

# Newsletter:

April 2026

<https://www.beverleycivicsociety.com/>

BEVERLEY  
CIVIC  
SOCIETY

Founded 1961

## Chairman's Remarks



March weather over the Humber Bridge - *Dick Lidwell*

As I write this, a bit of Spring has arrived with many flowers and trees responding to the damp warmth, and birds seeking out life-long partners and building nests!



Photo courtesy *Dick Lidwell*

Our thanks go to members and guests who braved the awful weather to attend the last Public Talk in St Mary's Parish Room. We are aware that members enjoyed the more congenial environment that the Hall provides. But with the large numbers, often in excess of 120, that we attract to our talks, we are unable to use those facilities due to the limit on numbers allowed in the hall.

Our next talk on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April features Caroline Hawley of Hawley Antiques. After her talk she has offered to give valuations on 'small' items brought by members in the South transept over a glass of wine.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter.

*Dick Lidwell.*

## Dr Ivan Hall FSA

We received the sad news that Ivan Hall died on March 2<sup>nd</sup> just after the publication of the March News Letter. Maggie Carver, his daughter has kindly sent us the following biographical notes which contributed to the obituaries written for other publications.

Ivan Hall was born in Manchester in 1933. Precocious from an early age, he was moved from his primary school to his junior school early due to his advanced reading ability. His all-consuming passion for architecture was already evident when he won a scholarship to Manchester Grammar School (MGS). In his first year he skipped the school sports day to visit John Carr of York's Tatton Park. It's owner, Lord Egerton, found out and sent ten questions to the High Master of MGS for Ivan to answer to see if his interest was genuine. Lord Egerton was sufficiently impressed with his answers to make him a member of the Georgian Society (aged 12) and to introduce him to other country house owners. MGS' High Master told him that if he wanted to visit country houses again, he could do so, but he must let the school know. In his second year at MGS he won the architecture prize against sixth formers (a prize he won so often that the rules had to be changed) and this brought him to the notice of teacher Ernest Hollowell who nurtured his interest.



Ivan Hall - photo courtesy the Hall Family

He went on from MGS to Manchester University's School of Architecture but, preferring to be an architectural historian rather than design in the modernist or brutalist styles, he changed to studying Modern History, Economics and Politics. This was followed by an MA on Greek Revival Britain and a PhD on the Classical Architecture of Manchester. At this time, he met his life-long friends, Donald Buttress (later Surveyor of Westminster Abbey) and Ralph Emmanuel. Together they cycled round as many historic buildings as they could, often visiting them before they were demolished. This experience was formative in creating the conservationist zeal that persisted throughout his life, as well as the creative capacity to salvage fireplaces and other architectural ornaments from demolished buildings and make good use of them in restoration projects. It was with some superb carved fireplaces rescued from the demolished Drinkwater Park that he hoped to impress his future wife Elisabeth (nee Liebeschuetz) after they met during a trip to Castle Howard. Ivan was leading the trip on the house and Elisabeth on the gardens. Their partnership was close, happy and fruitful. Without Elisabeth's support, much of Ivan's lasting output could not have been achieved.

Ivan's first job was as a university lecturer in the Adult Education department of Hull University where he was able to use his prodigious factual and visual memory to lecture without notes, never repeating the same lecture series. He took his own photographs, made his own slides and generated a devoted set of class members. He had a rather cheeky way of getting into private historic houses by dazzling the owners with his expertise, thus generating a unique knowledge set.

He and his young family settled in the historic town of Beverley. The 18 years Ivan spent in Beverley during the 60s, 70s and early 80s were highly productive. It was a time when the accepted practice was to sweep away old buildings in favour of modern utilitarian convenience, destroying the heritage of many town centres across the country. Conservation was a dirty word. In Beverley, Hull and the surrounding district, due to his unrivalled expertise as well as his extraordinary passion and determined

dedication for the cause, Ivan led the fight for the preservation of many historic buildings, sometimes even whole streets. He believed that they could be sensibly re-purposed and that to maintain the historic integrity of a town, not only the outstanding examples of architecture needed to be preserved, but also those historic buildings that provided their setting. One of his tactics was to use his knowledge and meticulous research on buildings to get them Listed, making them more difficult to demolish.

In Beverley, he was involved in preserving houses in the majority of Beverley's historic streets: Ladygate, Saturday Market. Highgate, Railway Street, Flemingate, Keldgate, Newbegin, Hengate, Walkergate, Lairgate, Toll Gavel and of course, Beverley Friary. Challenged by the council to put his money where his mouth was, he bought a dilapidated medieval building in Ladygate, Beverley, earmarked to make way for an expanded bus station, and restored it. The building is still performing its original purpose as a retail shop today. Some years later Beverley Town Council recognised his contribution "The Thanks of Beverley Town Council and the People of Beverley are formally given to Dr Ivan Hall who, with his wife, Elisabeth, did so much to preserve the historic buildings and streets of Beverley when they were most under threat of destruction".

The fact that Hull has a historic quarter at all was down to the dedication of Ivan and others at a time when it was under mortal threat. However, he was less successful there and many buildings were demolished as his book on Georgian Hull testifies. His response was to get permission to save as many quality fittings as possible and then to sell them in aid of the restoration of Beverley Friary. His garage at home was stuffed with Hull's Georgian fireplaces which were sold for this purpose.

His last legal case in the early 1980s was famous but ultimately unsuccessful in which he and two other university lecturers tried to save the open space on the South side of Beverley Minster from development. The case went all the way up to the House of Lords and the fact that it was lost meant that he and his colleagues had huge legal fees to pay – not only their own but those of Beverley District Council and others. Generous supporters contributed but it was a major blow and a factor in his leaving Beverley. Nevertheless, the archives of newspapers over those years bear witness to his huge conservation effort and the considerable success he achieved, both locally and in some cases, such as Buxton Crescent, nationally. His lasting regret was that he was not able to save the demolition of Georgian buildings in his home city, Manchester.

At this time, alongside his conservation activity, Ivan wrote two well-received books, *Historic Beverley* and *Georgian Hull* with his wife, as well as other publications on Burton Constable Hall, Heath Hall and *Georgian Buxton*, and many articles on a broad range of architectural subjects for such magazines as *Country Life* and the *Burlington Magazine* as well as specialist publications. He made a significant contribution to the *Victoria History of the County of Yorkshire*, Beverley volume, writing the magisterial chapter on Secular Buildings. His talent for teaching was widely recognised and he lectured at the Architectural Association, the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, together with the schools of architecture in Hull and Cambridge and universities in North and South America. He taught his students how to observe buildings, urging them to look up.



Elisabeth and Ivan Hall - photo courtesy the Hall Family

He also established himself as the leading expert on the highly successful eighteenth-century architect, John Carr of York, visiting almost every one of his structures and carrying out extensive archival research.

He organised several exhibitions on John Carr and had hoped to produce a magnum opus on his works in which he would explain why he felt that John Carr was underrated and worthy of reassessment. Unfortunately, he hated writing and was unable to put it together, a fact which damaged his progress as an academic.

His superb knowledge of eighteenth-century architecture and preference for practical solutions meant that his advice was sought far and wide by country house owners. He made some notable discoveries including the Chippendale furniture at Burton Constable Hall.

In 1984 he left Hull University and became a Historic Buildings Officer at Historic England in London where his patch was the City of London. He loved this role and was often consulted by his colleagues, one of whom commented that Ivan remembered more than he had forgotten. He was no Luddite and was prepared to back good modern design. He retired 10 years later and moved back to Yorkshire. Sadly, his beloved wife died a year later and Ivan was left on his own with an uninhabitable Grade 1 Listed Queen Anne house to restore. In his grief, the house became his focus and he was able to use it as a canvas for the installation of all his finest architectural salvage and to decorate it with eye-catching flair and panache. There was one other thing in life apart from his wife and architecture that it was hard to be without – tea. He was a teetotaler who preferred his own blend of Typhoo and Twinings Earl Grey, brewed in a silver teapot and served in a Wedgwood teacup.

In 2023, his children and son-in-law finally managed to publish a book of his essays on John Carr edited by Ken Powell which the architectural historian Clive Aslet described as “Yorkshire gold”. In some ways this gave a glimpse of what this extraordinarily talented man could have produced and how he might have been better appreciated had he been able to write, but his life was one of considerable achievement nevertheless.

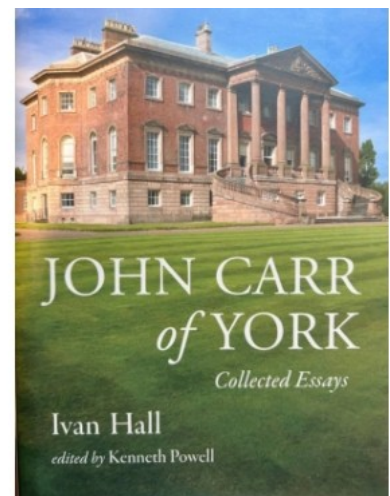
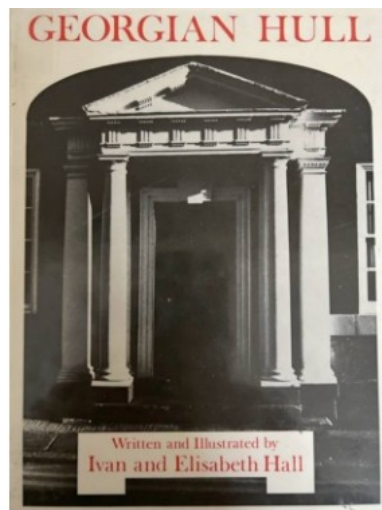
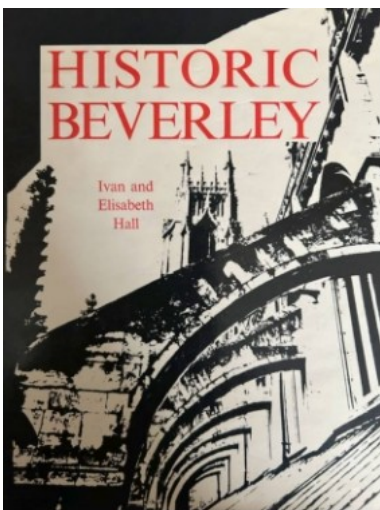


Photo of book covers courtesy *Rosie Ryan*

## Saturday Market:

Now the weather has improved good progress is being made with the laying of the natural York stone in the new pedestrian area, and the associated works. We look forward to enjoying the new space.



Saturday Market – photo courtesy Dick Lidwell

## Kitchen Lane:

Kitchen Lane is an ancient path appearing on maps in the medieval period as Bradwell Lane; then as Braithwell Gate leading to Braithwell Flat from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries before being recorded as Kitchen Lane in 1628.



Photo courtesy Dick Lidwell

The old brick wall was deteriorating and Beverley Town Council is undertaking proper repairs. In due course there are plans to erect a Civic Society history plaque.

## Lord Roberts Road site:

As mentioned in our earlier email, the Planning Inspectorate has dismissed the applicant's appeal on many grounds. The content is repeated below for the convenience of any members who may have missed the earlier email, giving further information and where to find the full report.

One can view the report for the decision on ERYC's Public Access website:

<https://newplanningaccess.eastriding.gov.uk/newplanningaccess/appealDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=SZOW6VBJOUB00>

Please note a few significant points within this lengthy document:

### **Main Issue**

*7. 'The main issue is whether the proposal would preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Beverley Conservation Area (the CA) and the effect on the setting of the nearby listed buildings, including the Grade I listed Beverley Minster.'*

### **Section 38 (part)**

*'I would further note the objections from the Council's Conservation Officer, the Town Council, the Civic Society, the Georgian Society and the large number of objections from members of the public on the basis of heritage harm.'*

### **Conclusion: 64.**

*The proposed development would conflict with the Act, the development plan and the Framework. There are no material considerations of sufficient weight that would lead me to conclude otherwise. Therefore, for the reasons given, I conclude that the appeal should be dismissed.*

Clearly The Society is pleased with the outcome, and we look forward to being involved along with other Community groups & organisations regarding any future plans for this highly important town centre site which will need to take full account of the Inspector's report.



Lord Roberts Road site – photo courtesy Dick Lidwell

## The Public Conveniences at the Station:

Despite lobbying by the Society, Graham Stuart and ERYC to get the repairs done by the Arch Company, they remain closed. They have been closed now for almost a year, which is totally unacceptable. The Arch Company is owned by the largest Private Equity company, Blackstones, and they have just opened a vast new head office in Cannon Street, London, see: <https://www.thearchco.com/news-and-reports/the-arch-company-announces-new-london-head-office-to-support-sustained-growth-of-workforce> to quote: 'so that we can focus on what is truly important – delivering the best service to our customers': What service?



Public Conveniences at Beverley Railway Station - photo courtesy *Dick Lidwell*

## The Beverley Friary:

Members will be aware that the Friary remains empty and untenanted. It is a Listed Building, Grade II\*, but unfortunately the listing doesn't record the wall paintings which are very rare examples of their period: Tudor/Elizabethan. In order to give them some protection, the Society, through the work of Barbara English, has applied to Historic England to add them to the Listing. Please see below an image of one of these precious paintings. The process will no doubt take some time, and we shall update you on progress.

*Dick Lidwell*



Beverley Dominican Friary wall painting no.4.  
photo courtesy *Barbara English*

**The following information is reproduced from the HEY History Calendar Facebook page, by kind permission of Carol Osgerby, developer of the site. Each month we will attempt to include entries from her website which have relevance to Beverley and the surrounding areas.**

**1st April 1299**, Edward I gave Hull the charter that created the new town of Kingston upon Hull. On the same day, he gave a charter to its rival port Ravenser Odd.

**2nd April 1380**, Alexander Neville, Archbishop of York, granted to the burgesses of Beverley the Westwood and all rights attached to the land.

**3rd April 1674**, Amos Cropper, 25, of Hull, was hanged at York for the murder of Joseph Beck of Dewsbury on the king's highway near Huddersfield. His body given to surgeons to be dissected.

**4th April 1654**, Emmot Laykes, wife of John Laykes, was fined in Patrington manor court for striking Gregory Bilton with a rolling-pin.

**5th April 1916**, Jesse Matthews died of shock in Barnsley Street, Hull, the only casualty of a Zeppelin raid which damaged a house in Portobello Street. The Zeppelin was hit by gunfire.

**6th April 1816**, George Hudson, aged 15 or 16, was fined 12s6d for bastardy. It appears he then left his affluent home in Howsham under a cloud and moved to York. He eventually became known as the 'Railway King'.

**7th April 1893**, a rioting Hull mob destroyed 37 bags of carrots being taken on rullies to the docks, and used them as missiles to attack the police.

**8th April 1421**, King Henry V presided over state business while at Howden, probably at the Bishop's Palace.

**9th April 1869**, the Attorney General moved that a Royal Commission be set up to enquire into corrupt practices at the general election in Beverley the previous year. At least 800 people had been bribed, and corruption at Beverley was said to be 'worse than at Norwich and Bridgewater put together'. The enquiry is said to have led directly to the 1872 Ballot Act.

**10th April 1733**, Thomas Pelling, the 'Flying Man', set up a tightrope between Pocklington church steeple and the Star Inn, and fell to his death; he is buried in the churchyard.

**11th April 1493**, William Vasour of Newton, Wilberfoss, died in a field in Sutton-on-Derwent after being attacked by Henry Taillour with a dagger. On 17<sup>th</sup> April, Taillour arrived at the church of St John, Beverley, and claimed sanctuary for the crime.

**12th April 627**, King Edwin of Northumbria convened his Great Council at Londesborough and agreed to adopt Christianity; King Edwin's high priest Coifi destroyed the pagan temple at Goodmanham.

**13th April 1743**, Mary Maister (nee Cayley), her baby son and 2 maidservants, died in a fire at the original Maister House, High Street, Hull, which spread quickly up the wooden staircase. Henry Maister rebuilt the house the following year with a stone staircase. This National Trust property is currently closed.

**14th April 1524**, Sir Robert Constable of Flamborough, with 100 men, attacked the Rokeby's manor house in Bishop Burton and abducted Ann Cresacre in a complex dispute over land and marriage agreements. Ann was 12 years old and an orphan. The case was heard in the Star Chamber. Ann eventually married the son of Sir Thomas More.

**15th April 1912**, Joseph Groves Boxhall, 28, was 4<sup>th</sup> Officer on the Titanic. He was in charge of lifeboat No.2, whose 25 passengers were the first survivors to reach the Carpathia. (b.23.3.1884 in Hull)

**16th April 1313**, Petronilla de Scarfon conveyed ownership of land to the East of Vicar Lane, Hull, to William Brimswein of Ottringham.

**17th April 1595**, a week after the birth of Frances Clifford at Londesborough House, her parents gave a feast for 70 people, including friends and family and local people; the menu included caviar, 11 types of fish, lamprey pies, turbot pies, eel, mutton, chicken and rabbit, salad, cheesecake and fruit tart and custard.

**18th April 1801**, Hull Trinity House gave financial support to 7 mariners who had returned home after being taken prisoner in the war against the French.

**19th April 1902**, Beilby, 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Wenlock, of Escrick, spoke at a public meeting in Beverley to recruit for an East Riding Yeomanry Regiment; the meeting was poorly attended, as it was Market Day.

**20th April 1602**, Robert Watkinson of Hemingbrough, aged 23, was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn, London, as a Catholic priest; he was arrested almost immediately on returning to England after ordination at Arras, France.

**21st April 1982**, the North Sea ferry Norland, captained by Don Ellerby, left Hull for Portsmouth, on the way to the Falklands as part of the Task Force, with 60 volunteers from the regular crew

**22nd April 1642**, James Duke of York, the King's son, aged 9, and the King's nephew, Prince Rupert of the Rhine, 23, arrived in Hull unannounced, with the country people arriving for market day.

**23rd April 1642**, Sir John Hotham refused to allow King Charles I and his forces to enter the town through Beverley Gate. Charles declared Sir John a traitor, and all who obeyed him guilty of high treason, and withdrew to Beverley.

**24th April 1882**, Hull Street Tramways Company broke a strike by drivers and conductors, by engaging staff to replace those on strike. The strike was for improved working conditions, and resulted in the formation of the Hull Tramway Men's Union.

**25th April 1524**, The Guild of Minstrels met in St Mary's Beverley, as they did on this date each year, and revealed the new pillar which the guild paid for, to repair the damage done to the church in 1520 when the tower fell.

**26th April 1867**, the Hull whaler Diana returned to port after 353 days away, mostly spent trapped in ice in Frobisher Bay in the Arctic. 10 (or 13) men died of scurvy and dysentery. Captain John Gravill is buried in Hull General Cemetery.

**27th April 1314**, King Edward II stayed in Beverley on his way to fight the Scots at Bannockburn.

**28th April 1489**, Henry Percy, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Northumberland, was lynched at Cocklodge near Thirsk by a rioting mob protesting against high taxes, during the Yorkshire Rebellion. He was buried in a newly built chapel in Beverley Minster.

**29th April 1520**, the tower of St Mary's Beverley collapsed across the nave, killing many people in the church for Mass. A piece of 16thC oak carved with an inscription to the event remains in the church. Sir Richard Rokeby and his wife Dame Joan gave £200 to rebuild the church.

**30th April 1584**, Walter Peck and others were fined 2s8d for buying 200 fish in the Humber before it was landed in Hull. Robert Jackson and others were fined on the same day for the same offence, a total of 53s 4d.



## For your Diary



### Of Interest to Our Members

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April - 2.00pm

East Yorkshire Local History Society

**Recent Discoveries in Roman Brough**

Dr Peter Halkon

The Champney Treasure House, Education  
Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

£4.50 per person, BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April - 7.15pm

Hessle Local History Society

**Hessle in the 1930s**

Ian Wilkinson

Hessle Town Hall, South Lane

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - 7.00pm

Hull Civic Society

AGM followed by **@Hurray for Hullywood**

Paul Schofield

Holiday Inn Express

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April - 2.00pm

Hull Civic Society

**50 years of the Hull and ER Campaign for Real Ale  
(CAMRA)**

John Rushforth

The New Clarence, Charles Street, Hull

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April - 2.00pm

Hedon and Local District History Society

**Give us a 'V' – Hull Vikings Speedway**

**Memories**

Alan Beadle

Hedon Methodist Church

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April - 7.30pm

Hull and East Riding Historical Association

**Elizabeth I, a difficult Queen**

Helen Good

Nordic Centre (Danish Church), Hull HU12PN

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April - 12.00-1.30pm

Hull Minster Heritage Talk

**Ships sail into the Heart of Hull**

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April - 12.00-1.30pm

Hull Minster Heritage Talk

**18<sup>th</sup> C Whalebone Tankard**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April - 7.30pm

Barton Upon Humber Civic Society

**Archaeological Ariel Photography in North  
Lincs**

Simon Tomson

Joseph Wright Hall, Queen Street, Barton  
upon Humber

# New Paths Music Festival

15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April

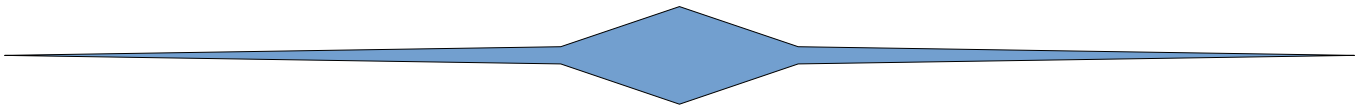


This year is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Paths Music which was founded in 2016 in memory of the late Dr Alan Spedding MBE (who was, of course, for over 40 years the much-loved Director of Music at the Minster). Since then, we've mounted 15 festivals at which 34,000 seats have been taken, featuring some of the world's finest classical musicians.

This year's programme is a real celebration of our first decade, with 35 events in a dozen venues, including the Bach cello suites played by the great Norwegian cellist Jonathan Aasgaard across six different venues including Toll Gavel United Church, St John of Beverley RC Church and the Memorial Hall. And the 'musical merry-go-round' on Saturday (18 April) in particular should be lots of fun: with music from morning til' night in spaces throughout the town, including the Market Cross, the Guildhall, the Masonic Temple, the East Riding Theatre, the Minster, St Mary's and the Armstrong Centre!

To find out more and purchase tickets go to [www.newpathsmusic.com](http://www.newpathsmusic.com)

OR Beverley TIC 01482 391672



## Beverley on Film



Ian Wolstencroft from Hull Civic Society is looking to produce a film showing Beverley from the 1960's to the present day. It will include drone footage from the air, a brief history of Beverley and footage of events and landmarks from years past which some of us will remember.

Ian has asked if anyone has any photographs or films of:-

- Events and occasions (Walkington Hayride, Jubilees, pageants, the Races, classic cars etc)
- Shipbuilding and industries on the Beck
- Churches, Buildings and landmarks
- The Railway Station (steam trains passing through, goods yard etc) The Market and Christmas Markets, the Bar (with EYMS buses going through)
- And anything else that you think may be of interest!

Please get in contact with Ian by email at [iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk](mailto:iwolstencroft@iwolstencroft.karoo.co.uk)

## An appeal for volunteers



**The Beverley Walking Festival** has been operating for over 20 years. As time has passed, we have lost some walk leaders and gained new ones. The core group is now older, and we are finding it hard to recruit new leaders. We recognise that this is a problem facing many volunteer organisations.

The walks serve a number of purposes:

- Introduce new residents of Beverley to their town, which is increasingly important
- Support the interests of many older residents.
- Support tourism in the town.

We feel that the Civic Society and the town would benefit from continuing with these history walks.

We currently offer the following:

Elwell Walk	Stoned in Beverley
Quiet Gardens of Beverley	Tipsters and tricksters – racing in Beverley
A Slice of Beverley Life	Mary Wollstonecraft
Windows on Beverley via St Mary's	What you don't know about Saturday Mkt
500 Years of history in under 500 steps	St Mary's Cemetery Tour
They did not come home.	Green Plaques
Walking with Words	Big Splash – Beverley's shipyards
From the old to the new.	

We wondered if any members of the Civic Society would like to offer a few hours per year as walk leaders. The festival is in September, and people normally undertake one or two walks. We can provide all the information needed to conduct the walks and we would happily help new leaders. Volunteers can choose and research their own walks to add to, or in place of existing walks.

The ER provide insurance for all leaders. They also advertise the walks in their brochure, on their website and via their social media platforms.

The current leaders all enjoy the walks and the interactions with a wide range of people. The maximum number per walk is 25 and because the walks are free, we do not need to worry about handling cash. All bookings are dealt with by the ER Events Team.

We hope to recruit members of the Society to help, either from the committee or the wider membership. If anyone might be interested, we could meet with them to give more details.

Colin Bradshaw, on behalf of the walk leaders, and we hopefully look forward to hearing from you.

**If you are interested please email Colin Bradshaw direct: [ben.lui@btinternet.com](mailto:ben.lui@btinternet.com)**



# Long Shadows

Dr Alan Deighton

Beverley Civic Society  
Talk on Thursday  
12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Thursday's talk in the Parish Hall was well attended despite the wild weather. We welcomed Dr Alan Deighton to talk about a book written by a forgotten Hull author George Warburton Sizer, and the pioneering feminist and pacifist, Vera Brittain.

The book is based on the age-old theme of soldiers returning from the war to find things not as they were, and the welcome home perhaps not as warm as they expected. The long term physical and physiological problems were not treated as sympathetically as one would hope for now.

Vera Brittain 1893-1970 had written 'Testament of Youth' in 1933 after the First World War had claimed her brother and fiancé. She had met Winifred Holtby at Oxford so frequently came to the area and hence met George Sizer. He was born in Hull 1897 and began a career in journalism later becoming a Civil Servant, visiting claimants of disability benefit and checking the validity of their claim. Sizer had lost a foot 19 days before the war came to an end, hence his empathy for injured servicemen.

'Long Shadows', despite joint authors, was almost entirely the work of Sizer. He started writing in 1945 and completed it in 1947. It failed to find a publisher so he contacted Brittain with a different project—a series of interviews with injured servicemen. She promised her support but argued a better book would be just one person (Sizer's) experiences. For this Brittain wrote the preface and the final chapter, a reflection on what conclusions the book might suggest. The novel was finally accepted for publication by a Hull based publisher A Brown and Sons Ltd. Sizer and Brittain then turned to the difficult, sometimes fruitless task of publicising the book and the plight of the war-disabled.

The story is a work of fiction but has elements of Sizer's life. The main character, Pallister, a doctor's son living in Beverley by the Bar, loses a leg in the First World War. There are references to the discomfort of wearing false legs and all the other consequences of disability which required a cast of characters to illustrate, including the court system which showed little understanding of soldiers who commit crimes when damaged by wartime experiences. Pallister has a son (Sizer didn't) who then gets injured in the Second World War, which shows nothing changes and the novel has come full circle.

Vera Brittain concludes that we should compensate these men best by working for peace.

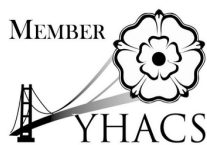
Dr Deighton then concluded with the statistics from more recent wars including the 20-50,000 amputees of the Ukraine to underline that the novel has not lost its contemporary relevance.

# Beverley Civic Society Event

A talk by Caroline Hawley of  
Hawleys Auctioneers and Valuers



7.30pm, Thursday 9 April 2026  
St Mary's Church, Beverley  
Non-members are welcome £5



## DISCLAIMER

The Beverley and District Civic Society assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of this Newsletter.