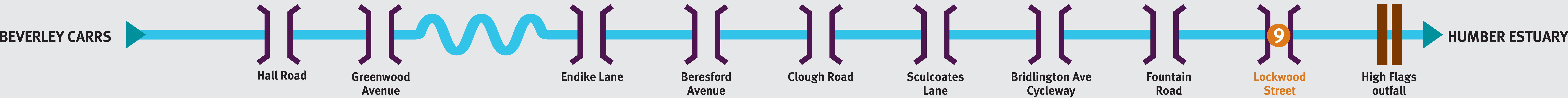


Beverley & Barmston Drain: Lockwood / Barmston Street



High Flags outfall is the end of the journey for Beverley and Barmston Drain as it enters the River Hull. Wooden tidal doors open as the tide goes out, letting water flow out, then close again as the tide rises, preventing the drain from flooding by the Humber. There is a gate inside the tidal doors called a penstock, this can be lowered to stop the flow of water out of the drain when needed.

In the past, keeping the outfall flowing was so important that from 1908 the Hull and East Yorkshire River Board had an employee living here to keep an eye on it!

There used to be a lot more water in the drain than we have today. In fact there was so much water, that in the 1940s a pumping station was built at Lincoln Street to keep the water moving even when the tide was in. A lot of extra water was being discharged from the cooling towers of Sculcoates Power Station and would have caused flooding without the pumps.

In 2002 the outfall was refurbished and one of the two tunnels under Wincolmlee on the left hand-side was no longer needed and sealed off. To protect the remaining tunnel from blocking with debris floating down from upstream, a new screen was installed; this is maintained by the Environment Agency using an electric hoist and grab to keep it clear and prevent flooding.



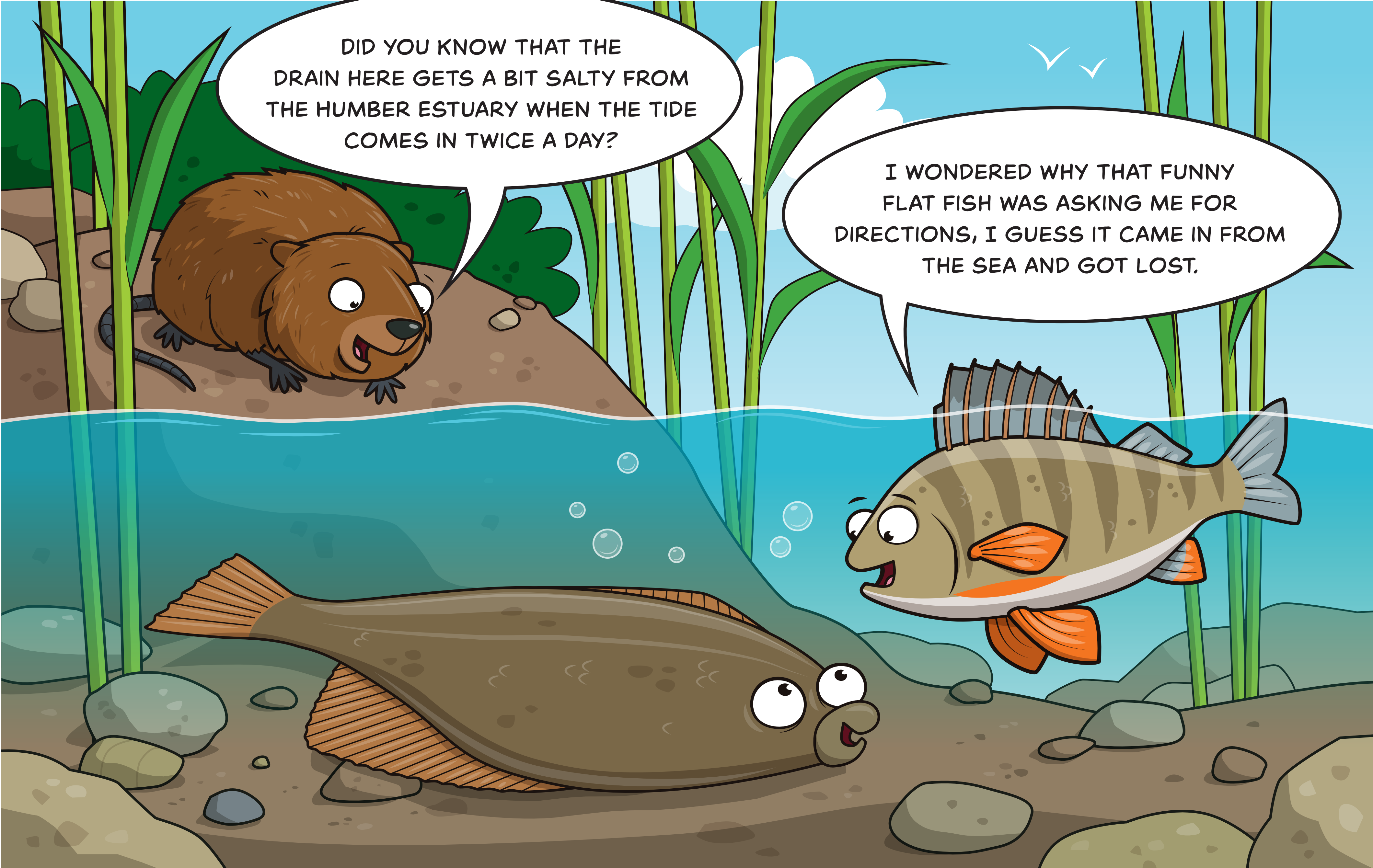
Lincoln Street House, 1908



The pumping station at High Flags



Barmston Street, 1930s



FACT

TIDES ARE CAUSED BY THE GRAVITY OF THE SUN AND MOON THAT PULL THE WATERS OF THE OCEANS UPWARDS. DUE TO THE EARTH'S ROTATION WE GET TWO HIGH TIDES AND TWO LOW TIDES EVERY DAY, EACH SEPARATED BY JUST OVER 12 HOURS FROM LAST ONE.



LOOK OUT FOR... Sparrows

You may see two species of sparrow here. House sparrows are one of our most common birds, yet their numbers dropped by 70% since the 1970s. Tree sparrows are rarer. You can tell the difference as they have brown caps on the males, but house sparrow males have a grey cap.



House sparrow



Tree sparrow

