

# Formby Civic News



The Formby Civic Society Newsletter

Registered charity No 516789



April 2018

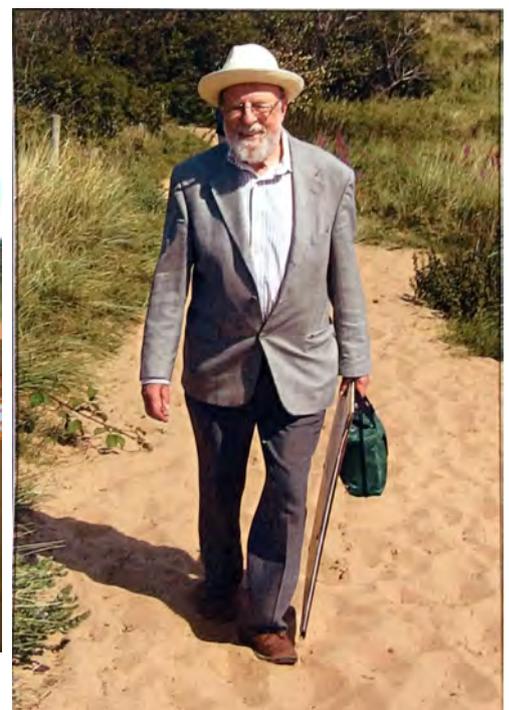
## **GOODBYE, REG YORKE**

A number of tributes were paid to Reg Yorke via different media, including those from members of the Formby Society/Formby Civic Society who have known him and worked together over many years.

One such tribute was sent in to FCS by long-term member and regular contributor to Civic News, Dr. Phil Smith. He said, "... that is heart-breaking news indeed. I have known Reg for well over 40 years and, as you know, his contribution to the life and times of Formby and the Society is without parallel. There are some people who are simply irreplaceable; Reg was one of those."

Dr. Reg Yorke, for so many years a committed and indefatigable member of the Formby Civic Society, passed away in his 90<sup>th</sup> year in March. Even in the past few years he was still planning and carrying out new initiatives and we can see him with Baroness Shirley Williams and a group of FCS members at the opening of the Ravenmeols Trails for 'The Lost Resort' and 'The Devil's Hole' in 2016.

Reg researched and wrote the text of the leaflets and information boards.



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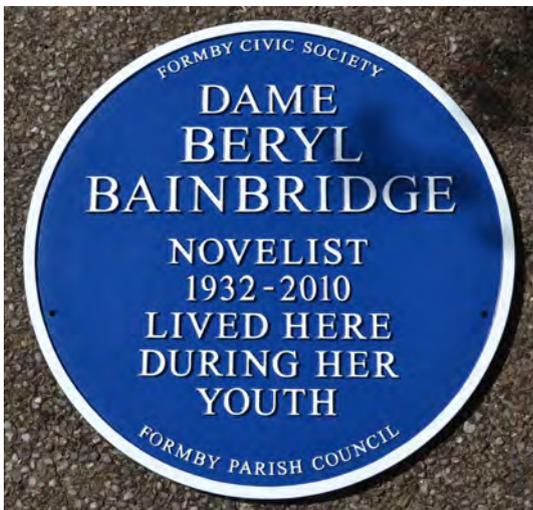
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Reg had a private family service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday morning 27th March before his wife Barbara, their seven children and the partners and grandchildren joined many of Reg's friends and colleagues at St. Luke's Church for what was a memorial service to remember his life, work and commitment to a wonderful family life. It was cold and wet outside but warm inside and, although the atmosphere was understandably subdued, there was a clear understanding of what Reg Yorke had contributed to his community over many years.

There were three eulogies: from Derek Machin, consultant at Aintree Hospital; by our own Ray Derricott; and by son Myles Yorke. Myles' words made clear the strength of the family together. What were particularly touching in the service were the poem 'Sea-Fever' by John Masefield and read out by Rebecca Yorke and the hymn 'Jerusalem': they seemed to act as a reminder to the people in the church of the well-mannered and well-educated gentleman who described himself as a 'second-generation Liverpoolian' and who loved the sea and sailing upon it. Essentially, however, everyone surely took home an insight into a large and happy family moving their way through life over many years: that indeed was a celebration.

The service was led by Rev. Ted Woods.

Reg is survived by Barbara; children Diana, Roger, Rebecca, Penelope, Giles, Nigel, and Myles; grandchildren Louise, Emily, Alex and Mala; great grandchildren Livia and Ryleigh; and sister Veronica.



Reg never lost his determination to do his utmost for the community whilst giving his time,

energy and love to his family. Not only was he for many years the Chairman of FCS but also wrote the Newsletters and designed the summer and winter programmes of talks. He also led the new programme of Blue Plaques, researching both the subjects of the plaques as well as finding out just how to go about it. In his later years you may have thought he would lessen his own workload, but that was not the case: He did as much as he possibly could and still had the time for imaginative ideas for what could be done next for Formby and the maintenance of its heritage.

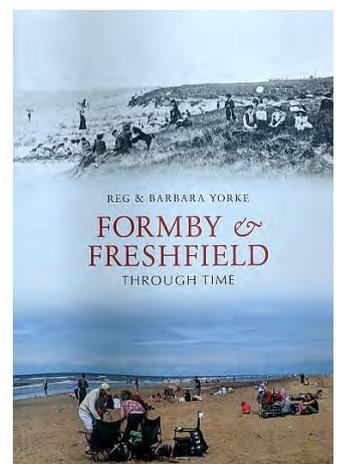


In his professional life, Dr Yorke was a senior partner at a doctor's practice in Maghull. It was after his retirement that he became more fully involved in the work of the Formby Society.

Reg moved to Formby in 1953 and married Barbara; together they contributed enormously to recording and protecting Formby's heritage. Barbara Yorke, equally well-known within the Formby community, is a third generation Formby resident and a former Sefton magistrate.

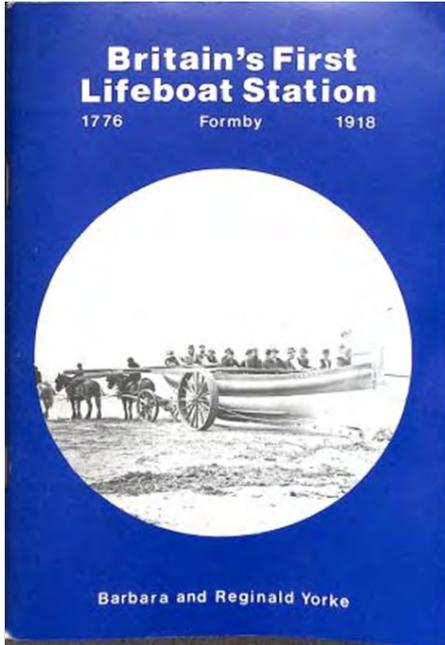
Together they produced a number of historical publications, including 'Formby and Freshfield' and Formby: 'Then and Now'.

"It brings home just how much Formby has changed and people find that fascinating."



2017 Reg was given a Lifetime Award at the inaugural 'Pride of Formby' Awards. He is shown at the ceremony in the photograph on the opposite page.

For all the work and research that Reg and Barbara carried out, their first publication is the one that people still talk about and which visitors to Formby ask about: "Britain's First Lifeboat Station 1776 - 1918". (Alt Press, 1982).



In it they proved that the Formby Lifeboat was the first in the world to be kept and maintained for the specific purpose of saving lives at sea.

In 2003 they wrote, "A footnote to 'A Chart of the Harbour of Liverpool' by P. P. Burdett, 1771, corrected 1776, provides the first documentary evidence of a 'boat and station for saving lives' in existence at Formby Point by 1776:

*'On the strand about a mile below Formby Lower Land Mark there is a boathouse, and a boat kept ready to save lives from vessels forced on shore on that coast, and a guinea, or more, reward is paid by the Corporation for every human life that is saved by means of this boat, etc.'*

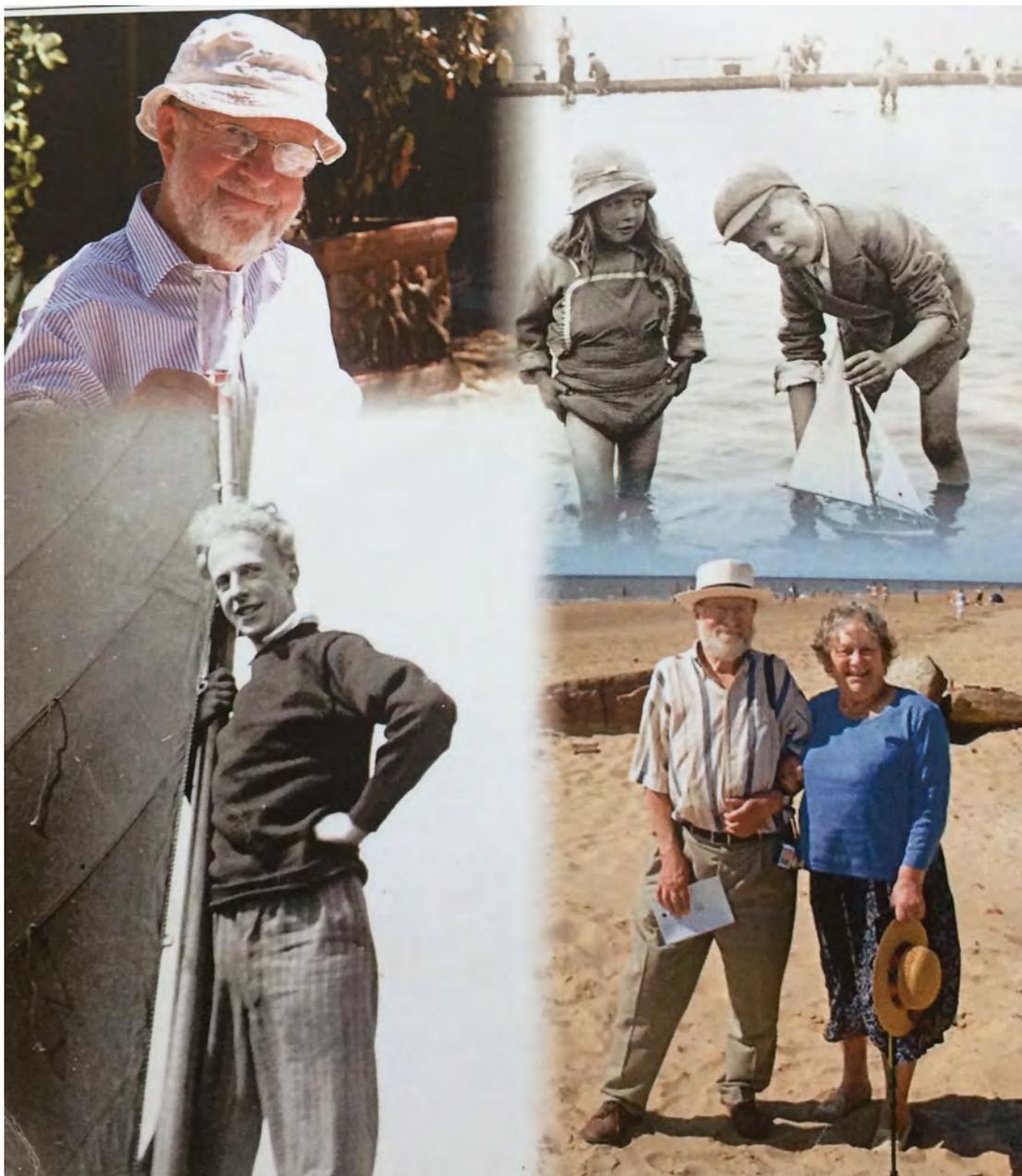
The exact date of the establishment of Formby station remains uncertain as the minute book of the Dock Trustees prior to 1793 has long since been destroyed but was apparently between 1771 and 1776. A minute of the Liverpool Common Council dated March 5, 1777 indicates that the boat and boathouse had already been there long enough to need repair!"

## ***The Committee in 1996 from an article in 'Lancashire Life'***



As we remember Reg and send our thoughts to Barbara, we might turn our thoughts to FCS members who made up the Committee over twenty years ago. Barbara Yorke can be found second on the left. The other members, who will be remembered by many of our present-day members, are:

James McGregor, Bob Fairburn, Gladys Bevan, Barbara Mossop, Peter West, Joan Cox and Jim Hersey.



*We are grateful to Dr. Yorke's family for allowing us to reproduce the above photographs from the various family albums.*

### ***KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH BARBARA YORKE***

Barbara has moved recently into Woodland Lodge, the new Care Home in Formby, and which is just opposite the Fire Station. She is there for a preliminary stay pending her decisions on a future location. Her son Roger, who lived with her and Reg at Briardale, will stay with his sister Rebecca in Cumbria initially.

Daughter Diana Pearce has ensured we are aware of what is happening within the Yorke family and told us that she is sure that Barbara would be delighted if any of her friends wished to visit her and that visitors appear to be welcome at Woodlands Lodge most times of the day.

# ***PRESERVING THE EMBASSY BUILDING AND THE GREEN LANE CONSERVATION AREA***

*Dr. Yorke was very influential in helping to set up Formby's only Conservation Area - around Green Lane - and until recently he was still in touch with Sefton's planning officers about monitoring its welfare and planning to set up displays in Formby Library to maintain involvement with the wider community.*

*On the present committee, Lynn Gibson has taken on this oversight and has produced the following report:*

Formby Civic Society has been involved in monitoring the development of the Green Lane Conservation Area, and indeed this will be the focus of our input to Civic Day in June. The entrance to Formby's only Conservation Area can be said to be the iconic Embassy Building, but this has been an issue for many in the Formby community for a number of years now. You may remember in the past year that the 'roof lantern' of the Embassy, an original feature created by the local architect in the 1920s, was removed without previous planning permission and Sefton Council ruled that it had to be replaced. The most recent cause for concern is about the large windows to the front. The owners of the Embassy Building have made a proposal to replace the original timber windows from 1928 with new powder coated aluminum windows. They would be a simplified version of the original mullion arrangement, without any of the coloured and textured glass which is such a feature of the original windows.

In addition to our own objection we brought the application to the attention of the Twentieth Century Society (who campaign to save twentieth century architecture) This Society also objected to the proposal. They made the

following comments:

The Embassy Building is considered by the Civic Society to be a non-designated heritage asset

The most prominent Art Deco elements of the building are the windows, they are finely detailed and give the building its character and therefore are very significant within the Conservation Area

The Green Lane Conservation Area Advisory leaflet addresses window replacement and states that they should be "retained and renovated where possible"

The Civic Society objected on the same grounds and stated that aluminium windows would have detailing, proportions and appearance which would differ from the original timber windows. We also quoted several Historic England guidance documents plus documents from Sefton Council to support our objection.

We believe that there were 35 objections made to the proposal and to their credit Sefton Council have produced a very detailed refusal. Our next step should perhaps be to encourage Sefton to liaise with the owners of the Embassy Building to agree on a management plan for the building as there are also several other issues that need addressing; inappropriate and poor-quality signage, the replacement of the lettering on the front façade "Embassy Building" and the appropriate replacement of the Dovecote/Roof lantern.

Of course, there is the possibility that the owners will appeal; however, the refusal by Sefton was quite comprehensive - so we hope not.

# WILDLIFE NOTES

Dr. Phil Smith

## FEBRUARY 2018

There was measurable rain on 10 days in the first three weeks of the month – about average – after which the “Beast from the East” set in, with exceptionally cold dry easterly winds from Siberia. This unusual weather pattern was due to warm air and high pressure over Canada and Greenland, leading to a blockage of the North Atlantic Jet-stream which should bring us rain-bearing fronts in February. Researchers have linked this to a warming trend in the Arctic, itself a consequence of rapid climate change.

There was just enough rain early in the month to continue the much-needed rise in the dune water-table. The Devil’s Hole and slacks else-

where had plenty of surface water, though nothing like the Lake District vistas of 2013 and 2016. Two of the older Natterjack scrapes at Hightown are being invaded by the dreaded **Sea Buckthorn**. I made a note to tell the *Gems in the Dunes* staff so they can mobilise their volunteers to clear it. They have done an excellent job in the large slacks of Ainsdale Local Nature Reserve where I noticed several large clumps of cut material ready for burning. My own team of Buckthorn Bashers met twice during the month to complete the cutting of buckthorn regrowth in the Birkdale frontal dunes north of Sands Lake. Sefton Coast & Countryside kindly provided a vehicle to transport us along the beach and back again. Since 2012, we have cleared about 15ha of dunes slacks and ridges that were being swamped by this invasive spiny shrub. This winter the volunteers have clocked up over

220 hours. John Dempsey tells me that more than 60,000 people have read about and reacted to Buckthorn Bashes on social media, helping to draw in more volunteers and raising the issue of scrub control on the dunes with a wider audience.

Trying to maintain a balance between scrub and open dune habitats is a massive under-



taking all along the coast. I joined Natural England staff at Cabin Hill National Nature Reserve to mark some rare hybrid willows for retention before contractors removed **Grey Willow** bushes that have colonised a dune-slack since the 1990s. Counting annual rings revealed that the huge bushes averaged only 20 years old, showing how quickly the landscape can change. A similar exercise in 2005 cleared an even larger slack, with a spectacular recovery of the wetland vegetation, including several rare plants. I also took the opportunity to visit a mechanically reprofiled scrape in the

Cabin Hill frontal dunes. It is hoped that this will attract the few survivors of the enormous **Natterjack Toad** population that lived here before coarse grasses and scrub changed the sandy habitat needed by these open ground specialists.

**Natterjack Toads** also featured in a *Gems in the Dunes* training course that I attended on 20<sup>th</sup>, though I'm not sure I need much training after 46 years monitoring **Natterjacks**. However, the main point was that over 30 people attended, with the prospect of recruiting extra volunteers to record breeding sites and help with conservation work.

My monthly visit to Cabin Hill to count wetland birds recorded two **Grey Herons**, two **Jack Snipe** but only 13 **Common Snipe**, where I might have expected 50 or more of this declining species a few years ago. One of the earliest moths to emerge, a **Dotted Border**, was floating on the water but still alive and presumably happy to be rescued. Other signs of spring were evident in the usual spectacular

display of **Snowdrops** in Cabin Hill Wood, while a solitary **Skylark** was in joyous song nearby. A few days earlier, a **Great Spotted Woodpecker** was drumming loudly behind St. Luke's Church, Formby.

Several trips to record mosses and liverworts in the dunes and woodlands culminated in a ground-breaking visit with Joshua Styles to the Lifeboat Road area on 24<sup>th</sup>.



We found 44 species, several of which are rare on this coast. There were extensive colonies of the spectacular **Big Shaggy-moss** *Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus* and its smaller relative, **Little Shaggy-moss** *R. loreus*. We also found growths of **Mouse-tail Moss** *Isothecium myosuroides*, **Common Striated Feather-moss** *Eurhynchium striatum* and

## MARCH 2018

With a few snow flurries at times, and a “mini-beast from the east” on 17<sup>th</sup>, March was certainly colder than average, while measurable rain on 17 days kept the water-table topped up. The Devil’s Hole at Ravenmeols was impressively flooded, though well below levels seen in 2008, 2013 and 2016. Despite the low temperatures, a few **Common Frogs** and **Common Toads** were out and about from about 10<sup>th</sup> but peak activity was much later. On 21<sup>st</sup>, I counted 70 batches of frog spawn and the first spawning of **Common Toads** at Birkdale Green Beach. Earlier, Cabin Hill produced a few **Common Toads** but no **Common Frogs** or spawn were seen, probably because the water was too deep to explore effectively. Two pairs of **Lapwings** were displaying over the fields behind the reserve, their characteristic “pee-wit” call bringing back memories of my childhood when these now uncommon breeders were ubiquitous. A little later, the scrapes at Hightown dunes had some **Common Frog** spawn batches, a scattering of **Common Toads** and a single female **Smooth Newt**. The water was so clear I was able to watch with binoculars a **Broad-bodied Chaser** nymph crawling across the floor of the scrape.

Apart from the odd **Buff-tailed Bumblebee**, insects were hard to find. It was completely unexpected, therefore, when I got an email on 12<sup>th</sup> from Shelagh Parsons to say she had picked up a 2cm-long bug on her Formby doorstep. This proved to be a **Western Coni-**



the bizarre red-and-green **Rustwort** *Nowellia curvifolia*. All five have only one previous Sefton Coast record in the Bryophyte Atlas for South Lancashire. Nearby, Larkhill produced some vivid **Scarlet Elf Cap** fungi *Sarcoscypha coccinea* on dead wood. A new “tick” for me, this seems to be uncommon in the district.



After a long delay, I was pleased to hear that *BBC One Show* was going to broadcast the film they made of **Northern Dune Tiger Beetles** at Ainsdale last August. It went out on 15<sup>th</sup>, including some good footage of the beetles and a snippet of my interview with Oxford entomologist and broadcaster Dr George McGavin - more useful publicity for the Sefton Coast’s wonderful wildlife.

**fer Seed Bug** *Leptoglossus occidentalis*, an American insect introduced to Britain about 10 years ago, which has spread widely through England and Wales, with a few records for Scotland. I had never seen one of these spectacular beasts before and it seems to be new to the area. Both the young stages and the adults feed on conifers and can sometimes cause economic damage in their home continent.

Equally surprising, was a message a few days later from Joyce Jarvis, including a photo of a



*Juniper Shieldbug from Southport Botanic*

small colourful insect she had found on **Nootka Cypress** at Southport Botanic Gardens. She thought it was a **Hawthorn Shieldbug** but I recognised it immediately as a **Juniper Shieldbug** *Cyphostethus tristriatus*, a species I have been hoping to find for some years. The nearest online records for this shieldbug are for Chester and Manchester but it has been expanding its range and may now be frequent but overlooked in the northwest. Apart from **Juniper**, it can feed on a number of exotic conifers grown in parks and gardens, including

## Lawson's Cypress.

The damp, cool weather proved ideal for mosses and liverworts and I made several vis-



*Grey-cushioned Grimmia at Marshside*

its to record these fascinating lower plants, including distinctive hoary patches of **Grey-cushioned Grimmia** *Grimmia pulvinata* which are such a feature of old walls throughout Formby. Returning to Freshfield Dune Heath, I logged over 30 different bryophytes in the reserve's acidic woodland where the striking **Little Shaggy-moss** *Rhytidiadelphus loreus* is a particular feature. A strange jet-black fungus on birch turned out to be **Witch's Butter** *Exidia glandulosa*. It is said to be fairly common and widespread but it was new to me. A drumming **Great Spotted Woodpecker** and singing **Coal Tits** reminded me that spring was on the way, though migrants such as the **Wheatear** were thin on the ground. I did, however, find a **Chiffchaff** bounding through the **Alders** at Sands Lake, Ainsdale, on 19<sup>th</sup>, though it wasn't singing.

A male **Goosander** returned briefly to the lake in mid-month. Two trips to see a **Water Pipit** at Crossens were unsuccessful and I had to make do with two **Collared Doves** and several **Teal** where the pipit was supposed to be. However, a thousand **Pink-footed Geese**, a male **Scaup** and a pair of **Mediterranean Gulls** on the Marshside reserve made the visits worthwhile.

I joined Joshua Styles at Birkdale Cemetery to check out one of the last recorded localities in the region for the rare **Heath Cudweed**, a candidate for reintroduction through Josh's *North West Rare Plant Initiative*. Beyond the graveyard we found a potentially suitable area of short grassland supporting acid-loving plants such as **Bird's-foot** and **Mat Grass**. Nearby were masses of **Common Cornsalad** and one patch of **Common Fumitory** in flower. Despite its name, this is the scarcest of the four fumitories found on the Sefton Coast.

Finally, at the end of the month, Patricia Lockwood and I headed for Southport Marine Lake on an annual pilgrimage to see the **Early Sand-grass**, one of our rarest plants with only about a dozen British localities. In places on the dunes west of the lake it occurs in such abundance as to colour the ground pink. I also found one or two specimens of a pale form, lacking the red pigment, which I have only seen once before. This was a suitable climax to another eventful month on the Sefton Coast.



*Collared Dove at Crossens Marsh*

*Dr Phil Smith is a well-known and highly respected member of Formby Civic Society. He is a retired university lecturer who has lived most of his life in this area and was a Trustee of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust from 1970 to 2010. he is also a keen photographer, as can be seen by the quality of the images that illustrate his articles.*

*You can find his articles posted each month on our website:*

<http://www.formbycivicsociety.org.uk/wildlifephotos.html>



*Common Fumitory found at Birkdale*

# OUR SUMMER PROGRAMME 2018

After 2017's very successful programme, we are hard-pressed to follow it up. However, we will try our best, and hope to see even more members join our activities.

In 2018 we have set up a mix of afternoon talks and social walks that are available for members and their friends alike. Also, other than the Meal at the Cross House Inn in September to finish off the Summer Programme, you will not need to book in at all. We will tell you where and when we should meet and all members have to do is turn up and take part.

We want to provide two Summer Talks and have chosen to do so at the Old Schoolroom of St. Peter's, just opposite Trinity St. Peter's School on Paradise Lane. They will be:

**Thursday June 7th at 2pm: 'My Formby', an illustrated talk by Joan Rimmer St. Peter's Church, Old Schoolroom**

**Thursday June 21st at 2pm: 'The Old Cafes on the Shore', an illustrated talk by John Phillips with a little help from friends. St. Peter's Church, Old Schoolroom**

Refreshments will be available and non-members will be welcome though it would be appreciated if they made a small donation to charity. We are particularly keen to keep attracting new members and would encourage existing members to suggest joining to any friends who may not have heard about us.

In between these talks and also at St. Peter's we will mount an exhibition on **'The Green Lane Conservation Area' Display on Saturday 16th June** as our contribution to 'Civic Day 2018 St. Peter's Church, Bier House.

We will also have a **Display to showcase our activities on Chapel lane as part of the Friday Market Scheme on 15th June.**

We will also travel to **Chester, Tuesday 10th July** either by Merseyrail or by car for those who prefer to drive, and visit St. John's Church and the cathedral, with lunch in between.



**Wednesday 25th July 2pm.** We will take a leisurely walk through the main shopping area of **Ainsdale** in the company of members of the Ainsdale Civic Society.

**Monday 6th August.** Also we will make a return journey to the **Waterfront at Liverpool** to look for some more stories about the growth of Liverpool and the evidence that has been left behind.



**Thursday 13th September.** Annual Civic Society Meal and 'get-together' at the Cross House Inn, Formby

Included with this newsletter is a separate sheet containing dates and details for each activity and we hope to see as many of you as possible for some enjoyable summer days together.

## **SPECIAL TALK AT CHRISTMAS**

Please put into your diaries a Talk with Mince Pies and refreshments at FORMBY LIBRARY at **2 pm on Friday 7th December.** It will be on the 'Formby Tapestry' and be held in the Meeting Room, where the Tapestry itself is on display.

# ***Gilbert Rogers - Great War soldier-artist who was born in Freshfield Road***

***Sally Enzer***

The years of the centenary of the Great War represent an ideal opportunity to recount the life of a Formby-born man, the part he played in the conflict and his legacy to the nation.

Gilbert Rogers was born on Four Acre Lane in Freshfield on 9th November 1881. He was the son of William, a clock and watch manufacturer, and grandson of Griffith, a joiner, from North Wales.

1880s Freshfield was still a very rural community. The settlement had grown around the formation of Freshfield railway station in 1854 and Four Acre Lane (now renamed Freshfield Road) boasted market gardens, farmland and a few large residences owned by professional, middle-class families. Two houses were built on land formerly owned by the Bark family and named Barkfield Villas; the Rogers family settled into one of these properties. In 1890 financial difficulties forced the young family to move from quiet Freshfield into bustling Liverpool and they settled at 14 Falkner Street, a comfortable Georgian terraced house, but a huge change for the five Rogers children used to freedom and open spaces.

Gilbert Rogers entered the Liverpool Institute, a short walk from Falkner Street and then joined Liverpool School of Art in Mount Street where he excelled and specialised in portraiture, exhibiting regularly at the Royal Academy until 1914. His ambition, energy and ebullient nature encouraged good business opportunities and commissions flowed both for private and commercial clients.

The art world was thriving in Liverpool and by 1911 Rogers was a member of the Hanging Committee of the Liverpool Academy of Art and in 1914 became President of the influential Liver Sketching Club. At the outbreak of war, Rogers was thirty-three years old and initially outside recruitment stipulations; however, guidelines widened as the war intensified and he finally enlisted in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) on 5th November 1915. The war years had seen the art market collapse and commissions dwindle as people reduced luxury expenditure. Initially he was sent to the RAMC Training Centre in Eastbourne, then to Salisbury Plain and eventually served in Blackpool as a medical orderly at the military hospital and training camp. His military service then took an unusual and fortuitous side-step.



*This is the house in Freshfield Road in which Gilbert Rogers was born.*



As the war progressed the War Minister, Lord Beaverbrook, formed a department to produce a comprehensive official record of the war, including the work of the Medical Services. A public appeal was launched for material of scientific, historic and artistic interest.

Gilbert Rogers was tasked to manage nine RAMC NCOs, all professional artists and sculptors, to produce art work documenting the work of the medical services at home and abroad. The men were sent to the Front to make preparatory drawings and then based at the Avenue Studios off Fulham Road in London.

The studios still exist: a network of large spaces with high windows and oversize doors ideal for creating the six hundred-odd works of art required. The commissions covered UK training camps, to stretcher-bearers in the trenches, to hospital barges on the Tigris and more.

*Above is Rogers' painting, 'VAD Driver' 1918, courtesy of the Imperial War Museum*



*Gilbert Rogers' painting hanging in the Women's War Work Exhibition at the Whitechapel Gallery, London, 1918. To the left and right are two paintings by RAMC artist, Austin O. Spare, of the Women's Hospital, Endell Street, London*



The artists were now comfortably distanced from the drudgery of Home Service and the dangers of front line operations and gratefully back amidst paints and brushes. Their works were eventually displayed at various exhibitions across London but, most importantly, at the Crystal Palace 'Great War Exhibition' in June 1920, forming the basis of the Imperial War Museum.

*We are grateful to the Wellcome Foundation for permission to use the image of the painting of 'The Stretcherbearer' included here - in the Newsletter.*

*Below is the Officers' Mess, Keogh Barracks, Aldershot, showing the large canvas, 'A Stretcherbearer in Difficulties', by Gilbert Rogers.*



By October 1920 the exhibition had attracted over a million visitors; however, the hot and humid conditions inside the venue were not ideal for displaying art and in 1923 many of the paintings were removed and donated to various medical institutions, hospitals and military establishments. Two of Rogers' oils hung at Keogh Barracks, near Aldershot, the former home of the Medical Defence Services. Rogers was commissioned Second Lieutenant for his role with the Medical History of the War and awarded an MBE in 1919.

After demobilisation, Rogers returned to Liverpool and became a director of his brother's furniture company, Guy Rogers Ltd. This company was a forerunner in the design and production of utility furniture with sleek, smooth lines; it was a popular local employer of carpenters and upholsterers.

Before his death in 1956, Gilbert Rogers took an active role at the Liverpool Art School and the Artists' Club in Eberle Street, although by this time he himself had ceased painting. His Great War paintings provide a showcase for his best work and are a remarkable and impressive legacy of his extraordinary talent.

Several examples of Gilbert Rogers' work can be seen at

<https://artuk.org/discover/artists/rogers-gilbert-18811956>

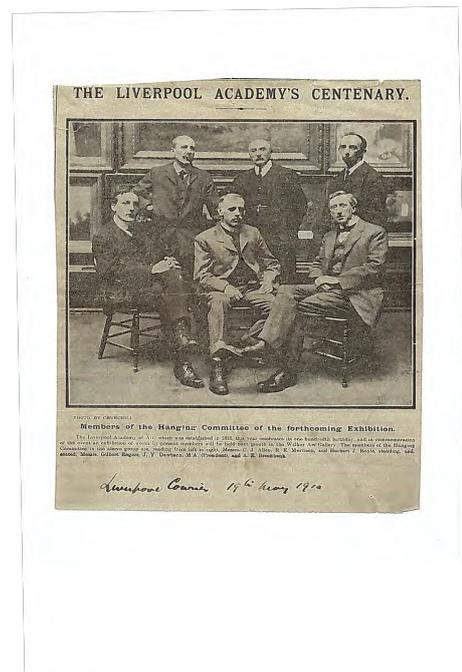
You will also find examples of his work at the websites of the Imperial War Museum (London and North) and the Wellcome Foundation in London.

You may have noticed that at one time his family lived in Falkner Street in Liverpool, and one particular house in this street became the subject of a recent 4-part BBC documentary.



*Gilbert Rogers as President of the Artists Club, Liverpool, 1914*

*This account is an ongoing project.  
If you have any information concerning  
Gilbert Rogers and his life and work, please  
contact Sally Enzer at  
s.enzer158@btinternet.com*



## **FCS Programmes**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8 pm Thursday 10th May - Ravenmeols Community Centre**

**Summer Programme See separate Sheet for full details**

**Thursday June 7th 2pm: 'My Formby'**, an illustrated talk by Joan Rimmer. Old Schoolroom of St. Peter's Church

**Friday 15th June.** We will also have a Display to showcase our activities on **Chapel Lane as part of the Friday Market Scheme.**

**Saturday 16th June. 10am - 4pm**The '**Green Lane Conservation Area**' Display as our contribution to 'Civic Day 2018. St. Peter's Church Bier House .

**Thursday June 21st. 2pm:** 'The Old Cafes on the Shore', an illustrated talk by John Phillips with a little help from friends. Old Schoolroom of St. Peter's Church

**Tuesday 10th July.** We will also travel to Chester, either by Merseyrail or by car for those who prefer to drive, and visit St. John's Church and the cathedral, with lunch in between.

**Wednesday 25th July. 1.30pm - 3.00pm.** We will take a leisurely walk through the main shopping area of Ainsdale in the company of members of the Ainsdale Civic Society.

**Monday 6th August. 11am - 2pm.** Also we will make a return journey to the Waterfront at Liverpool to look for some more stories about the growth of Liverpool and the evidence that has been left behind. **Meet at Central Station Main Concourse at 11am .**

Meetings in the **Autumn and Winter** will be held mainly at **Ravenmeols Community Centre** in Park Road, starting at **7.30 p.m.** (not at 8 p.m.) if an evening talk or 2 p.m. if afternoon.

They are open to guests on payment of the small admission charge of £2.

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 13th September | <b>FCS Meal at the Cross House Inn - 6pm to 8 pm</b>  |
| 11th October   | <b>'The History of Warrington'</b> - Bill Cooke 7.30 p.m.   |
| 8th November   | <b>'Formby Folk and WWI'</b> - John Phillips and Tony Pawson 7.30 p.m.  |
| 7th December   | <b>A Christmas Celebration - 'The Formby Tapestry'</b> - with mince pies and Christmas spirit! <b><u>Formby Library</u> at 2 p.m where it is actually hanging</b> |

### **GET IN TOUCH**

**Chairman - John Phillips**

[chairman@formbycivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:chairman@formbycivicsociety.org.uk)

**Treasurer - Bob Prescott**

[treasurer@formbycivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@formbycivicsociety.org.uk)

**Amenities Secretaries**

**David and Yvonne Irving**

[amenities@formbycivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:amenities@formbycivicsociety.org.uk)

**Secretary - Nathalie Phillips**

[secretary@formbycivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@formbycivicsociety.org.uk)

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**Membership and Distribution Secretary**

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