



APPRA news

APPRA exists to help retain the unique character of the Avenues and Pearson Park conservation area and to support the neighbourhood's strong community spirit

How well do you know your Avenues and Pearson Park?

Part 2 of Christopher Ketchell's 2-part Quiz

Answers to Part Two will appear in the next issue of APPRAnews

Christopher Ketchell

"Living in the Past"

Tel (01482) 346125

Prizes for 1st 3 all-correct entries

My Question	Your answer
11 Who is the sculptor of the statue of Queen Victoria in Pearson Park?	a) W D Keyworth b) Kevin Storch c) Thomas Earle
12 The name of the now filled-in drain between Ella Street and Victoria Avenue was?	a) Cottingham Drain b) Setting Dyke c) Salt Ings Dyke d) Derringham Dike
13 The Westbourne Avenue & Park Avenue fountains were restored in 1975 for?	a) The Civic Trust b) European Architectural Heritage Year c) Hull Civic Society
14 In the Middle Ages the area now occupied by The Avenues and The Dukeries was known as?	a) Ewelands b) Newland Tofts c) Chanter Lands d) Newland
15 What inaugural meeting took place on 12 April 1970?	
16 Who lived at No 32 Pearson Park from 1956 to 1974	a) Amy Johnson b) Ian Carmichael c) Philip Larkin d) Dorothy L Sayers
17 The Industrial School For Girls, in Park Avenue, now The Avenues Centre, was opened in which year?	a) 1878 b) 1888 c) 1898 d) 1908
18 The first Avenues Open Gardens Day was held in which year? (extra points for the precise date!)	a) 1976 b) 1974 c) 1966
19 What opened on 6 March 1906?	a) Prince's Avenue Wesleyan Methodist church b) St Ninian's church c) St Cuthbert's church
20 How many café bars, restaurants, pubs are there on Princes Avenue? Count quick, the number changes weekly	

Neighbourhood Fix-It is a site which makes it as easy as possible for citizens across Britain to report local problems like fly tipping, broken lights, and graffiti, whilst opening the problems up to browsing and public discussion of solutions. Councils across the UK do an excellent job of fixing local problems when they're reported by citizens. However, the model for handling the information is a system of doctor-patient style confidentiality. A citizen who makes a report normally knows about a problem, and so does the council, but there is no general public way of finding out what has been reported or fixed. Given that the nature of public problems being reported is that they are public, this seems a strange situation. **Neighbourhood Fix-It** opens up and democratises the process of discovering and reporting problems, so people can see **what other reports have been filed locally** using the site — possibly saving the council effort from multiple identical reports—and can leave extra feedback and comments on the problems if they see fit."

Matthew Somerville MySociety.com

<http://www.neighbourhoodfixit.com/>

Answers to Christopher Ketchell's Quiz Part 1	
1 c) 1983	6 c) Cottingham
2 d) Zachariah Charles Pearson	7 b) MacFarlane's Saracen Foundry, Glasgow
3 b) 1875	8 b) 1974
4 c) six	9 c) George Gilbert Scott Jr
5 b) Sculcoates	10 b) 1974

Repair & Renovation Services

Total Window Repair and Renovation
Period Windows: tel 222231
Ventrolla Ltd: tel: 01423 859323

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Brian Parkinson c/o Dairycoates Timber Supply Ltd, 602 Hesse Road: tel 329570
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L A Hall (Hull Ltd) Roofing Contractors
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Hull HU8 7AB
Tel - 320367
e-mail: info@lahalltd.karoo.co.uk

Staircases
The Woodcraftsman: tel 07896 753861

Get quotations as prices can vary quite a lot

This list is now published in more detail as an insert in the Design Guide, delivered to you in Jan/Feb 2007. It should also be available on the APPRA website

Design: hullsangel.org Printed by: Scribes Print & Copy Centres 54 Newland Avenue Hull Tel (01482) 341927

APPRA AGM

**Mon 14 May
7.30 pm**

**St Cuthbert's Hall
Marlborough Avenue**

Know your trees

We can all recognise a chestnut tree...can't we? But what about a lime, or a field maple, a red ash or a Turkish hazel?

We're delighted to announce that Tim Beckley of Urban Forestry has very kindly offered to conduct 4 **evening walking tours** around The Avenues and Pearson Park with a view to providing residents with information on the old and new trees. Tim is expert in his field and this promises to be both enjoyable and educational.

The dates are:
Tues 5 June, Wed 6 June
Tues 3 July, Wed 4 July

If you are interested, please contact **Sally Walker** (see back page for contact details) to give her your preferred dates. If there are too few people, the walk will not be able to take place.



From left to right: Anne Crick, Lesley Longworth, Dr Haris Livas-Dawes, Pearl Williamson

Award for Westbourne East Neighbourhood Watch

In a formal ceremony in Leeds, Westbourne East Neighbourhood Watch was presented with the prestigious Duke of York's Community Initiative Award. Organizer Dr Haris Livas-Dawes accepted the award on behalf of the group. The audience could inspect the group's achievements at the reception which followed the ceremony where Westbourne East had a stand.

Winning the Community Initiative Award means a very rigorous vetting process done by assessors, when all aspects of the group's activities are inspected. In its four years of existence Westbourne East has accomplished 16 separate projects, each detailed in its own notebook. These activities include anti-crime, education, health, culture, the environment and community parties. Dr. Livas-Dawes says: "Our motto is increasing neighbourliness in our local community. We are a Neighbourhood Watch group, but we believe that inspiring a sense of neighbourliness is the best protection against crime, thus our many activities in so many fields. We have something for everyone."

Chair's report April 2007

Distributing the Design Guide was our New Year task; we chose to do it every Sunday morning in January until we'd finished, and I insisted that we hand it personally to residents, in order that it didn't get confused with all the unsolicited advertising that comes through our letter-boxes. This turned out to be a mistake. Starting in Marlborough Avenue, we put notes through the doors of residents who were out, telling them whence to collect their Guides—but insignificant numbers responded. So in subsequent Avenues, we posted them straightaway, if residents were not in—and from the many favourable responses, I realise that I was quite wrong to fear an instant binning for our publication. Thanks to all of you who expressed appreciation—and to the cheerful teams who turned out to deliver. Thanks most of all, of course, to the two architects who did the wonderful work; and to Sally Walker, who, in the words of Ian Colquhoun, 'pushed us along and kept us going'.

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APPRA Contacts	Tel	Fax	Email	Post	
Chair	Stephanie Wilson	493037	chair@avenuesonline.org.uk	48 Marlborough Avenue HU5 3JS	
Secretary	Adrian Crummay	445272	445272	secretary@avenuesonline.org.uk	66 Westbourne Avenue HU5 3HS
Newsletter	Chrys Bavey	471349	471349	news@hullsangel.org	50 Marlborough Avenue HU5 3JS
Verges	Sally Walker	447558		sally@lobster.karoo.co.uk	214 Westbourne Avenue HU5 3JB

WEBSITES

APPRA online	www.avenuesonline.org.uk	news + pictures of all Avenues events incl Open Gardens; info on Conservation, planning matters; APPRA committee minutes; back issues of APPRA newsletters, and much more...
Art in the Avenues	www.hullsangel.org	complete record of tree sculptures; fountain rescue; Advent Calendars



**Sunday 1 July and
Sunday 8 July, 1-5 pm**

The State of the Verges

It is depressing to see how much damage has been inflicted over the winter — all of it caused by thoughtless driving. Although there seems to be no way of preventing drivers from routinely rolling forward over the low kerbs, instead of backing carefully into a parking space, **there are some things residents can do** about certain types of damage:

- 1 Report damage made by company and contractors' vehicles to **Sally Walker**. A photograph is needed, with details of where, registration number, name of company, time and date. Sally then reports this to Highways who prevail upon the perpetrator to repair the damage. The cost falls to the perpetrator.
- 2 Report damage made by Utilities (eg TRANSCO) to Sally also. For this, a photograph is less essential as Highways know where the work was being carried out, and by whom.
- 3 Report damage made by council vehicles directly to the Council's

Well-Driven Scheme on 300300. The scheme is used to monitor the driving standards of the individual council employee and this includes not damaging verges which are an amenity provided by the Council. All reports are passed to the Fleet and Engineering Department who request the relevant department to investigate the report. All callers should receive a response within 14 working days.

- 4 Remind your builders and skip deliverers, in advance of their arrival, not to drive on the verge at all.
- 5 Put leaflets on cars who are parked on the verges (usually with 2 wheels up) to remind them that it is not only an offence but also damaging to a community amenity. We have been using our own leaflets which remind drivers that parking on verges is against the Kingston upon Hull Act 1984, section 25 (notices are displayed on posts along the roadside), but we will now be using ones produced by Hull City Council for use city-wide.

To acquire leaflets, please contact Sally (See page 4).

Some hope for the future?

- ✓ Wyke Area Committee and Highways are pursuing on our behalf a pilot scheme to levy a fixed penalty fine on verge

parkers. This will be a long process as it entails permission from the Department of Transport. At the moment it is only just going to Cabinet at HCC.

- ✓ The Community Initiatives Budget gave us funding for the widening of the street entrances to badly damaged tenfoots. There has been delay in carrying out this work.
- ✓ The Community Initiatives Budget has also given us funding to raise kerbs in original Yorkstone on the western side of Salisbury Street between Westbourne and Park Avenue. This work is in the pipeline.
- ✓ There is some money (also from a bid by APPRA to the Community Initiatives Budget) to re-turf some badly-rutted verge edges. Nothing like enough to deal with all the ruts, as these increase all the time. Originally we had made a bid to re-seed the damaged edges of verges but, on observing the appalling habits of motorists, we realised that re-seeding would not work as the new soft soil would just be eroded more than ever. Thus fewer ruts can be repaired as turf is much more costly than seed.
- ✓ What we really need, as so many of you say, is all the kerbs to be raised. **Does anyone have any ideas about where to find the huge amount of money required?**

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There has been one criticism only—of a photograph identifying a front fence which contravenes Conservation Area rules; we thought this justifiable, since the rules are clear. From the very beginning of the project, we were determined that no home would be identified to its detriment; consequently, all the trends we are seeking to reverse are illustrated with drawings. It seems as if the basic celebratory intent of the Guide has pleased an audience beyond the Avenues; for instance, I recently sold a copy to a young friend who wants to convince her friends in the south that she didn't grow up in a northern slum: that Hull doesn't deserve the easy sneers it fields. We hope that the further purpose—to persuade residents of the merits of traditional design and materials, and deflect them from the unecological and unsuitable modern substitutes—will be realised and understood.

We have extra copies for sale: they cost £5. Available from Stephanie Wilson, Panache on Chanterlands Avenue and Clements News on Princes Avenue.

I get tired I can also sit out and have a cappuccino in one of the excellent cafés and watch the world go by. The well-stocked ethnic and speciality food shops allow every culinary need to be satisfied.

In short, my feeling is that local shopping rather than being a thing of the past is set to become the thing to do in the future.

Next time you get the urge to drive to the supermarket, treat yourself, leave your car at home, get out into the fresh air and do some local shopping.

Tony Mercer



What do readers think about local shopping in Princes, Newland and Chanterlands Avenues? Send your emails and/or letters to the Editor. Contact details are on page 4.

march of the big supermarkets and superstores. They now have to travel large distances by car to obtain the things they need. With CO₂ build-up this is going to have to cease to be a viable option.

The majority of the businesses are locally owned and staffed which means that the money you spend stays in the area and helps to keep the local economy buoyant. This in turn affects people's perception of the area as a whole including the attractiveness of the Avenues to prospective newcomers. The City Council has long recognised the importance of local facilities and has shown its commitment by carrying out in my opinion the superb improvements to Newland Avenue and allowing the vibrant transformation of Princes Avenue to happen. On a Saturday afternoon I can do all of my weekly shop in an hour, bump into friends and pass the time of day with my butcher, fishmonger and greengrocer with the confidence that I am getting much better quality food *and cheaper* than the supermarkets. If



Your column—your say

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent

Local shopping IS the way forward!

Not only are we lucky enough to live in the Avenues residential area but we are also fortunate enough to have superb local shopping streets within a short distance of our homes: namely Princes Avenue, Newland Avenue and Chanterlands Avenue.

The shops and other establishments in these 3 streets contain a range of goods and services that people in other parts of the country would die for. These people have lost their local shopping long ago to the relentless

to follow in the footsteps of Princes Avenue. So we hope that this sort of development does not multiply, nor disturb the local nocturnal peace.

There is a suggestion—which we have discussed informally in Committee meetings—of a new building in the grounds of the former Bishop's Palace, 222 Park Avenue. I am opposed to any 'infill' in the Avenues on principle, and to this possibility in practice. Not everyone on the Committee agrees with me, and we may see a planning application in time. One of the reasons advanced is that a new building would hide the gable end of the house overlooking 222: a gable end, goes the argument, which is an unusual and undesirable feature in the Conservation Area. I have been noticing, since hearing this, **how common gable ends are in the Avenues** and how decorative they can be—a positive result from a spurious line of reasoning.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Stephanie Wilson

Chair, Avenues & Pearson Park Residents' Association

Graffiti and Community Engagement

(How to get nowhere by the longest route possible)

For over nearly two years I have tried to encourage the Council to take responsibility for graffiti removal from two prominent tenfoots in the Avenues Conservation Area. The tenfoots in question are the ones running East-West between Victoria and Park Avenues and spanning the section from Salisbury Street to Princes Avenue, and the one running in the same direction to the North of Victoria Avenue (the one with the long strip of grass on one side). This one in particular marks the Northern boundary of the Conservation Area and is visible from Newland Avenue. What statement does the graffiti make about us as a community?

Now, as the Council claims to champion community participation I thought my task would be easy. How naïve of me! In contrast to their propaganda, meaningful contact is totally discouraged.

So far, I have twice tried the 300300 helpline, only to be informed that the Council will only clean graffiti from its own properties, or, if it is racially or sexually insulting. (Running some of the more colourful offerings past the 300300 gatekeeper failed to reach their threshold of intolerance). But, I was given the names of two officers who were approached, promised to

Tidying up your garden?

Remember planning permission is required for felling or pruning trees in both front and back gardens.

Are you doing house repairs or improvements?

Is planning permission required?

Always ask before you build or do alterations. Hull City Council will give you advice. Write to

**Planning Services
Kingston House
Bond Street
Hull HU1 3ER**

with your proposals. They will let you know in writing if you need planning permission or not. Informal advice can be given by telephone: **612345**.

In the Avenues and Pearson Park Conservation Area **specific planning permission (under Article 4 Directions of 1995)** is required for:



- the construction of a *driveway* across a pavement or verge;
- the removal or alteration of a *window or bay* facing the highway.

There is no fee for an application resulting from an Article 4 Direction.

Detailed information is available from the Council in leaflet and other forms; and on the website:

www.hullcc.gov.uk/planning

The full text of this article appeared in APPRAnews issue 25, April 2006. Copies on request to the Editor.

'get back to me' but only did so to tell me nothing could be done. The same story was repeated by the Wyke Area Office.

The two Lib-Dem Councillors contacted, also listened, but have not taken up this issue despite one living in a house backing on to an affected tenfoot.

The Council's anti graffiti e-mail address enabled me to send a message to which there was, of course, no reply.

A personal letter to Chief Council Executive Kim Ryley produced a two line reply naming an Officer (who would contact me shortly) but who also never made contact.

A letter to Diana Johnson MP (a resident of Victoria Avenue) produced a prompt reply — sadly to someone else's letter but addressed to me. A further lengthy e-mail to her at the House of Commons has met with no reply at all.

At this point I have decided to suspend my pointless campaign. However, I may just have a last fling via the only route now open to me, I will pick up the spray can. Good bye cruel world!

Harry Atkinson

News from Pearson Park

Friends of Pearson Park meetings are attended by 17-20 people, debating, discussing and deciding on priorities for the park. The committee is composed of representatives of all the necessary statutory authorities, and a wide-ranging group of representatives of the community.

Our current concerns are:

- the unacceptable delays in draining, repairing and refilling the **pond** and the resulting distress to the wildlife;
- the state of **toilets** in the park (to rectify this we have just received funding);
- **lighting** in the park (we are for limited lighting to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour);
- the playing of **organized football**, (the trustees have confirmed this is not acceptable);
- **festivals** in the park (we have protested against 12 hour licences) and
- **crime** (we have a police officer on our committee with all the latest figures).

On all these issues we make our views known to our partners. When partnership working does not

Domestic wind turbines

I think it worth pointing out that the small 1kwh domestic wind turbines are in practice not much more than an expensive toy in the conditions normally obtaining in Hull and other low lying cities.

Even on best assumptions, 1 kilowatt hour obtainable only on very windy days (a 25 knot wind) will not do much to meet a household's energy needs. In reality, since power delivered varies as the cube of the wind speed, most people will be lucky to get 0.5 KW—sometimes; enough for a couple of lights, a TV, and a fridge, at best.

To obtain power, the turbine blades must be raised considerably above roof level — a 10 metre pole would meet the case — but hardly the requirement of conservation or architectural aesthetics!

Solar Photovoltaics are in principle good, but to obtain two kilowatt hours capacity costs between £8K and 18K and will take a generation or more to repay their capital costs. I would suggest a 5-10 year wait until costs fall to no more than £1,000 per assured 1 kilowatt-hour before any household looks twice at them!

Solar water heating is today the best runner—it can save up to 70% of hot water (not central heating) costs, and can be done for less than £4k for a zero carbon system.

We need lower unit costs for renewables to save the planet—and Government's best role would be to lead by example, create economies of scale thereby, and use Green Taxes **only** if they abolish corresponding traditional Red (ie "redistribution") taxes alongside Greenery.

For now any Government talk of "Greenery" merely, *IMHO*, signals another round of legalised pick-pocketing and totalitarian bullying!

Global warming talk on HMG's part implies a need for snowboots...

Michael Martin-Smith

The issue of vibrations set up in housing structures is another issue, too

achieve its desired results, we take our concerns further as we refuse to be considered as just a talking shop. We have several applications in for national funding, although the results will not be known for several months.

Haris Livas-Dawes Chair, Friends of Pearson Park