

Roll: **19260625-2312**
 Camera: **Monochrome Print**
 Format: **1400:800**

Year: **1926** Month: **June**

Subject: Fred in Hull

People:

Fred and Elsie

Notes:

A postcard from my Grandad Frederick John Fulford in Hull to my Nana, Elsie Fulford (nee Hannett). The card is addressed to "Mrs F. J. Fulford, 134 Queens Walk, Nottingham". Queens Walk, Nottingham. This was the last home of Elsie's parents which Fred and Elsie shared with her parents after they married in 1917, and where my father was born.

The card is postmarked

*Hull, Yorks. 1926
 Jun 25 7:30^{PM} M.*

The postmark also includes the slogan "BRITISH GOODS ARE BEST" which was used as part of Government sponsored promotional campaign in response to the depression in the mid nineteen twenties, particularly 1925 to 1927. (source: Google AI and British Postal Museum).

The stamp is a George V Penny Red and shows the profile of George V (left facing) with a "Postal Revenue" of "ONE PENNY" ("1").

Fred writes:

*Dear E/-,
 Just had tea & going
 with Albert in car to
 Hornsea. didn't get up
 untill tea time he resting
 my neice. Hope you
 all well. Kiss the Babys for
 me. Having a good time
 Fondest love to all
 Fred*

Fred's spelling and punctuation is surprisingly slack, I would expect a more elegant copper plate hand and precise grammar and spelling, but why I had that impression of my Grandad's writing style I do not know.

The card is 870 in the 'Unique' series published by W. Beaton of 37, Church Lane, Hull. The picture is of the 1896 band stand built on an island in West Park, Hull. I can find no reference to Mr Beaton or the Unique series of postcards on the net.

The park is still there today but the lake has been filled in and a small children's paddling pool built in it's stead. (source: Carnegie Heritage Website courtesy of Richard Dewey on a website called "Hull, The Good Old Days".) The park is home to the MKM Stadium and the Carnegie Heritage Centre.

It looks like Fred is visiting "Albert" who I assume is the father of "my neice" (stet). Fred does not have a brother called Albert nor have his sisters married an Albert. Elsie has a brother called Albert but I think he died in 1925. Elsie also has a sister, Beatrice, who married a William Albert Gaunt Smith but I don't know as yet of any progeny. If Fred was visiting relatives of Elsie why would he be doing it alone? One could speculate as to the downturn in the economy and the impact of the General Strike earlier in the year but in 1926, estate agents were unregulated and switching from their traditional work as land agents to servicing a middle class property market boom and incorporated work as surveyors, auctioneers and land stewards. Fred in the 1921 census described himself as a "Negotiating Estate Agent Clerk" for Messrs Sparrow and Sons, which I guess puts him in the lower middle classes. It is not clear whether the car they travel in to Hornsea belongs to Fred or Albert. If Fred was obliged to travel by train it would perhaps have been difficult for Elsie and the two children (My Aunt Dorothy and my Dad Frederick Wesley) to travel with him and

accommodation might also have been a problem. Then again Fred says "my neice" not "your neice" or "out neice." which must surely be significant.

Who Fred and Albert are visiting in Hornsea is also a mystery.

Dates:

The date of the photograph is of course unknown. The date and time of writing the postcard is taken to be that of the postmark.

Frames:

MPS-0042
MPS-0042R

**Bandstand on island in lake.
Postcard from Hull**



MPS-0042 - Bandstand on island in lake.



MPS-0042R - Postcard from Hull