

Barton upon Humber
Civic Society
NEWSLETTER 2024



1969 - 2024
Registered Charity Number 260105
www.bartoncivicsociety.co.uk

Front cover: The Old Mill, winner of the 2023 Restoration Award

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Vacant

Chairman:

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Vice Chairman:

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Chair, Environment Sub.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Annual General Meeting
7.30pm Friday 19 July 2024
Joseph Wright Hall
Wilderspin School Museum
Queen Street
Barton upon Humber**

AGENDA

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous AGM held on 21 July 2023 at the Joseph Wright Hall
4. Chair's Report
5. Environment Sub-Committee Report
6. Heritage Sub-Committee Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Election of Officer
10. Any Other Business

8.00pm St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church with Ursula Vickerton

St Augustine Webster's modern striking design dates from 1988 but this is the third Catholic church in Barton - a story which began on Priestgate in 1842.

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 21 July 2023, held in the Raikes Room, Joseph Wright Hall –

Andrew Robinson

1. Present:

Neil Jacques (Chairman), Andrew Robinson (Secretary), Liz Bennet, Jane Darwood, Sallyann Garrard-Hughes, Evelyn Pearson, Tim Woollard, Pat Bolton, Di Plumb, David Walker, Phil Bradley, Jean Bradley, Susan Johns, Benjamin Johns, Darren Stockdale, Janet Stockdale, Helen Clague, John French, Rose Jackson, Geoff Skinner, Lynn Haith, Ray Barton, Barbara Barton, Amy duBois, Ian Wolseley.

Apologies:

Rita Steadman, Ian Lawless, Tony and Vanessa Havercroft, Norman Hornsby, Tom Cave, Richard Hatfield, Tom Irvin, Nancy Hornsby, Nigel Land, Cath Holmes.

2. Minutes of the 2022 AGM:

Proposed as a true record by Sallyann Garrard-Hughes, seconded by Phil Bradley – passed unanimously.

Matters arising from the minutes: None

3. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman, Neil Jacques, referred members to his report published in the newsletter, but said his main concern was the scheme at the Transport Interchange, which, whilst welcomed, fell far short of what the Society had been led to expect. It is understood that some further investment may be made in the site, but Liz Bennet proposed that an action campaign should be instigated if this fails to materialise. This proposal was endorsed by the meeting.

4. **Environment sub-committee report:**

The previous chairman, John Womersley, had resigned, and the sub-committee is now being chaired by Ian Lawless. A summary of the group's activities during the past year had been included in the newsletter. Liz Bennet proposed a vote of thanks to Nigel Land for his campaign to have a 20 mph. zone introduced in Barton, and this was warmly endorsed by the meeting.

5. **Heritage sub-committee:**

The chairman, Ian Wolseley, referred members to his report published in the newsletter, and confirmed that the Society's archive has now been relocated to new temporary storage in Joseph Wright Hall. The annual trip to Beverley will now take place on Wednesday 9th August, meeting in Beverley at 10a.m.

6. **Treasurer's Report:**

The treasurer, Jean Bradley, referred members to her report published in the newsletter. A proposal to approve the accounts was made by Liz Bennet, seconded by John French, and was accepted unanimously.

7. **Election of Officers:**

Nominations for committee membership had been received as follows:

Chairman – Neil Jacques; Vice Chairman – none; Treasurer – Jean Bradley; Secretary – Andrew Robinson; Membership secretary – Jane Darwood.

Committee members – Sallyann Garrard-Hughes, Jane Darwood, Nigel Land, Norman Hornsby, Ian Lawless, Ian Wolseley, Liz Bennet, Phil Bradley, Cath Holmes (new), Diana Mingaye (new).

In addition, Neil Jacques proposed that Nigel Land should be made Vice President, and this was seconded by Jane Darwood.

A proposal to elect all of the above en bloc was made by Amy duBois, and seconded by Rose Jackson. This was approved unanimously.

8 **Subscriptions**

Due to increased costs as well as declining income, the Society felt that annual subscriptions should be increased from £ 10 to £ 15 per person. This was proposed by Liz Bennet, seconded by Sallyann Garrard-Hughes, and approved unanimously.

8. **Any Other Business:**

John French raised the issue of a government proposal to close down ticket offices at most railway stations, including Grimsby and Cleethorpes, and advised that a petition was being organised by the friends of the Barton Line to oppose this proposal. The meeting was in favour of this petition and members were asked to sign it after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.48p.m., and was followed by an illustrated talk on Former Industries of the Humber Bank, by Andrew Robinson

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Chair's Annual Report 2023/24

Neil Jacques [Chair, Executive Committee]

It's difficult to know where to start when reviewing a mixed year. Our three major initiatives of recent years have experienced very different results. So first, the disappointment of seeing our hopes and ambitions for the Interchange redevelopment come to no more than a bit of new tarmac and paint. We are still promised a toilet which let's hope will be built soon along with electric vehicle charging points.

Perhaps even more disappointing than the lack of ambition from North Lincolnshire Council for this major gateway to the town, is the lack of transparency about when and why it changed its minds, from supporting our ideas to building what we now see. Despite repeated questions about the plans, we were met with "wait and see" responses.

Work on the Dilapidated Buildings has been a little mixed, with most of it on hold until the new

Conservation Officer was in post last autumn. We picked it up again with a walk round the town Centre with the Council Leader and Conservation Officer in November, which gave an expectation of progress. We had our second Town Walk in early April with more promises of action, which left me feeling much more up-beat about many of the problem buildings in the town. Let's hope I can give a positive update at the AGM.

The really encouraging news and something we should celebrate is that the Neighbourhood Plan is nearing completion. Initiated by the Civic Society pre-Covid, work has progressed under the guidance of the chair of the Steering Group Veronica Pettifer. Consultants have completed much of the detail work based on views of local people and national and local planning law. More recently, the groundwork for identifying the buildings to be included in the list of Non-designated Heritage Assets was undertaken by a small group of Society members including Mark Bannister and Ursula Vickerton to whom we are most grateful. Thanks, are also due to the Town Council that has acted as the "bank" for this project, applying successfully for grants to employ the consultants, and managing the Steering Group meetings. Once North Lincolnshire Council has completed its final piece of work for the Plan, it should be ready for the formal examination by inspectors and public consultation before being put to the vote for residents' approval. Current copies of all Neighbourhood Plan Documents can be found on the Barton Town Council web site.

As always, the work of the Society could not go ahead without the support of the volunteers who make up the Executive and sub-committees. You will find the sub-committee reports elsewhere in the Newsletter. I don't normally like to single out people for special mention as we owe our thanks to all those who give up their time, but this year special mention must be made of some.

Nigel Land, who died in March, was an active member for many years and recently our Vice President and will be greatly missed. A fuller tribute to his work for the society and Barton as a whole, will be found elsewhere in this newsletter. However, I should like to record my thanks for his work on Hopper's Cycles, in acquiring much of the Brian Peeps archive for the Society to look after for public use, and helping get the Neighbourhood Plan up and running.

The Society will also miss Dr John Ball who also died earlier this year. His extensive research into Barton history was shared widely through popular lectures and publications. Again, a fuller tribute is included in the newsletter.

Jean Bradley and Sallyann Garrard -Hughes also deserve special mention. After many years as Treasurer, during which time she rationalised the various investments we have from bequests, Jean has handed over to Sallyann who has taken it on part way through the year. It is never an easy task to take on a role done so well by your predecessor, but Sallyann is in her element.

Finally, I should like to thank all who give up their time to support the work of the Society, and to you all for being members.

Environment Sub-Committee Report

Ian Lawless [Chair, Environment Sub-Committee]

The Committee consists of John French, Andrew Robinson, John Womersley, me and new members Mark Bannister, well known for his wildlife interests and his work on the local pathways and Dr. James Tannock who is involved in the local Church and the community.

Our key involvements are:

Listing and adoption of our urban and rural pathways

Clean-up of the Waterside Café area and the boatyard

Looking for reduction of speeding in the town centre

Pushing for a one-way system and a cycle lane to slow traffic, ease parking, making it safer for pedestrians

Repairs to the Beck wall requested September 2023

Pushing to have 74 Butts Road compulsory purchased.

Asking to have the exterior of the Assembly Rooms cleaned up to meet the listed buildings standards.

The Society paid a consultant to make a proposal at the interchange for better parking and better flow of the traffic, yet still no response from the Council.

In dialogue with the Environment Agency regarding flood defences for Barton
Finally, success in having our hanging baskets reinstated.

We are open to taking on any challenges in the Neighbourhood, if you need help.

Heritage Sub-Committee Report

Ian Wolseley [Chair, Heritage Sub-Committee]

The mainstay of our activities is the Lecture Programme. Audiences vary according to the variety of topics and themes and generally hover around 40-50. We are grateful to all our speakers. The afternoon talks have proved popular in the darker winter days. We've noticed new audiences generally but especially for these afternoon talks. We are planning to reschedule them as evening events next year. I'm grateful to everyone who helps me make the lecture evenings happen, especially Janet and Darren Stockdale for welcoming visitors and selling raffle tickets; Lorraine Stanley and Rose Jackson who help with refreshments; and to everyone at Wilderspin for help setting up the Joseph Wright Hall for the talks.

We have continued with training a team of tour guides to deliver our guided walks to visiting groups and to the public. If you would like to join the team of tour guides to escort visiting groups to the town, please let us know.

Major strides forward have been achieved with cataloguing the Society's Archive as part of the Barton Heritage Partnership. Caroline Edwards has done sterling work and has recruited a small group of volunteer "archivists". Again – more help is always welcome.

We would like to move forward with oral history interviewing for the Memory Bank. If this is something you think you could help with (conducting interviews and / or transcribing them) please do get in touch.

Publicity is very much a team effort, but I am especially grateful to Liz Bennet and Richard Hatfield for help with our traditional and digital marketing – especially re-vitalising the website. We have been helped this year by Natasha Back who is the Marketing Officer with the Barton Heritage Project. We have also relied more on digital marketing to members to reduce costs and be more effective.

More thanks are due to contributors to this Newsletter, and the distributors, and to Committee members who have submitted reports, and to Richard Hatfield for its design and collation.

We are, once again, grateful to Liz Bennet for making sure our Civic Society merchandise continues to be available for our public talks and at the monthly Barton Market.

The remaining talks for 2024 are:

Heritage Open Days 2024

6 - 15 September

This is the 30th year of the heritage festival and Barton will be joining Heritage Lincolnshire to celebrate how people and ideas have moved around and come together throughout history.

As part of the Barton Heritage Project a number of venues and organisations in the town are planning exciting experiences that bring local history and culture to life, for free!

Look out for the brochure.

Friday 18 October, 2pm

Henry Treece – Barton’s National Treasure

The Civic Society’s commemorative plaque at Henry Treece’s house on East Acridge simply says “Henry Treece (1911-1966) writer, teacher and poet”. He was a prolific writer (Wikipedia attributes 75 works to him, not including his contributions to magazine and journals!). His best known are his juvenile historical novels, particularly those set in the Viking Age. He published five volumes of poetry in the 1940s and his poetry was included in the anthology *The New British Poets* (1949). Treece was Senior English Master at Barton Grammar School, and he sometimes used this locality as a background for his stories.

Many people will have come across Treece through his writing, poetry or broadcasting. Others will remember him as a teacher at the Grammar School. Whatever your connection with him, or if you have yet to discover this world-famous author, David Newman begins this two-part session looking firstly at the life story of the man and his association with Barton before moving on to consider his immense cultural legacy to the nation as a writer and poet.

Friday, 8 November, 2pm

Henry VIII, His Wives and Mistresses

Married to his first wife for nearly a quarter of a century, Henry managed to get through five more in the space of only fourteen years. This is history they didn’t teach you at school!

Marilyn Roberts traces the king’s six marriages from his first as a 17-year-old in 1509 when he married his brother’s widow, to his last in 1543 when he married another widow who was already in love with someone else. We shall see why and how he went to such extremes to rid himself of unwanted spouses and the lasting effects on those who survived the ordeal.

Marilyn Roberts worked in Education for a number of years, and since the 1990s has been writing and lecturing on British history and the complexities of British Royal and Noble genealogy. Marilyn’s latest book *Queen Katherine and the Howards: a Tudor Family on the Brink of Disaster* will be published by Pen & Sword Books towards the end of the year.

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Neil Jacques installing the plaque commemorating Geoff Bryant

Treasurer's Report

Jean Bradley/Sallyann Garrard-Hughes (Honorary Treasurers)

	2022/23		2023/24		2022/23		2023/24
Income	£		£	Expenditure	£		£
Subscriptions	£1,510.00		£1,680.00	Secretarial	£65.49		£96.28
Investments	£1,789.04		£1,790.45	Subscriptions	£25.00		£5.00
Non-Member Entries	£238.00		£172.00	Insurance	£495.54		£228.98
Merchandise Sales	£109.16		£94.40	Printing Newsletter	£637.05		£592.69
Raffle	£189.50		£231.50	Room Hire	£702.50		£475.00
Refreshments	£95.36		£124.96	Annual Trip Sledmere/ Beverley	£828.00		£361.00
Annual Trip Sledmere/ Beverley	£780.00		£320.00	Ordnance Survey Renewal	£65.70		£0.00
Unrepresented cheques	£358.56		£106.00	Website	£43.16		£270.00
Donations	£585.00		£29.41	Archive Storage	£100.00		£516.66
Bus Reserve A/C transfer	£2,000.00		£0.00	Printing Leaflets	£109.50		£32.10
				Remembrance Day Wreath	£23.98		£23.98
				Speakers' Fee	£373.90		£175.00
				Plaques	£994.20		£423.50
				Leaving Gift	£48.98		£0.00
				Brian Peeps Archive Papers	£650.00		£0.00
				Raffle Prizes	£0.00		£29.87
				Beck Expenses	£2,130.00		£0.00
				Sundries	£28.56		£46.55
							£3,276.61
Excess income over expenditure							£1,272.11
	£7,654.62		£4,548.72		£7,321.56		£4,548.72
Reserves as at 31/3/24							
Current Account	£6,161.99						
Business Reserve Account	£7,835.22						
Investment Capital	£36,199.00	Value as at 27/3/24					
	£50,196.21						
Balance B/F							

Our overall financial position remains stable considering the challenges of archive storage and several increasing costs. Cost reduction initiatives include presenting plaques for extraordinary contributions, room hire reductions via some smaller meetings being held at members' homes, and a reduction in regular costs such as the Ordnance Survey renewal.

The web hosting costs were for two years with only domain name costs showing in last year's accounts. Insurance costs have reduced, mainly due to last year's figures including 2 years' payments due to renewal date changes and a modest reduction in this year's fees. We have agreed to support additional plans required for the Neighbourhood Plan with invoices of £1000 expected in due course. Room hire invoices are expected for an additional £150.00 for 2023/24. Membership figures have reduced from 165 to 146 during the year but the modest increase has provided additional welcome funding.

Good Marks [2023 / 2024]

The Good Marks scheme seeks to recognise improvements to the street scene and general care of the built environment, improvements to the natural environment and personal achievement. The award of Good Marks is confined to improvements within the Barton parish.

A Green Good Mark may be awarded in recognition of environmental improvements and for other deserving schemes which may help the environment, reduce waste etc.

Nominations are considered at each Executive Committee meeting, and a certificate is awarded to any successful projects.

Marstons Brewery - Restoration Award 2023

Restoration of The Old Mill onion cap

George Hotel

Redecoration of the exterior

Barton Cricket Club

Improved access and entrance on Marsh Lane

Norh Lincolnshire Council and contractor

The quality of resurfacing of Butts Road and efficient expedition.

17 Market Place

Sympathetic improvement to the street scene

Mark Nettleton and Sarah Atkin (Barton Athletic Club)

Establishing a parkrun in Baysgarth Park

Elm Tree House

Quality of new replacement window.

37 Fleetgate

Replacement concrete roof tiles with clay pantiles.

Pepperell's Solicitors

Renovation of the King Street premises.

Barton Banking Hub

In recognition of the new banking service now open in Barton



Gavin Barrett, Senior Project Manager at Marstons received a Good Mark from Nigel Land for the refurbishment of The Old Mill cap. February '23



Pete Storey of The George Hotel received a Good Mark from Nigel Land for the redecorating of the exterior of the building. February '23



Neil Jacques presents a Good Mark to Mairi Wingate and Mel Goddard of Barton Banking Hub



Neil Jacques presenting a Restoration Award to June Barnett, manager of The Old Mill



Good Mark presented to Kelly Lumley-Holmes for the new roof on 37 Fleetgate.



A Good Mark was awarded for the renovation of the new Pepperell's branch to Nicola Carroll, Pepperell's area branch manager and the branch staff. From Left to right – Nigel Land, Teresa Skinner, Charlotte Massey, Amy Thompson, Emma King, Sadie Brownlie & Jess Portas.

Nigel Land – An appreciation

Andrew Robinson

Nigel was a native of Boston, the son of a policeman. He was educated at Boston Grammar School, which he left at the age of 16, Poplar Technical College, and City University, London, where he studied mechanical engineering. After spending some time as a merchant seaman, he was subsequently appointed to the position of Design Engineer at the newly commissioned Conoco Oil Refinery in 1971 and decided to set up home in Barton. Nigel was able to take early retirement from Conoco in the late 1990s, and after working as a part time consultant for a year or two, then settled down to concentrate on his loves of cycling and local history.

Nigel was first elected onto the Executive Committee of the Civic Society in 2001, and the following year took on the role of Honorary Secretary. At that time I was asked to become Chairman of the Society, a position I agreed to undertake with some reluctance as I was running a business and didn't feel I would have sufficient time to do justice to the role. Nigel, however, offered to do all the "leg work" as secretary, leaving me to adopt a largely figurehead role as chairman. Nigel was as good as his word, and threw himself into several local causes during this period, including the following:

- Negotiations with North Lincolnshire Council and C.H.A.M.P. to allow the Society to continue to use 51, Fleetgate.
- In 2003, Nigel, along with John French and Rodney Clapson, saved many documents from the old Denby's Solicitor's office on Whitecross Street, and also from Hall's Barton Ropery, sorting and cleaning them so that they could be safely archived.
- Highlighting the problems of The Beck and leading discussions as to its possible improvement, including writing a comprehensive report in 2004.
- Becoming a member of the Queen Street School Preservation Trust which strove for many years to save the derelict Church School. It eventually became the Wilderspin National School Museum.

In 2004, Nigel was very prominent in the campaign to re-open Baysgarth House Museum after North Lincolnshire Council had announced its intended closure. This was eventually achieved under the auspices of C.H.A.M.P., with 30-40 volunteers, including Nigel who was a keyholder, often being called out at any time of the day or night to respond to disturbances. Nigel was also instrumental in



establishing the Barton and District History Group, which was set up to explore and research archive material in the museum, and which is still in existence today as a promoter of local history.

On 6th August 2003, Nigel and John French travelled to London to meet up with Chad Varah, arguably Barton's most famous son, to talk about his early life in Barton and his subsequent founding of The Samaritans. This was written up in the Society's newsletter in 2006.

All this intensive work, however, took its toll, and in early 2006 Nigel telephoned me to announce that he was stepping down with immediate effect from all his roles, including being secretary of the Civic Society. This was a huge blow at the time and Nigel's contribution was sorely missed.

In the meantime, however, Nigel had embarked on what was to become his most notable achievement. In the early 2000s many of us used to adjourn to The Wheatsheaf after committee meetings on a Friday evening, and it was in conversation on one of those gatherings that Geoff Bryant suggested that Nigel should write up a history of the Hopper Cycle Company in Barton. This struck a chord with Nigel, who afterwards described it as "that fateful evening" which started a project that was dominate the next decade of his life. Nigel had always been a keen

cyclist, generally cycling to work at Killingholme, and had a collection of old cycles. Combined with his experience in engineering, this placed him in an ideal position to research the history of the Company. Nigel, as one would expect, set out to do his research in a very comprehensive manner, tracking down and interviewing as many old Hopper employees as he could find over the next few years. After almost 10 years, his researches were eventually published as a hard-back book “ Elswick-Hopper of Barton-on-Humber – The Story of a Great British Cycle Maker”, in 2010. Nigel had this published at his own expense, and sold many copies over the next few years. The book ran to 284 pages and was of interest to cycle enthusiasts around the country, as well as to local people for its local history content. Nigel’s main regret was that several people he had interviewed over the years had passed away by the time the book was published.

Prior to the publication of this book, Nigel published some of his research to date in 2007, in part eight of The Later History of Barton on Humber book series, along with Geoff Bryant under the title “Bricks, Tiles and Bicycles in Barton before 1900”. Nigel also collaborated with Geoff and Stephen Wright on the publication of “ A Doctor’s War – Tom Kirk’s Diaries” in 2013.

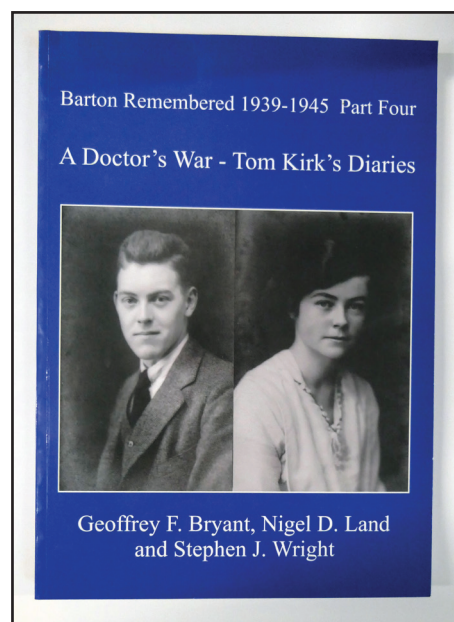
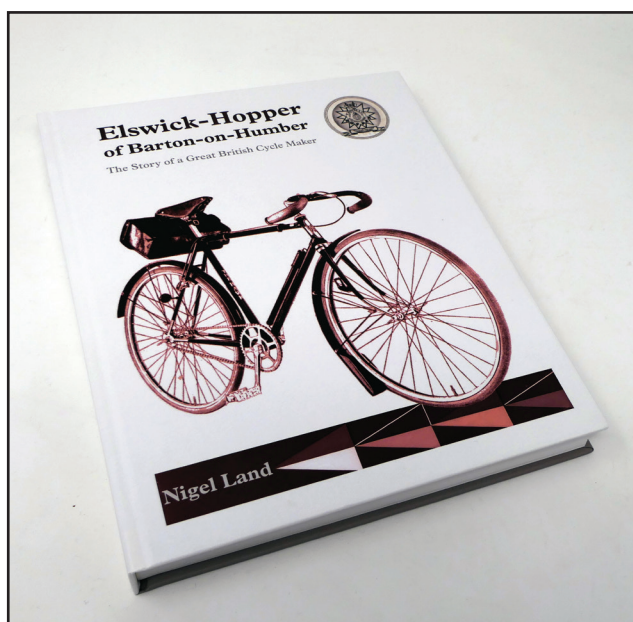
In 2016, after an absence of ten years, Nigel agreed to return to the Civic Society’s Executive Committee. By this time his focus had shifted from heritage projects to Environmental issues, and in 2017 Nigel became actively involved in the campaign to save “Top Field” from development as a Lidl superstore, which

eventually failed. He also became concerned about traffic levels on Fleetgate, and started a campaign to have a 20 mph. speed limit on that street. This was ultimately successful, being installed not just on Fleetgate, but also with the help of others around most streets in inner Barton.

Over the years Nigel had come to know Brian Peeps very well, exchanging information and photographs with Brian on many aspects of local history, not least on Hoppers. After Brian’s death in 2020, Nigel acted as an honest broker between Brian’s family and the Civic Society, gradually agreeing the purchase of many documents from Brian’s collection, which are now safely preserved in the Society’s Archive. He was also involved with Neil Jacques and Liz Bennet in sorting through Geoff Bryant’s papers after the latter’s death.

On a national note, Nigel was editor for several years of “The Boneshaker”, magazine of the Veteran Cycle Club.

In view of Nigel’s long service to the Society and to Local History it was decided in 2023 to bestow on him the Vice Presidency of Barton Civic Society, which he was pleased to accept. Shortly after this, however, Nigel started to feel unwell and was then diagnosed with heart failure which eventually led to a long stay in hospital and then to his early death. Nigel was a friendly man, often seen riding round Barton on one of his many cycles, and always finding time to chat to passers by. His contribution has been invaluable and he will be sadly missed. Our condolences go to Judi and his family.



1969 - A Tragic year for Barton:

Andrew Robinson

The year of 1969 was marked by two tragedies to hit Barton on Humber.

The first one occurred on 16th February, on the ship “Kap Arkona”, which was berthed up at the Humber jetty of Albright and Wilson Ltd., the large fertiliser factory at the north end of Maltkiln (then known as Chemical) Lane. The ship was making a regular delivery of 450 tonnes of phosphate rock from Wismar, in Germany, for use in the production of compound fertilisers, and four crew members, including the cook, had gone ashore into Barton for some recreation whilst waiting for the ship to be unloaded. On their return, however, they found that a fire had broken out in the ship’s cabin. An oil burning stove had overheated, causing a leak of toxic fumes which had knocked out the three remaining crew members, including the captain, Herr Holger Timm, aged 27. The heater then set alight, and unfortunately the three unconscious men burnt to death in the ensuing fire, which also caused considerable damage to the ship. The local fire brigade was called, but were too late to save the men. News of the tragedy spread around Barton, causing much distress in the community.

Two months after this, on the 16th April, another devastating event occurred which had an even greater impact around the town. Mr. Robert Harold Stephenson was a 70-year-old man who lived alone in a small farmhouse known as Holly Dene, situated along the A1077 Barrow Road just over the boundary in Barrow parish. Mr. Stephenson was considered to be a recluse who lived very frugally and rarely left his home, except on a Saturday when he would travel across to Hull on the ferry, to collect rents from various properties he owned in the city. He was also seen occasionally wheeling his bike around Barton where he would pick up odd items laying about on the streets. He was known to be something of a hoarder, collecting all sorts of items. One person who was a regular visitor to

his property was Ron Coupland, who delivered milk there from Prescott’s dairy. Ron’s son Peter would sometimes accompany his father on his rounds and remembers occasional glimpses inside the house when the door was answered to pay the milk bill. His abiding memory is of two rows of shelves on either side of the hallway stacked with tins of baked beans. There were also piles of books and old newspapers stacked along the walls.

On April 16th, a tenant of Mr. Stephenson, John Rigg, a farmer from Barrow, noticed that Mr. Stephenson’s chimney had not been smoking for a few days, so he called in to make sure all was well. On entering the property Mr. Rigg was shocked by what he discovered. Mr. Stephenson was battered and bruised and tied to a chair, having been savagely attacked by intruders with iron bars, six days earlier. An ambulance was called, and Mr. Stephenson was taken to Scunthorpe Hospital, but sadly died from his injuries six days later, on April 22nd. It was reported that the intruders had got away with about £ 8 in cash but had expected to find considerably more money or valuable goods, as it was rumoured that Mr. Stephenson, despite his humble life and the scruffy appearance of his property, was a wealthy man. He did in fact own about 40 acres of land in addition to several properties on both banks of the Humber.

As soon as Mr. Stephenson was discovered, an immediate police investigation was launched by Lincolnshire Police, with 20 detectives assigned to the case, under the direction of Detective Chief Superintendent Joseph Camamile, the head of the County C.I.D. Once Mr. Stephenson died, however, this immediately became a murder case and the investigation was dramatically scaled up, with a total of 120 officers now on the case, some drafted in from neighbouring forces. The Barton Courtroom on High Street was used as the headquarters for the investigation, and two hot meals were provided

daily at the Singing Kettle café on Market Lane (premises now occupied by the Sunflower Chinese takeaway and Billy’s Clip Joint), at the Police’s expense. This involved much extra work for the proprietor, Mrs. Elsie Hastings, but at that time it was one of only 2 cafes in Barton.

The Police investigation involved house to house enquiries at every household in Barton and Barrow, interviewing over 10,000 residents, and the writer can remember as an 11 year old boy being asked by a detective if he had heard anything about Mr. Stephenson. Before he died Mr. Stephenson had managed to tell the police that his 2 attackers were foreign, but subsequent reports claimed them to be of various nationalities including Irish, Scottish or Chinese!! A huge man hunt was triggered a month after the murder when a “rough looking Irishman” called at a house in Horkstow asking for food and water. Police dog handlers, guided by local farmers and gamekeepers, searched through the night in woodland around Saxby, but to no avail.

Mr. Stephenson’s funeral was held on 25th April, and he was buried in Barrow Cemetery, but after several weeks the police investigation

was scaled down and eventually closed. Mr. Stephenson’s possessions were auctioned off on 1 8th October 1970 at Brigg Corn Exchange, attended by over 500 people, such was the interest in the case. The total sum realised at the sale was in excess of £ 1000. The farmhouse was sold to Mr. Rigg in 1971 but was never inhabited and today still stands in a ruinous condition, with the rear yard now being occupied by a civil engineering business.

No one was ever charged with the murder.

1969 was not all doom and gloom though. On Sunday 26th January a celebratory church service was held in St. Mary’s Church, led by the then Archbishop of York, Dr. Donald Coggan, attended by several hundred people, and was also televised.

Barton Civic Society was founded by a group of local enthusiasts, and a lady by the name of Wendy Witter was first elected onto the then Barton Urban District Council.

Chad Varah, founder of The Samaritans and arguably Barton’s most famous son, was awarded the O.B.E.

.....

The Making of A School

‘That a School being very much required in this town.’

This was officially resolved at a meeting held on 1st April 1844. A committee was established comprising of the following people: Reverend George Uppleby (Chairman); Robert Brown (Treasurer); Bryan Hesleden (Secretary); William Hesleden Eddie; John Wilbar Lunn; James Barrick; William Robinson; William Graburn; Reverend J Sanders; Joseph Lynne Brown.

It is worthwhile to place the members of the committee within the social hierarchy of the town. George Uppleby BA, St John’s College, Cambridge, was the vicar at St Mary’s Church and lived at Bardney Hall. The Census Enumerator Book for 1851 shows that he lived at the Hall with his wife, two daughters, two house maids, a cook and a groom; a description of an upper class household. Reverend

Stephanie Codd



Bardney Hall

James Sanders BA, MA, Queens’ College, Cambridge, was the curate of the church.

Most of the remaining members of the committee were churchwardens of either St Peter’s Church or St Mary’s Church and could be described as men of substance and status: four solicitors; one surgeon; two farmers and one wine and spirit merchant. It was agreed at the meeting that the committee should meet again the following week on the 8th

April. The committee stated at that meeting: 'We the undersigned Ministers, Churchwardens and Parishioners, who have long witnessed with the deepest regret the want of some effective system upon the principles of our holy religion, and being ready to remedy this evil to the utmost of our ability contemplate the erection of a school for three hundred Boys and Girls upon the National System of Education.'

This 'National System of Education' was provided by the National Society for the Promoting of the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church which was established in 1811. The committee also acknowledged the subscriptions that had been submitted over the previous week, 'was very favourable.' It was indeed with eighty two people pledging their support within a week.

Subscribers to the School 1844 Barton residents			
Name	Occupation	Address	£. s. d.
<i>Rev George Uppleby</i>	<i>Vicar</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>40 0 0</i>
<i>Robert Brown</i>	<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>40 0 0</i>
<i>Late John Preston</i>		<i>Barton House</i>	<i>30 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Eddie</i>			<i>20 0 0</i>
<i>Mr W H Eddie</i>	<i>Surgeon</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>20 0 0</i>
<i>Mr W Graburn</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>20 0 0</i>
<i>Miss Tombleson</i>	<i>Gentry</i>	<i>Hungate</i>	<i>20 0 0</i>
<i>Edward Johnson</i>	<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Whitecross Street</i>	<i>10 10 0</i>
<i>Mr Lunn</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>10 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Richardson</i>			<i>10 0 0</i>
<i>Chas. Uppleby</i>		<i>Barrow</i>	<i>10 0 0</i>
<i>Rev Jas. Sanders</i>	<i>Curate</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>5 0 0</i>
<i>Mr J L Brown</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>5 0 0</i>
<i>Mr B Hesledon</i>	<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>5 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Palmer</i>	<i>Gentry</i>	<i>Whitecross Street</i>	<i>5 0 0</i>
<i>Miss Ping</i>	<i>Ladies School</i>	<i>Mount House</i>	<i>5 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Graburn</i>			<i>3 0 0</i>
<i>Mr John Wilkinson</i>	<i>Chief Constable & Accountant</i>	<i>Fleetgate</i>	<i>2 10 0</i>
<i>Miss Walkden</i>		<i>High Street</i>	<i>2 10 0</i>
<i>Mr Rawson</i>	<i>Land Surveyor</i>	<i>Whitecross Street</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mr James Bygott</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Silver Street</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Robert Hall</i>		<i>Prospect Place</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Swallow</i>	<i>Farmer</i>		<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Messrs Minto</i>	<i>Leather Processing Currier & Tanner</i>	<i>Fleetgate</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Rudston</i>	<i>Gent</i>	<i>Vicarage</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Fox</i>	<i>Gentry</i>	<i>Burgate</i>	<i>2 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Wright</i>	<i>Sadler</i>	<i>Market Place</i>	<i>1 1 0</i>
<i>Mr Jas Barrick</i>	<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Josh Anderton</i>	<i>Grocer & Draper</i>	<i>Market Place</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr William Robinson</i>	<i>Wine & Spirit Merchant</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Brankley</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>Grange</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Hopkin</i>	<i>Maltser</i>	<i>Waterside Road</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Ingram</i>	<i>Bankers Clerk</i>	<i>Hungate</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Abraham</i>	<i>Grocer & Draper</i>	<i>Market Place</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr Cradock</i>	<i>Boot & Shoe Maker</i>	<i>Market Place</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr J Clapson Jnr</i>	<i>Waterside Inn</i>	<i>Waterside</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mr T C Watson</i>			<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>The Late Mrs Ostler</i>	<i>Gentlewoman</i>	<i>Fleetgate</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>
<i>Mrs Tinn</i>		<i>High Street</i>	<i>1 0 0</i>

It can be seen that many people of the town agreed with the call for a National School. All of the committee members gave subscriptions with the Reverend George Uppleby and Robert Brown pledging £40 each; a sizeable amount of money in 1844. At the other end of the scale Mrs Glentworth gave two shillings and sixpence, as did Mr Burnham. Kelly's Trade Directory of 1842 lists Mr Burnham as being a bricklayer and living in Cottage Lane.

Some analysis of those who committed to subscriptions has been done by using White's Trade Directory for 1842 and Kelly's Post Office Trade Directory for 1849. Do you recognise these names? Are your descendants of those who felt that a school for the poor was important and pledged money to support the building of the school? Were they in part responsible for the building still standing today? The above relate to Barton residents only but the full list shows subscriptions pledged by a number of individuals and organisations: Her Majesty The Dowager Queen Adelaide; Her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests and The Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education. The first two suggests an interest in education of the poor across the Country and the third the role of the Anglican Church in the County. Two members of the Uppleby family who were not Barton residents gave £10 each. It would be interesting to know the connection between those who were not Barton residents and the members of the committee but that would take further research. Suffice to say that the list

shows that many people, Barton residents or not, were very quick to pledge their money to the building of the School.

The next meeting was held on the 20th April 1844 and at that meeting the committee resolved:

'That Lot 5 of the Ground in High Street to be offered for sale on Monday next be purchased if the same can be obtained including the building now standing thereon for the sum of £110.

That Mr. Sanders wait the result of the Sale on Monday Evening before he writes to the National Society.

That Mr. Sanders be requested to act with Mr Hesleden as joint Secretary.

That the Committee are of opinion that an Infant School should be established in common with the proposed National School if sufficient funds be raised to allow of it.'

The building of a National School in Barton was under way within a month of the first meeting. The School was up and running by December the same year.

The full story is documented in a display at the Wilderspin School Museum and will feature as part of the Heritage Open Days programme in September, including a re-enactment of the children's procession and laying of the foundation stone a hundred and eighty years ago.



Back to the future – the proposed National School on Queen Street (John Ball)

The excavation of St Peter's church, Barton upon Humber

Abigail Barron



As a local history student, I wanted to promote Barton's heritage. Following a fascinating visit to the town's archives I undertook research to compile the findings of the excavation of St Peter's Church in an attempt to promote our local history. Hopefully after reading the following, you will look at the church with a new-found appreciation, St Peter's is currently only open on Sundays but is definitely worth a visit.

In 1972, Barton upon Humber's Anglo-Saxon, St Peter's Church closed its doors and handed over the ecclesiastical reigns to St Mary's, but in doing so made itself the centre of a major archaeological investigation lasting from 1978 to 1984. Under the direction of Warwick Rodwell, over 2800 graves were excavated, spanning from the late 10th to the mid-19th century, and subjected to intensive research. This continues to be one of the largest excavations to be undertaken at an English parish church, providing eye-opening evidence of the past as well as providing a new level of understanding of diseases that populations globally continue to experience. Despite being fundamental in British archaeology and a major component of Barton's history, locals so often overlook the excavations. In an attempt to provide a new insight, it is important to explore why St Peter's was chosen, the findings and what the findings

suggest, before concluding that the excavation of St Peter's was a milestone that put Barton on the map.

First, it is undeniable that many people of Barton will be asking why St Peter's, why this town, but the church was actually perfect for the job. Throughout history, Barton has experienced steady environmental conditions, allowing agriculture to thrive and the area to remain relatively stable. Volume Two of the findings report stated, 'it is the stability, continuity, and even the ordinariness of the population that gives the skeletal assemblage its especial interest'. Rodwell believed that Barton, as a typical small town, provided a steady benchmark for research. The geological location of St Peter's also made it beneficial to study, a large spring-fed ditch meant that the burial area was waterlogged, allowing the skeletal remains and wooden coffins to be preserved. Ultimately, St Peter's held the ideal conditions for an archaeological investigation like this, allowing itself to be recognised as one of the most intensively studied parish churches in Britain.

The excavation provides an eye-opening glimpse into Barton's past; although the earliest people were buried at Castledyke (South) cemetery, the 2800 graves of St Peter's had a lot to reveal. It is first

important to note that although traces of substances used as pillows and such items were often found, all remains were skeletal, with one third under the age 15. It is believed that those buried later at St Peter's were wealthy and of the middle class with access to medical care, as two individuals were found to still be wearing surgical appliances. Isotopic analysis on some of the skeletons found that they were eating a healthy, varied diet of meat, vegetables, and fish. Possibly the most interesting, yet least understood finding, was the only multiple burial containing five individuals without a coffin from the early Saxon period, two adult males and three adolescents who had all been buried at the same time; the children's arms were even interlocked. It is difficult to ascertain the cause of death and their relationship to each other although it is not believed to be due to disease and more likely an accident such as a fire. However, uncoffined burials were unusual at St Peter's so maybe there is more to the story. There is a wide appreciation of the burial practices undertaken in Barton, including the use of riverine mud to contain disease, the use of stone earmuffs and charcoal but mostly the well-preserved timber coffin that was often made by recycling the wood of old ships.

Following the excavation, investigations were undertaken to determine more about the remains but also examine the link between them and Barton as a society. There were 60 scientifically dated burials; although radiocarbon dating is not precise, it provides a date within 100 years or so. The findings suggest that the toll of disease was unremarkable, and that individuals of Barton were actually fairly healthy. Although, a study on the excavated skeletons found that those who overcame health issues in childhood did so at the expense of their long-term health, countering the common idea that adults who overcame childhood illnesses had a stronger immune system and instead suggests that they had a higher chance of mortality in early adulthood. In the later period, however, the increase in males who suffered trauma was arguably due to behavioural changes experienced as a society. Ultimately, as Volume Two of the findings report states, 'Barton provided a stable environment in which to live: the population was seemingly well- or at least adequately nourished' but it is important to keep in mind that these individuals had died of something and the fact that no soft tissue survived means things could have been missed.

To conclude, St Peter's was the best choice for

the investigation due to Barton's social and environmental stability over the nine-hundred-year period. The findings suggest that locals were in fact relatively healthy and experienced little to no epidemics. The excavations of St Peter's church made Barton stand out on the archaeological map, the Anglo-Saxon church in the small town of Barton upon Humber has made a huge contribution to British archaeology and something locals should be proud of. English Heritage now run the church which continues to be an archaeological and architectural treasure where three skeletons remain on display.

Additional reading:

Mays, S., 'Curation of Human Remains at St Peter's Church, Barton-upon-Humber, England', *Curating Human Remains: Caring for the Dead in the United Kingdom*, 2013, 109-22

Rodwell, W., *St Peter's, Barton-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire: Volume 1: History, Archaeology and Architecture*. Historic England, 2011

Waldron, T., *St Peter's, Barton-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire- A Parish Church and its Community: Volume 2: The Human Remains*. Oxbow Books, 2007

Watts, R., 'Childhood Development and Adult Longevity in an Archaeological Population from Barton-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire, England', *International Journal of Paleopathology*, 3, 2, 2013, 95-104

Talks from the 2023 - 2024 Public Lecture Programme

Trinity Methodist Chapel

In October 2023 John Pullen gave us a virtual tour of this enormous church and its history, and that of the other earlier Wesleyan Methodist chapels in Barton.

The lecture has been summarised here by Ian Wolseley.



Cottage Lane Chapel, 1788

There are records of a Wesleyan Society in Barton from about 1760, which was about 21 years after John Wesley started his open-air ministry near Bristol where he built his first Methodist building called “Our New Room” in 1739.

In Barton, the Methodists did not have a room of their own at first so hired a room in a house on King Street. By 1788 they had outgrown the premises so land was purchased on Cottage Lane, and they may also have had a small meeting room at the eastern end of Newport. The first actual Methodist Chapel was erected on the Cottage Lane site – and the building still stands today. It also had a school, which was the first Methodist Day School in Barton, which continued until 1825.

Although there are records of Charles Wesley visiting and preaching at Barrow and Ulceby, there are no records of him ever preaching in Barton. He would, however, have undoubtedly used the Barton ferries to cross the Humber to Yorkshire and Hull, where there was a thriving Methodist movement.

As the Methodist movement in Barton grew, land around the corner, on Chapel Lane, was acquired and a new, much larger chapel was built in 1816 with a small cemetery to the right of the building. It is surprising



Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Chapel Lane, 1816

to note that the register showed only 46 members of which 21 were women, but this does not account for all the unregistered members. This was also the time when the Methodist Church was undergoing internal battles which led to the split between the Wesleys and the Primitives.

The opening of the new chapel was recorded in the Stamford Mercury on the 9th of October 1816: “A new chapel was opened by the Methodists at Barton upon Humber, constructed upon a plan of Waltham Street Chapel in Hull. At the opening ceremony the collection raised was £34 18s.” It was at this time that Barton became the head of the circuit taking over from Winterton.

Barton was quite a small town in the early 1800s with a population of about 3,000 and it is surprising to note that by 1830 the membership of the chapel had grown to over 200 with an additional 700 hearers who were non-members but attended the services each Sunday. From this we can see just how Methodism had taken hold in this northern part of Lincolnshire.

In 1832, Isaac Pitman was accepted on trial to be a Methodist Local Preacher while he was living in Barton. Pitman was Master of the Long’s Charity School on Queen Street from 1832 at the age of 19.



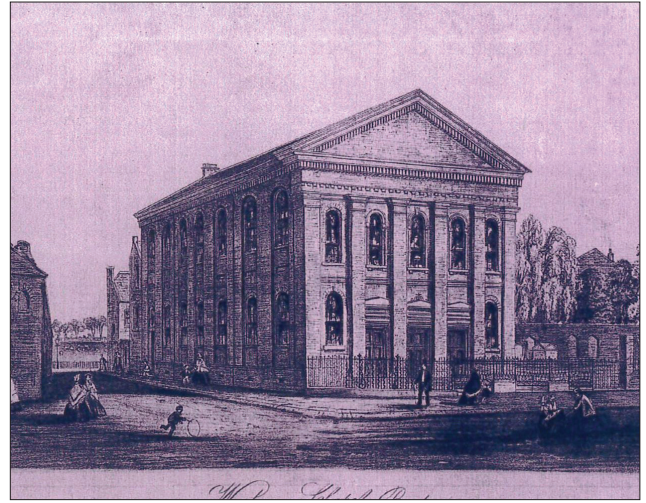
Primitive Methodist Chapel, Queen Street, 1867

He was well-known within the Temperance Society and also gave lectures on astronomy. He became a fully accredited local preacher after three years and preached in chapels in the area. It was at this time he would sit in the pews listening to the sermons and using them to practise his shorthand system. Pitman left Barton in 1836.

Numbers continued to grow and in 1840 a hall, Sunday School rooms and classrooms were added. A new organ was installed the following year.

In 1866, local landowner Thomas Tombleson gave land for a new chapel and school room on Waterside to serve its distinct community, many of whom rarely ventured up to "Top Town" centred on the Market Place. The schoolroom was also used as a Sunday School until a purpose-built Anglican school, Saint Chad's, was built.

In 1810 a new form of Methodism was born. The Primitive Methodists were established because they believed that the Wesleyans had moved away from the teachings of John Wesley. The Primitives were much more low church and appealed to the less wealthy and more working-class people of the town. The Stamford Mercury records that this new group had to hold their first meetings in the open air but it took only eight years for them to get a foothold in Barton. This could have been because the Primitives had become very active just over the river in East Yorkshire. By 1818 the Primitives were meeting in rooms on King Street which could have been the same ones used by their Wesleyan forebears in the 1760s. The Primitive's numbers grew only slowly at first and so these first premises remained adequate



Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Chapel Lane, 1861

for another twenty years. By 1838, though, a new chapel was needed and a building on Newport began to be used. Numbers did then grow rapidly requiring expansion and by 1860 yet another building was required.

Land on Queen Street was acquired and the well-known Primitive Methodist architect, Joseph Wright, was instructed to draw up plans for an impressive building to hold 600 worshippers. Foundations were laid in early 1867 and the chapel was opened later that same year at a cost of £1,500.

Methodism was so strong in the town that the three churches at Top Town, Queen Street and Waterside had four times the number of Anglican worshippers at St. Mary's, Saint Peter's and Saint Chad's. Unlike the Wesleyans, who were part of the Lincoln District, the Primitives aligned themselves to the Hull Circuit and so were in the Yorkshire District, which was one of the largest strongholds of the Primitive Methodist Church.

A Methodist school had opened on the chapel site on Cottage Lane at the same time the Anglicans opened their school on Queen Street in 1844. Following closure of the Cottage Lane building a new school was built on Maltby Lane, opened in 1867. Between 30 and 40 children attended each day, though not always the same children. In 1873, an Inspector's Report was published in the Hull Packet and East Riding Times which described the school as in "a high state of efficiency". The school closed in 1915 when the County School on Castledyke school was opened. Meanwhile, the Wesleyans were deciding what to do about their growing numbers. In 1860 the church and



Primitive Methodist Sunday School, 1914

school on Cottage Lane were demolished to make way for a 1,000-seater chapel and two houses. The chapel was in use within a year. The new vestry stood on what was the small cemetery mentioned earlier. In about 1904 the houses were demolished to make way for a new lecture hall building fronting on to Holydyke. The minister's residence was moved to Westfield Road.

Around the 1900s, the chapel on Chapel Lane had what they called a button hole brigade. This was a group of prominent men who would go out on a Sunday and canvas people in the street to attend the prayer meeting at the chapel.

In 1869, the National Children's Home was started by Thomas Stephenson. Homes for children were opened all over the country and, in 1920, Providence House in Barton was acquired from Thomas Tombleson who had earlier given land for the Waterside chapel and school. From the 1940s the Society changed its emphasis from residential care to fostering so Providence House was closed and its remaining residents moved to Harrogate. The organisation was renamed Action for Children in 1994 and the Methodist Churches continue to support its work with children.

All three Barton chapels were well attended by children and families. The Sunday Schools were very popular. Many will remember the trips to Cleethorpes for all the Sunday School children, which were organised by The Salvation Army. People still recall the longest trains ever to come to Barton Station, and

the rows of buses lined up down Queen Street and Queen's Avenue.

In 1932, the Deed of Union brought the Methodist Church back together after which all three chapels in Barton continued to worship separately. However, with falling memberships, along with other factors, the Waterside and Queen Street chapels had to close in 1959. The former continued to be used by the Boys' and Girls' Brigades until the 1990s, and the latter was bought by The Salvation Army for its Citadel which operated there between 1962 and 2017 when it opened a new building on Tofts Road.

"Trinity", the Chapel Lane church, has undergone many changes over the years. A new organ was installed requiring a change to the street elevation. The side entrance on Vestry Lane was moved in 1980. The tiered gallery was no longer used, so it was decided to lower the pulpit. Its 1,000-seat capacity made the Chapel the largest seated venue in the town and it was used by the Grammar School for their speech days. A personal memory from John Pullen's childhood is of Philip Pape, the well-known local artist and sculptor, who was a regular worshipper at the Chapel and would go there straight from working on some stone and sit upstairs for a service. He was the only person to sit in the gallery apart from the organist, and you always knew which was his seat by the dust and stone chippings, which would fall from his clothes.

Ian Wolseley

Public Programme 2023

The 2023 annual lecture programme aimed to appeal to newcomers to the town by choosing prominent buildings and places they will have noticed and which have interesting stories to tell. Now & Then talks and tours were based on surviving visible evidence as a springboard to discover the story of the town. Familiar themes, we felt, were worth revisiting for established members also. A few shorter “taster talks” or panel evenings were also included.

February

The Blow Wells of Barton and the Lincolnshire Fringe

Michael Oates explained why blow wells are a distinctive feature of the Lincolnshire landscape especially towards the Humber Estuary. Villages have grown around these water springs emerging along the Lincolnshire Wolds, and farming practices have been influenced by access to their water.

March

Local Heroes

A panel of speakers outlined the achievements of four “celebrities” with Barton connections. Trevor Millum spoke about the inventor of the marine chronometer, John Harrison; Nigel Land spoke about the founder of the Samaritans, Chad Varah, and the cycle manufacturer Fred Hopper; and Monty Martin spoke about the novelist, musician and artist Ted Lewis.

April

Humber Landscapes

Landscape historian Richard Clarke explained the geomorphology of the wider Humberside region and the changes brought about by human activity, including more recent conservation interventions.

May

Protected Areas in the UK - Past, Present and Future

Dr. Jack Hatfield examined the varied histories of protected areas like the nature reserves in Barton and around the Humber and outlined the unprecedented challenges they face.

June

Rescue and Reclamation

The landscape legacy of two local industries came under the spotlight. Stuart Garfoot illustrated how Water’s Edge Country Park was created from the reclaimed industrial land left behind by a century of

chemical and fertilizer manufacturing around Barton Haven. Simon Wellock outlined how the abandoned clay pits along the Humber bank, left behind by Barton’s brick and tile manufacturers, became the wildlife sanctuary we know as Far Ings National Nature Reserve.

July

Humber Bank Industry

Andrew Robinson described the industries that once flourished along the Humber bank and have shaped the landscapes we see today, including the manufacture of bricks and tiles, cement and chemicals.

August

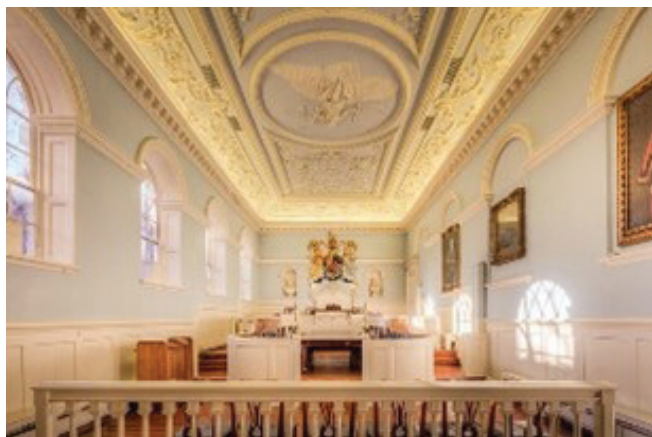
Visit to Beverley

Our visit began at the East Yorkshire Theatre where we were greeted by members of the Beverley Civic Society. The theatre is housed in a former Baptist chapel designed by architects Garside & Pennington of Pontefract and Castleford, and opened in 1910 to a congregation of 400. The building fell out of use as a religious setting in 1964 when it was handed over to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. It later became home to the East Riding Archives from 1996 to 2007. Since 2014 it has become a vibrant, professional theatre founded by actor and Beverley resident Vincent Regan and achieved through a huge community effort.



East Riding Theatre

We had an excellent guided tour of Beverley Guildhall, a Grade 1 Listed building. It was originally bought by the Beverley Town Keepers in 1501 to be used as a Guildhall, and has seen continuous civic use since. The building is still used for civic and ceremonial occasions and now also holds the Beverley Community Museum.



Beverley Guildhall

The day's programme finished with another guided tour of St. Mary's Church. Founded 900 years ago, St Mary's possesses some of the finest architecture and artwork of any parish church in England. We saw the remarkable ceiling of Kings, constellations of stars which adorn the Holy Trinity Chapel, the 700 brightly coloured and intriguing roof bosses depicting fables and stories. There was even the white rabbit, said to have inspired Alice in Wonderland. The Church is staffed by volunteer welcomers and there are guide tours and leaflet guides.

All three sites are well worth a visit tacked on to a shopping trip perhaps - and the Theatre boasts a splendid coffee shop run by volunteers, away from the crowds!

September

Made in Barton

Two conspicuous buildings associated with the manufacture of products that were household names and sold around the globe were the focus of our Heritage Open Day programme. The quarter-of-a-mile long brick building which is now The Ropewalk was once part of Hall's rope factory. Liz Bennet related the fascinating story of the building and its close ties with Hull. Nigel Land then shifted the spotlight to the building on Brigg Road, formerly the offices of cycle manufacturer Hoppers which began production in Barton in 1890 and went on to become one of the main cycle producers in the country.

Heritage Open Days

The Heritage Lincolnshire theme this year was Creativity Unwrapped so the Society celebrated the creative talents of more Local Heroes in an exhibition of work by artist, sculptor and woodcarver O. S. Boyd, Desperate Dan illustrator Ken Harrison and novelist, musician and artist Ted Lewis.

October

Church & Chapel

Kevin Booth of English Heritage returned to speak about one of the best-known Anglo-Saxon buildings - the magnificent Grade 1 listed St. Peter's Church. This was the town's former parish church and is now both an archaeological and architectural treasure trove. Then John Pullen turned our attention to the imposing Trinity Methodist Church building which replaced an earlier chapel on the site that had become too small for its growing congregation. Opened in 1861, this enormous building was the headquarters of the Methodist Circuit so had to be capable of holding very large congregations.

November

Safeguarding the Past – Shaping the Future

For over 50 years the Civic Society has tried to encourage a sense of civic pride and public interest in the good appearance of our town, its buildings and open spaces. It's part of the life of our community and has required working in partnership with individuals such as homeowners and organisations including the local councils. Helen Clague and Liz Bennet shared the pains and pitfalls of restoring Westfield House and the former Hall's rope factory respectively, and were joined by landscape and building historian Keith Miller, and Felix Mayle, North Lincolnshire Council's Environment Officer (Built Conservation).

Walks, Talks & Tours

Our guided walks programme included Victorian Barton, Barton's Heritage, and the Barton Beck and Church School.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024-2025 NOMINATIONS

Nominations for members of the Barton upon Humber Civic Society Executive Committee for 2024 – 2025 are requested.

The officers of the Society shall consist of:

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Honorary Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Distribution Secretary

The Executive Committee consists of the Officers and not more than 10 other members. Candidates shall be nominated by two Members and signify their acceptance of that nomination. Nominations may be accompanied by up to 50 words, introducing the candidate.

The closing date for nominations is one week prior to the Annual General Meeting on Friday 19 July 2024. Those unable to attend the Annual general Meeting can obtain a Postal Vote on request, to the Honorary Secretary two weeks before the Annual General Meeting.

Ballot forms will be available, if required, at the Annual General Meeting. The election of Officers shall be completed prior to the election of further Members of the Executive Committee.

Note:

The nomination form is available to download from our website:

Go to www.bartoncivicsociety.co.uk/news

or scan the QR code below

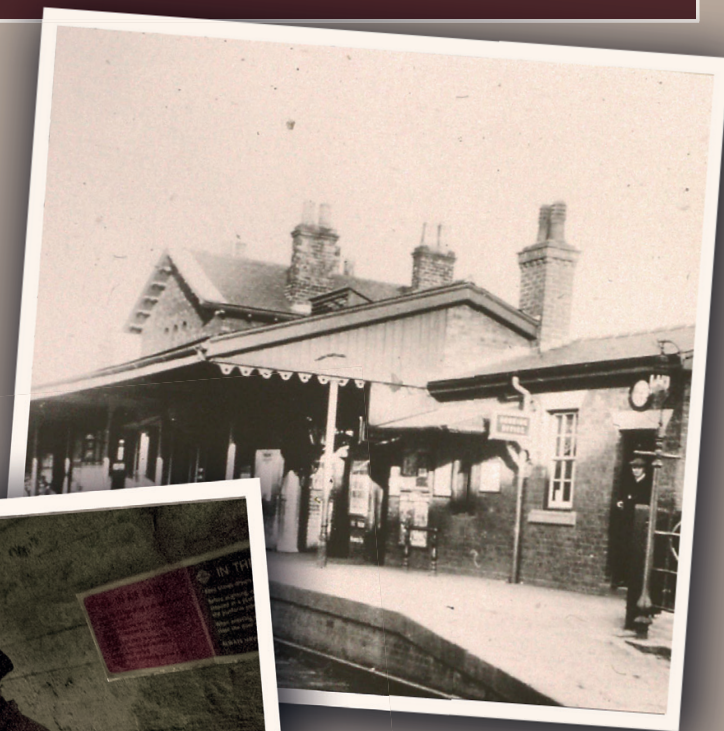


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Barton upon Humber

the market town brimming with history in the shadow of the Humber Bridge


heritage open days
September 7 - 15 2024



A full programme of talks, walks and open buildings will be available during the Heritage Open Days Festival.

For more details pick up a leaflet or go to:
www.bartoncivicsociety.co.uk/heritage-open-days/