

# Formby Civic News

Formby Civic Society



May 2005

## FORMBY'S 'NODDING DONKEYS'

The Formby Civic Society, on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, hosted a presentation by Dr Richard Worden, a geologist from the University of Liverpool. He gave a talk on 'The Formby Oilfield' to an audience of over one hundred people at the Ravenmeols Community Centre. Mr Alan Sampson, a former Formby resident, whose interest in the oilfield and its 'nodding donkey' oil-pump started when he was a schoolboy, had triggered interest in the topic. Now retired and living in North Wales, Mr. Sampson was the special guest of the Society, and listened attentively to the latest discoveries outlined by Dr Worden. The speaker explained how oil in the Formby oilfield was originally derived from deeply buried Carboniferous rocks at a depth of about 2,000 meters. The porous rock contains oil and gas that originated from organic algal material later covered by sediments countless millions of years ago, and is currently being extracted by BHP with their Duncan, Hamilton

and Lennox rigs visible from the Formby foreshore. In past geological times some of this oil migrated from deep strata into overlying sandstones close to the surface and was trapped by a cap of boulder clay. Modern research shows that the chemical profile of oils from the oil and gas rigs in Liverpool Bay is identical to that extracted by the onshore Formby oil well which operated from 1939 until 1966. In collaboration with Professor Mukherjee, a visiting research worker at Liverpool University, Dr Worden has studied modern satellite images of the Formby area, using European Space Agency data. The images, shown to the Civic Society audience, pinpoint exactly where oil seepages appear to have occurred through the

boulder clay affecting the health of vegetation. Satellite image analysis suggests a number of previously unsuspected locations of subsurface oil accumulation in the Formby area not explored by drilling in the late 1930s. Whereas the big oil companies are unlikely to be interested in the amounts involved, valued at only a few million pounds, the newly identified locations, roughly south east of Woodvale aerodrome, may represent oil deposits ripe for exploitation. Following his talk, Dr Worden estimated that exploratory drilling would cost only a few thousand pounds for each location investigated and that the returns could be substantial. Oil from the Formby oilfield is 'clean' with low sulphur content and little need for refining



*One of the Formby oil-wells; "nodding donkeys" 1949*

### In this issue:-

Planning Matters	2
Community Centre	2
AGM Chairman's Report	3
Treasurer's Report	4
History Group	4
Amenities	5
Art Group	6
Fornby Nursing	6
Asparagus Feast	7
Bequests	7
Harry Bevan	7
Programme	8

# Planning Matters - Ray Derricott

The following are matters of concern:

## ***Asbestos Waste Dumping at Formby Golf Club;***

A recent TV programme called 'Dumping on Britain' showed 'Southport Skips' dumping toxic asbestos' waste onto a land fill site at Formby Hall Golf Club and another site in West Lancashire. which was being prepared as a wildlife site! The Environment Agency made an urgent site visit and confirmed the finding of (active) asbestos on the ground surface at the Golf Club. This is a serious matter and its proper removal was immediately arranged under their supervision.

## ***Cloisters Car Park Development.***

The developers of more shopping facilities on the car park behind Boots and Kwik Save have submitted a new

plan. The shop units will be of two stories. They also plan to demolish the present public Toilet Block and rebuild it at a new site a few metres away. There is no phasing of this development and *we could therefore be without public toilets during the period of building.* . The only facilities will therefore be at Morrisons . I checked the situation with the Planning Department and the person who is dealing with this is on holiday until May 16. I have written on behalf of the Society about the issue..

## ***St Peter's Old Vicarage.***

There is a proposal to change the position of the front door on the Old Vicarage of St Peters in Green Lane. The building is listed and in a Conservation Area .The Council Conservation Officer has visited the site and has given permission for the altera-

tion given that it is completed with original door, frames and bricks.

***Wicks Lane Path*** is still closed and there is some concern from the NT that the fencing being put up by the developers will block an existing path over the adjoining fields. The National Trust are looking into this.

## ***Mast appeal;***

Hutchinson 3G UK limited have appealed against the Council's decision to turn down the application for the siting of a mast west of Liverpool. The site is on the bend on the entrance to Formby and near to the residential development that has replaced the Jet Garage.

## ***Skateboard Facilities;***

.....***See page 7***

## Community Centre needed

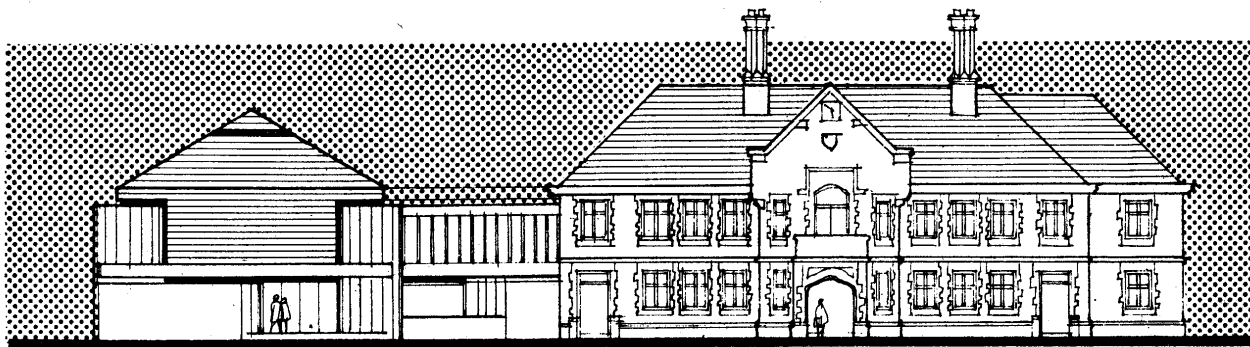
The Society offers its congratulations to Claire Curtis-Thomas on her re-election success and looks forward to discussing with her, her thoughts on local issues reported in the Formby Times, particularly the lack of an adequate Civic/Community Centre in the town and the possibility of the 'soon to become redundant' Holy Trinity School becoming a new community centre.

The society has in the past carried out a survey of local voluntary or-

ganisations which revealed a level of dissatisfaction with a existing facilities. We badly need a better meeting-place than that currently provided by Ravenmeols Community Centre. This could provide a base not only for better leisure and indoor sports facilities but also exhibitions, music events and drama. Such a provision was envisaged as long ago as 1971, when at the request of the then Formby Urban District Council, the Formby Times ran an opinion poll. The proposal at that time was for additional

facilities to be added to the then Council Offices. This was not in fact carried out and in 1974 Formby Urban District Council was disbanded. Now the Council Offices themselves have been demolished and the site lost we must look for new opportunities. We have already raised this issue with the recently created Formby Parish Council and look forward to

***Below; What might have been! The proposed new Civic Centre in 1971.***



# Annual General Meeting - Chairman's Report

This has been a busy year for the Society, its officers and committee and I would like to start by thanking them all for their sterling work during the year. I would particularly thank our Hon Secretary, David Willis and Winter Programme Secretary John Turner. Both have been very active. We have enjoyed a most interesting programme of speakers on a number of different topics, many having local significance.

In addition the Art Group and History Group Secretaries have arranged interesting programmes for their two different clienteles.

As you know the monitoring of Planning Applications and proposals is also one of the most important functions of the Society and this year has been ably supervised by Ray Derri-cot. Ray spends a lot of time in direct contact with the Planning Department and also helping monitor proposals coming to the Area Committee. We were successful in opposing 'Round-about' advertising. A proposal put forward by the Society some years ago for the designation of a number of foot paths linking St Luke's Church Road, to the Ravenmeols dunes, finally came to fruition and have now all been designated as rights of way. We have also continued fighting to have the nearer section of Wicks Lane Path 'designated' as a public right of way and been involved in discussions with the developer of Larkhill Farm on their proposals for that site.

Two years ago a small 'Membership and Fund-raising' sub committee was set up and have made some helpful progress particularly in relation to production for sale of attractive notelets based on drawings by Muriel Sibley. We hope these will be popular and raise some income for the Society. The production of a calendar has also been considered. A new Membership Application form was designed and produced.

The committee as a whole has worked hard but I would particularly like to thank my Vice-Chairman,

Alan Burton who in addition has given practical help in organising our store room.

Topics discussed during the year have included the possibility of Formby having a farmers' market. This was discussed with the newly created Parish Council but no final decision has as yet been taken. Summer activities included an evening visit to the Freshfield Dune Heath on 10<sup>th</sup> June and a day out to Norton Priory.

The conference on Sefton's Coastal Heritage arranged in conjunction with the Sefton Coast Partnership was attended by 170 participants. It is now hoped that the proceedings will be published by a Sefton Library Services at the end of this year. Another successful special event was the National Science Week Lecture when our Speaker was Dr Ann Worsley of Edge Hill College. This was the first occasion we have used the new 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre at Formby High School.

Our annual dinner held in February must be considered our most important social event of the year and was enjoyed by more than 50 members and guests, our guest of Honour being the Reverend Professor David Taylor, Chairman of Little Altcar Parish Council and his wife.

It is good to report that we are at last

making progress with our archives. One of our most important possessions is the 1845 Formby Tithe Map and Schedule. A great deal of hard work was put into compiling a card index for this some years ago. Now with the aid of a hardworking student volunteer, Joseph Fielding, this index is being 'digitised' in a searchable computer format. We are now nearly halfway through a total of 2000 entries. This project has already attracted the interest of the Lancashire Place-name Survey, which in turn is part of a national survey.

Finally the work of the Society was literally 'show-cased' during March; a display being set up by Peter Lucas in a newly available and prominent position in the Duke Street Library. Communications about and with the Society have continued to be greatly aided by the Society website set up two of years ago with the help of Sam Gerrard. A small sub-committee is now to review the content and presentation of the website with a view to increasing its content and making it even more interesting and informative.

I think we can say that we have enjoyed an interesting and productive year and now looking forward to an 'Asparagus Weekend' to be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> /21<sup>st</sup>, organised jointly with the National Trust.

## ***Honorary Life Membership for Peter and Shelagh Lucas***

The Society has over the years honoured long standing and hardworking members by making them Honorary Life Members. A list of former Life Members is provided in Jean Beer's 'Short History'.

Peter and Shelagh Lucas were so honoured at the AGM. They have both been active in the Society for over thirty years. Peter came on to the Committee in 1972 and was Chairman, 1976 – 1978. Together with Joy West he helped establish the 'Formby Society Museum', opened in 1978. He has continued his active interest and support for the Museum ever since. He helped with much of the valuable historical activities of the Society, including the indexing of the Tithe Map. In addition he was actively involved in getting Formby's only Conservation Area in Green Lane designated in the 1980's and after the creation of the Park Road Community Centre in 1985 he acted as representative for the Society and a Trustee on its Committee until the last year. He was Chairman again in 1996 – 1998. He and Shelagh continue as an active and wise members of the Society and Peter recently put together a splendid display at the Duke Street Library showing something of the work and interests of the Society.

## Treasurer's Annual Report by Mike Belshaw

The accounts are once again in two parts, firstly the Millennium Fund Account, and then the accounts for the normal activities of the Society. During the year the Society acted as banker for the Coastal Heritage Conference in September, utilizing the Millennium Account. A grant of £2,500 was received from Sefton, and after all Conference expenses had been met, £2,412 remains for the publication costs of the Proceedings. Millennium interest is now being retained in the Account and not transferred to the General Account as previously.

Society income overall is down slightly on last year. Membership income is marginally reduced due to loss of members the previous year, but remains by far the major portion of the Society's income. With the increased subscription levels agreed for 2005, it is to be expected

that some loss of membership will occur this year, but our subscriptions remain modest by comparison with other organisations. A charge of £1 for visitors at meetings has balanced a reduction in the surplus from the annual Art Exhibition, which was effectively rained-off.

Gift Aid remains our second largest source of income, and I am grateful to the many members who have agreed to 'gift-aid' their subscriptions. The Society is appreciative of all donations, large or small; the largest was £48 received from contributions at the funeral service for life and founder member Brenda Lindsay. Expenditure overall is only slightly greater than last year. Meeting room hire costs have gone up, and insurance costs are likely to rise in the current year, but your officers have maintained modest expense claims and this has helped to provide

a very satisfactory surplus for the year of £631.

I would remind members of the Inland Revenue's new charities donation scheme, introduced last year for self-assessment returns. It is now possible to nominate any tax repayments as a donation to the Society, quoting the allocated unique reference code YAH46KG — this is listed on the Inland Revenue website under the name of the Society. The new arrangement is in addition to the valuable Gift Aid scheme, which continues as before for those members paying Income Tax.

Finally, we have a new auditor this year, and I would like to thank John Kershaw for efficiently carrying out the audit of the accounts.

## History Group Report - Barbara Yorke

The History Group has had seven meetings, all well attended, at Ravenmeols Community Centre and I would like to claim the excellent if somewhat wet summer outing to Norton Priory was partly a History Group activity!

Jennifer Lewis gave an excellent talk on St Luke's Old Burial Ground and it was good to see so many parishioners from St Luke's in the audience. Mr Woolley from the Bootle History Society gave us his memories of Bootle. Jim Morris from the Southport Cinematic Group showed us two excellent films about Martin Mere and Lord Street. These were available for sale, including two DVD/videos of the Sefton Coast. Several members took advantage of this

Judge Grundy unfortunately had to cancel his talk in the January but we will rebook him for the autumn. As

an alternative we looked at some of

---

***“The feedback at the end of the evening was interesting and this is something we will hope to repeat”***

---

the Society's slides of Formby in the past.

In February we divided into small groups and spent an interesting evening looking at some of the society's old scrapbooks. The feedback at the end of the evening was interesting and this is something we will hope to repeat. The March meeting gave us an opportunity to revisit the Formby Tapestry. We really are very fortunate to have such a unique historical item, also preserved as slides and photographs.

Our members evening was excellent. Pat McGregor showed some fascinating slides of some early Society activities, Alan Burton gave us some insights into his interesting family history and Peter Lucas read extracts from an Edwardian girl's diary. This was as fresh as the day it was written. I would express our thanks to all who contributed to such a pleasant evening.

We have had some interesting requests for help including St Luke's Church who are celebrating their 150 anniversary in May and invited us to contribute to their special anniversary publication. We have been able to provide some relevant historical material and this accidentally led to our discovering that we have some very interesting information on the Formby Cricket Club Pavilion!

*Continued on next page, column 3*

# Amenities Secretary's Report by Ray Derricott

In planning matters the year has once more been dominated by applications from mobile telephone companies to improve reception in the Formby area. There is no doubt that reception in Formby needs to be improved to meet the demands of individuals and business. The Society's policy has been to object to proposals for the siting of masts in residential areas, especially, in those areas that are recognised by the Sefton Unitary Development Plan as being characteristic and worthy of preservation. Sefton Council's embargo on the erection of masts on Council property has led to the wholesale rejection of many applications. This has resulted in appeals against the Council's decisions. Several are taking place at the moment. The Society is fully consulted in these matters and has suggested many times that sites should be sought alongside the by-pass. The latest application from Vodafone seems to have taken this advice. The Society is not objecting to this proposal.

Permission has been given to develop a Golf Academy at Formby Hall Golf Club. The Society was consulted about this. Permission has been granted subject to a list of 27 conditions~ These include the provision of more parking facilities, careful attention to access to and from the site, restriction of the movement of waste and heavy materials to and from the site and restrictions of the use of floodlights. Full consideration has to be given to the 'preservation of the ecology of the area, particularly in relation to bats and squirrels. One section of the site has been designated as being of particular archaeological significance. No development shall take place within this area. The Gymnasium and the swimming pool will not be open to the public on a commercial basis. The level of consultation on this plan has impressed the Society. It is thought that the development will help to enhance the image of Formby and has not objected to the plan. . .

A section of the Wicks

Lane Path that was omitted from Sefton's maps in the 1970s has now been designated as a footpath and a bridle path. This path remains closed at the date of writing. New fencing is being erected and when this is in place the path should be opened. The Council's Footpaths Officer is pressing for restoring full access. The Amenities Secretary is a member of the Environment Agency's Local Access Forum that is helping to draw up an official map of approved footpaths. The Downholland Brook footpath is being included in the new map. .

The junction between Church Road and Alt road is one of the main routes into Formby. Turning right at this junction into Church Road is a particular dangerous manoeuvre. There are also developments on the site at this corner. Plans have been approved to refurbish and extend 2 Church Road (which is a listed building) and an application has been submitted for the erection of a garage. The siting of a new property on the site has also been advertised but, to date, no plan has been submit-

---

***“Full consideration has to be given to the ‘preservation of the ecology of the area, particularly in relation to bats and squirrels.’”***

---

ted. Whatever is developed will put more pressure on the junction. A plan to widen the junction has been priced at £30000. If plans go ahead Local Councillors will ask the developer to contribute to the costs of the widening. Another plan is to restrict the junction to left turns only.

Sefton has allocated around £50000 to provide a skate-boarding park in Formby. The Officer advising the Council has recommended that this should be located in Duke Street Park. The Police, local Councillors and the Society consider this location to be undesirable. The Park is too easily reached from the station

and is in an area that the police also find difficult to patrol because of constant anti-social behaviour by the young. All objectors to the Duke Street site favour placing it in Deansgate Urban Green Space. This also brings objections. The whole plan was referred back to the Council Officer from Leisure Services, especially as the plan is to include a 'Graffiti Board'. This development will be monitored closely

## History Group Report ....continued

*from previous page.*

We have been invited to help with an ambitious school project being carried out by staff and pupils of Christ the King HS, Birkdale. I was able to give some very bright pupils some background information about the history of Formby Point and the Formby Lifeboat. They are using this information to create a special website. As a result of contact made at the Heritage Lottery Workshop with Simon Wilson, who provides an Archive advisory service, he has offered to look at our archives and give us his advice. In the meantime we will provide him with more information. Former FCS Chair and Hon Secretary Jean Beer kindly responded to our appeal for some practical help and as a result we may soon be able to make some progress. An early task is to improve the physical storage by the acquisition of better storage envelopes, boxes, etc. Space however remains another serious problem.

The 'digitisation' of the Tithe Map Schedule index cards being carried out voluntarily by Joseph Fielding a Range High School Pupil is making excellent progress and through our last newsletter has even attracted the encouragement and interest of the English Place Name Society

## Art Group Report by Barbara Mossop

Due to the wet weather last year we only managed to go out sketching twice, once in the Spring to Lydiat Hall farm and again in the Autumn, when we joined in the National Trust's Painting Day in Freshfield Pinewoods. We did however have a fine day for our visit to the National Wildlife Exhibition in July. This was held at a garden centre in Wirral and we rounded off the outing with ice-creams in Parkgate. -

Other exhibitions visited in the year were to the Chambers Hardman house in Liverpool, Crosby Art Group's exhibition in the Civic Hall, and several visits to the Gallery in the newly adapted and very attractive Parbold Mill.

Our exhibition in June took place on a cold, wet windy day. There were few people in the village and our members are to be congratulated. on staying there all day. We were very grateful for the large umbrella and flask of coffee provided by the Chairman. We now own the stands that we use for the Exhibition; they are kept safely in a member's garage in Birkdale but, to reduce transport costs, we are actively looking for storage space in Formby.

We had our usual get-together in January, held once again, at Lydiat Hall Farm. About 6 weeks later, members who had said they would like, as a Committee, to be involved in arranging the Annual Exhibition,

met at the same venue and this proved to be a very successful meeting.

During the year I have expressed a wish to stand down, as Art Secretary after about 12 years, whilst of course still being interested in the Group's activities. I have tried to find someone willing to take over my role and to represent the Group on the Society's committee, unfortunately without success. However, knowing that arrangements for this year's Exhibition are all in hand, and members having also put forward ideas for the monthly meetings, maybe someone will come forward at the AGM. I would of course give them all the help I could.

## A hundred years of Nursing in Formby by Barbara Yorke

***Today we all take for granted our excellent community nursing services, freely available in our own homes, to all who require them. In this issue, I would like to go back exactly 100 years to 1905 when skilled nursing was only available to those who could afford it.***

Formby Parish Priest, Monsignor Car, realised the need among the poor for such help as only a trained nurse could give; and on June 19, 1905, he spoke to a group of Formby ladies who formed a "Ladies Committee to collect subscriptions sufficient to maintain two District Nurses". Thus the Formby District Nursing Ladies Committee was born. Fortunately a complete set of Minute Books have survived and they give an excellent social picture of life in Formby during the first half of the last century.

The aim of the Ladies Commit-

tee was to provide two District Nurses (holding Midwifery certificates) who would provide nursing services to all subscribers of one

shilling or more. Non subscribers 6d a visit and maternity cases 13 shillings. "All fees both midwifery and other to be ready before the nurse is sent for". It was decided that £125 per year should meet expenses. £30 each salary, £30 board and lodging and £2.10s. 10d for uniforms. The first big fund raising event was a ball in Victoria Hall. Local churches were asked to give one 'offertory' a year.

The nurses had to give detailed and regular reports on their work and their behaviour was strictly controlled. One nurse was reprimanded for wearing her uniform when off duty. At first the nurses had to walk but later were provided with bicycles. It was not until 1947 that a car was provided. In the early years it is recorded that a nurse might attend a first illegitimate birth but must have the committee's permission before

attending a second!

In 1937 the committee opened a small maternity home in which "cases could be taken which would otherwise have to go to hospital, a great boon for mothers in Formby". I wonder if any readers can remember where it was and how long it functioned? The committee at first put birth announcements in the Liverpool Echo if the parents had not already done so. In its first few years the committee were to record a big drop in infant mortality rates. In 1907, 544 maternity and 2,160 other visits were made and over the years the work increased.

Problems encountered by the committee are still being faced by medical charities today. When they held their first AGM in a church hall, so few people turned up that it was decided to revert back to the practice of holding it in a member's house. I would be delighted to hear from readers with more memories of our district nursing service before 1948.

# Asparagus Feast

This event to be held at the Freshfield Hotel, Freshfield, 7pm in Friday 20th May will be held shortly after we go to press with this issue. It is aimed to be ‘an evening of Asparagus enjoyment’ – to eat local asparagus straight from Larkhill Farm; to hear and talk about asparagus history and hear some specially composed poems and ‘asparagus-friendly’ live music’ from the Jill Fielding Band.

The entertainment will include some fascinating readings from various sources together with the first ever reading of a specially composed ‘ballad’ poem from David Davies, telling the story of an actual World War 2 incident at Jimmy Lowe’s Pinetree Farm at the height of Liverpool’s ‘May Blitz’ in 1941.

Readers will include well known local ‘thespians’ Ruth and Richard Woodward. We hope that as many members as possible will join us for this event, the profits from which will go to the [Neptune Coastline Campaign](#).

## Bequests

There are several ways you can leave a gift to the Formby Civic Society, among them: Residual gift – when you bequeath the residue from your estate after all other bequests, costs etc have been deducted.

Pecuniary gift – when you leave a specific sum or a percentage of your estate – for example specifying a gift of 5% of the value of your estate.

Specific legacy – your Formby photo collection, for example. A form of words could be based on: “I give the sum of (*amount in figures and words*)

All, or *share* (e.g. one third), of my estate (*Write whatever you want to give*), to the Formby Civic Society, whose Secretary currently resides at (Yorke address), registered charity number . . . ., to be applied by the Society for its charitable purposes, and I further direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other authorised officer shall be sufficient discharge to my Executors”

# News in Brief.....

## Skateboarding

The Society has written to Sefton Council supporting the efforts of our town's youngsters to persuade Sefton to erect a skateboarding area for their use. It seems some £50000 has been set aside for this development but we find difficulty understanding the council's arguments for proposing to have it in Duke St. Park. We think that location will encourage further unruly behaviour given its proximity to the railway station and its current attraction to youngsters from south of the borough. The Deansgate field area is larger and (from talks with a local skateboard enthusiast) is thought to be more suitable. We are also concerned that - even if the money does eventually get spent on building the attraction - within a short period the council will 'walk away' by not providing adequate cash in the maintenance budget. We're raising these issues with the Council and will let you know what we hear back

## Art Group News ....by Barbara Mossop.

Our Exhibition takes place on 25<sup>th</sup> June. Arrangements are in hand and help would be appreciated. Entries to be returned to Pam Hanley by 18<sup>th</sup> June. We have arranged a visit to Brookes Asparagus Farm to take place during the second week in June, when we will paint the ‘harvesting’ of the asparagus. As the dates will not be known until nearer the time, please phone me on 11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup> June for details.

It is hoped that some Art Group Members will join in the outings arranged by the Society this summer, with a view to sketching / painting, if nothing else. The visit to Northwich and the Anderton Lift Bridge would be an interesting opportunity. On 6<sup>th</sup> July Art Group members will visit Southport Pier. With the morning light and people walking along the pier, this could almost resemble a Lowry painting.

Anyone interested in visiting the National Wildlife Exhibition at Burton, followed by sketching the Dee Estuary at the end of July, please contact me.

**Diary Dates:- Second week in June; Painting at Larkhill Farm; (phone me first). 25th June; Open Air Art Exhibition. 6th July; Southport Pier**

<h2>William Henry Bevan</h2>	
<p>Harry was born in Hoylake and married Gladys in in Formby in 1942. During the Second World War he served in the King’s Liverpool Regiment and was rescued from Dunkirk in 1940. He went back to France and saw action on ‘Gold Beach’ during the invasion 1944. After the war he worked on the Railway and then became Caretaker at the old Woodlands School until it closed, when he retired. He was a dedicated Coastguard for many years and was awarded the Queen’s Medal for long service.</p>	<p>He loved his ‘pint’ and his bowls at the Railway Hotel but cared for his wife Gladys with great dedication for four years prior to her death. Gladys is remembered as a founder member of the Society and a very keen participant and leader of several of the Society’s former special interest groups. Both Gladys and Harry were made Honorary Life Members of the Society in 1983. A great ‘character’, he lived life to the full and will long be remembered for his jovial disposition .</p>



---

## Formby Civic Society

Chair; Dr Reg Yorke, 3 Wicks Lane,  
Formby. 01704 872187

Hon Secretary; David Willis,  
5 Phillips Close, Formby. 878994

Treasurer; Mike Belshaw,  
38 Graburn Rd, Formby. 01704  
874940

History Group; Barbara Yorke  
Art Group Rep; Barbara Mossop  
Amenity Secretary; Ray Derricott  
Newsletter Editor; Dr Reg Yorke  
Distributing Secretary;  
Elsie Winthorpe

[www.formbycivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.formbycivicsociety.org.uk)



*The Formby Civic Society is entirely self-supporting, relying on subscriptions and donations to carry out its functions of protecting Formby's heritage. Many members are not enthused by fund raising activity but an effective way of helping the Society is to leave it an article or sum of money in your will. Inheritance tax is complicated but there may also be tax advantages in leaving a legacy to a charity such as the Society. If you have an existing will you can change it at any time by adding a codicil. Your solicitor should check the final wording but the Secretary can provide some example wordings. Articles, such as photographs and other memorabilia, may be particularly appropriate to add to the Society's collection and for display to the next generation of 'Formbyites'. And, of course, such a gift whilst you're still alive to see its use by the Society would be even better!*

---

## Summer Programme

Friday 20th May; 7pm	Freshfield Hotel	Formby Asparagus Feast (Ticket Only)
Thursday 16th June, 7 pm	Altcar Rifle Range	Visit to see wildlife and ancient barn
Saturday 25th June.	Chapel Lane, Formby	Open-Air Art Exhibition.
Wednesday 20th July	Northwich; (Canals and Salt)	Summer Outing; (Details and booking form enclosed).
Saturday 20th August, 2.-4.30pm	Briardale, 3 Wicks Lane, Formby.	Garden Party

---