



## As cold water to a thirsty soul...

Fountains were introduced to Hull in the mid Nineteenth century in the form of decorative fountains in parks, gardens and boulevards; and drinking fountains given by various philanthropist local businessmen.

The Avenues and Pearson Park conservation area has (and formerly had, more) examples of these two types of fountains. Henry John Atkinson, shipbroker and councillor for Lowgate Ward, who had earlier donated two other drinking fountains, one in the base of the Wilberforce Monument and the other opposite the entrance to the Zoological Gardens on Spring Bank; "erected an elegant fountain in the park at a cost of £33" in 1864. This is the surviving, though mutilated drinking fountain in Pearson Park near the Conservatory. Now missing are the Crown which adorned the apex of the dome, and the four drinking cups "hanging down bell fashion". The fountain, which is Grade II listed, has

been restored a number of times over the last few years, but, although it was painted again last year, there is no longer a working water supply. It was made by the MacFarlane's Saracen Foundry in Glasgow, from standard design panels which could be erected in either four-sided or six-sided versions, and there are other examples surviving, in Bristol near the Clifton suspension bridge, at Cowes in the Isle of Wight and in a park in Warrington. The original design for the layout of Pearson Park, showed two drinking fountains, neither in this position, and I am unclear whether there ever were two. There was certainly a mermaid fountain (originally in the Zoological Gardens), in the circle opposite the entrance from Pearson Avenue, now removed; and of course decorative water jets in the serpentine lake, now replaced by more utilitarian versions.

The history of the six fountains in the Avenues is better known, and these were part of the original (1875) layout of the Westbourne Park Estate; one of these at least was in action at the opening of The Prince's Bank Avenue (now Prince's Avenue) in April 1875 as the newspapers reported "The band then struck

up and the fountain commenced playing..." These fountains (perhaps manufactured by the Coalbrookdale Company at Ironbridge) were supplied by King & Co, Market Place Hull, and the contractor responsible for their erection was Messrs Hebblewaite [sic] Son & Bruce. The two Prince's Avenue fountains, one at the junction of Park Grove, Blenheim Street and Prince's Avenue; the other at the entrance to the Park opposite Westbourne Avenue, were removed probably in the 1930s as a traffic hazard. The Marlborough Avenue and Victoria Avenue fountains had been removed in the 1920s, again following traffic accidents.

The two 'surviving' fountains, in Westbourne and Park Avenues, have a complicated history(!) for which we do not have room here. Look at the Hull's Angel website (*Fountain Rescue* pages) for more of this fascinating (and splashy!) story.

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AvenuesOnline  
Art in the Avenues

[www.avenuesonline.org.uk](http://www.avenuesonline.org.uk)  
[www.hullsangel.com](http://www.hullsangel.com)

# appra news

The newsletter of the Avenues and Pearson Park Residents Association

APPRA 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

APPRA Chair  
Hull Planning — a welcome change of name as far as I'm concerned — has also changed some of its practices recently, which may create a more inclusive culture; letters go out to all who respond to planning applications, telling them when the relevant planning meeting is and that they can speak at the meeting. We have prevailed on the department also to inform correspondents of the officers' recommendation, so we can all know if we should attend the meeting.

There has been sufficient concern over this winter's tree-felling programme (modest in comparison with the ravages of the past — 12

trees only) for us to invite the City's Urban Forestry Officer, Tim Beckley, to the AGM. He will explain the tree management policy of judicious felling and re-planting.

As a result of the fellings, and residents' interest in having carvings outside their houses, we now have more stumps than sculptors — so if you want to make your mark on the street scene, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Hearing about the Boulevard fountain, we requested an economy-of-scale second order for Victoria Avenue; however, the saving (in a bill of £71,000) would only have been £400 — but we have established that the change from the Park Avenue insurance money — c £17,000 — will be saved towards a new

fountain, to complete the vista. We have other ideas for the circle in Marlborough Avenue — come to the AGM to hear more!

**The AGM is on  
Wednesday, 7 May at  
7 o'clock in St Cuthbert's  
church hall,  
Marlborough Avenue.  
The committee look  
forward to seeing you  
there.**

## HELP!

Avenues historians wanted by lonely local historian. I can't write the proposed New History of the Avenues and Pearson Park on my own. Can you join me?

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## stop press

Pearson Park drinking fountain now restored. No water, though.

Railings at Chants Ave: installation has begun!

Carol Singing 2002: Avenues residents were more generous than ever — £245.50 was raised for the NSPCC. A record. Thanks to all the singers, and to Ian and Christine for their kind hospitality after the singing.

CCTV cameras will be installed at ends of Avenues only, as trees render cameras ineffective.



APPRA is reminding residents that **ALL trees** (above 75 mm diameter) are **legally protected** in our conservation area. Regulations require that anyone wishing to prune or remove a tree must first apply in writing to Hull City Council, giving a description of the tree's position in relation to buildings and other trees: and reasons for pruning or removal.

The process is not difficult and planning permission is not refused for proper and sensible management of trees. All you have to do is write to:  
*Development Control, Kingston House, Bond Street, Hull HU1 3ER*

However fines can be levied and orders made to replant if regulations are breached.  
Sally Walker, APPRA committee

## Westbourne NHS Centre

The West Hull Primary Care Trust has purchased the former Nuffield Hospital, on Westbourne Avenue. It will become the Westbourne NHS Centre, providing a range of services to the community.

- **Services for Older People:** outpatient clinics (currently in temporary accommodation at Castle Hill). Functioning by late Autumn 2003.
- **X-ray Service:** supporting outpatient services; GPs will be able to refer local people directly to this facility.
- **Car parking:** the Trust has applied for planning permission to increase car parking space on the site. They say there is the possibility of secure overnight car parking for local residents and are keen to work with the local community to minimize car parking problems.
- **Evening District Nursing base:** to be ready by

October 2003. Provides community nursing care city-wide in patients' homes from 5pm to 11pm, seven days a week.

- **GP Out of Hours Service:** local residents who need to see a GP during the night might soon be able to see the on-call GP based at the Westbourne, and receive advice and treatment if necessary.
- **CAKES service:** site catering provision for staff, patients and visitors. Also provides training in catering skills.

**NHS Good Neighbours:** the Primary Care Trust wishes to work with the local community in providing a health facility for the people in the Avenues and surrounding areas with the minimum of environmental impact.

Andrew Burnell, Director of Nursing and Operations, says, "We look forward to working with local people to find solutions to their concerns, and hope that

residents will be keen to support us in our efforts to provide this exciting facility in the Avenues."

### Gating cuts crime

Residents of gated areas in the Dukeries report that this is an effective way to cut crime. Is this the experience of Avenues schemes? We'd like to hear your views (contact numbers/email addresses on back page of this newsletter).

**The Wyke Area Office will meet half the cost of gating schemes.**

Contact Mike Tindall on **331943**.

### "Avenues of Pleasure"

Local writer Robin Horspool's book on the history of the Avenues will be launched on Friday, 16 May, 11am, at The Avenues library, Chanterlands Avenue. To reserve a place, please ring Claire Stanley on **331280**

## Open Gardens will break records again!

Bob Sandham, Open Gardens organiser, writes: "Our record breaking £5,500 last year was due to a combination of factors. More gardens open than ever of course helped, but so too did the larger number of visitors we had because of the publicity we received from Hull Daily Mail and through inclusion in the British Red Cross's "Open Gardens" booklet. We are working on ways to increase the publicity still further, and of course we are always on the lookout for new gardens, we have some promises of new openers for this year

But ticket sales are only part of the income stream. We also encourage Openers to take the opportunity to sell plants and refreshments

to the visitors, as well as jams and chutneys, honey and African crafts when they are in their garden. Last year there were at least two pavement table-top sales taking advantage of the passing traffic both of which made donations to the cause.



We applaud these non-opening money raising activities, it all helps to develop a community festival spirit on those afternoons. Open Gardens isn't just about gardens, it's about bringing people together on a sunny Sunday afternoon and showing them the advantages of living in the Avenues. Examples of non-gardening activities

include the two concerts we usually stage.

It occurs to us that there may be other Avenues residents who want to support Open Gardens but are too shy to become Openers, but would be able to help by contributing items for sale. For example, those Openers selling refreshments would welcome some homemade cakes or preserves, and those selling plants could easily add somebody else's to their own display. Perhaps there are people who simply want to lend a hand on the day but don't know who to ask."

**If you would like to get involved, you can contact Bob Sandham by email on: [robosandham@freeuk.com](mailto:robosandham@freeuk.com) or by telephone on 472014**

## Avenues Architecture Day

A lively programme of talks, walks and discussion: please come!



The APPRA committee are organising an Avenues Architecture Day. All residents are invited to discuss:

- what it means to live in a Conservation Area, and
- ways to contribute to its development while maintaining its character.

As the official voice of Avenues residents, APPRA represents our interests to Council members and officers on development issues — such as replacement of the fountains.

This Architecture Day is an opportunity for us to think about what we want the Avenues to look like, and what actions we can take ourselves.

So please come and join our discussion!

**Date:** 19 July 2003

**Venue:** Adult Education Centre  
Park Avenue

**Times:** 10 – 3

Hot+cold drinks provided, but please bring your own lunch

**To book your place contact:**  
Ian and Christine Colquhoun

**Tel:** 446125

**Email:** [noh@noh.karoo.co.uk](mailto:noh@noh.karoo.co.uk)

## Residents' housing concerns

A HOUSING FORUM funded by the Hull Community Network was held on 8 March at Duke's café/bar on Princes Avenue, to find out the concerns of Avenues residents about housing in the area. The meeting was hosted by Westbourne East Neighbourhood Watch. The funding was enough to cover all of Westbourne Avenue, but not the other three avenues, although the problems encountered are probably the same for all. Results of the meeting

(Problems and Concerns) will be compiled in a booklet by the Hull Community Network and acted on by the Council. If anyone would like a copy, please send a note to Dr Haris Livas, 36 Westbourne Avenue or phone 491785 and leave your name and address.

Concerns have been raised by blind people in the area that there are bushes in private front gardens that overhang the pavements and make walking difficult for the blind. Please try to keep gardens neatly pruned.

Dr Haris Livas (Mrs)

## Hull Friends of the Earth

garden waste collection: the scheme needs volunteer drivers for the milk float - you must be over 25 with clean driving licence.

Book a full load for £12, or pay just 25p per bin liner/bundle.

Collections: **Monday**

Contact: **07817 824418**

Get your tags for bags from:

<b>The AVENEWS</b> in Salisbury Street	<b>Foster's DIY</b> in Newland Avenue
<b>Clements News</b> in Princes Avenue	<b>Grain Wholefoods</b> in Newland Avenue