



## BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL

# COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES NOMINATIONS RECEIVED

The following nominations had been received by the close of the consultation period in mid-January:

### ◆ **Aaron Walton**

We have been given a great deal of information regarding Aaron Walton by his grandson - in short he was Mayor of Blyth on 11 occasions, Chairman of Blyth Library, Councillor and Alderman given the Honorary Freedom of the Borough in 1960, Blyth Spartans Club President. Died at home in Marine Terrace.

◆ **Wallaw Cinema** now Wetherspoons. Site of the first **Hippodrome. William Tudor**, circus proprietor opened 10 March 1904.

◆ **The site of the First World War Thomas Knight Memorial Hospital** now Thomas Knight Home.

◆ **Thomas Knight**, shipowner, whose bequest laid the foundations of a hospital in Blyth. Also to **Dr Gilbert Ward** who started the fund to raise the money to build the hospital. Opened by Lady Ridley 28 December 1887.

◆ **The first Blyth Post Office** now a take-away on the corner of Freehold Street.

◆ **John Wallace** former post master and author of the First History of Blyth, born 1799 died 1883.

◆ **The Blyth Stationmaster's House** in Delaval Terrace. The site of the Cowpen Lodge demolished in 1884 and the house built later that year in preparation for the fourth railway station which opened in October 1895.

◆ **Blyth and Tyne Brewery Site** - brewery built in 1786, closed in 1916, demolished in the late 1930s.

### ◆ **Newsham Station Building**

◆ **Fred Stoker** founder of Blyth Spartans, Harley Street doctor and horticulturalist who lived at 13 Bath Terrace.

◆ **Site of the original railway station** around where King Street car park is now.

- ◆ **Site of the second railway station** now Morrison's car park.
- ◆ **Site of Blyth's first chapel of ease in 1751** - St Cuthbert's Church Hall.
- ◆ **Site of Blyth's first theatre** at the Keel Row - Waterloo Road side.
- ◆ **Richard "Dicky" Fynes** miners' leader who helped to found the local co-operative society, a building society - known as "The Father of Drama" in Blyth - plaque at the site of the first theatre. Born 1828 and died 1892.
- ◆ **Captain William Smith** discoverer of South Shetland. Plaque at the Tall Ship Project building.
- ◆ **Site of the Salt Pans** at Arms Everytne House (Police Station side). **Willie Carr's Blacksmith shop** was nearby.
- ◆ **George Skee** who opened the Newsham Pottery and created the bust of Lord Ridley which used to be in Ridley Park. He also worked building sets in Hollywood after emigrating there. George created the dinosaurs for 'The Lost World' and worked on the set of 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' starring Lon Chaney. He later became a preacher and visited Blyth where his relatives live today. George lived at 5 Seaview - the site where Blyth Workspace is built.
- ◆ **Submarine Base** 1916-1919 and 1939-1945 at South Harbour.
- ◆ **Site of the Blyth Shipyard** Albert Street and **Blyth Shipbuilding and Dry Docks Company Offices** opened 25 July 1907 at the Catapult offices.
- ◆ **Thompson's Arcade** created after the great fire of 1904.
- ◆ **Salvation Army Hall** Market Street beside Perfect Home (former Woolworth's shop). Fire gutted the Hall which was above the shop leading to it being replace by Woolworth's opening in April 1934.
- ◆ **Site of the Royal Rink** roller-skating building opened Wednesday 11 May 1910 and the second **Hippodrome** Saturday 6 March 1920 at Rink Street, Mecca Bingo.