



NEWS From Trust Shop

Tyneside Retro

Northumberland folk singer Ray Derrick has included his inspiring song 'George and Robert Stephenson' on his CD which the Trust is selling.

Performing music has been part of Ray's life for nearly 40 years. For most of that time he fronted The Northerners folk group, performing on several radio shows, together with an appearance on Opportunity Knocks. He says that he was very talented at the age of 8, but eventually grew out of his Arran sweater!



the album, coupled with their professional artwork and presentation, has been very successful. If you'd like a CD (great value at £10) please contact the Trust.

HE says he is chuffed to hear that as well as *George and Robert Stephenson* at least two of the other songs, *Carpathia* and *The Flying Scot* are being sung regularly by others folk singers in the area. Ray is also a member of Beeswing, a close harmony, a capella singing group based at the Bluestone Club in Old Hartley.

The first verse tells of the colliery shops at Killingworth and this is followed by the Geordie safety lamps - 'well we're not known as Humphrey's'. The next verse covers Stockton, Darlington railway, and Shildon followed by the story of Liverpool Manchester railway and Chat Moss. The final verse is about the High Level Bridge and Robert's fame

A bargain at £10

Tyneside **R**etro

- Leaving Harbour
- Together
- Tom's Song
- The Ash Hopper Boats
- Carpathia
- The Flying Scot
- The Northerners
- The Armstrong Corridor
- It Comes And Goes
- The Man Who Never Was
- George And Robert Stephenson
- She's A Wolseley 1500
- Ray's Rant

All songs written and performed by Ray Derrick
Recorded by jiva in the Blue Room

In more recent years he has pursued a solo career - performing his own songs about mining, famous events, ships and local heroes. Ray won The Morpeth Gathering Songwriting Competition in 2004 and 2005. The recording organisation 'jiva' encouraged him to make this CD of his songs and

In order to promote Robert Stephenson's achievements, a number of talks are taking place both to local history groups and an international gathering. John Addyman is to be a guest speaker at The Dickens Fellowship 102nd Annual International Conference to be held at St Chad's College, Durham from 30 July - 4 August 2008.
email: dickensne08@aol.com



Past Friends

Vicky Haworth has learnt of the sad news that Cedric Burrell has died. Like Vicky, Cedric was an Ackworth Old Scholar (AOS 1932-7) and frequently attended the annual school reunions. Cedric expressed regret that the RST had not been formed earlier and saved his ancestors buildings from demolition. John & Isaac Burrell's Iron Works were adjacent to Robert Stephenson & Co in South Street and for a time George Stephenson was a partner with Burrells. Sections from Cedric's AOS Memorial reads: *Cedric Burrell was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, home of so many engineers on 30 November 1919... The Burrell family have a long and loyal association with the trade Guilds of Newcastle upon Tyne, with all male members being Freemen, the first member been sworn-in in 1605... Cedric was sworn-in in January 1947 and he was also a member of the Hostmen Guild. He began his career in shipbuilding at Wallsend and then after WWII move to Twyford in Hampshire and switched from ships to*

motor cars working for Messrs Hendys of Chandler's Ford. After retirement in 1986, Cedric became increasingly active at the Twyford Waterworks Trust and the Winchester Model & Engineering Society. He died on 17 February 2007 and is sadly missed by all who knew him.

On Good Friday 2008, Vicky received a touching letter from Alfred Hobson who served as a Director & RS Trustee for 10 years. Alfred has been wheel-chair bound and in a nursing home for six years. He focuses on his meaningful railway past: *Hope you are well. I learnt a lot from you about Robert Stephenson. I am a native of Derby which was the centre for the LMS railway. My grandfather was a Stoker with free pass a year. My father was a cost accountant with seven free passes a year. They both agreed that I should watch the pageant to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Manchester & Liverpool railway opening. So I went to Rainhill about 1930. So all the best, Alfred.* On 29 April 2008, Alfred was 94 years old: we wish him well.



20 South Street has recently been used by 'Spaceworks' to stage a schools competition in the style of the BBC Television programme 'Dragon's Den'. The schools taking part had received advice about the development of their 'products' during previous weeks. Before teams gave their presentations to 'The Dragons' they were shown around the works and heard of the young man 'Robert' who was founding partner in the worlds first locomotive factory.





THE ROCKET

May 2008



Stephenson Quarter Developments Ltd submitted a planning application to Newcastle City Council in February 2008 for the redevelopment of 'The Stephenson Quarter' These proposals are now open for public consultation.

An element of the scheme is to make alterations to 20 South Street and these are detailed in 'Planning application 2008/0500/01/DET' which can be viewed online at newcastle.gov.uk

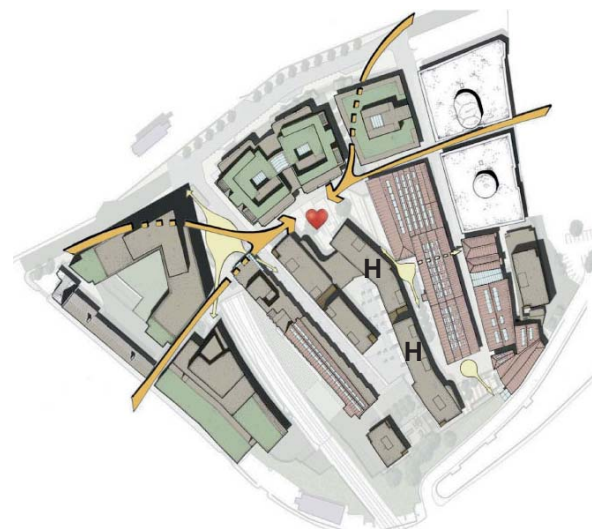
The developer states that Stephenson's Works is to remain with the same users: namely the Robert Stephenson Trust (RST and DOTT07). But the latter left in March 2008 and the RST was expected to relinquish its antiquated lease at the same time after Silverlink imposed a change of rent from £5,400 per annum to £180,000 per annum. The proposed alteration to the RST building concerns of the Boiler/Plate Shop c.1848 whereby the west facade brick infill under the substantial existing glazing will be removed and replaced with Planar glazed windows within a heavy steel frame.

RST secretary Jim Coulson has written about this structural change for cosmetic reasons: *it must be seen as historically undesirable and a matter for English Heritage to carefully consider.*

In 2005 Silverlink Holdings Ltd and Waring & Netts obtained planning and Listed Building Consent for the main space to be refurbished and part of this was the removal of an old access and infill brick-work to put in a new automated door with surrounding planar glazing all set under a heavy steel I beam lintel.

Demolition of the existing Royal Mail building that abuts the North wall of Stephenson's Works will most probably lead to remedial or making good work to the North facade. Following discussions with Newcastle City Council planners this work will be subject to a separate Listed Building Application (LBA) to follow the demolition of the adjoining building whereupon a detailed analysis of the work required can be carried out.

In the case of 20 South Street which is the only grade 2* listed building within the area



on seated users of the spaces as we are all too familiar with the impact - and frequency - of wind as it moves up South Street.

Our most trenchant criticism is directed at the new building marked Block 'H'. Its prominent position on the western side of 20 South Street has a huge impact on the external sight-line from the mezzanine and boiler-shop floor and on natural light flows. It represents a very intrusive presence opposite a relatively low-height historic building. It dominates through height, mass and length and is entirely unsympathetic with its 'old' surroundings. The context of an important listed building is a necessary component of its history. There has never been a high-rise block in such a place before. The developer's perhaps understandable justification - to maximise income from the location - should not in our view be the Planning Authority's concern, which should be to protect the integrity of the site's industrial past wherever an existing starred listed building is concerned.

of the Stephenson Quarter, the already successful alterations and installations of 2005 have safeguarded the original fabric and its continued use.

The other listed buildings are proposed to be converted into studio offices. Stephenson Square would be one of three new public spaces and a focal feature of the scheme, which also includes shops, cafes, a restaurant and flats.

Hawthorn Square, facing the 19th Century railway water tower behind the Central Station, would be a gateway to the new quarter, which would also include Coppersmith Square with river views. A lengthy gap left along the side of Forth Banks where terraced homes once stood would be filled by a multi-storey car park.

The Trust have submitted the following comment to the City Council:

The re-development of the Stephenson Quarter is to be welcomed and the proposals to create improved footfall and pedestrian routes and squares applauded. We have some concern about wind effects

Our judgement is that the architect's illustrative presentation of Block 'H' is seriously deficient and gives the general public little visual understanding of its likely impact. They will not have had the opportunity to stand on the mezzanine and image the looming presence of a very large block of flats and offices. We would press you to request an expanded document with views from all key vantage points from the proposed Stephenson Square. We also suggest the Planning Committee's members have a presentation to them within the boiler shop in order to fully appreciate what is being proposed, with representatives of the Robert Stephenson Trust in attendance to give their opinions.

