

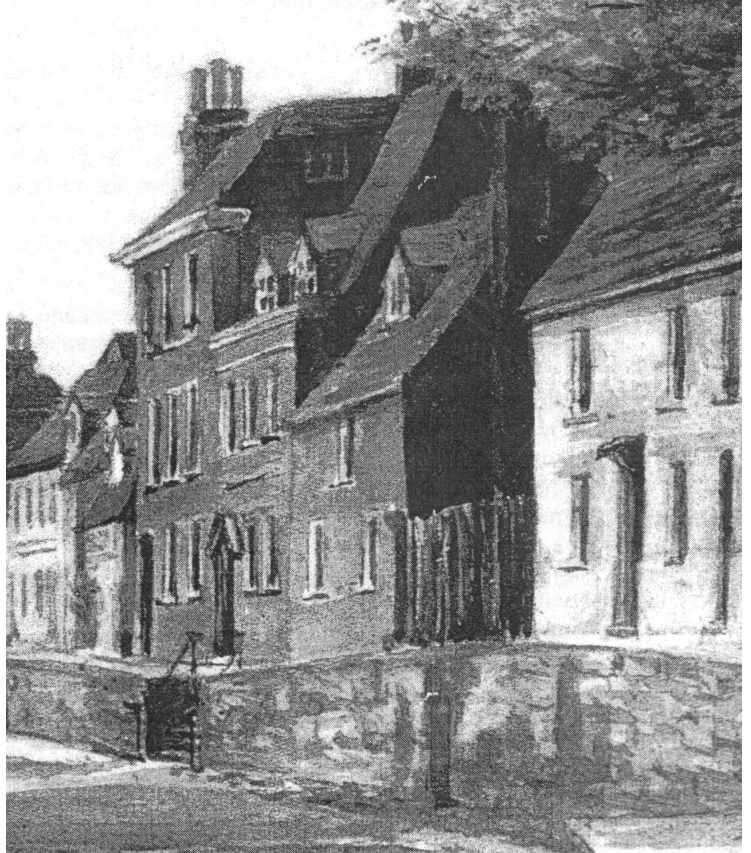
**For obvious reasons I have had to omit the usual events list on the last page. If there is any progress on what we can safely do, we will post it on our website. Do check this out, Nona will have something special on there for Heritage Open Days. [www.ohps.org.uk](http://www.ohps.org.uk)**

I would like to share with you some of the historical snippets we have come across during recent months. Diane Denton is writing a book on Philip Cole's stained glass and was seeking information on some dates of for his windows in Hastings. The British Newspaper Archive provided dates for the Buchanan Hospital - that in the new chapel 1928 and in the new nurses home was 1936. The Baptistery window in St Mary in the Castle was 1934. But I have failed to find out about a panel in the Old Town Museum, Brede Place and St Mary's Northiam.

I think I might have mentioned before the Hastings Improvement Commissioners records 1826-1851, which are at The Keep and can be searched on their website.

I was intrigued by a letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 1846 from Robert Ranking of 113 High Street asking for permission to make a crossing over the pavement in front of Mrs Wilmot's coach house at 7 High Street. I had already realised that he must be responsible for the only set of steps that lead from the pavement down to the road in High Street. [You can see his house *right*, the tall one with two doors.] These steps must date from that time. In 1849 he complained to the Commissioners about the state of the pavement.

In 1828 this house was the home of William Scrivens, solicitor and Royal Exchange Fire Office, followed by Scrivens and Young, Solicitors. Robert Ranking Surgeon is listed in the 1851 Directory but must have moved in earlier as the correspondence suggests. Ranking was mayor in 1833 and again in 1836 after William Thorpe was declared bankrupt. After some years as a Children's Home, then a home for the aged, it was briefly the home of two medical men until it last appears in directories in 1908. Some time after this it was demolished and rebuilt as 113 and 113a in 1930.



In the 1840's the Corporation had a Shoots Committee (gutters), a Fire Engine Committee and a Warm Baths Committee and they say local government is cumbersome today!

**Hastings Council is working on a new Local Plan to run till 2039.** There is/was a form for initial comments on the Council's website for which we received a week's notice before the 10th September deadline.

It asked you to prioritise the top three of the following;

- *Improve public health and well being*
- *Achieve and sustain a thriving economy & create new job opportunities*
- *Address climate change & meet our zero carbon ambitions*
- *Deliver homes that people can access and want in well designed neighbourhoods*
- *Protect & celebrate the towns natural and historic environment*
- *Other.*

The time scale is:

*Spring/Summer 2020: Collating evidence and starting conversations on the Local Plan.*

*Autumn 2020: Publication and consultation on the Draft Local Plan and continuing conversations on how to improve it to benefit the town.*

*January - May 2021: Reviewing consultation responses, more conversations to finalise policies.*

*June - July 2021: Publication of the final submission Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate for an independent examination.*

*September 2021 - March 2022: Adoption of the new Hastings Local Plan.*