



2019 Programme

2019 is a milestone year for the Civic Society - formed fifty years ago, in 1969, and this achievement will be marked throughout the year with a special programme of talks and panel discussions reflecting our work and contributions to the life of the town over five decades.

Talks take place at 7.30pm at the Joseph Wright Hall, Queen Street [DN18 5QP]
Admission for Society members is free. Non-members £2

15 February

Recollections

Two Bartonians, Andrew Robinson and Brian Peeps, share their reminiscences of Barton in 1969, when the Civic Society was formed, and consider how life has changed in the following decades using their personal picture archives and evidence from trade directories.

15 March

The Humber Bridge

Dr. Kevin Moore, Chief Executive Officer at the Humber Bridge Board, describes the origins, construction and impact of what was the world's longest suspension bridge when it opened in 1981, replacing the historic ferries and changing the connectivity around the Humber. The talk includes rare film of the Bridge's construction.

12 April

Barton and Dr. Beeching

Rail historian Stephen Gay takes us on a railway ramble along the Kirton Lindsey to Cleethorpes line, including the branch to Barton which intended to be only a "temporary" western terminus. As traffic declined, pressures to reduce or cease services increased. The Society lobbied continually to maintain the town's rail link while ongoing efforts to retain and increase use of the railway are outlined by a member of the Friends of the Barton Line.

17 May

Close-up and Personal

John French MBE, President of the Society, was born in the town and developed a passion for its rich heritage from a young age. In this talk, he recounts the successes and disappointments of a lifetime's work trying to protect and promote the best of Barton. John was involved with the Civic Society from the start and has been involved with many of its heritage and environmental initiatives.

21 June

Changing Industry

To what extent does the story of Barton's manufacturing industries mirror national trends? The later histories of three Barton manufactories making cycles, tiles and ropes are discussed by Nigel Land, author of "Elswick-Hopper of Barton-on-Humber: The Story of a Great British Cycle Maker"; Geoff Bryant MBE, local historian and editor of the Later History of Barton series; and Liz Bennet, Managing Director of The Ropewalk.

19 July

Annual General Meeting

Old friends and current members are invited to celebrate the Society's fiftieth anniversary and preview our commemorative exhibition.

15 August

Anniversary Visit to Grantham

The weather for our trips has always been excellent and we are confident this will be no exception, so join us as Grantham Civic Society host our "blue plaque" trail to discover the town's fascinating heritage. Full details will be available in the spring.

20 July – 22 September

Safeguarding Barton's Heritage

An exhibition in partnership with Barton Camera Club tracing changes in the town over five decades and examining projects that involved the Civic Society.

(Thursday – Sunday, 10am - 4pm, Joseph Wright Hall)

13 – 22 September

Heritage Open Days - Lincolnshire Learning, Wisdom and Folklore

Ten days of events celebrating the town's built and green heritage, including our exhibition *Safeguarding Barton's Heritage*.

20 September

Waters' Edge

Waters' Edge Country Park was created from this reclaimed industrial land which had become one of the most toxic sites in Europe. Landscape historian Richard Clarke traces the story of the site and the clean-up challenge inherited by North Lincolnshire Council – an issue closely monitored by the Civic Society in the 1990s.

18 October

Fifty – Not Out

A *Question Time* - style panel of contributors who were there at the start share their hopes and aspirations for the Civic Society in 1969, followed by a look back at some of our achievements, and the presentation of two Annual Awards in our anniversary year.

15 November

Archaeological Perspectives

Two people involved in significant archaeological investigations in the town during the last fifty years – at St. Peter's Church and 51 Fleetgate – share their memories. Caroline Atkins speaks about her professional involvement as a consultant archaeologist, and the experiences of the itinerant workforce are recalled in conversation with Amy Dubois who was a member of the community archaeology team.