

12 trees for the Avenues

The original planting in the Avenues predominantly consisted of 3 types: common lime, maple, and common horse chestnut. The planting was oppositional—to give harmony.

APPRA's criteria in selecting replacement trees are:

- the habit to be in keeping with the original character as much as possible;
- the shape should not be overly "pyramidal" (eg poplars);
- the shape should not be overly "lollipop" (like some ornamentals);
- to retain harmony and continuity.

The 12 trees selected are 18-20 metres tall at maturity except for:

Sweet Chestnut	25-27m
Turkish Hazel	20-22m
Common Beech	20-22m
Indian Horse Chestnut	16-18m
Red Horse Chestnut	15-16m

With the exception of the **Beech**, they are all represented already in the Avenues. The only species without good autumn colour is the Italian Alder.

The 12 trees

Field Maple *Acer campestre*

The only maple native to Britain. Rounded, dense. Dark leaf, bright gold in autumn.

Norway Maple *Acer platanoides*

Good shape. Long-lasting autumn colour.

Red Horse Chestnut *Aesculus carnea*

Red flowers. Traditional shape.

Indian Horse Chestnut *Aesculus indica*

Striking pink flowers. Short trunk but lower branches lopped as tree matures.

Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa*

Planting likely to be restricted to Westbourne Avenue as this is a larger tree.

Italian Alder *Alnus cordata*

Dark leaf. Branches spreading at top at maturity.

American Red Ash *Fraxinus Pennsylvanica*

Habit similar to Norway Maple. Prettily-shaped leaf.

Caucasian Lime *Tilia euchlora*

In youth has drooping branches but these are lopped as tree matures.

Small-leaved Lime *Tilia cordata* (Rancho, Greenspire)

These cultivars are much less spreading and tall than the *Tilia Cordata* in Pearson Park. They are less prone to aphid infestation. Good replacement for old limes as they have no "epicormic growth" ie the shaggy side growths.

Silver Lime *Tilia tomentosa*

Free from aphids. No epicormic growth. Leaves silvery on underside.

Turkish Hazel *Corylus colurna*

Interestingly-shaped hazel nuts.

Beech *Fagus sylvatica*

Native tree. Light leaf. Good replacement for the lost light-leaved trees such as Common Limes.

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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.hullangel.org	complete record of tree sculptures; fountain rescue; Advent Calendars

Tree planting 2008

Urban Forestry have already begun planting. Some 30 existing gaps (some of them, on Park Avenue for instance, have been a long time without a tree) will receive a sapling. They have been selected from the list of 12 trees (see separate article). At a couple of sites, a weak or damaged sapling is to be removed. Where possible, the traditional pattern of oppositional planting of the same type of tree will be replicated. This pattern has become lost due to the heavy felling several years ago.

As usual, our thanks go to Tim Beckley of Urban Forestry for his expertise and for taking the time to consult and do site visits with APPRA's Tree Sub-group.

Planning permission is needed for felling/pruning garden trees

Remember planning permission is required for felling or pruning trees which are over 75mm in stem diameter, 1.5m above the ground. 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.

The committee thanks residents for submitting requests for felling/pruning their garden trees. We approve most of them.

Adventures on Small Islands

APPRA committee member Haris Livas-Dawes has had her second book on Greece published. Those interested in the country can obtain the book most easily and economically by ordering directly from the publishers. *Adventures on Small Islands: A Fresh Look at Greece*, can be found at Brown's bookshop, or online from: <http://tinyurl.com/5bq19o>

(note: the "1" is a number, and the "o" is a letter)



Repair & Renovation Services

Total Window Repair and Renovation

Period Windows: tel 222231
Ventrolia Ltd: tel: 01423 859323

Total Window Replacement

Brian Parkinson c/o Dairycoates Timber Supply Ltd, 602 Hessle Road: tel 329570
P & J Timbers: tel 07717 2810233
(Ash Grove, off Beverley Road, 1st tenfoot on left)

Paragon Joinery: tel 585205

Cottingham Joinery: tel 868145

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G E Rice Joinery Ltd: tel 01964 551402

Jubilee Joinery: tel 224275

The Woodcraftsman: tel 07896 753861

Building Services

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tel: 01482 658620

Suppliers of Yellow Pine Timber

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Roofers (Will renew roof with existing slates or tiles)

Byron (Hull) Roofing Ltd: tel 224335
L A Hall (Hull Ltd) Roofing Contractors
19 - 27 Lime St, 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 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

Chair's Report Spring 2008

The Committee has recently been asked to respond to the draft Supplementary Planning Document on Sustainable Development which has been sent out by the City as 'an evidence gathering exercise'. We have replied individually, since it's a large document and took time to read; and, we feel, the more responses for the Planning and Information Department to consider, the better. The document reads well, and could be of help to us in Conservation Areas when opposing applications which we feel not to be in our interests. For instance, I can envisage us quoting the statement that "Traditional roofscapes, materials, and views and vistas are considered important features...which should be protected" until we all know it by heart. We could have used the reference to "the extent which the proposed development creates, or enhances, a distinctive character that relates well to the surroundings and supports a sense of local pride and civic identity" in arguing against Sanderson's Mews, which has created the reverse effect; the development adversely dominates the surroundings and has engendered a sense of frustration and alienation in the community. We could also have cited, from the 'Biodiversity and Natural Habitats' section, "Landscaping should be an integral part of new developments," linking to "existing wildlife corridors to introduce wildlife and biodiversity to the site." This would perhaps have saved some of the 'greenfield'

area and therefore reduced the number of houses. I hope that the section will help Ella Street residents to preserve their 'cricket field' and gain access to the former Newland School Sports Field—both all the more important as amenities since the loss of space on Sanderson's Field.

A current

application which is exercising us all is the proposal to build in the garden of 222 Park Avenue; knowledgeable, vigorous and varied arguments have been made against it, by numbers of residents as well as our committee response. Similar applications haven't been successful in the past—but this hasn't inhibited the applicant or his agent; he knows, after attending two Committee Meetings to present his case, that we are opposed to the plan on principle. Although the garden has a side access, it is essentially a scheme for 'backland development' and certainly an overdevelopment of the site: sheer greed, as one of the neighbours said.

A PhD research student has been coming to Committee meetings, and adding her interesting voice to discussion, as part of her work on "Changing topographies of memory in post-industrial Hull." The Avenues and Dukeries area is one of her main focuses, and she is conducting a series of informal interviews and discussions with local residents—if you would like to contribute your 'everyday sites of memory', please contact Tegwen Roberts on (01482) 465313; or email her: T.J.Roberts@2006.hull.ac.uk.

A new—to us—feature of the local difficulties caused by the Avenue pub on Chanterlands Avenue came



Design Guide wins good mark Members of APPRA Design Guide team receive the "Good Mark" award from the Civic Society. Left to right: Tony Mercer, John Netherwood (Civic Society), Stephanie Wilson, Sally Walker, Ian Colquhoun, Malcolm Sharman (Civic Society), Christine Colquhoun, Sabine Weigert

to the Committee recently. Youths have been scaling the inadequate fence, making themselves free of the gated tenfoot behind Marlborough Avenue, between Chanterlands Avenue and Richmond Street and have perhaps been responsible for some theft. The landlord disclaimed responsibility for the fence, so the residents, organized by an active citizen, have raised its height and secured it, sharing the expense. We know, alas, in our bit of Marlborough Avenue that gates do not keep determined burglars out, though obviously their scale of operation is reduced; and other residents must have been recently affected since the police told us there has been 'a spate' of house burglaries in the area. It would be interesting for us if the police would produce statistics which referred to gated tenfoots and their continued function in deterrence.

I noticed when last in York that Residents' Planning Panels have been set up there, doing what we do in considering local planning applications—but under the wing of the Area Committee. Returning to Hull, I found information waiting about a similar sounding

initiative—a Hull Citizen's Panel. We will be comparing and contrasting these approaches to democracy at committee meetings as we find out more—meanwhile, if you are interested in the opportunity here, you can ring 0800 011 2902, or visit www.hullcc.gov.uk and click on 'Citizen Panel'.

The Enforcement Officer in Torbay has occasioned interest in other authorities by requiring the refurbishment of the shabby façade of a local house. I think instantly of Avenues houses run down by neglectful landlords; but wonder if we would consider it too intrusive a move, comparable to the recent over-zealous orders to residents to remove graffiti from their boundary fences. They had not, of course, had any part in the graffiti; and as fast as they removed it, so instantly did it reappear—so they felt doubly hard done by when threatened with official action.

Looking forward to seeing you at the AGM. Mr Jones, from Hanwag, will give a short presentation to start the meeting. As always, we would welcome new Committee Members. We meet once a month, in different members' houses; meetings are informal, vociferous and—it goes without saying—very interesting... For instance, during our April meeting, we discussed the possibility of a commemorative plaque on the Park Avenue house where Anthony Minghella lived. Stephanie Wilson Chair, APPRA

APPRA AGM
Wed 14 May
7-9 pm
St Cuthbert's SMALL Hall
Marlborough Avenue



Your column—your say

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer(s) and do not necessarily represent APPRA policy.)

No more! Watch group seeks solution to New Year fountain chaos

Westbourne Avenue Neighbourhood Watch (WANW) is working to make sure the serious disturbances seen at Westbourne Avenue's fountain on New Year's Eve and into New Year's Day do not happen again — or get worse.

Eye-witnesses describe a crowd of around 300 young adults becoming increasingly drunk, rowdy and out of control, randomly throwing fireworks and glass bottles and attacking cars and people. A logged call to Humberside Police at 01.15 said it was "a riot".

One local resident described the scenes as "the worst behaviour in 50 years of living here", while another said: "Felt too frightened to go out or to let children out. It simply has to stop."

At least one reveller jumped off the fountain, according to eye-witnesses, and many witnesses have expressed outrage at the broken glass and debris covering the area on New Year's Day.

In response to widespread concern, WANW gathered information from residents across the Avenues.

Overwhelmingly, respondents said they no longer go to the fountain on New Year's Eve. It has become "too dangerous". Instead, the gathering consisted of young people from all over the city and beyond; after 12:30am, very few were local.

What are we doing about it?

WANW Chairman Charles Heywood wrote to the Chief Constable of Humberside Police Tim Hollis and, with the support of local MP Diana Johnson, a

meeting was set up with the neighbourhood policing team.

On 29 January, five WANW members and Ms Johnson's representative Matthew Bailey met with Wyke Neighbourhood Team Inspector Duncan Collins and Sgt Marsden at Pearson Park police station.

What are the possibilities?

During the meeting WANW asked for a police presence at the fountain on New Year's Eve.

We also requested support for a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO), which gives police the right to ban drinking at their discretion and a Dispersal Order, which allows them to move groups on and in some cases take them home.

Inspector Collins said that to achieve any of these we would need more evidence, ie **reports**.

He said Humberside Police received seven logged calls relating to activities at the Westbourne Avenue fountain on New Year's Eve and that this is nowhere near enough. He stressed the fact that police cannot respond to events that are not reported.

Mr Collins and Sgt Marsden suggested local residents organise a marshalled, ticket-only event, and that the Westbourne Avenue fountain should be boarded up, along with the Park Avenue fountain, to stop either providing a focal point.

It was also suggested that if local residents called the police to report "significant build-up" of young people in the area from around 8 pm, then patrols could be made aware and monitor the situation as part of their rounds. If necessary they could move groups on.

WANW agreed to consult with residents on all these issues ahead of a meeting with police and the council's Anti-social Behaviour (ASB team).

What other agencies are involved?

On 7 February, three WANW members attended the Wyke Community Safety Partnership forum and the Wyke Area Forum.

Here we were able to put our concerns to two of the Ward's elected representatives,

Councillor Simone Butterworth and Councillor John Robinson.

Councillor Butterworth was of the opinion that more residents should attend the fountain on New Year's Eve to dilute the young crowd, while Cllr Robinson was in favour of a more robust police response.

Both agreed, however, to support an application for a DPPO and a Dispersal Order and we will be pursuing this with them.

We are also set to meet with the city's ASB team in March and our MP Diana Johnson has contacted both the city council and Home Office minister Vernon Coaker about the issue.

So what now?

The bottom line is that residents **must report to police** any incidents, disturbances or unusually large gatherings causing alarm or distress.

Inspector Collins told the Hull Daily Mail of Saturday 9 February: "The police are keen to work with residents and partners to ensure there is no repeat of the incident of this year."

He went on: "The message is clear that yobbish behaviour will not be tolerated. What started as a social gathering for a few local people has been hijacked by large groups of young people who have spoilt it for the residents.

Rest assured, by working together, we will do all we can to ensure there is no repeat this year."

What can you do?

We're very keen to hear Avenues residents' views – a response form is available on request from 107 Westbourne Avenue, HU5 3HT
Tel: 01482 41158

Email wanw@cheywood.karoo.co.uk).

If you'd like to get involved, please let us know.

Alister Heywood
Communications Officer
Westbourne Avenue
Neighbourhood Watch

Membership of the Westbourne Avenue Neighbourhood Watch group is open to residents from the fountain to Chanterlands Avenue. Residents living between the fountain and Princes Avenue have their own group: Westbourne East Neighbourhood Watch (contact Haris Livas-Dawes, 491785).

Public right of way: 30 Victoria Avenue/ Park Avenue Public Inquiry

As residents may already be aware Hull City Council made an Order for the above pathway last year under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1991. This was following a claim. The order has attracted considerable interest with some residents in support and others against. The Council considered it should be neutral in the issues concerned and referred the matter to the Planning Inspectorate, a Government Department. The Inspectorate has called a Public Inquiry which has been set for hearing on Thursday 8 May 2008 at 10 am at the Guildhall in Hull.

The 'Lead' residents supporting and opposing the Order will be aware of the submissions required from them, as is the Council. Other interested residents, including those who have already submitted their views in writing, also have the right to speak at the Inquiry, at the Inspector's discretion. Any who wish to do so are required by the Inspectorate to submit their details and their case to Mr J Greenslade, Rights of Way Section, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 4/05, Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN by 27 March 2008. Any evidence they wish to produce must be submitted to him by 10 April 2008. Any queries regarding speaking at the Inquiry should be made to the Inspectorate at this address or by telephone on 0117-372-8889.

Anyone so attending is requested to arrive and report to the Guildhall reception by 9.30am to ensure a prompt start.

Carol singing Residents generously gave £188.75 this year, for the NSPCC.

Thanks to all who turned out to sing and/or collect. Special thanks to Ian and Christine Colquhoun for reviving us all afterwards with warm drinks and mince pies!

The Angel has a new home!

The Angel carved from a lime tree stump outside 48 Marlborough Avenue was the first of the tree stump carvings which have become such a feature of the Avenues. Carved by Kevin Storch in Autumn 1998 it featured as a colour plate in the book 'The English Angel' by Peter Burton and Harland Walshaw (pub The Windrush Press, 2000). Unfortunately the original face was cut off shortly after the publication of the book though whether the two occurrences are connected is a matter of conjecture; suffice to say the face was removed quite neatly suggesting it wasn't an impulse piece of vandalism. A new face was carved by Kevin and attached in May 2001.

Over the years the wind and rain, snow and ice, not to mention insects, fungi and bacteria took their toll on the wood and eventually, when the base rotted, it became 'the fallen Angel' on 30 November 2006. From that time until December 2007 it lay forlorn, wet and decaying in the drive of 50 Marlborough Avenue. While various APPRA committee members discussed what to do with it. Eventually, Chris and Pat Coulson took pity on it and suggested it could be restored (as far as possible) and set in their garden to become a feature for Open Gardens until such times as 'The Great Tree Leveller' finally and completely 'did it'!

On 26 December (Boxing Day!) 2007 it was moved by myself and future son-in-law, Tim, from 50 Marlborough to 96 Marlborough.

Because of the wetness of the wood it was a tremendous weight so two sack barrows were used side by side. On the afternoon of the same day various neighbours were cajoled from their afternoon jollities or sleepiness to help with its penultimate journey into our garage. It took seven people using rope slings to half lift and half drag it down our path past bushy obstacles, planters and trellises. This was not without its humorous moments or occasional swear word!

In early January the bottom six or so inches were sawn off as the wood at the base was so rotten that nothing could be done with it. What bark that could be reached was removed as most of it was loose and providing a moist home between it and the wood for fauna such as centipedes, woodlice, worms and beetles. Fungal decay was fairly wide spread. The exposed wood was then wire brushed to remove loose material and a first coat of wood preservative applied, particularly to the base.

About a month later the wood had started to dry out and although still fairly heavy the figure was stood upright. The rest of the bark was now removed and the wood again wire brushed to remove as much decayed material as possible from the surface. At this point a more careful examination of the more rotted areas was done and these were scraped out as far as possible and preservative sprayed into them.



Because the original face had been cut off water had penetrated what essentially was the neck and this had produced a great amount of decay in the chest of the figure. The rotten wood was loosened with a chisel and 'spooned' out. To try to stabilize this part wood preservative was poured into the hole, this process being repeated three times. Eventually the void was filled with cement—not the neatest solution but the most pragmatic at the time. Meanwhile the figure was again painted with wood preservative, brown on the front yellow on the sides with much attention to the wing tops where water penetration was most likely. The base was treated again and to do this the figure was stood on a polythene sheet which was then drawn up and tied round to form a well into

which wood preservative was poured and this was allowed to soak up into the wood.

The face which replaced the original one did not fit very well so I reduced its size by about 30% which, because of the eyes, was the maximum I could do. There was very little wood left to attach this new face to so a long threaded rod was set into the back of the face. This rod would eventually pass through the body of the Angel and then through a wooden post set at the back of the plinth, its eventually resting place.

On Tuesday 19 February 2008 the Angel was moved to its plinth. The initial part of this was fairly straight

forward particularly as I had the help of Paul, a friend who was staying with us. However, 'lifting' the Angel the 30 centimetres onto the plinth was not so easy and a ramp had to be constructed up which the Angel could be 'walked' backwards. This accomplished, the threaded rod with the face attached was passed through the body and then the post and secured. QED!

Although some renovation work still has to be done the Angel can now be seen from Marlborough Avenue on left of the drive of 96 Marlborough.

Chris Coulson

www.hullangel.org shows how the Angel and other tree sculptures were carved, day by day



Sunday 6 July and
Sunday 13 July, 1-5 pm

Battered but not beaten, Open Gardens 2007 was one to remember. The rains came six days before the first Sunday and many would-be Openers looked out on back gardens that were knee deep in water. For the first time in thirty-one years we had to cancel.

Gardening being the triumph of hope over experience, most of the owners were determined to greet their public on the second Sunday. The gardens were open; our faithful visitors came, as did the rain yet again. By 3.30 it was clear that even those brave souls who were pressing on in gum boots and mackintoshes would have to call it a day. Reluctantly we closed down the stalls, packed away the teapots and cake stands, and sent the hail-n-ride bus back to the East Yorkshire depot.

We had never felt so depressed as we surveyed the wreckage and felt for the nominated charities that were looking forward to a

slice of our visitors' generosity. As damp Openers came around to commiserate and drop off their takings our spirits began to rise. Although we had been open for just half an afternoon instead of two, and although the weather was damp rather than sunny we were surprised how much we had collected. In the end we were able to distribute £4,750. This is how it was split:

- » **£272 was given to PDSA and Medical Aid for Palestinians,**
- » **and the final £156 went to the Darfur appeal.**
- This year's Avenues Open Gardens on the Sunday afternoons of 6 and 13 July will be drier, and sunnier than last year. We look forward to greeting old friends and making new ones.
- » **Dove House Hospice had the lion's share as usual, £2,050;**
- » **St John Ambulance, Barnardos, Sailors Families and East Hull Community Farm had £500 apiece;**

Bob & Rose Sandham, Debbie Cook and Paul Dodsworth

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