Lancaster Civic Vision

Celebrating our Heritage – Enhancing our Environment – Shaping our Future

ERIC MORECAMBE STATUE, MORECAMBE

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Eric Morecambe is undoubtedly the best known of Morecambe's actors and comedians. Born John Eric Bartholomew in 1926, he lived with his parents in Buxton Street in Morecambe. He became one of Britain's top entertainers along with his stage partner Ernie Wise. Together they worked with increasing success from the early 1940s to the 1980s in music halls, theatres, radio, film and predominantly BBC and ITV television. At their peak in the late 1970s they attracted record-breaking television audiences. Eric died in 1984.

In 1999 a slightly larger-than-life bronze statue of Eric was unveiled by H.M. The Queen on Morecambe Promenade. Its cost (£40,000) was raised by public subscription. The sculptor was Graham Ibbeson. It shows Eric in his famous 'Give me Sunshine' pose. He faces the town and round his neck are binoculars to show his love of bird watching for which Morecambe Bay behind him is famous. An endearing flock of chubby bronze gulls guards the statue.



Eric Morecambe Statue surrounded by flowers (Source: Ian Greene)



View of Morecambe Bay behind Eric Morecambe Statue (Source: Gordon Clark)



(Source: Gordon Clark)



(Source: Gordon Clark)

Leading up to the statue are steps designed by Jonathan Speirs, which are lit up at night. In front of the steps is an open area featuring the names of some of the famous stars and scriptwriters who worked with them.





(Source: Gordon Clark)

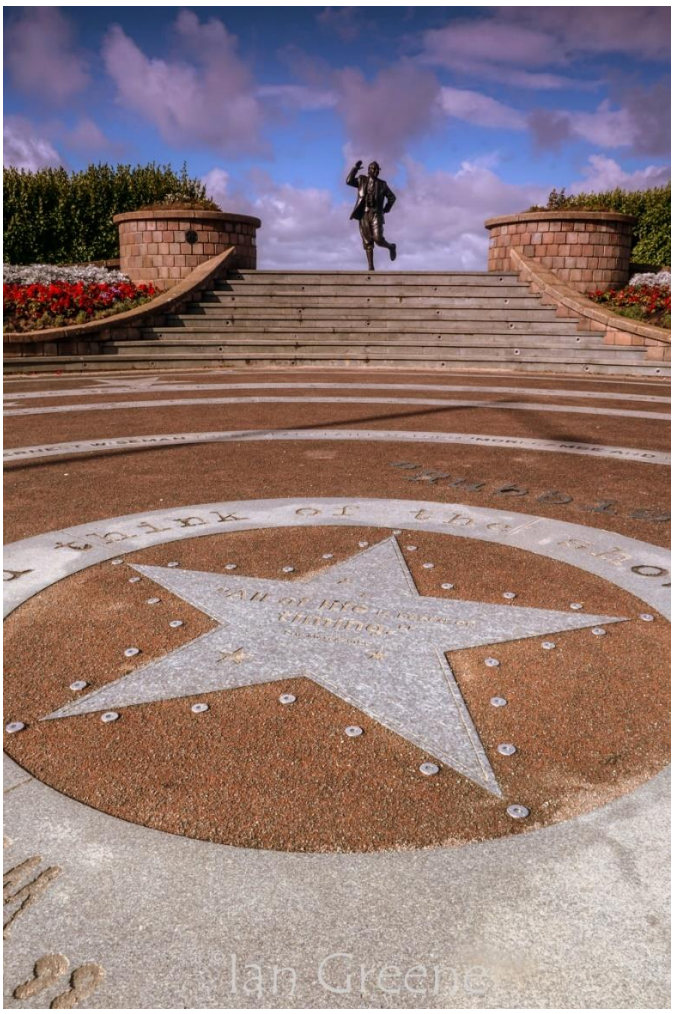
There are also many of Eric's catchphrases. "Tea, Ern?" "Can't see the join." "What do you think of the show so far?" "Rubbish" and "Ruggish."







(Source: Gordon Clark)



Eric Morecambe Statue, steps and stars (Source: Ian Greene)



(Source: Gordon Clark)

Text – Gordon Clark. Photographs: Gordon Clark and Ian Greene
Published by Lancaster Civic Vision (©2022) www.lancastercivicsociety.uk
Lancaster Civic Vision is the trading name of Lancaster Civic Society, registered charity no. 258434