



THE GIPSYVILLE VOICE

September 2024

Photographers' Snaps in Library Collection



In April, six of George Norris and Russell Boyce's photographs made their way to Gipsyville Library.

Following the exhibition *You and Me in HU3* at Humber Street Gallery earlier in the year, George and Russell's photographs were displayed on the railings outside the library, celebrating snapshots of the local

community and the vibrant people who live here. In a ribbon-cutting ceremony on North Road, George handed over the photographs to Colin, head of local social enterprise charity PANDA.

The photographs will now live at Gipsyville Library, where they are currently displayed on the outside of the building.

What's On?

Coffee and Chat •

Every Wednesday, 10am - 12pm. *Gipsyville Library*. Free.

Saturday Art Activities •

Every Saturday, 10am - 12pm. *Gipsyville Library*. Free.

Art exhibitions • Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10:30am - 5pm. Thursday, 12pm - 7pm. *Humber Street Gallery*. Free.



Mama T's Dance Class •

Every Saturday, 10am - 12pm. *Gipsyville Library*. Free.

PLAYHERD: Sensory play, music and more for 0-3 year olds • Every Wednesday 10:30am - 11:30am. *Gipsyville Library*. Free.

Business start up clinic with MC4C • Every Wednesday 10:30am - 12:30pm. *Gipsyville Library*. Free.



Green Fingers

Words by Janet

I was tasked to write a piece about the arrival of three water butts at the library. They were given to us by Living with Water. It was to encourage not only the storing of water to help us keep the small garden at the back of the library nourished, but to slow down the amount of water that's been going into the drains during heavy rainfall.

That could have been the story, but it was only the start.

While out taking photographs for this piece, I realised that one of the water butts had been placed on a piece of weedy ground and looked really sad. This galvanised us into action! The land was cleared, matting put down, and raised beds made and put in place.

Keep your eyes on this space as, fingers crossed, vegetables will be growing at the library. Now that could be the real story!

How do I get involved?

Join us every Wednesday, 10am - 12pm, at Gipsyville Library for gardening tips from our resident green-fingered botanist, Janet. There will also be opportunities to help with our new community garden!



Obscuring the camera!

We like to keep busy at our coffee and chat mornings, and what better way to do that than make our own cameras!

Camera obscuras are sometimes called pinhole cameras, and were first used to help artists draw in the 16th century. In the early 1800s, they were developed into photographic cameras, first by Frenchman Joseph Niépce, who in

1826 (or 1827!) captured the view out of his window.

After building our own camera obscuras out of cardboard boxes, we took them into the garden behind the library and watched as pictures of flowers and trees revealed themselves inside the boxes.



How to make your own camera obscura!

- 1.** Cut your paper to fit one side of the box. Use the tape to attach it to the inside. This will be the screen that your image projects onto.
- 2.** Make two holes in the side of the box directly across from your screen. One hole should be small: just poke the tip of your pen or pencil through the box. The second hole will be your viewing hole, just big enough for you to be able to see into the box.

Place the holes far enough apart so that when you look through the viewing hole, your head won't block the light from entering the smaller hole!

- 3.** Close your box and tape it shut. You shouldn't be able to see light leaking in from the corners or edges.

- 4.** Now try it out!

Your camera obscura will work best if you are in a dark room with the holes pointing toward a bright subject. Move the camera up and down and side to side until you see an image.

Before you start, you will need:

- A box that can be closed (either with a lid or with tape)
- A sheet of white paper
- Scissors
- A pen or pencil
- Some dark-coloured, heavy-duty tape.



Up the creek without a paddle

Words by Chris

During the cold winter months earlier this year, I took my two youngest grandchildren to Pickering Park. I usually take them to Peter Pan Park, which is nearer to us but a lot smaller, and doesn't have much to keep them entertained.

The first thing they looked at in Pickering Park was the meerkats and the tropical bird enclosure. They had visited the aviary before, but it was neglected and run down. Recently it was revamped with an education room, and the meerkats now have a lovely glass-sided viewing area enabling children to watch them safely.

After looking at the whale bones at the entrance to the rockery, which they thought were very interesting, they had an energetic play on the swings and climbing equipment before taking a quick look at the lake.

On the way home we stopped by the paddling pool area which, to their disappointment, was closed and dried up. I promised to bring them back in the summer when it will be open. They really enjoyed their visit and wanted to come back again, especially for a splash in the paddling pool and to kick a ball about in the football areas.

Since our visit to the park, I have learned that the paddling pool won't be ready for the children this summer. I think this is so sad because in this economic climate, not every family has enough money for holidays and this facility has always been something exciting for children to look forward to when the weather gets warmer.

Such a shame!



Above: Designs for Bude Park, opening in Summer 2024.

Hull City Council are currently in the process of redesigning Pickering Park Paddling Pool. After a period of public consultation, the newly-designed paddling pool is scheduled to re-open in Summer 2025.

Gipsyville back in the day

'Every Saturday morning queuing up for Saturday morning cinema, we used to have a queue right round the cinema! Happy days for all the ABC Minors. Then off to piano lessons after.'

'Saturday mornings was the highlight of the week. ABC Minors club, great films and good friends together.'

Gipsyville Post Office at the corner of Essex Street in 1914. Kingfisher's Fish and Chips is there now, and still just as busy!



Gipsyville under construction in the 1920s. Looking east between Hesse Road and River Grove, we can just about see Askew Avenue at the end.



'I can remember going in Stan Kincaid sweet shop which was next to Gipsyville Tavern. Looking for Holland one penny arrow bars and three penny Trebor chocolate sticks!'

A snapshot from the children's section of Gipsyville library. Do you remember doing your homework here? Or taking out your first book?



At the corner of Hereford Street in 1966, we find The Gipsyville Tavern! Sadly the building has been torn down, but you can still see the old brick entrances from the street.





Left: A crocodile at Green Island sanctuary.

Tales from down under!

Words by John

In January and February, my wife Janet and I went on a trip to Australia and New Zealand to celebrate our 70th birthdays.

We landed first in Cairns, where we went to visit Green Island. There we enjoyed diving in a submersible boat and went out on a glass-bottomed

boat too. We saw the coral of the Great Barrier Reef, and a crocodile sanctuary. There was a huge croc in the sanctuary – five metres long and over 100 years old!

We had planned to travel from Cairns to Brisbane by car. But there were reports of a cyclone building up in the

Pacific Ocean, officially classified as a 'threat to life'! The weather stations were not sure when it was going to land, but it was heading in the same direction as us. We decided against using the car and travelled by Greyhound bus to Brisbane.

On the way we

stopped off at Airlie Beach and Gladstone. At Gladstone we took another boat, this time out to Heron Island located on The Great Barrier Reef, where we stayed for three nights. Heron Island is estimated to have up to 200,000 birds, particularly Black Noddy Terns and Wedge Tailed Shearwaters. Resident bird colonies such as the Eastern Reef Egret and the Buff Banded Rail were also breeding on the island – and how could I forget the turtles!

After getting back

on the Greyhound bus for the final time, we arrived in Brisbane at 6am in the morning. We spent the day sightseeing, taking in Brisbane Botanic Gardens, a trip around the bay on the City Hopper, and finishing our first day in Brisbane at the Gallery of Modern Art.

The next day we met up with a friend who emigrated to Australia over forty years ago. She drove us around Brisbane and its outskirts, including Mount Coot-tha, where we enjoyed a great view of the city. We went back

to her house for a meal, and then back to the hotel to fly to Queenstown, New Zealand.

Another disruption, this time with our flights. Instead of flying directly to Queenstown, we would have to detour via Auckland.

Eventually we arrived four hours later than planned, but we were ready to explore a brand-new place!

After breakfast in the hotel, we were told to get sim cards by one of the staff members, and also a good spot for scenery at



Top: A view of Lake Wakatipu from Glen Orchy.
Bottom: Akaroa, the site of an ancient volcano.

Glen Orchy on Lake Wakatipu.

The next day we drove to Te Anau, where we spent three days and enjoyed a coach trip to Milford Sound, which is famous for its waterfalls, especially after rainfall. And it did rain, but we didn't mind as we had a superb view of the waterfalls!

Our next leg of the journey was a 320-mile drive to Franz Josef, an area of lakes and glaciers. We walked around the lakes and went on other hikes to get a good vantage point of the Fox and Franz Josef glaciers, albeit at a distance. We stayed for three nights in Franz Josef before driving to Christchurch, where we went to Akaroa,

the site of an ancient volcano.

Flying from Christchurch on the South Island to Auckland on the North, we visited Pahia, known as the gateway to the Bay of Islands. There, we took a ferry to Russell, went on a trip to Ninety Mile Beach (named so because it once took 3 days to cover its length on horseback!), and Cape Reigna. Ninety Mile Beach is more likely 50 miles.

At Cape Reigna the Tasman Sea meets the Pacific Ocean, and at the northernmost tip of the Cape is a gnarled Pohutukawa tree, believed to be over 800 years old! According to Māori oral history, the

spirits of deceased Māori leap from this tree into the ocean to return to their ancestral homeland of Hawaiki. Our driver told us about a type of tree – the Kauri – whose wood was used extensively in house and boat building, so is almost extinct now.

On our last day in Pahia we went to the Kawiti Glowworm Caves, a vineyard in Kerikeri, and then to a forest where we saw some Kauri trees!

Finally, after 25 days on the road, we landed back in Manchester, and made our way back home to Hull.



Ready for a coffee, chat & some culture?



10am - 12pm every Wednesday
at Gipsyville Library

Join us on Wednesdays as we gather for a good old natter over a cuppa and biscuits.

In these sessions, we've also taken trips to the theatre, museums, galleries, and even took part in 'This One's For Us', a performance down Essex Street.

Gipsyville locals are invited to shape and deliver a variety of exciting activities, giving everyone the opportunity to get creative.



Ready to explore your creativity?

10am - 12pm every Saturday
at Gipsyville Library

Pop down to one of our free community-led creative sessions for all ages.

Since 2019, we have worked with two local communities; Spring Bank and Gipsyville. We have been collaborating with residents, with support from HEY! Volunteering, to shape and deliver a variety of classes, workshops and opportunities for everyone to get creative and to enhance people's experiences of arts and culture.

To stay up to date, join our Facebook group. Just search 'Gipsyville Friends'. You can also email us at info@absolutelycultured.co.uk



@AbsCultured

absolutelycultured.co.uk