

C DIGJ Records Relating to Hull City Police Fire Brigade 1895-1941

Accession Number: 13/50

Historical Background: Prior to 1887 responsibility for dealing with fires fell to the 'reserve man' at each of Hull's four police stations. In 1884 the Hull Watch Committee purchased a Messrs Merryweather & Sons Patent Double-Cylinder Steam Fire Engine and Sculcoates Hall in Worship Street was acquired for the purposes of conversion into a fire station in 1886. The Hull City Fire Brigade Sub Committee was formed from the Hull Watch Committee in November 1886 by Mr Ald. Larard as Chairman, Mr Ald. Stuart, and Councillors Briggs, Wilde, Gilbert, A. Rollit and Wheatley. On the 27 May 1887 Inspector Elliott was appointed as Superintendent and he was placed in charge of 8 men who constituted the first Hull City Fire Brigade.

Custodial History: Deposited April 2013 by the grandson of a Joyce Crerar, a former member of the Fire Service

Description: Collection contains records relating to Hull City Police Fire Brigade. It includes a manuscript record book covering the period 1895-1934 and two volumes of press cuttings covering the period 1932-1941.

Extent: 3 volumes

Related Materials: Further records relating to Hull City Police Fire Brigade held at East Riding of Yorkshire Archives and Local Studies Service

Access Conditions: Access will be granted to any accredited reader

Language: English

C DIGJ/1

Record Book of the Hull Police Fire Brigade
Record begun by resolution made 16 Jan 1895,
paid for by the Chairman of the Fire Brigade
Committee, and kept by the Honorary Secretary
George Dawson (retired 5 Jul 1913, died 11 Aug
1932), 'Being an Account of all interesting matters
respecting the formation of the Brigade, and its
gradual improvement towards efficiency. Also of
any Meritorious Acts or Brave Deeds performed
by the Members, together with any promotions,
retirements, &c.'

1895-1934

The front of the volume contains a list of the Chief
Constables of Hull with the dates of their
appointment covering the period 1836-1920, and
a photograph of Alderman F. Larard, Mayor of Hull
and Chairman of the Fire Brigade Committee from
10 Nov 1886 to his death on 1 Sep 1918.

Entries include references to promotions, injuries,
deaths, presentations, events, major fires,
additions to Fire Brigade staff numbers,
government inspections, scales of pay, events
during WWI, etc.

Please note that a number of pages have become
detached and are loose inside the volume.

Notable entries include the following:

Feb and March 1895 - 'The Distress in Hull' lasting
two months during which tea and soup were
provided to 12,147 poor children by the Police Fire
Brigade;

23 Apr 1895 - Opening of Newland Fire Box;

21 Dec 1895 - Cargo ablaze on Wilson Liner S.S.
Torpedo in Hull;

2 Aug 1896 - Beverley Road Baptist Chapel on
fire;

13 Aug 1896 - Grand Cricket Match between Hull
Police Fire Brigade and Leeds Police;

Jul 1896 - Resignation of the first Chief of the Fire
Brigade Superintendent;

2 Dec 1896 - Appointment of Sergeant Emerson
as Chief of the Fire Brigade;

27 Mar 1897 - Performance by pupils of Mrs W.H.
Truman at the fire station on Worship Street;

15 Apr 1897 - Death by poisoning of Bob the
Firemen's dog;

22 Jun 1897 - Extra day's pay for Queen Victoria's
Diamond Jubilee celebrations;

24 Jul 1897 - Fire Brigade photographed outside
of the station;

31 Dec 1897 - Explosion at a tar distillery;

16 Oct 1899 - Call up of army reserves for the
Transvaal War;

Hull History Centre: Records Relating to Hull City Police Fire Brigade

3 Jan 1900 - Arrival from America of a new Chemical Engine;
17 Aug 1900 - New fire boxes opened at Anlaby Road and St Georges Road;
26 Oct 1900 - Increase of pay;
18 Feb 1901 - Meril Stripe awarded to firemen;
10 Aug 1901 - Flooding in Hull after heavy rain;
15 Oct 1901 - Opening of King Edward Street and Jameson Street;
31 Apr 1902 - Fire Brigade 'Cinematographed' by the North American Animated Photo Company;
12 May 1903 - Visit of Prince and Princess of Wales;
17 Dec 1903 - Opening of Hedon Road section of the electric tramway;
29 May 1905 - Hull Police Swimming Club and the opening of Beverley Road Baths;
23 Jun 1907 - Destruction of Wesleyan Chapel on Gerat Thornton Street;
3 Sep 1907 - Opening of new fire box at Stoneferry;
9 Nov 1909 - The King's Police Medal awarded to Superintendent James Booth;
22 Jun 1911 - Procession marking coronation of George V;
23 Jun 1911 - Strike by seamen, firemen, dock labourers, coal heavers, lightermen, and flour millers;
18-24 Aug 1911 - Railway employees' strike;
4 Oct 1911 - Award of the Sir James Reckitt's Gold Medal to PC 164 Hynes;
10 Oct 1911 - Oil millers' strike;
13 Aug 1912 - Presentation of the King's Coronation Medals to Hull City Police;
31 Jul 1913 - Second Annual Cross-Humber swim of the Hull City Police Sports Club;
7 Oct 1913 - First Annual Life-Saving Competition at Beverely Road Baths;
26 Jun 1914 - Royal visit of the King and Queen to Hull to open the New Joint Dock;
6 Jun 1915 - Air raid on Hull;
10 Dec 1915 - Arrival of No.1. Motor Fire Engine;
17 Dec 1915 - List of Auxilliary Firemen engaged;
9 Aug 1916 - 4th air raid over Hull;
3 Sep 1916 - German Zeppelin near Hull;
26 Sep 1916 - German Zeppelin near Hull;
18 Jun 1917 - Royal visit of the King and Queen to Hull;
21 Aug 1917 - German Zeppelin near Hull;
25 Sep 1917 - German Zeppelin over Hull;
2 Jan 1918 - King's Police Medal awarded to G. Morley;

Hull History Centre: Records Relating to Hull City Police Fire Brigade

12 Mar 1918 - German Zeppelin over Hull for 6th time;
19 Nov 1918 - P.C. 263 Blowman decorated;
13 Jan 1919 - Abolition of age limit for Hull Police Force;
19 Jul 1919 - Peace Day celebrations;
27 Sep 1919 - Railway strike;
27 Jan 1920 - Auxiliary Firemen cease duty;
23 Jul 1920 - Sale of the No.1 fire engine (steamer);
30 Mar 1931 - First educational examination;
24 Aug 1921 - Airship disaster over Hull;
21 Jan 1923 - Unveiling of the Hull City Police War Memorial;
29 Sep 1922 - No.4 Motor Fire Engine delivered;
2-30 Jul 1923 - Unofficial dock strike;
5 Sep 1924 - Chemical engine sold;
14 Sep 1924 - Wireless receiving set installed;
20 Sep 1924 - City of Hull cenotaph unveiled;
19 Nov 1924 - Demolition of the old fire station;
12 Feb 1925 - Fire at the Royal Infirmary;
7 Sep 1925 - Motor car purchased for police purposes;
19 Jan 1926 - Recreation Club formed;
May 1926 - General Strike;
13-14 Oct 1926 - Royal visit to Hull by the Prince of Wales;
6 Apr 1927 - Official opening of new fire station;
4 Jan 1928 - First Annual Children's Party for children of members of the fire brigade;
5 Nov 1928 - Motor prison van arrives;
19 Jan 1929 - Large fire in Hull's shopping centre;
25 Aug 1929 - Destruction of Hull's new fish stage;
17 Sep 1929 - Anglo-American Oil Co. tank on fire at Saltend;
28 Oct 1929 - Foamite generator purchased;
Feb 1931 - Salvors breathing apparatus purchased;
Mar 1932 - Short ladder and carbon dioxide extinguisher purchased;
31 Jan 1933 - East Hull Sub. Fire Station opening.
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1 volume

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C DIGJ/2	Hull Fire Brigade Press Cutting Book Scrapbook of press cuttings relating to Hull Fire Brigade activities and events. First page inscribed 'Commenced 13th June 1932. Object: To serve as a handy reference for all matters appertaining to the Brigade, as voiced by the Press'. 1 volume	13 Jun 1932- 20 Feb 1937
C DIGJ/3	Hull Fire Brigade Press Cutting Book Scrapbook of press cuttings relating to Hull Fire Brigade activities and events 1 volume	25 Feb 1937- 28 Apr 1941