

**1) Works to be done:**

- The widening of the tenfoot entrances has not been carried out by HCC although the money for the work was secured (in 2005!) by an APPRA bid to Wyke Area Committee. The matter is currently under negotiation between APPRA and WAC. It is to be hoped that there will be action by Autumn 2009.
- The west end of Westbourne near to the chemist's is to be protected by bollards as it is on Marlborough, but the bollards will be metal. No date for works has yet been established but our thanks to Cllr Butterworth in this matter.

**2) What you can do to help protect the verges:**

- Email Sally Walker (details bottom of page 4) with time, date, location and photo of registration number of offending vehicle. Sally then liaises with Highways who write a warning letter. Where this has been done in the past it has proved effective.
- Report (via Sally) damage from builders, skips, utilities etc. Photographic evidence needed. Name of perpetrator needed. The council can force the offender to pay the cost of putting right the damage.
- Remind builders and visitors that it is illegal to park on the verge. There is signage in the Avenues to this effect.
- Contact Sally for leaflets to put on offending vehicles.

continued from page 3

clean up dog and human mess, and enjoy peace and quiet.

I feel that our gate has strengthened the sense of community that had always existed in this area (and indeed throughout the whole Avenues area). People who live nearby have commented on how much better the passageway looks, the reduced noise levels (particularly at night) and how they feel less at risk of theft, due to the fact that the gate has put paid to a very easy escape route.

In the 21 years I've lived on Victoria, I think society in general has changed, and from my own experience, theft, vandalism and other anti-social behaviour on the Avenues has become much more evident.

I agree with Malcolm Ruddiforth's sentiments about making 'our...neighbourhood sensibly secure' and with his praise of gates and gating schemes.

Chris Lee (Mrs), Victoria Avenue



**Park Avenue Recycling Centre**

is handy for Avenues residents. It's situated at the front of the Adult Education Centre and takes glass bottles, cans, paper and plastic (not plastic bags). *Hull Friends of the Earth maintain this facility for Hull City Council.*

**PLANNING MATTERS**

**Are you doing house repairs or improvements?**

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**.

**Planning permission is required for windows and crossovers**

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](http://www.hullcc.gov.uk/planning)

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

**Design Guide**

**for The Avenues Conservation Area**

If you have very recently moved into the area and thus do not have your free copy, please phone Stephanie Wilson, Chair of APPRA on 493037, and she will provide you with one. As well as being a pictorial celebration of the varied architecture in The Avenues, the Guide provides practical advice on repair and renovation; and information on the planning controls for this area, with details of whom to talk to at the City Council.

You can buy copies for friends, at £5 each, from Stephanie Wilson, Panache on Chanterlands Avenue and Clements News on Princes Avenue.

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 2009**

**WE ARE LOOKING** for an appropriate way to celebrate residents who restore and repair their houses with regard to the original materials and design; there is an outstanding example in Marlborough Avenue, where like-for-like timber windows have been installed (by E Shackleton) after a wrong start. The new owners had actually been told by their solicitors that the Avenues were not a Conservation Area, and were in the process of installing UPVC windows when interrupted by vigilant residents bearing a Design Guide. These windows are being removed; perfect copies have been put into place. We feel the owners deserve official congratulation, and that we should perhaps make this the first instance of giving thanks for good practice. *What do you think?*—we would rely on the appreciative eyes of others beside ourselves.

We were alerted by a watchful resident to the installation—apparently without the necessary permissions—of UPVC windows in Salisbury Street in February. To our surprise and slight embarrassment, since we have always blithely collected subscriptions along that stretch, we discovered that the houses in Salisbury Street between Victoria Avenue and Ella Street are not in our Conservation Area. Residents are as unaware of this as we are, since they happily pay up; and the Planning Department must be a little confused too, since we do get applications from properties there, notably for the terrace replacing Jack Kaye's shop. We requested that the boundary be extended, since it seems obvious to us that this is part of the Avenues; however, the response is that

while some of these houses are 'ours,' the rest belong in the Ella Street Conservation Area. The boundary is historical: the Cottingham drain, seen as "an important land division," which was "a major feature of the area for two hundred years." Hull Planning therefore are not sympathetic to a change of the boundary—do we agree?

One email we received reporting the UPVC windows was critical, asking if we had noticed the wrong installation and if not, why not—definite dereliction was implied. I sent on all the relevant emails in reassurance; but I also had to point out that we are not omniscient or ubiquitous, try as we might—we have to rely on the community for information. Our critic was mollified, and nicely apologetic.

**MY INSURANCE PREMIUM** has gone up alarmingly this year, after a large increase last year too. The reason given was flood risk. I tried to get cover elsewhere, and at the end of a dispiriting number of phone calls and online applications, I was grateful for the cover on offer, whatever the price. I've written to Diana Johnson on the subject, since it seemed that there was no chance of Council support; it seems to me that HU5 is being shunned by insurance companies as a bad risk, and that we'll all be paying inflated premiums unless we can demonstrate that we are individually and collectively—that's where the Council is important—taking steps to minimise the risk.

**AFTER A PLANNING INSPECTORATE** decision on 1 Salisbury Street which disappointed us and which we have queried, in order to establish that the extension does not constitute a precedent, we are pleased with the latest decision by the Inspectorate, after the appeal on 3 Westbourne Avenue. The

Inspector agreed with the local planning decision and us that it would be an overdevelopment to create nine flats, instead of six, in this house; he also had some praise for the Conservation Area ambience—"the verdant and sylvan prospect across the rear gardens"—which would have been useful to cite in arguments against the development at, for instance, 1 Salisbury Street...

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL** to Pippa King, who has taken on the management of Avenues Open Gardens. Others have come forward too, so there is an able and reliable team working towards this year's occasions. I had the feeling that people would come regardless: that they think of Open Gardens as an automatic feature in the calendar, and I wasn't looking forward to explaining that this year...and now I won't have to, thanks to Pippa and her helpers.

**OUR CAROL SINGING** evening raised £257.50 for the NSPCC—less than last year, but impressive in the circumstances: it was raining. I always wonder if stalwart singers are actually going to materialise, but I've never thought it might not happen due to sheer weather—until last year. But we persevered and were rewarded; the rain did stop at some point—we'd risen above it so successfully that we only belatedly noticed it had vanished.

**WE HAVE A PLAQUE** prepared for Jack Kaye, with wording we hope he would have relished; we have permission to put it up on the end wall of the terrace on the site of his shop and are going to organize the unveiling as part of the Ella Street Festival on 20 June: look out for details nearer the time.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM: 6 May 2009 in St Cuthbert's church hall.

Stephanie Wilson Chair, APPRA

**Friends of Pearson Park invite you to a Victorian-themed Spring Picnic on Sunday, 10 May, from 1.30 pm to 5.00 pm.**

The event includes fancy dress competitions on the Victorian theme, categories for adults and children; live music and a quiz about the park; introductory speeches by key personnel involved in recent Park improvements such as the wet woodlands area. Other events subject to funding. Bring your own picnic food and relax in what we hope will be a fine, pleasant day! Enquiries: contact Social Secretary Susan Harr on 07767 495832.



**Tim Beckley's Tree Walks**

Tim has kindly agreed to lead two more of these enjoyable and informative walks:

Wed 17 June, **6.30 pm** and  
Tues 30 June, **10.30 am.**

Meet at the conservatory in Pearson Park.

**APPRA AGM**

**Wednesday, 6 May 2009 at 7pm in St Cuthbert's SMALL Hall, Marlborough Avenue**

**Repair & Renovation Services**

**Window Repair, Replacement & Renovation**

Heritage Joinery Services Ltd  
Dave Jackson  
239 Summergangs Road HU8 8LD  
Tel 712426 mobile 07737399481  
[www.heritagejoiners.com](http://www.heritagejoiners.com)

Traditional Windows of Anlaby Ltd  
Mark Harrison  
32 Pryme Street HU10 6SH Tel 656571  
Ventrolla Ltd: Tel: 01423 859323

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

Brian Fawcett: Tel 01964 670818

G E Rice Joinery Ltd: Tel 01964 551402

Jubilee Joinery: Tel 224275

The Woodcraftsman: Tel 07896 753861

**Building Services**

Alan Hart  
Roofing & Building Contractor. Doesn't mind how small job is.  
Tel: 01482 658620

**Suppliers of Yellow Pine Timber**

Arnold Laver, Crowle St, Hull  
Tel: 324525

**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@lahallltd.karoo.co.uk](mailto:info@lahallltd.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

APPRA Committee	Tel	Fax	Email	Post
<b>Chair</b>	Stephanie Wilson	493037	chair@avenuesonline.org.uk	48 Marlborough Avenue HU5 3JS
<b>Secretary</b>	Adrian Crummay	445272 445272	secretary@avenuesonline.org.uk	66 Westbourne Avenue HU5 3HS
<b>Verges</b>	Sally Walker	447558	sally@lobster.karoo.co.uk	214 Westbourne Avenue HU5 3JB

Chrys Bavey (newsletter), Ian Colquhoun, Mal Dawes, Haris Livas-Dawes, Lesley Longworth, Christine Minnikin, John O'Mullane, Kate Stockdale (Treasurer), Stefan Weigert, Alan Worsley

**WEBSITES**

APPRA online	<a href="http://www.avenuesonline.org.uk">www.avenuesonline.org.uk</a>	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	<a href="http://www.hullsangel.org">www.hullsangel.org</a>	complete record of tree sculptures; fountain rescue; Advent Calendars



**The Avenues Open Gardens** will be continuing this year with gardens opening from 1-5 pm on Sunday 5 July and 12 July. Bob and Rose, Paul and Debbie have been great in ensuring a smooth transition in handing over the organising of the event and I know they will continue to support Open Gardens weekends. What particularly struck me about the Open Gardens event

was the sense of community it gave the area, how generous garden owners were with their gardening knowledge and advice and how people supported it by offering live music, refreshments and other activities. Bob, Rose, Paul and Debbie have done a sterling job in previous years so in a lot of respects the majority of the hard work has already been done. Thank you to them for that.

Heather Mathers, a couple of doors away from myself, has kindly offered to help coordinate the event so we should be getting

## Westbourne Avenue Neighbourhood Watch (WANW) thanks everyone who stayed away from the Avenues' fountains on New Year's Eve

Despite fears the violent scenes witnessed the previous year would be repeated, the night passed without incident. Chairman Charles Heywood said: "We are very grateful to everyone for staying away from the fountains on the night." Mr Heywood praised Humberside Police, saying the Avenues Neighbourhood Policing Team's response was "quite simply brilliant". From 7pm to 12.30am on New Year's Eve, officers were on visible patrol. "After a year of action, what a success! Instead of 400 rowdy, drunken people engaged in dangerous antisocial behaviour, there was no-one," Mr Heywood said.

Diana Johnson MP said: "This was clearly a tribute to (WANW's) hard work during the previous year and (WANW's) close co-operation with the Humberside police."

This was never about stopping people having a good time on a special night of the year. WANW has no problem with people meeting up with their friends and seeing in the new year. But if people want to exert their right to gather and celebrate together they must respect others' rights and property.

Alistair Heywood, WANW Communications  
Email: wanw@cheywood.karoo.co.uk

## Tree planting 2009

### Report from Tree Sub-committee

Planting starts late February/early March. Our thanks go to Tim Beckley of Highways and Open Spaces Asset Management for his expertise and attention to detail; and for the efforts he makes to consult with the Tree Sub-committee.

The trees chosen follow the 12 trees selection for the long avenues (see newsletter of April 2008 for the full list), with the addition of a modern cultivar of Hornbeam for the smaller streets of Richmond and Salisbury. Tim has been continuing his research of the latest cultivars so that the Avenues can have smaller trees but ones which reflect the original vision of woodland trees in an urban setting.

Given the much lamented loss of many Horse Chestnuts, mainly due to insurance-driven felling, it is worth noting the planting of two sterile Horse Chestnuts, in addition to the Indian and Red Horse Chestnuts on the list of 12 trees. The sterile form produces flowers, but not conkers. Conker-producing trees are no longer allowed alongside roads as they are regarded as hazardous.

Tree replacement now pairs up, where possible, trees which are opposite each other. This is the way they were traditionally planted in the Avenues. There is a long-term plan for such pairings. The first plantings after the felling were too random and contained some types of trees not in keeping with the heritage of the area.

**For full details of the tree planting programme 2008/2009, visit [www.avenuesonline.org.uk](http://www.avenuesonline.org.uk)**

in touch with previous 'Open Gardeners' soon and would also like to hear from anyone thinking about or wanting to open their garden for the first time. We will keep very much to the same format, although in addition to recent years the Avenues Adult Education Centre on Park Avenue will be opening its doors on both Sundays, with use of their car park and toilet facilities for visitors to the Open Gardens; plans are in the pipeline for an Open Galleries event on Marlborough Avenue, featuring local artists.

Programmes/tickets which cover both Sundays, will be available about a month beforehand at shops on Charterlands Avenue and Princes Avenue and participating gardens on the day. Do come and have a wander round the Open Gardens to see the fantastic diversity of gardening talent that is in the Avenues. Fingers crossed for good weather!

Pippa King  
230 Marlborough Avenue  
To contact us:  
Pippa King 492230  
Heather Mathers 348836

## Subscriptions: please help

**We shall be starting our collecting earlier this year—in May. This is because we now collect on Mondays for one hour only, from 6 to 7 pm.**

This is always a time-consuming task (it takes about 10 weeks), and we are indebted to our stalwart regular collectors among the Avenues residents.

If you are able to help us, please contact **Sally Walker** (details on last page), who will give you details of how it is done. It really is a case of "the more the merrier". And quicker too. You do not have to commit to every session: you may just wish to do one or two.

However, the extra hands are very useful, especially on more complicated stretches or when regulars cannot do a particular session.

## Speeding in the Avenues

Following the statement by Jacqui Buckley, (Wyke Area Community Participation Officer) at the recent Ward Forum meeting, that the 'speed survey' of the week beginning 11 June 2008 showed there was **no speeding in the Avenues** we obtained the data from the survey.

It appears that the survey data was misinterpreted as the data actually shows that in Victoria Avenue 23% of traffic was above the speed limit; Park Avenue 66% above (8 cars going 50-60 mph!); Westbourne Avenue 30% above and in Marlborough Avenue 9% above. We think the reason for Marlborough being so low (only 9%) was that the sensor was placed within 4m of the speed bump outside 57 Marlborough Avenue.

Who misinterpreted this data or who decided where the sensors were placed is not known at present but whoever it was, it reflects poorly on the Council. We have also found that data on the directional flow of traffic was obtained from this survey. Any one-way traffic scheme which might be proposed from this data could be suspect without data from the north/south roads viz: Richmond and Salisbury Streets.

The survey may have to be repeated so residents who feel there are specific sections of their Avenue where speeding takes place should contact Jacqui Buckley ([jaqui.buckley@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:jaqui.buckley@hullcc.gov.uk)) or telephone Hull 331944) about the placement of the 'speed sensors'.

Chris and Pat Coulson, Marlborough Avenue

## Double Yellow Lines

At Wyke Forum in January 2009 councillors were reminded that action had been promised (in October 2007) on removing parts of the longer stretches of double yellow lines in the Avenues. Assurances were given at this most recent meeting that the lack of action would be investigated and reported back to the next forum. The stumbling block seems to be that the council still does not know if the spaces to be left for emergency services are a legal requirement which cannot be revoked. People pointed out that fire engines park in the middle of the road anyway.

APPRA, acting on complaints from residents, has invited Cllr Robinson to a meeting to discuss the lack of action to remove the double yellows on some stretches. Cllr Woods has also been invited by APPRA to give an update on the traffic survey for the area.



Your column—your say

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

### Marlborough-Westbourne shortcut

Have you ever used the crooked ten-foot that runs beside the old Nuffield hospital, now the Westbourne Centre? Have you ever thought that the surface could do with improving? Have you ever wished that there were lights when it was dark? With your help we believe that we can persuade the council to repair the surface so that it is suitable for walking, cycling and even mobility scooters, as well as fix lights to make it easier to use at night.

The owners of the buildings on either side probably own the land but if we can show that members of the public have walked, cycled,

pushed prams and wheelchairs etc. along the ten foot we can claim that there is a public right of way. Many people who have used this convenient shortcut between the two Avenues probably think that a right of way already exists. It doesn't. We have to claim it.

When we have shown that as members of the public we have used the ten foot over the years without being challenged by the owners we can require the council to register the ten foot as a public right of way. Once that is achieved the council then have a duty to make sure that the surface is suitable for walkers, cyclists and the disabled. They also have the right to erect lights if they think it necessary. We might have to do some lobbying for this last part.

If you have used this passage way between Westbourne and Marlborough Avenues in the last twenty years and would like to see it improved and are prepared to sign a form saying so please contact us. We will do the rest.

Bob & Rose Sandham,  
81 Victoria Avenue.  
Tel: 472014,  
Email: [sandham@sandham.karoo.co.uk](mailto:sandham@sandham.karoo.co.uk)

**We publish below a resident's response to Malcolm Ruddiforth's letter in our previous issue. Chris Lee is also in favour of gating schemes...**

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

### In praise of gates!

I was most interested to read Malcolm Ruddiforth's letter in support of gated tenfoots. Like Mr Ruddiforth, I must also declare 'an interest'.

For almost five years, we lived with a gated side passageway leading into a back tenfoot. and like Mr. Ruddiforth, suffered a range of anti-social behaviour.

Our garage was broken into, and was damaged several times in further attempted burglaries. The front garden was plundered and the thieves made off along the passageway with plants and a cast iron manger, leaving a trail of earth, broken plants and clay pots on their way to Park Avenue.

Our neighbours have suffered burglary and opportunistic theft and vandalism to the tune of several hundred pounds worth of damage – all of it adding to the cost of insurance.

We have suffered not just the noise but the actual physical danger of people riding motor bikes up and down the side passageway. Gangs of youths regularly congregated, shouting and yelling late at night, leaving empty drinks bottles, cans, used condoms, needles and syringes. Not only did I and my neighbours have to clean up this rubbish, there were what Mr Ruddiforth has politely described as 'lavatorial residues both human and doggy' to be dealt with.

Since the gate was installed, our quality of life has greatly improved. There has only been one (opportunistic) burglary and a drugs incident was foiled and the perpetrator caught because there was no convenient escape route. It is peaceful and quiet – as it was when we first moved to this house, some years ago. It's extremely pleasant not to have to

*continued on page 4*

## Case study: UPVC windows

We moved into our Avenues house in 1985, just after the previous owners had replaced the original wooden sash windows at the back of the house with state of the art UPVC windows manufactured in Germany. They were large with elaborate hinges that enabled them to open as casement or as top hung windows. For a while they worked perfectly, but regrettably not for long.

The problem was that the UPVC windows faced due south, and in very hot weather the frames expanded. After a time the windows would neither open nor close. At times we had to employ a local builder to put a shoulder to them.

Eventually the ironmongery ceased to operate. Had the windows been of timber, it would have been possible to shave a little off the frames and fix

new ironmongery. But this is not possible with UPVC. Therefore the windows had to be replaced.

After only 24 years, we have timber windows back, locally made, whilst the UPVC windows are in a landfill somewhere where they will remain for hundreds of years before they rot away.

During all this time there have been few problems with the 100 year old original wooden sash windows on the front and side of the house.

Ian and Christine Colquhoun

### Note from editor:

more information on the drawbacks of UPVC as a material can be found on Page 14 of the Avenues Design and Renovation Booklet, distributed free to all households in January 2007.

## Yes, we can eradicate Japanese knotweed!

Historically, Japanese Knotweed (scientific name *Fallopia japonica*) was introduced to England by the Victorians for using in oriental gardens. Nowadays it is seen as a complete menace for its prolific growth and root systems. In addition to this is the problem that any little bit that breaks off and finds soil will grow. In fact all the plants in England stem from one plant!

If you have discovered you have a Japanese Knotweed problem you may have already started to panic. You will have heard all the horror stories and probably the scariest thing is the cost of eradication. Typical quotes from professional organisations are in the region of £5,000 for a typical Avenues back garden and taking up to 5 years. You will also have found out you need a licence to dispose of it. The house we bought in Marlborough Avenue had a garden adjacent to it completely full of Knotweed and in summer it stood well over 15 feet tall.

First of all, don't panic! The main reason commercial companies quote so high is primarily labour. To kill the knotweed involves periodic spraying 4-5 times a year for up to 5 years. It is possible to deal with it yourself. All you need is a 12 litre weed killer sprayer, a pair of rubber gloves and a 5 litre container of a glyphosate weed killer. The main trade name of this type of weed killer is 'Round up' and it kills plants by being absorbed by their leaves and entering into their roots. It therefore does not poison the soil for future use.

To kill your knotweed you have to wait until the foliage appears. Mix your Round up with the appropriate parts of water in the weed sprayer, pressurize the container and spray! The area I cleared I sprayed five times, each application taking only 20 minutes. When it died back in the autumn I cut down all the stalks and burnt them. The next year very little reappeared but additional applications were applied. Once no more foliage appears you can consider it dead! Only then can you dig up the roots and these still need to be burnt as **even the roots require a licence to remove from your property.**

Peter Docker, Marlborough Avenue

Note from editor: There are no facilities for disposal of Japanese knotweed at Hull's recycling centres. The Waste Operations Manager advises us to contact the Environment Agency on their hotline: 08708 506 506.

There is information about knotweed and other invasive plants at: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/wildlife>