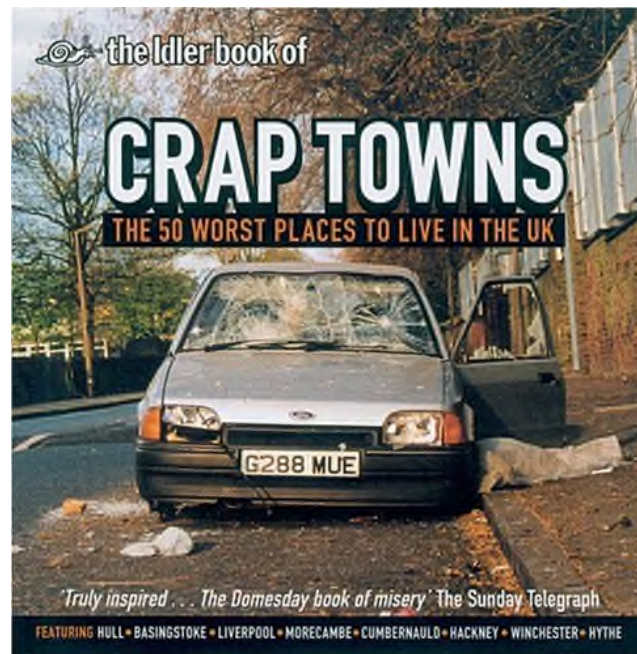


Hull UK City of Culture & our literary collections

Simon Wilson
University Archivist

*Let me take you
on a journey...*



2003 – Hull No 1 “Crap town” list

Dec 2009 – one of 14 to apply to be first
CoC (Hull did not make the shortlist)

Jun 2013 – was shortlisted to be CoC

Huge social media campaign #HullYes
- showed city was behind the bid

"This City Belongs To Everyone" - supporting Hull's City of Culture bid - #HullYes



0:08 / 4:38







Hull 2017



Year-long programme - 4 seasons:

Jan-Mar "Made in Hull"

Apr-Jun "Roots & Routes"

Jul-Sep "Freedom"

Oct-Dec "Tell the World"

Set out with the ambition of hoping to attract an extra 1m+ visitors to the city

Secured over £32m for its programme



Anthony Minghella



Drama Dept colleagues put on a short retrospective film season (late Jan 2017)

Small display of material in the foyer where the films were shown – including script *Cello* (later renamed *Truly, Madly, Deeply*).

Featured items from University Archives – student drama production (using his CV in his staff file), programmes, reviews etc

Dan Billany



Hull teacher and writer, who disappeared without trace in WW2, left mss of two novels 'The Cage' & 'The Trap' – latter hailed as a wartime classic

Exhibition at HHC by colleagues in English Dept who had access to family papers

Exhibition supported by talks, readings and a performance by a local theatre company

The Hypocrite



Farce by (Hull born) Richard Bean about the stand-off between King Charles and John Hotham in 1642 (Feb-Mar 2017)

Hull Truck's fastest selling production - 38% were first time visitors to the theatre

Royal Shakespeare Company premiere in Hull before moving to Stratford, were able to borrowed costume from RSC - *Hull in the Civil War* exhibition at HHC (Jul-Sep 2017)

Richard III



25 years since Northern Broadsides theatre company's first production [Richard III] was held in the Marina Boatshed, Hull

Co-production with Hull Truck Theatre (May 2017) starring Mat Fraser

Working with Barrie Rutter (Director) for the Northern Broadsides archive to be deposited with University archives - one of several [archive] legacies of Hull 2017

Flood



Hugely ambitious year long programme **in**
Hull's Victoria Dock on a floating set

Part 1 online (Jan)

Part 2 live (Apr)

Part 3 BBC 2 (Aug)

Part 4 live (Oct)

Local residents and schools have been
actively engaged and involved

Philip Larkin



Could we have a year of culture without featuring the city's most famous Librarian..!

The city had seen many exhibitions on Philip Larkin in the past

- needed to do something **different**
- secured funding from Hull 2017 & UoH
- recruited external curator – fresh view

University Archives & Philip Larkin Society provided content, contacts & other support







How can I tolerate the load
Supporting ^{you} ~~down~~ ^{only} ~~my~~ ^{life} ~~life~~?

Why should I let the load work
~~down~~ Squat on my life?

Can't I take my wit as a pitch-fork,
And drive the beetle off?

[illegible]

So neither causes or symbolizes the other
But I think they're in league.

Six days of the week it rains,
with ~~the~~ sickening poison,
~~for~~ for passing a few bills
That's out of proportion.

~~There are some people~~
Lots of cheap live on their wits;
- Leeches, stock ~~lyons~~ ~~lovely~~ lovely ones here,
~~legions~~ ~~people who don't~~ ~~work~~ ~~any~~ ~~more~~

Without being paupers;

Lots of folk live up lanes,
 With a fire in a basket;
 Eat windfalls and dried sandies -
 They seem to love it
 Their apples have got borefoot,
 Their wheatable wares
 A shiny as ~~country~~ ^{scott} - ~~the~~ yet
 No one actually ~~stares~~.
 Ah, had I the courage, ^{scott}
 You can ~~over~~ your ~~condition~~;
~~the~~ ~~desirable~~ ~~but~~ ~~the~~ ~~stuff~~
 That dreams are made on.



*More than just
an exhibition...*



Larkin Society lecture - Grayson Perry

BBC documentary looking at Larkin's
photography

Sky Arts documentary Andrew Motion
(to be broadcast in early 2018)

Radio 3 broadcast featuring Larkin LPs

*Some early
headlines...*



From the first 3 months:

- 9 out of 10 had visited a cultural event
- 450 events, attracted 1.4m people
- increased confidence and feel good factor across the city
- 4221 pieces of media coverage – worth over £10.1m
- over 100,000 hrs volunteering

Written & spoken word



Literature, theatre and poetry have been integral to the events and celebrations

Contains Strong Language – BBC Festival
Humbermouth – 25th anniversary

Huge number of new commissions

– Richard Bean, John Godber et al

– capture it all in the City of Culture archive

HHC perspective...



Workload – far greater than we expected

Opportunities

- collaboration – new partners
- reaching new audiences

Challenges

- being heard (or seen) in a huge flood of activities and events everyday
- Maintaining the momentum, Hull 2017 just announced 3, 10 & 20 year plans



Any questions?



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#Hullhistorynews