one features images of side streets throughout Hull but avoiding the city centre, these are arranged alphabetically. Chapter two contains a fascinating collection of shop frontages, most of which would probably not pass modern health and safety regulations. Chapter three is the shortest but perhaps the most intriguing; titled 'people like us' it features the type of family photos most people have of their relatives. The images in chapter three record events and places that would mainly have gone unrecorded and as such are a valuable addition to Hull's social history. There is much scope for expanding the material in chapter three although there are far fewer 'now' photographs in it.

The production quality is very high for an independently published local history work and puts the rest of us to shame somewhat. There are so many images that some pages can, perhaps, appear cluttered but that is not a criticism.

Robert Barnard

**Gwen Staveley, *William Mason, a son of Hull, a fame forgotten*, The Georgian Society for East Yorkshire, 2012**

William Mason, born in Hull, became Precentor of York and like numerous churchmen found time to pursue many other interests including as a poet, editor, garden designer and political activist. He was active in the anti slavery movement, a friend of Wilberforce, and baptised the son of a free slave from

South Carolina, allegedly to annoy the pro-slavery Archbishop.

Mason's family had been in Hull for many generations; he was born in 1725 at Holy Trinity vicarage and attended the adjacent Grammar School. He was awarded an MA from Cambridge University where he was commissioned to write an ode on the installation of the Duke of Newcastle as Chancellor, which brought him to the attention of literary man, principally Thomas Gray who became a friend. Gray is perhaps remembered for writing *Elegy in a Country Graveyard*.

Leaving Cambridge Mason became a priest at St Margaret's, Westminster but took up an offer to become Chaplain and private secretary to Robert D'Arcy, fourth Earl of Holderness, and rector of the village church in Aston, near Sheffield, where D'Arcy had his country seat. Mason rebuilt the rectory at Aston employing John Carr as architect. Mason continued to be rector even after his appointment as Precentor of York, as Precentor he has in charge of York Minster's music and had to preach two sermons a year. He wrote on the state of church music and composed as well. Mason also invented a musical instrument, the Celestinette.

Mason was interested in social welfare and gave money for improvements in both York Lunatic Asylum and Prison. Apparently though Mason was happiest in his garden at Aston, which he designed. *The English Garden* is Mason's poem on garden

design and his best known work, Hull History Centre, in Mason Street, has a handsome York printed four volume edition, which is worth a browse.

Mason died in Aston rectory in 1795. Gwen Staveley has sub-titled her book 'a fame forgotten', which is true but the number of people who haven't heard of Philip Larkin is also surprisingly high.

Robert Barnard

**The Victoria County History. Graham Kent, David and Susan Neave *A history of the county of York: East Riding vol IX Harthill Wapentake, Bainton Beacon Division, Great Driffield and its townships*. Published for the Institute of Historical Research by Boydell and Brewer 2012, 286 pp. Illustrated with photographs, line drawings, maps and plans. ISBN 978 1 904356 11 0. £95; £71.25 for members of the EYLHS.**

Volume IX is published in the year of the Diamond Jubilee and so, with all others VCH publications issued this year is appropriately dedicated 'Queen Elizabeth II as well as to the memory of Queen Victoria 'who graciously gave the history its title'.

This important addition to our records of the county was launched 23 May at a gathering in All Saints church, Driffield, attended by civic heads, historians, librarians and members of the local community. David Neave delivered a summary account of the development of Driffield and then invited us to enjoy the tea and home-made cakes

provided by the church members. The executive editor of VCH, delayed by problems on the railway, sadly did not arrive till the proceedings had nearly finished. However she would have been gratified by the sale of a number of volumes, offered at 25% discount on the day. This offer is extended to all our members who should send their orders with the form enclosed.

The work covers the origins of the settlement as the centre of an important Anglo-Saxon manor, Aldfrith, king of Northumbria was buried at Little Driffield, to its role as a thriving market town and the home in the township of Elmwell of the 17th century farmer and diarist, Henry Best. My only complaint with this and the other recent volumes is that the photographs, now printed within the text, lack the crispness and tonal range seen in the past when they were reproduced as separate pages of plates.

Arthur G Credland

## New Publications

Phil Mathison *Tolkien in East Yorkshire*, Dead Good Publications, £8.99

Enthusiastic Team of Collegians *Made in Hull* £5. Available from Hull Collegiate College, or by email at [beth.sales.e.t.c@gmail.co.uk](mailto:beth.sales.e.t.c@gmail.co.uk)

Paul Gibson, Hull - *Then & Now 3*, self published, 2012, £18.99

Ian D Rotherham *Yorkshire's Forgotten Fenlands*, Wildtrck Publishing, £10.99

Trevor Smith *Huggate School and Village 1870-1900*, High Wolds Heritage Group, £6, available from Thixendale village shop, Sokells (Driffield) and Hoppers (Malton)

Gwen Staveley *William Mason, A son of Hull, a fame forgotten*, Georgian Society for East Yorkshire, 2012, £10 (including p&p from the Secretary, Chris Mead, 82 Rokeby Park, Hull, HU4 7QF

Paul Chrystal *In and around Pocklington through time* Amberley Books £14.99

Spurn, Kilnsea and Easington Area Local Studies Group *Echoe of the past, heritage trails of Easington and Kilnsea*, £6. Available from local outlets or direct from Mike Welton (01964 650265 or email mikewelton@lineone.net)

Graham Kent, David and Susan Neave. *Victoria County History, Yorkshire, East ridind, Vol IX, Great Driffield and its Townships*, Boydell & brewer 2012, £95

John Slater *Playing to the gallery*, Bijou Productions, £7.50 (DVD). Available from Tourist Information Centres in Hull and Beverley

Colin Hayfield *Thixendale Remembered Revisited*, £8.95 from Thixendale Village Shop, Sokells (Driffield), Hoppers (Malton)

Peter Tuffrey *East Yorkshire Railway Stations: From Airmyn to Yapham*, Amberley Publishing, £14.99

## Local History Meetings & Events

11 September, 2012 - *Hedon and District Local History Society*, Barry Barnes '92nd Hull Pals Brigade 1914-20, 7:30pm, Church Room, Magdalen Gate, Hedon  
15 September 2012 - *British Association for Local History* - New developments in county and local history. Details from [www.balh.co.uk](http://www.balh.co.uk) or BALH(V) PO Box 6549, Somersal Herbert, Ashbourne, DE6 5WH

20 September 2012 *Hessle Local History Society* - Margaret Farrow 'Mary Baxter of Hessle, 7:15 pm Hessle Town Hall

20 September - *Pocklington History Group* - "The Battle of Stamford Bridge" by Chris Rock of the Stamford Bridge Battle society.. The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

22 September 2012 - *British Association for Local History* - study day, Lydd Church, Kent. Details from [www.balh.co.uk](http://www.balh.co.uk) or BALH(V) PO Box 6549, Somersal Herbert, Ashbourne, DE6 5WH

29 September 2012 - *British Association for Local History* - conference, Northallerton. Details from [www.balh.co.uk](http://www.balh.co.uk) or BALH(V) PO Box 6549,

Somersal Herbert, Ashbourne, DE6 5WH

Tuesday 2 October: *Treasure House lectures* - A Potted History of Hornsea Pottery. Carol Harker is Curator of Hornsea Pottery at Hornsea Museum. Pieces of Hornsea pottery from the museum's collection will be available to view. Education room, commencing at 6.30pm. Admission £5 per event. Booking is essential, at Treasure House, Beverley or phone (01482) 392790 or online [www.eastriding.gov.uk/events](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/events).

3 October 2012 - *Cottingham Local History Society* - John Phillips – Mason's Marks in Beverley Minster. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

9 October, 2012 - *Hedon and District Local History Society*, AGM and Members' Evening, 7:30pm, Church Room, Magdalen Gate, Hedon

Sunday October 7th - *Carnegie Sunday Reminiscence session* - East Park, the continuation - with Stuart McDonald. 1:30pm, admission £1

Tuesday 9 October: *Treasure House lectures* - William Fowler of Winterton: A Georgian Architect, Builder and Engraver. Rose Nicholson is Collections Manager at North Lincolnshire Museums Service. Education room, commencing at 6.30pm. Admission £5 per event. Booking is essential, at Treasure House, Beverley or phone (01482) 392790 or online [www.eastriding.gov.uk/events](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/events).

15 October - *Hull Civic Society* - Ronni Hewer, *Discovering Yorkshire Architecture*. 7:30pm, Royal Hotel, Ferensway.

Tuesday 16 October: *Treasure House lectures* - *Discovering the East Coast: Aristocratic Tourism in Yorkshire, 1680-1832*. George Sheeran is an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Bradford. He is also a director of the People, Landscapes and Cultural Environments Research Centre (PLACE) supported by York St John University.

18 October - *Pocklington History Group* - "'750 years of Pocklington beer and brewing'" by Phil Gilbank and Andrew Sefton. Much has been learned about the Breweries of Pocklington since the History Group has been formed. We intend to update everyone on the latest findings and a short presentation on Pocklington's newest brewery, a 'Micro' brewery.. The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

18 October 2012 *Hessle Local History Society* - Mike Free 'Ancient Hessle', 7:15 pm Hessle Town Hall

Saturday 20 October: *Local and Family History Book Fair*. Treasure House, Beverley 10am to 4pm. An excellent opportunity to buy local and family history books, old and new, pamphlets and maps.

Tuesday 30 October: *Treasure House lectures* - *Farrago, the Tiled House in Hornsea*. An illustrated lecture

presented by Josie Adams. Education room, commencing at 6.30pm. Admission £5 per event. Booking is essential, at Treasure House, Beverley or phone (01482) 392790 or online [www.eastriding.gov.uk/events](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/events).

Sunday November 4th *Carnegie Sunday Reminiscence session* Evacuees in World War 2 - Jim Shaw. 1:30pm, admission £1.

Tuesday 6 November: *Treasure House lectures* - The Green Man - What is He and Where to Find Him? Presented by Bruce Skinner, local historian. Education room, commencing at 6.30pm. Admission £5 per event. Booking is essential, at Treasure House, Beverley or phone (01482) 392790 or online [www.eastriding.gov.uk/events](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/events).

7 November 2012 - *Cottingham Local History Society* - Elaine Moll – Mark Kirby's Legacy (The Stamp lecture). 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

15 November 2012 *Hessle Local History Society* - AGM, collection of subscriptions and 'gossip', 7:15 pm Hessle Town Hall

23 November - *Pocklington History Group* - "750 years of Pocklington beer and brewing" by Phil Gilbank and Andrew Sefton. Much has been learned about the Breweries of Pocklington since the History Group has been formed. We intend to update everyone on the latest findings and a short presentation on Pocklington's

newest brewery, a 'Micro' brewery. The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

5 December 2012 - *Cottingham Local History Society* Ed Dennison – Recent Archaeological Recording in the East Riding. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

9 January 2103 - *Cottingham Local History Society* David Smith – 'A Blood Stained Glove' – The Story of an East Riding Duel. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

17 January 2013 - *Pocklington History Group* - "Howden's Airship Station" by Ken Deacon.. The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

6 February 2013 - *Cottingham Local History Society* Gordon Acaster – 'Walking the Beat' – Memories of a Policeman in the Village of Sutton on Hull. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

21 February 2013 - *Pocklington History Group* - "Howden's Airship Station" by Ken Deacon. The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

6 March 2013 - *Cottingham Local History Society* Alan Richards – The History of Newland Homes. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

21 March 2013 - *Pocklington History Group* - "Yorkshire Film Archive" with some Bishop Wilton old film in addition. Bishop Wilton Village Hall at. 7.30pm. Admission £2.00

10 April 2013 - *Cottingham Local History Society* AGM and slides by Geoff Bell. 7:30pm, Red Hall, Hallgate Primary School

18 April 2013 - Pocklington History Group - "AGM and short talks" The Old Court House, George Street, Pocklington. 7.30pm. Free Admission.