

Unrealised Potential

ARTIST: YH485 Press

TITLE: Proposed addition to the Somerleyton village hovercraft memorial

Outline of Unrealised Potential

On the border of Norfolk and Suffolk lies the small village of Somerleyton. Around traditional hubs of the community – a big house, post office, train station and green – lives a population of approximately three hundred. A nearby leisure boating marina draws in tourists year round to the village pub that thrives.

Across from the village green, positioned so as not to 'interfere with the transparency of the scene' in a Special Landscape Area, is the Hovercraft Column. Coordinated by the Lord of the manor himself, the column is a landmark designed to identify and memorialise the birthplace of one of the more eccentric of twentieth-century aero-nautical innovations – the hovercraft. Within a few years of joining Marconi Wireless Telegraphic Co. in 1935 the hovercraft's inventor Sir Christopher Cockerell became Technical Head of the Aircraft Research & Development Department, eventually leaving in 1951, exhausted by the pressures of WW2.

Cockerell arrived in Somerleyton later that year, established Ripplecraft boatyard, and began designing and building boats for Broadland holidays. A restless inventor and experimenter alongside, Cockerell soon began devising ways to make boats go faster across both land and sea. In 1955 he felt sufficiently confident to patent his design and approach Lord Somerleyton for help funding its production. It was in turn brought to the attention of Lord Louis Mountbatten, first Sea Lord in 1956, who oversaw its production. Cockerell was knighted in 1969. During his life he received thirty-eight honours and ninety-eight patents.

Hovercraft Column stands at a height of six metres with a bronze prototype model hovercraft at its peak. According to local authorities it is a very good monument as it is suitably conspicuous and does not intrude on horizontal sight-lines: it is an inconspicuous monument. YH485 would like to propose an addition to the Hovercraft Column that will rely upon the village population for its completion.

Take a typical small hovercraft model. Work out the average pressure in PSI that is required to inflate the vehicle's cushion. Consult the most recent census for the village. Take the PSI required to inflate the cushion and divide it by the population of Somerleyton. Each member of the village will be invited to blow through a device that will measure the breath pressure and inflate a specially designed balloon. They must blow the equivalent pressure so that added together the village population's breaths will equal that of a typical hovercraft cushion pressure.

The balloon will be attached to the tip of the current hovercraft monument and left for ninety-eight days – the number of patents Cockerell received in his lifetime. It will leak or stay inflated. Suggested shapes for balloon: early hovercraft design or Sir Christopher Cockerell's head.

Suggested Artists

See above

Signed on behalf of YH485 Press by Unrealised Potential, (Chavez-Dawson, Ely & Harris).

Date

For Terms and Conditions see:
www.unrealisedprojects.org



Date
For Terms and Conditions see:
www.unrealisedprojects.org

Signed on behalf of YH485 Press by Unrealised Potential, (Chavez-Dawson, Ely & Harris).

See above

Suggested Artists

The balloon will be attached to the tip of the current hovercraft monument and left for ninety-eight days – the number of patents Cockerell received in his lifetime. It will leak or stay inflated. Suggested shapes for balloon: early hovercraft design or Sir Christopher Cockerell's head.

Take a typical small hovercraft model. Work out the average pressure in PSI that is required to inflate the vehicle's cushion. Consult the most recent census for the village. Take the PSI required to inflate the cushion and divide it by the population of Somerleyton. Each member of the village will be invited to blow through a device that will measure the breath pressure and inflate a specially designed balloon. They must blow the equivalent pressure so that added together the village population's breaths will equal that of a typical hovercraft cushion pressure.

Hovercraft Column stands at a height of six metres with a bronze prototype model hovercraft at its peak. According to local authorities it is a very good monument as it is suitably conspicuous and does not intrude on horizontal sight-lines: it is an inconspicuous monument. YH485 would like to propose an addition to the Hovercraft Column that will rely upon the village population for its completion.

Cockerell arrived in Somerleyton later that year, established Ripplecraft boatyard, and began designing and building boats for Broadland holidays. A restless inventor and experimenter alongside, Cockerell soon began devising ways to make boats go faster across both land and sea. In 1955 he felt sufficiently confident to patent his design and approach Lord Somerleyton for help funding its production. It was in turn brought to the attention of Lord Louis Mountbatten, first Sea Lord in 1956, who oversaw its production. Cockerell was knighted in 1969. During his life he received thirty-eight honours and ninety-eight patents.

Across from the village green, positioned so as not to 'interfere with the transparency of the scene' in a Special Landscape Area, is the Hovercraft Column. Coordinated by the Lord of the manor himself, the column is a landmark designed to identify and memorialise the birthplace of one of the more eccentric of twentieth-century aero-nautical innovations – the hovercraft. Within a few years of joining Marconi Wireless Telegraphic Co. in 1935 the hovercraft's inventor Sir Christopher Cockerell became Technical Head of the Aircraft Research & Development Department, eventually leaving in 1951, exhausted by the pressures of WW2.

On the border of Norfolk and Suffolk lies the small village of Somerleyton. Around traditional hubs of the community – a big house, post office, train station and green – lives a population of approximately three hundred. A nearby leisure boating marina draws in tourists year round to the village pub that thrives.

Outline of Unrealised Potential

TITLE: Proposed addition to the Somerleyton village hovercraft memorial

ARTIST: YH485 Press

Unrealised Potential