

Pearson Park's early days

Vandalism in public parks is not a new phenomenon

Vandalism was a problem in the early days of Pearson Park; in May 1863 a local newspaper reported that "32 people were seen walking down Beverley Road with flowers taken from the Park".

The Parks committee met "to decide what to do." (Eastern Counties Herald 7 May 1863)

Earlier, locked gates were presenting a problem, as there were complaints from those living in the Park arriving home late to find themselves locked out and so had to ring for the park keeper to be let in! (ECH 11 December 1862)

In 1863 a Report book for offenders against the Park byelaws was instituted. Children falling in the 'serpentine lake' was another early problem, and one had "nearly drowned" (ECH 9 July 1863); this was still a problem in 1865, the sides of the lakes were very muddy

and slippery as they were of sloping grass—a fence was to be erected "a short distance from the water" (ECH 6 May 1865)

Before Prince's Avenue was laid out (in 1875) visitors to the Park insisted on trying to gain access to the park from the Victoria Bank (ie Newland Tofts Lane, later Prince's Avenue). This involved negotiating a hazardous balancing act across a nine-inch plank over the open sewer—inevitably a "decently attired woman" fell six feet into evil-smelling mud. Her husband ruined "all his best clothes" whilst trying to help her out. Demands were made for a proper bridge to be built immediately!

Christopher Ketchell
Local History Unit, Hull College

Local history

Chris Ketchell would like to hear from anyone willing to collaborate with him in a project to re-write and update the History of the Avenues and Pearson Park. Please contact Chris at the History Unit: on **598952**, or you can email: historyunit@netscape.net

Four tree sculptures

Four artists are booked to sculpt trees in the Avenues this summer. Full coverage on www.hullsangel.com

Jacky Ward Lomax in Park Avenue



Charlotte Jenner in Marlborough Avenue



James Griffiths in Victoria Avenue



Loz Wilson in Westbourne Avenue



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appranews

The newsletter of the Avenues and Pearson Park Residents Association

APPPA exists to help retain the unique character of the Avenues and Pearson Park Conservation area and to support the strong community spirit which exists in the neighbourhood

From Stephanie Wilson

APPPA Chair

Interesting, how things happen—for years we've been asking for an 'Article 4' Direction, and for smarter street furniture; suddenly, owing to reaction to a grass verge crossing, there is action on Article 4 restrictions, as you'll know from your consultation papers—I hope you've all returned them!—I'm only sorry they went out during the summer holidays when concentration is elsewhere.

Also, thanks to the Westbourne Avenue Neighbourhood Watch, there are elegant railings at the Princes Avenue junction, which certainly transform the corners, as well as protecting the flower beds. As you see below, we now have the prospect of similar railings in the other Avenues: and have been promised some posh new bins...

The local police team has applied to turn 19 Pearson Park into their office, vacating the Princes Avenue police box. The

committee is not sure that this is the right house for police use, or indeed the right location, although we would welcome a police presence in Pearson Park. We think there should be wider consultation, through the Area Committee and Ward Forum. We have made the case in the past, for 'change of use' applications to be considered at Ward level, rather than by the Planning Development Committee: and this is another example.

Railings bid for Avenues

The Committee have requested funding from the Wyke Area Office to install railings at the Princes Avenue end of all Avenues, to match those installed by Neighbourhood Watch in Westbourne Avenue (right). We should like to see railings at the Chanterlands



Avenue end, but this will be a separate bid following full consultation with representatives from the area. A short questionnaire has been set up on **AvenuesOnline** to gauge residents' views, so please visit and complete it.

Postcards of the Mermaid and of Westbourne Avenue fountain are available now from Committee, local shops and City/Tourist Information, in addition to postcards of the (original) Angel, Owls, and Cats

Living Advent Calendar 2002 - book now!

Committee member Lesley Longworth is co-ordinating our 2002 calendar. Ring her on **342516** to book your window's starting date.

Plaque for Joseph Boxhall

to be installed at 27 Westbourne Avenue. He was the Fourth Officer on the Titanic and most senior officer to survive.

Pearson Park drinking fountain: No renovation yet!
Park Avenue fountain repair
The rusty collar has been replaced — but has not been painted.

Theft of antique materials from 3a Salisbury Street (Grade II listed). Panelling, fireplace, wooden armorial shields and stained glass — irreplaceable parts of the history of the house and Hull.

Daffy Duck
The Coulson family would like to thank everyone who sent cards and best wishes after Daffy was killed.

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AvenuesOnline <http://www.avenuesonline.org.uk>
Art in the Avenues <http://www.hullsangel.com>

Avenues to benefit from city's CCTV bid

interview with MICHAEL NICHOLSON
Community Safety Officer,
Hull Citysafe

Residents may be pleased to discover that the police are planning to install CCTV cameras in the Avenues as part of their city-wide anti-crime project. The *apprANEWS* editor interviewed Michael Nicholson, Community Safety Officer, at the Guildhall headquarters of Hull Citysafe.

Who's funding the project?

"It's the result of a bid to the Home Office for a city-wide CCTV system capable of supporting up to 1,000 cameras covering the whole city. The whole project will cost about £9 million. The aim is to reduce burglary and car crime. Our analysis showed up areas where CCTV would help to tackle these issues, and The Avenues, which suffers relatively high levels of these crimes, was one of the main areas that would benefit from the cameras."

Just how effective are the cameras?

"CCTV is very good at some reducing crimes such as burglary and car crime. It is not effective in areas such as domestic violence. CCTV is not a panacea and needs to be properly implemented and used as part of a package of measures, not as the one and only measure. So Hull Citysafe will ensure that other measures are developed to complement CCTV so the crime is not displaced."

Why aren't the cameras going into the tenfoots?

"The tenfoots pose some real difficulties for us. First the difficulty of getting to them with the cameras and secondly, and by far the most important factor, is the lack of light in the tenfoots. Modern cameras can see in very little light, but in the conditions in most tenfoot areas the cameras would only see shadows. It is essential that we can identify burglars' faces if possible. Where possible the cameras will be sited so they can see down tenfoots and side roads but this is where the technical wizards come in. They will get as much coverage and try to minimise the restriction imposed on CCTV by the trees. Another, very important consideration is making sure the cameras blend into the area they are covering."

What about privacy issues?

"Some residents may be concerned about the possible intrusion of CCTV into their private gardens. The system will be operated by a responsible authority, registered with the Data Protection Registrar and must comply with the Human Rights Act regarding the right to privacy. There are several safeguards that include regular inspections by external bodies; internal auditing by appointed people and very tight procedures within the control centre.

We are currently in the tendering phase with a contract soon to be awarded. It is likely

that surveys and installation will start at the end of this year with the cameras being switched on in February or March 2003."

Neighbourhood Watch

GILL PADDOCK,
Park Avenue NW co-ordinator

Are you concerned about the safety/security of your home, property, car, person? Are you interested in actually doing something about it? Do you think a Neighbourhood Watch might be a good idea, but you don't know much about it? Are you prepared to give a little time and effort? If not, then don't read any further!

It is pretty easy to form a Watch group. All you need are some interested people, who are willing to give about an hour once a month or every two months. The hard part is keeping going—everyone wants a Watch, but only if someone else takes on the job. I have been involved in the running of the Park Avenue Watch since day one in 1988, and am now Area Co-ordinator. We do not have enough co-ordinators, and have managed since the first few years with about half the number we really need. We see what we do as a community service.

Our purpose is to encourage people to be

interested in the safety and security of their own homes and property, and that of their immediate neighbours, with a view to improving the security of the whole community in which they live.

You don't have to be a busybody, just to take note of anything which strikes you as 'not quite right', and have the motivation and confidence to take the next step of reporting it, either to the local police, or your nearest co-ordinator. So often people say they saw something happening, and didn't like the look of it, but weren't sure whether it was worth 'bothering' the police. Believe me, it is always worth 'bothering' the police, and they will be the first to tell you so. If incidents of any kind are not reported, they are not recorded, and a true picture of what is happening in an area on a daily basis will not be seen.

Our meetings, held in co-ordinators' homes every two months, are normally attended by a police officer. We exchange information, and they ask us constantly to urge people to report everything. This we do, but there is still much that goes unreported and unrecorded.

If you would like information on forming a Watch group, this is available from HANWAG, 148 Sculcoates Lane, tel: 444466, or you may wish to give me a ring on 445520, or come to one of our meetings, details available on our website:

www.beehive.thisishull.co.uk/avenuewatch

Westbourne NW

Security lights

Westbourne Avenue East's NW organised free security lights funded from Wyke Area Office. One-third of their members (36 households) requested the lights, to be installed this month.

Litter collection

Westbourne Avenue NW has arranged for litter to be collected in the Avenues on Mondays (ie post-weekend) instead of Thursday. Contact the Council on 300300 if you have complaints about litter not being collected.

NW contact: Lesley Longworth
tel 342516

Open Gardens

The Committee congratulates organiser Bob Sandham, who reports excellent results for the Avenues Open Gardens charity fund-raising event. The amount raised was **£5,300**, (see table below).

More gardens were open this year—54 compared with 43 in 2001. We also had fine weather and some good publicity from the Hull Daily Mail. Visit **AvenuesOnline** for pictures and video!

Bob is confident that the Open Gardens event contributes to the area's growing sense of community. He proposes to combine it with a tree sculpture trail next year—we should have 11 by then throughout the Avenues.

Dove House	£2,650
Red Cross	£1,000
PDSA	£650
Anthony Nolan Trust	£650
Parish in Freetown	£350
Sierra Leone	

Shredder for Avenues

Alan Tharratt, Hull Friends of the Earth

Hull Friends of the Earth are introducing a garden waste shredding service to the Avenues. The group recently purchased a chipper/shredder with the aid of a grant from the Wyke Area Committee, plus an electric milk float to collect the waste.

If you want to participate in this scheme, and help the environment, your garden waste will be collected from your house by their electric vehicle.

Householders will be asked to fill bin bags, returnable sacks or bundle garden waste together with string and attach biodegradable tags which will be available from local shops at a cost of £1.00 for a strip of 4. One tag worth 25p represents roughly one bag full. As a rough guide, a milk float full of waste will cost £10.

Information leaflets about the scheme will be supplied with the tags. The waste should be left outside where you normally leave your bin. Larger amounts of garden waste can be shredded on site by arrangement.

You will have the choice of claiming the shredded waste back for using as mulch or for composting in your own garden, otherwise it will be used as mulch on the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's community tree nursery, based at the Newland allotment site.

It is hoped that collections will begin in October.

Volunteers (with clean driving licence) are needed to drive the milk float. For more information, contact FOE on **4 9 4 5 9 8**

Shredder tags from:

THE AVENEWS
in Salisbury Street
Clements News
in Princes Avenue
Grain Wholefoods
in Newland Avenue