

## **Barton Civic Society celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Television presenter and architectural historian Dan Cruickshank is at the forefront of celebrations marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Barton upon Humber's Civic Society this year.

His talk, Adventures in Architecture, which takes place on Friday, June 19, will be one of the highlights of the Society's anniversary celebrations which also include a second Victorian Day on Queen Street which will be held against the backdrop of the newly refurbished and reopened Wilderspin National School (formerly known as Queen Street School).

In his talk at the Assembly Rooms, Professor Cruickshank will offer a very personal history of architecture and a portrait of the man-made world that defines civilisation by looking at buildings and telling the human story behind their creation.

A regular presenter on the BBC he is best known for his popular series Britain's Best Buildings, Around the World in 80 Treasures and for his appearances in The House Detectives, Under Fire and What the Industrial Revolution Did For Us. He also travelled to Afghanistan and Iraq to discover what cultural treasures remain after years of looting and civil war.

Dan is a leading expert on architecture and historic buildings, and a frequent contributor to The Architects' Journal and The Architectural Review and his books include Around the World in 80 Treasures; Life in the Georgian City; The Guide to the Georgian Buildings of Britain and Ireland; Invasion: Defending Britain from Attack; and The Story of Britain's Best Buildings.

For three years he was also a visiting professor in the Department of Architecture at the University of Sheffield.

Apart from the visit of Prof Cruickshank, the Civic Society is reprising Victorian Day on Sunday, June 28 from 11am to 4pm.

Held at the National Wilderspin School and grounds, the Day includes stalls, street entertainment and other attractions as well as refreshments.

"The main focus of the programme this year is the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Civic Society," said Society chair Ian Wolseley.

"As part of the 40th anniversary celebrations the highly popular Town Trail will be republished and after the Victorian Day there will be a series of talks linked to the Victorians," he went on.

Leaflets promoting the 2009 programme of events are now widely available with annual membership £5 for individuals and £10 for families which includes free entry to all Civic Society talks. A nominal charge of £1 will be made for non-members on the door at each talk.

The only exception is for Prof Cruickshank's talk which is a ticketed event with a charge of £3 for members and £8 for non-members.