

HOW MANY JOHNS?

Many Avenues residents will perhaps be familiar with the work of the architect George Gilbert Scott junior who designed the eight houses in the Queen Anne style on the west side of Salisbury Street. These were built 1877-'9 for Scott's cousin John S. Cooper, a Hull solicitor, both of whom, were related in ways much too complicated to go into here, to the three John Scotts of St Mary's church Lowgate, commemorated in the name of the nearby pub The Three John Scotts, part of the City Exchange in the former head Post Office across the road from the church.

However perhaps fewer will be familiar with the work of another local architect named John, with Avenues connections, John Malcolm Dossor. J.M.Dossor was a JP, alderman, and listed as RIBA in 1896, FRIBA in 1914 and Dip RIBA T.P. in 1924 and York diocesan surveyor in 1937. Dossor was the architect of the surviving St. Augustine's School and Hall in Prince's Road of 1900 and probably about the same time designed the house 'Ebor Lodge' No.92 Westbourne Avenue at the corner of Salisbury Street.

He also designed The Empress public house, 1903; two cinemas, The Strand in Beverley Road (demolished) and the Kinemacolour Palace cinema, later The Regent, part of which survives as The Prince Regent public house in Anlaby Road.

Other Avenues houses by Dossor include Nos.34-40 Westbourne Avenue and possibly houses of a similar design in Victoria Avenue.

He lived for many years at No.135 Westbourne Avenue, which although not designed by him (the terrace of which it forms part dates from c1880); he did make various internal alterations including stained glass windows in fitted cupboards, and leaded glass lights in doors and dormer-windows. This style of leaded glass lights appear in all John Dossor's houses. I would welcome further light thrown on the work of architects of Avenues' houses, whether called John or not!

Christopher Ketchell
Local History Unit Hull College, James Reckitt Library, Holderness Road,
email: historyunit@netscape.net

Harvest of Talents 7-9 pm Friday 3 October St Cuthbert's Church Marlborough Avenue

Following on from the successful Art Exhibition during the Open Gardens, St Cuthbert's Church is having a Harvest of Talents to celebrate the many skills and gifts in our community. As well as an Art Exhibition there will be a rolling programme of singing, music etc together with hot drinks and home made cakes.

Please feel free to come and go as you please, admission is free. The talents are not going to be confined to the people of St Cuthbert's and if you would like to exhibit or perform at the event then please contact **John Walker** on **471110** for more details.

"Images of Hull"

Exhibition of winning photos plus the best of the rest from this Lincoln University-sponsored competition.

Spot the entry from APPRA committee member Stefan Weigert!

At the EICH Gallery, George Street [University of Lincoln campus], from 18 Oct to 19 Dec, Mon-Fri, 10-4.

You can also visit the gallery's website:

www.eichgallery.org

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appranews

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

We have painstakingly worked out, over years and changing committee members, each with their own ideas, some principles to guide us through the Planning Applications we respond to. We are, for instance, opposed on principle, to 'backland development' and 'infill'; there has recently been a proposal to build a new house in Richmond Street, in the back garden of 154 Westbourne Avenue, which offended us — and the neighbours—on both counts. I'm pleased to report that it was turned down. We are currently opposing the plan for 55 Pearson Park,

which again seems unacceptable on both counts, in a different way: this would be a mews-type development in the back garden.

A new guideline, agreed at the Architecture Day, focuses on structures in back gardens; it seems reasonable to ask that new outbuildings be positioned at the end of gardens, where they will not obtrude on neighbours. The next application for a garage, to my slight dismay, placed it on the boundary fence some way down the garden but the reasons are good, the neighbours don't object — so we showed we can be flexible as well as principled!

Do we want to show our pride in our area and clear our new flowerbeds of

accumulating rubbish? We have just discussed this, and concluded that we should first try to persuade the City to do the job more often, before committing ourselves to, say, a weekly rota. Meanwhile, *what do you think?*

stop press

Postcards of the Fairy Tree and the Friends of the Forest now available

Tree sculptures: Jacky Ward Lomax in Victoria Avenue, and James Griffiths in Westbourne Avenue

Rapid Response Rubbish Collection: phone Wyke Area Team on 331943

For **free advice** phone the Council's Tim Beckley on 615621, or Mike Ford on 615727

Hull Friends of the Earth garden waste collection Mondays: 25p per bag. Buy tags from Avenues, Clements, Grain, Foster's DIY. Ring **07817 824418** for info or to book a full load.

Book your window for our third Advent Calendar

We need 24 households to take part in our 2003 living Advent Calendar.

What does it involve? You book a starting date; create a scene on a seasonal theme in a window that can be easily seen from the street; make sure it's well lit and that the scene includes your start day number.

Then, every evening from your starting date you light the window (from 6 pm until when you go to bed).

We publish a map of the windows in the November

newsletter. To visit them on the web, go to:

www.hullsangel.com

where you can see the previous two years' Calendars as well.

To book: contact Lesley Longworth on 342516 or book your window online by visiting the AvenuesOnline website at:

www.avenuesonline.org.uk/advent

which has its own version of the Advent Calendar - so the windows are well documented!



From 2002 Calendar, on www.hullsangel.com

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AvenuesOnline www.avenuesonline.org.uk
Art in the Avenues www.hullsangel.com

Avenues Architecture Day

by Stephanie Wilson,
Chair, APPRA



© Ian Colquhoun

On Saturday, 19th July Avenues residents met in the Education Centre, Park Avenue to spend the day reflecting on their houses and their wider Conservation Area environment: a new idea, promoted by local architect Ian Colquhoun and led by him and Tony Mercer, also an architect who lives in the Avenues and practises in Hull. The idea was to highlight architectural themes and threats in the Avenues: to sharpen the eyes of residents: and to provide strong guidelines from the community voice for the future.

The day was divided into presentations, observation (groups walked the streets, with checklists, to take note, discuss and share opinions and reactions) and conclusions.

Ian Colquhoun started the day by showing slides of some Avenues houses, followed by illustrations from other places, demonstrating how well-designed houses can be spoilt by the accumulation of inappropriate modern embellishment.

Tony Mercer then spoke about appropriate materials for

"The local community through the Residents' Association can prepare its own Design Guide on the basis of these findings. Such a document would be advisory but would convey to anyone seeking to change the appearance of their house exactly what the community thinks. Local community opinion is now becoming much more important in the planning system so the City Council could not ignore the Guide when considering applications."
Ian Colquhoun

necessary modern repairs and developments; he showed a variety of roofing tiles and reflected on the superiority of natural slate over concrete imitations. Nor, he said, does slate have to be vastly more expensive than its concrete inferior. Residents learned from him, what many had not previously known, that roof timbers have to be reinforced to take the extra weight of concrete. and existing slates can be recycled when it comes to re-roofing.

He also convinced the meeting that UPVC is as unacceptable as it is ugly for our

historic houses; it is totally nonbiodegradable, but will not last in our houses as long as well-maintained timber doors and window-frames.

Some 80 people took part in the day; the APPRA committee intend to précis their views — which agree remarkably, on, for instance, UPVC: satellite dishes: and the indiscriminate spraying of weed-killer which makes barren earth of big patches on our grass verges.

We hope also to produce information for residents in a booklet called something along the lines of "How to care for your Avenues house."

APPRA HAS PRODUCED A "HOME IMPROVEMENTS OPTIONS" HELPSHEET, INSERTED WITH THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER. IT IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM AVENUESONLINE. GO TO:

www.avenuesonline.org.uk/conservation

Walking to Health

The Hull and East Riding Health Promotion Service wants volunteers for this new project, which aims to get people out of their armchairs and improve their health by walking. If you would like to lead a walk, have ideas for good places to walk or just want to know more, ring Kathy on 617826

Open Gardens 2003 raises record sums for charity!

by Bob Sandham, Open Gardens organiser

The receipts this year were the biggest ever. We have given away £7,200 to five charities.

Dove House Hospice	£3,600
British Red Cross	£1,000
Alzheimer's Society	£1,000
Amnesty International	£1,000
Ethiopiaid [Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital]	£600

We donate to these charities each year. We support the hospice because that was the reason the Avenues Open Gardens started way back in 1976, and British Red Cross because they publicise the event in their guide to Open Gardens in the north of England and so encourage visitors from out of town.

We also provide a space for Mires Beck Nursery to sell their plants, Mires Beck is a local charity set up to provide work and training experience for people with learning

Open Gardens Sundays have evolved into a wider social occasion when the community celebrates living in the Avenues.

difficulty or disability. This year they received more than £1,000 from their plant sales.

Walking around the 58 gardens that were open this year over the two weekends can be an exhausting business; therefore we encourage residents to provide refreshments where possible. One family set up an al fresco pavement café in Marlborough Avenue. St Cuthbert's in Marlborough Avenue set up their refreshment stall in front of the church. In the church itself, the pews at the west end were cleared away to make room for an art exhibition.

Some residents take advantage of the crowds that flock to the Avenues on the two

Sunday afternoons to sell such things as locally made honey, African crafts, and homemade jams and chutneys. Children set up small tabletop sales of their toys and books. In most cases a proportion of the takings is donated to the central fund.

Amongst the Avenues residents there are many with musical talents, and each year there are small choral and instrumental concerts. The tree carvings that decorate the Avenues are further examples of the talent residing in this area.

Avenues Open Gardens aims to be as inclusive as possible — the organisers positively encourage gardeners still working towards their perfect garden to participate. An incomplete "work in progress" garden is easy to relate to for the average gardener.

The organisers are already turning their minds to Open Gardens 2004 (4 and 11 July) and would like to hear from anybody in the Avenues area who would like to be involved in this very successful venture, or has suggestions as to how even larger sums can be raised next year.

Please contact them. By email: opengardens@avenuesonline.org.uk or by phone: **472014** (Bob & Rose Sandham), or **447747** (Paul Dodsworth & Debbie Cook).



Visit AvenuesOnline for pictures video and audio of our Open Gardens. The web address is:

www.avenuesonline.org.uk/gardens

Pearson Park needs friends

by Haris Livas and Susan Harr



photo: Susan Harr

We would like to set up a "Friends of Pearson Park" group since it seems the Council has no intention of so doing in spite of our repeated urgings.

Would all those interested in joining such a group please drop a brief note with your contact details to Haris' home at **36 Westbourne Avenue**, since Susan is in the throes of moving house.

We will then contact you with the date and place of the first meeting which we hope to schedule around mid-November.