



Interesting Times Ahead

We report on page 7 that North Yorkshire Council has progressed its work on a new Local Plan and has now produced a map which sets out which sites are in the pipeline for development over the next 15 years - a lot more housing, employment, retail and infrastructure. The map on page 7 shows the area around Harrogate where we can see that most of the new sites so far identified are outside the current boundary of the town. However, that does not mean that the town will be unaffected – far from it. Think of traffic, schools, health services, buses and so on.

At the same time, work on a Neighbourhood Plan for Harrogate continues with the good news that the Forum established by the Civic Society and others has been officially ‘designated’ as the body responsible by North Yorkshire Council. See the article on pages 5 and 6.

As we say in the article, we are entering interesting times in which the Civic Society is expected to play an important role.

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Valley Gardens, January 2025

Photo: A Fahy

We continue to seek volunteers from our membership to help with various aspects of the work of the Civic Society.

If you can help or would like to know more, please get in touch with the chairman - chair@harrogatecivicsociety.org

Please note that whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, no responsibility can be accepted should any losses be incurred. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily of the Harrogate Civic Society.
David Siddans, Editor

Brian Dunsby OBE

A tribute from Michael Newby

22 Jan 1940 - 4 Jan 2025

It was with both shock and sadness that we learnt of the death of Brian Dunsby at the beginning of January this year.

I had known Brian and Beryl for many years but more recently got to know them better through my membership of the Chamber of Commerce's management committee. He had helped to revitalise the Chamber in the early years of the millennium eventually becoming its chief executive. He was a tireless advocate for the local business community but also Harrogate as a whole. Probably one of his most significant achievements was the improvement to our rail service, the increase in the number of trains between Harrogate and York and the establishment of the direct line between Harrogate and London.

Another of his achievements was the Harrogate Christmas Market originally set up along with then Mayor Cllr John Fox. Its economic impact for the

town was estimated to be in the millions. More than £90,000 was given to good causes in Harrogate from its profits.

Recently Brian joined the Civic Society committee and along with Beryl overhauled our membership procedures.

We shall be forever grateful to him for his service to the Society.

Brian received many awards including the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion, Railfuture UK's Best Campaigner award, the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Harrogate Advertiser Business Awards and in 2017 the OBE for services to business and the community in Harrogate.

Harrogate has lost a true champion and we send our condolences to Beryl and the family.



Elizabeth Brown

A tribute from Henry Pankhurst

21 April 1936 - 23 Dec 2024

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Elizabeth Brown on 23 December 2024. She was a long-standing Civic Society member and wife of the late Ian Brown who died in 2010 and at that time Elizabeth asked that donations be given to the Civic Society to help with our 'wonderful work'. Ian did great work for the Society, in particular in easing the passage through Parliament of the 1985 Stray Act, for which we shall be ever grateful. Elizabeth was offered and accepted honorary membership. It was also decided that we would plant some trees in memory of Ian. So, in 2011, several oak trees were planted on Victoria Avenue using the donations. A ceremony of dedication was held at The Club following a walk down Victoria Avenue to view the trees.

I have kept in touch with Elizabeth over the years, most recently I went to The Manor House care home on Cornwall Road to take a Christmas card and to



possibly see her. However, she was asleep at the time. Latterly this was a frequent occurrence, so unfortunately it was best not to disturb her. On a personal note, Elizabeth was the Health Visitor when our daughter Victoria was born, which was slightly before I joined the Harrogate Civic Society (then titled simply, the Harrogate Society). Elizabeth had an easy and friendly manner in that role and obviously a very committed interest in all that it involved. In 2023, Victoria, as a nurse at Hampden House Care Home, met Elizabeth who was staying there for a short while – role reversal!

A talk to Primary School Children

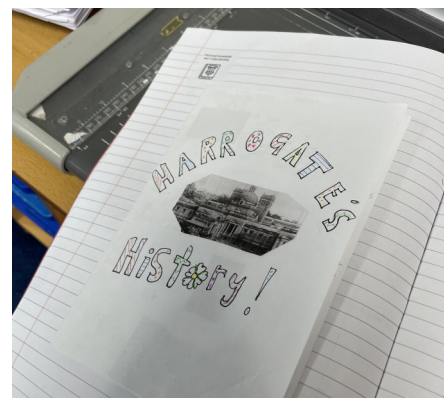
Historian, **Dr Paul Jennings**, is keen to spread the knowledge about the history of Harrogate as widely as possible, particularly with the younger generation. Here he describes his recent visit to the primary school at Marton-cum-Grafton.

On 17 October, on behalf of the Civic Society, I gave a talk to children at Marton-cum-Grafton Primary School on the history of Harrogate Spa. It is part of a project on local history, led by class teacher Lucy Scruton, and the children had already put together an impressive wall display with maps and photographs.

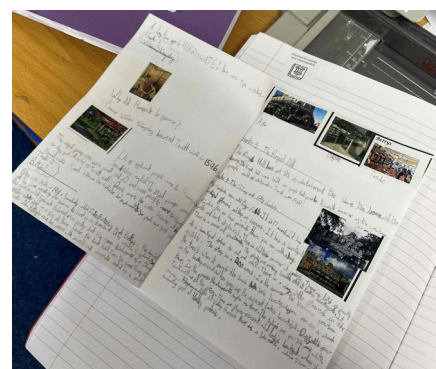
I talked about Harrogate's famous waters and the development of the town with slides of prominent buildings like the Royal Baths and the Majestic Hotel. The children seemed really enthusiastic and asked questions for nearly half an hour.

On 28 November I returned to the school to look at some examples of the children's little histories of Harrogate and chatted again about the town, especially Betty's, which many of them knew. The school also retains records going back to the 1870s and the head teacher, Mrs M L Thirlaway, gave me the opportunity to look at them as part of my ongoing research into the history of schools. The log book of 1871 to 1902 in particular was fascinating as I learned how everything stopped for the potato harvest and also of village hostility to a woman head teacher.

The visits left me heartened to see such an interest in history in a school .



Some pages from children's work
credit: Marton-cum-Grafton School



Urgent Call for Help with Events !

A significant part of our offering as a Civic Society is the events programme which aims to provide our members with a wide range of talks, visits and tours on topical, historical and informative issues relating to our town. Attendance at events has grown substantially over recent years, often reaching capacity, with waiting lists being necessary. For many years the dedicated group who initiate and organise these events has been led by committee member Angela Fahy.

For personal reasons Angela is now having to leave the group and therefore we are urgently seeking volunteers who will help us continue to deliver a diverse range of events to members (with committee support).

If you can help, we would love to hear from you. Please email the chairman on chair@harrogatecivicsociety.org



Pharaohs, Royalty and Harrogate:

A History of Ogden Jewellers over Five Generations

Angela Fahy reports on a very popular event in November

On 19 November a full house of members and guests gathered to hear Robert Ogden recount the story of his family's long involvement in the commercial, civil and cultural life of Harrogate. While the family business, established by James Robert Ogden (JRO), began as a grocers it wasn't long before James saw the opportunities in selling fine jewellery and silver tableware to the residents and visitors in the town- setting up 'The Little Diamond Shop' shop in 1893. In the first week of business a pocket watch was sold, which on the owner's death was bought back by Ogdens and is on display in the James Street shop.

The First World War and its aftermath affected many businesses. Ogden branches were closed, continuing only in Harrogate, but as economic recovery began a branch was opened on Duke Street in London, closing only in the 1980s.

With the business now well established JRO could indulge his real passion- archaeology, and in particular the study of Ancient Egypt. He corresponded with Harold Carter and the Earl of Carnarvon as they explored the pyramids, and he was invited to Egypt for the opening of Tutankhamun's tomb as his expertise in goldwork and gemstones would be relied on to study the stunning finds.

Robert Ogden, great, great grandson of the founder, James R Ogden (known as JRO)



As items from the tombs were brought to the British Museum he was also engaged to identify and value them. He also acquired various artefacts himself, which he bequeathed to Harrogate Museum and are currently at Swansea University being studied and catalogued.

The talk was illustrated throughout with many slides showing images of artefacts, original correspondence, newspaper articles and of family members. A one-second movie clip showed JRO himself at a garden party in the grounds of the Majestic Hotel to celebrate the Coronation of George VI.

We learnt of the rise in popularity in the 1920s of pearls, which at the time became more valuable than diamonds. Ogdens made one string of all-natural pearls which sold for £50,000, equivalent to £5 million in today's money. We heard of thwarted robberies and of bandits and con artists that the business had encountered and repelled over the years.

The audience was left with the broadest of insights into a most fascinating family history and business, and the Society is grateful to Robert for being so generous with his time to share the story with us.

'a full house of members and guests'



Producing a Neighbourhood Plan for Harrogate

*The work on a neighbourhood plan for Harrogate has reached a significant milestone. Here **Paul Hatherley** outlines where we are at.*

Over a year ago, representatives from Harrogate Civic Society and Zero Carbon Harrogate met to discuss a 'vision' for the town of Harrogate. There was concern about the void left by the demise of Harrogate Borough Council and the news our Harrogate District Local Plan was going to be replaced with a new countywide local plan. We soon realised that there were lots of competing visions and we needed something to bring the community together and realise a vision which would be generally accepted.

Neighbourhood planning was introduced through the Localism Act in 2011 and provides communities with direct power to develop a shared vision for their area, shaping development and growth. Neighbourhood planning provides a set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs.

Getting Support and Recognition

A neighbourhood plan was seen as a way forward - but how to do it? Months were spent meeting and sharing information with dozens of organisations and businesses across the town to gain support and we soon had over a hundred individual supporters.

A Forum was set up and organised with a committee and constitution and we applied to North Yorkshire Council for our neighbourhood area and Forum to be designated.

A neighbourhood plan will have the same statutory clout to inform planning and development as the council's local plan.

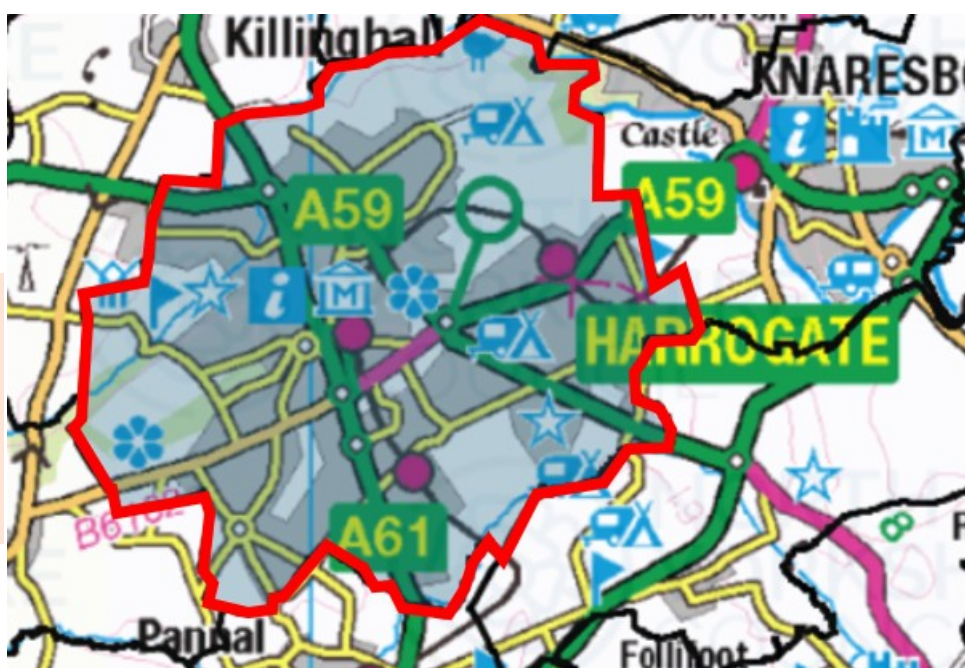
The area covered by the plan

It is an exciting time for neighbourhood planning in the town of Harrogate because designation applications have just been approved and it means the Forum is now the 'responsible body' for producing a neighbourhood plan.

Over the last few months we have held a number of Forum meetings to identify some of the planning issues which our plan could address. Topics include the economy and retail, transport and traffic and housing. We have more meetings planned to look at heritage and the built environment, the natural environment, health and well-being and finally, but not least, sustainability, climate change, adaption and mitigation.

A number of subgroups have been set up to take the analysis of planning topics further. We will then pass a package of information to the new town council in May 2025 who we will ask to take over the reins and work with us to carry out more consultations and produce a **Harrogate Town Plan**.

The Forum intends to produce a draft vision using the information gathered so far.



Producing a Neighbourhood Plan: Subgroups

We now have working groups set up to look in more detail at the three main core topics of economy, transport and housing. We need more participants to delve deeper into the issues surrounding these topics. If you are interested in joining one or more working groups please contact the respective leader of the groups as shown:

There will be more updates on these working groups over the next couple of months.

Retail and economy

David Waddington david@hornbeampark.co.uk

Transport

Jemima Parker chair@zerocarbonharrogate.org.uk

Housing

Jonathan Foggitt jonathanf@linleyandsimpson.co.uk

Current and Future Forum Meetings

Heritage & the Built Environment

This was the subject of our first Forum meeting of the year held on Wednesday 5 February at the West Park United Reformed Church. This was led by Tiffany Snowden and Ailsa Bailey. This subject is of crucial importance to future planning and the presentation and questioning demonstrated the opportunities for the town that can be brought about by careful planning. Their talk also covered our Spa Heritage without which the town would probably never have grown to what it is today.

Natural Environment

This will be the subject of our next Forum meeting on Tuesday 25 February and will be led by Jamie Duncan from the Environment Agency and George Eglese.

Health and Well-being

This covers almost every aspect of planning but we will be concentrating on recreation, open spaces, leisure, disabilities, healthcare and libraries at a meeting on Wednesday 12 March when Jan Arger, a board

member with the Council for the Protection of Rural England, will lead.

Sustainability, Climate Change, adaptation and mitigation

This will be quite a subject! Because everything we look at will have an effect on these matters, we have purposely left it to the end to conclude our series of fact finding Forum meetings. Tim Lerner, vice chair of Zero Carbon Harrogate, will lead on this on Thursday 3 April.

There are opportunities to be involved and we are looking for people who care about the future of our town or are passionate about a particular issue. You do not need to have any planning experience and your contribution can be attending just one meeting or maybe more. If you are interested in helping please email:
chair@harrogatetownplan.org

North Yorkshire Local Plan: Future Development Sites

North Yorkshire Council is preparing a new Local Plan for North Yorkshire. It will, when adopted, replace the various district plans such as the Harrogate District Local Plan. It will set out where development will take place across the county over the next 15 to 20 years. It will also set out policies and strategies that planning applications will be considered against.

This is against the background of proposed Government reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework, new targets for housing and infrastructure and other changes to the planning system.

The process started last summer. As part of that process, people have been invited to submit sites for consideration to meet the future needs of housing, employment, retail, etc. This is known as the 'Call for Sites'.

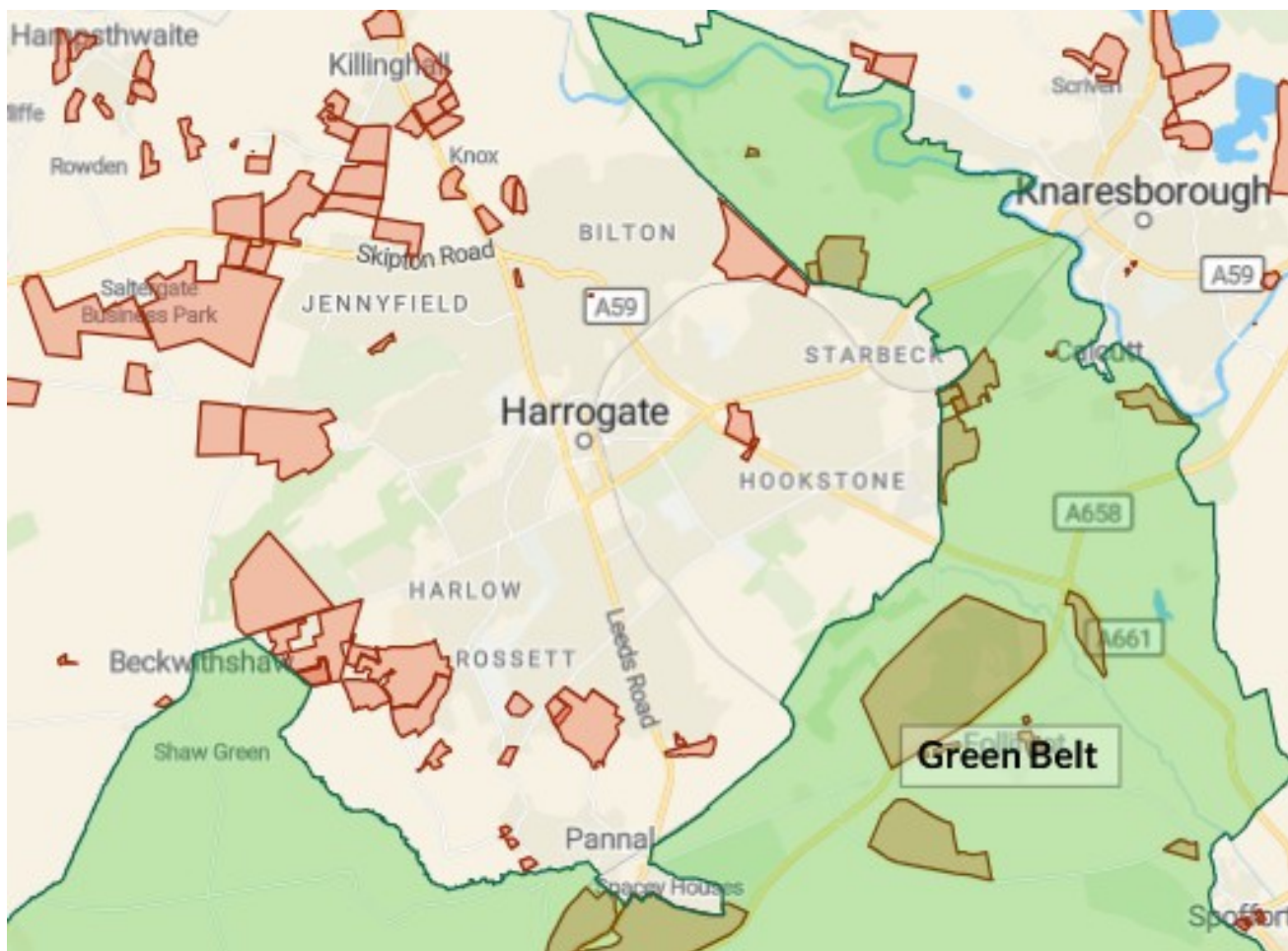
Paul Hatherley, who is leading for the Civic Society in the Neighbourhood Planning Forum, writes:

The Government's policy to increase the number of new houses nationally has meant North Yorkshire Council must find sites for considerably more homes and so they have extended the call for sites until this summer. The sites submitted so far have been published for information only at this stage. All these new homes have the potential to change the character of many settlements and will need increased services and infrastructure. We are entering interesting times in which the Civic Society is likely to play an important role.

Use this link to access a map of the proposed sites to date:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/planning-and-conservation/planning-policy/call-sites-north-yorkshire-local-plan>

An extract from the Call for Sites map



Harrogate Heritage Plaques: A Talk by Chris Dicken

On 21 January, **Chris Dicken**, chair of our plaques group, gave a presentation on Harrogate's heritage plaques to a packed audience at St Paul's church hall.



Chris took us on a captivating journey through the history of the plaques, explaining their unique characteristics, the process of creating and installing them and the diverse range of subjects they commemorate.

We learned about the importance of the plaques as a tangible representation of Harrogate's rich history and how they provide concise historical information to residents and visitors alike.

Each of the 94 plaques currently installed commemorates a significant person or place, offering a glimpse into our town's past, from our spa heritage and grand hotels to local heroes and famous visitors.

Before he joined the Civic Society, Chris began cataloguing the plaques as a hobby several years ago and developed the idea of creating a website showcasing the plaques, including a database which others could use. He put his idea to the Civic Society and the then Chair, Henry Pankhurst, welcomed the initiative, seeing it as an excellent resource and invited Chris to join the society.

Over time, the number of plaques has grown significantly and, as a result of Chris's work, we now have an excellent online resource, full of

information about each plaque, which is updated as new plaques are commissioned and installed.

This can all be seen on a dedicated Harrogate plaques website - www.harrogateplaques.org - which has interactive maps and trails. There is even an Android app for use when out and about, either for following one of the trails or getting information on individual plaques.

During the talk, Chris challenged the audience with a number of questions, the answers to which can be found on some of the town's plaques. We reproduce the quiz below, so see how many you can get right!

The stories in the plaques are a wonderful way to learn about Harrogate's history and we thank Chris for his dedication to the project and sharing his expertise with us.

Quiz questions

1. Who had an ox roast on the Stray?
2. What does Camwal Road, Starbeck stand for?
3. What happened in Crown Place in December 1835?
4. Who is the 'African Tenor'?
5. What is George Rogers' "*Emblem of Industry*"?
6. Which building features on a 1996 19p stamp?

Answers on Page 15

Subscriptions 2025

Members are reminded that subscriptions are renewable annually on 1 May each year, rather than the anniversary of joining the Society (as was the case prior to 2023). Rates are as shown opposite. New members who now join part way through the year may pay a part subscription, as detailed on the HCS website, taking them through to the following May.

May we request that any existing standing orders still based on the old rates and renewal dates (ie not May) be cancelled and new standing orders made out payable on 1 May each year. Most people have already done this (thank you!) but a few have continued as before. Any queries to info@harrogatecivicsociety.org

Annually on 1 May

<i>Individual</i>	£20
<i>Joint*</i>	£30
<i>Under 25</i>	£10

**Two people at the same address*

Notice of the 2025 Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of Harrogate Civic Society will take place on

Wednesday 2 April 2025 at

West Park United Reformed Church, West Park, Harrogate

7.30 pm with refreshments from 7 pm

Nominations for Officers and Members of the Committee shall be made in writing and signed by a proposer and seconder who are members of the Society and must be made not later than 5.00 pm on 18 March 2025.

Nominations should be sent to the Secretary c/o 108 Duchy Road, Harrogate HG1 2HB, or by email to events@harrogatecivicsociety.org

An opportunity to see the restoration work being carried out on the church and the exciting projects for its future use.

This year's AGM is being held for the first time in the West Park United Reformed Church, one of Harrogate's unique heritage buildings. This former Congregational Church was built to welcome up to 700 visitors to the town. It is being repurposed as a Community Hub providing, in addition to a new worship area, performance spaces, exhibition space, meeting rooms as well as a semi-permanent exhibition telling the Harrogate Story. See page 12 for more on the progress of the restoration.

A presentation on the West Park project will be given at 7.30 pm. The AGM will follow at about 8.00 pm and afterwards members will have the opportunity to be shown around the building and hear more about the plans.

Our Talk in May: Discovering the Walker- Neesam Archive

Danielle Little, curatorial apprentice at Harrogate Museums, has since 2023 been managing the Walker- Neesam Archive (WNA). Bequeathed to Harrogate Museums on Malcolm Neesam's passing in 2022, the WNA contains decades worth of Malcolm's collecting and research, all of which Danielle is organising and cataloguing so that it can be available for public use.

This talk will explore the way the WNA is being managed, how the WNA will be made publicly accessible, and take a look at some of the more interesting items that have been uncovered so far.

See page 16 for further details.



Some forthcoming events organised by our partner organisations

Women Winning.



FRIDAY, 7TH MARCH



2:30PM



ST PETER'S CHURCH
CAMBRIDGE ROAD,
HARROGATE

101 year-old WWII veteran, Sheila Pantin, will be sharing her inspirational life story - from her childhood as the daughter of a local businessman, to being one of the first British service women to enter a German concentration camp. She is pin-sharp and a brilliant raconteur. Even if you have heard this talk, she still has more to tell in this rich and sprawling memoir.

THIS TALK WILL LAUNCH "WOMEN WINNING", A 12-MONTH PROJECT FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025, THE AIM BEING TO BRING INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE INTO THE SPOTLIGHT.

FREE, NO BOOKING REQUIRED



Friends of
VALLEY
GARDENS

All are welcome to our
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 26 March

6 pm for 6.30 pm

St Peter's Church, Cambridge Road
in the Broscoff Hall

Please email:
fovg@friendsofvalleygardens.co.uk

Planning Matters

In his regular planning article, Henry Pankhurst looks at a few of the applications within the town centre.

We are looking forward to the **former Debenhams store** being redeveloped. As reported in the November newsletter, the current application for 34 apartments on the upper floors and commercial uses suitable for town centre – as yet unknown – would occupy the basement and ground floors. After many revisions of the plans, the proposal went before the planning committee on 28 January 2025, but a decision notice has not been issued at the time of writing.



An application came forward to fell **three trees on Station Square** in connection with the Station Parade Gateway Scheme, . We did not object to the loss of a cypress and a pine, but had hoped that a more significant lime tree would be kept. But not so. The felling works are allowed. Remember that the Tempietto has permission to be demolished. I believe that there are no plans to re-erect it elsewhere.



Strayside House at 27 West Park, formerly offices of the Stray Ferret, has latterly been used as a dog care facility – without planning consent! A retrospective application was lodged last October. We sent strong objections to the use of this town centre site as boarding kennels and, as one would expect, so did the residents of

the Prince of Wales Mansions. It is not only that the use is unsuitable for the location but a long and ugly high fence has been built where a line of parking spaces were, in order to provide a dog exercise area. This would be grassed over. Not only is there the new fence all along one side but fencing has been put against or on top of the boundary wall with the Prince of Wales Mansions. The applicant tried to justify the kennels development by claiming they were a community use, initially for daytime boarding only – except that overnight accommodation seems to be offered. I'm not sure which community would take advantage of the facility as clients from Sheffield and Manchester were mentioned in the application. So, clients might come from anywhere, not just the Harrogate community. Such an intrusive and unsuitable use on West Park would fail the Local Plan policy tests for provision of new community facilities. The application, perhaps due to an indication of its unacceptability from planning officers was withdrawn in December, but it appears that the Dog Care use continues – keep a look out! Henry's letter can be seen at www.harrogatecivicsociety.org/topics/planning-application



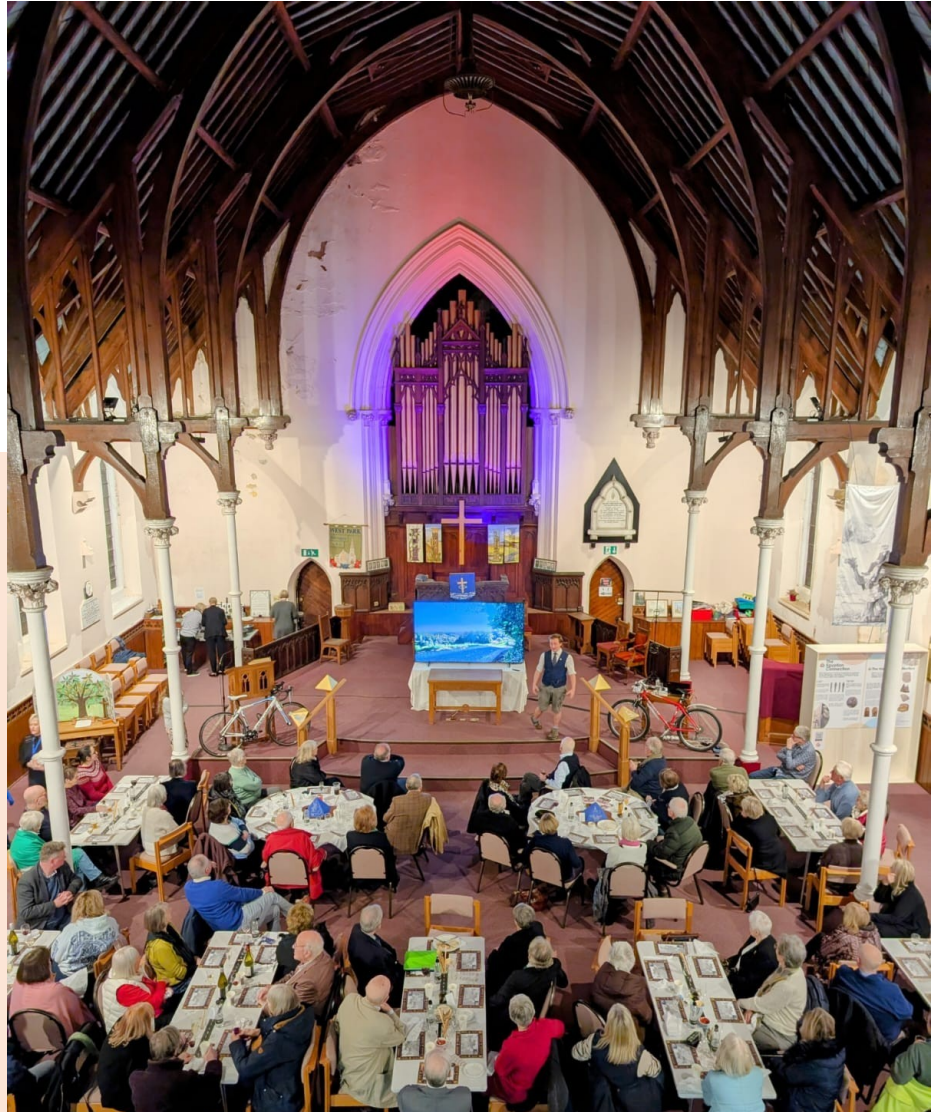
Wetherspoons occupies what used to be the Lounge Hall in the Royal Baths and the original entrance from Parliament Street of the long-gone Winter Gardens. The recent proposal is not far reaching, but as the Royal Baths is a listed building, details are important. The curved stone staircase is very handsome and additional brass handrailing is proposed, which will match an existing handrail and not be obtrusive. We are less content with the proposed glazed balustrading which would be an inelegant obtrusion above the existing stone balustrading.

West Park United Reformed Church - An Update

The project to restore, renovate and repurpose the historic West Park United Reformed Church is well under way, managed by a project team and with funds from the church and other sources. The Civic Society is happy to support the aims and objectives of the project and recently received this update from **Stuart Holland**, project director.

At end of January 2025:

- All plaster repairs above the windows have now been completed
- The Raglan Room has been completely refurbished as a committee room for 12 (at tables) with wall-mounted smart tv for use with laptop presentations
- The Victoria Room is presently being refurbished as a new worship area and a meeting hall (for up to 75 people)
- Stray View has been re-decorated and the small meeting room off Stray View refurbished



Inside the church during the talk on 1 February entitled 'Harry does Egypt' in which Harry Satloka recounted the story of his epic journey by bicycle from Harrogate to Egypt.



Work is continuing on the creation of a semi-permanent display consisting of eight high-quality display units telling the Harrogate Story.

The first of these units telling the story of Harrogate's connection with Egypt was completed in time for the talk by Harry Satloka and can be seen on the far right of the photograph.

The photograph above also shows the new 86 inch TV screen which, together with new IT infrastructure, has recently been donated by a local charity.

Harry's videos from the trip will soon be available on his YouTube channel, [Harry Does History](#). His *Free Walking Tours of Harrogate* will return in March.

Due to the success of *Harry does Egypt*, and a long waiting list of names, it is proposed to repeat the event in a few weeks' time. Provisional bookings can be made at enquiries@westparkcentre.org.uk

2024 Christmas Social

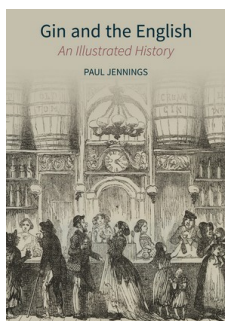


A review by Angela Fahy

Our ever popular Christmas social gathering took place in St Wilfrid's Church Hall on 15 December.

More than 70 members, old and new, enjoyed wine, mince pies and pastries. Dr Paul Jennings (member and social historian) gave an entertaining short talk on *Gin and the English*. Paul also ran the book stall, with donated books raising funds for St Michael's Hospice.

Chairman Michael Newby's few words (he showed great restraint!) highlighted the very busy and successful year that we have had, including Heritage Open Days, and thanked the members who give their time to organise events, and without whom these events would not happen.



Below: Dr Paul Jennings giving his entertaining, informative and occasionally light-hearted historical review of 'Gin and the English'

Left: Paul's new book (October 2024)



Yorkshire and Humber ACS: Annual Meeting in Harrogate

A report by **Nick Brennan**

On 25 January 2025 the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies (YHACS) convened its Annual General Meeting at the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate. Harrogate Civic Society was notably represented at the event.

Prior to the meeting, YHACS hosted a dinner where civic societies from across the region engaged in discussions on various activities and explored potential opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange among societies. Among the topics discussed was the possibility of setting up a specific North Yorkshire network to connect societies physically distanced from each other. There was considerable enthusiasm for this initiative, resulting in the first meeting of the network being announced for the 6 March. Ripon Civic Society has kindly offered to host the meeting with Harrogate Civic Society being represented.

Additionally, Harrogate Civic Society organised a presentation by one of its members, Terry Williams,

about the New Park area of Harrogate.

Terry provided an overview of the industrial heritage of New Park, formerly a small hamlet which became home to the Harrogate Gas Company. This company served High Harrogate and had a rail connection to Bilton Junction on the Leeds and Thirsk Railway. New Park was entirely independent, boasting its own schools, post office, shops and coaching inns. However, as Harrogate expanded it encroached upon the village, causing its historical significance to be largely forgotten until it was revived by Terry amongst others.

The AGM commenced with a welcoming introduction from the Chair of Harrogate Civic Society, Mike Newby. The event was well attended by civic societies from across the region.

Prizes were awarded to societies that had undertaken notable projects. In recognition of the Harrogate theme, a presentation was given by YHACS committee member, George Eglese, entitled 'Revitalising Harrogate: Reconnecting Water, Nature and Well-being in a 21st century Spa Town'.



Yorkshire and Humber
Association of Civic Societies



YHACS Friday night dinner at the Old Swan

Harrogate Civic Society has agreed to support in principle the proposed celebration of the 200 years anniversary of the Royal Bath Hospital.

Located on Cornwall Road, the original hospital, known as the Harrogate Bath Hospital operated from 1825 to 1886 when it became the Royal Bath Hospital. It finally closed in January 1994.

Expect to hear more details in the coming months.



Photo: North Yorkshire Council

Answers to Quiz on Page 8

1. Plaque XP04: Samson Fox
2. Plaque 41: CAMWAL Road - Chemists' Aerated and Mineral Waters Association Ltd
3. Plaque 07: Crown Place - the notorious attempt made by Joseph Thackwray, owner of the Crown Hotel, to divert the waters of the public sulphur spring into private control by means of the excavation of a new well.
4. Plaque 73: Thomas Rutling (Emancipated Afro-American slave)
5. Plaque 30: Rogers' Almshouses - The Beehive
6. Plaque 58: Odeon Cinema

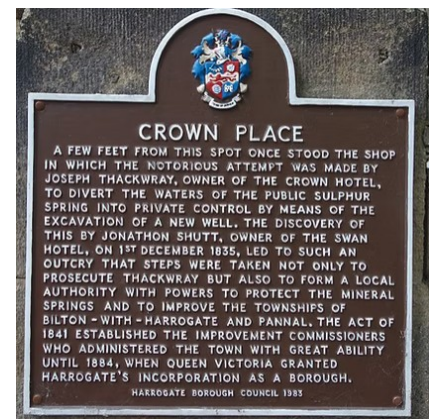
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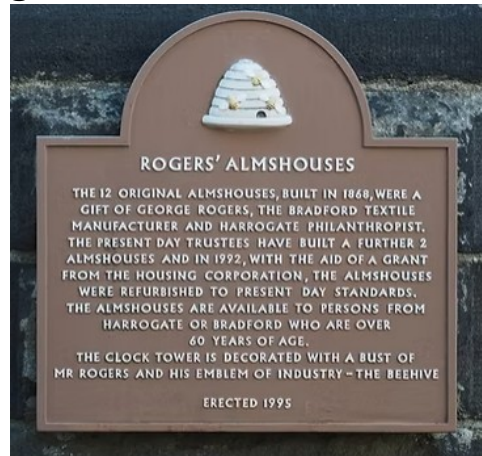
3



4



5



6



Right:

National recognition for Harrogate's plaques initiative from Civic Voice, the national charity for the civic movement in England.

8 Feb 2025

- Overview
- Civic Voice news
- Press Releases
- Media contacts
- Civic societies in the news
- National media coverage
- Civic Voice Blog

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Harrogate Civic Society

Civic voice is proud to promote Harrogate Civic Society's brand new website www.harrogateplaques.org

The Harrogate Civic Society, a recent new member to Civic Voice, have developed an extensive website showcasing the town's Brown Heritage Plaques, of which there are now 94 installed throughout the town, the majority being within a 1 mile radius of the town centre. The website includes interactive maps, with the plaques' locations marked, photographs of the plaques and their subjects and information about each plaque including precise details of where to find each one. In addition, 6 walking trails, with step-by-step directions, have been devised and copies of these can also be downloaded from the website. Finally, unveiling ceremonies for the most recent plaques and a searchable 'timeline' are also included. As new plaques are commissioned (and there are a number in progress) the website is updated and expanded.

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Keyword Search...

Twitter Updates

Follow us on Twitter: [@civic_voice](https://twitter.com/civic_voice)

Summary of Forthcoming Events

Talks are held at St Paul's Church Hall, Belford Road, unless indicated otherwise

Teas and coffees will be available from 7 pm

Tuesday 11 March 7 for 7.30 pm	Leonora Cohen OBE: A Leeds Suffragette A talk by Nicola Pullan: Assistant Curator of Social History, Leeds Museums and Abbey House Museum, Kirkstall. Leonora also ran a vegetarian boarding house in Harrogate.
Wednesday 2 April 7 for 7.30 pm	Annual General Meeting To be held at West Park United Reformed Church Including a presentation and tour of the restoration project
Tuesday 20 May 7 for 7.30 pm	Malcolm Neesam: Discovering the Historic Archive Danielle Little (Harrogate Museums) will talk about discoveries made during her work with the huge Walker-Neesam Archive, bequeathed to the town by the late Malcolm Neesam in 2022. See also page 10
Sunday 22 June 10.30 am	Undercliffe Cemetery, Bradford A guided tour, led by Dr Paul Jennings, of this historic 100 acre graveyard, now managed by Undercliffe Cemetery Charity. A donation to the charity would be welcome (£5 suggested to include tea/coffee and biscuits).

Discussions are taking place to arrange a series of talks in conjunction with the West Park URC project team. These will take place after May, mainly to be held in the newly restored West Park church (see page 12). More information will be given shortly.

Unless otherwise stated, please book by email to events@harrogatecivicsociety.org

Paying for events and membership (as applicable)

By bank transfer: Name: Harrogate Civic Society. Sort Code: 05-04-54. Account: 167 465 95

Reference: please use your name, followed by the date DDMM (day/month) of the event.

By cheque: post to Mr P Fennimore, HCS Treasurer, 9 Merryfield, Harrogate, HG2 9DH (include event)

All details are on our [website](#) and are continuously updated. Full information and reminders will be issued via the newsletter, by email and via Facebook.

Occasionally talks will be advertised to our link groups and the general public. **Events are free for members** unless otherwise stated. Early booking is recommended.

Contact us:

Chairman: Michael Newby ..	chair@harrogatecivicsociety.org
General matters	info@harrogatecivicsociety.org
Membership queries.. ..	info@harrogatecivicsociety.org
Event bookings	events@harrogatecivicsociety.org

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