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JOHN PRESCOTT

...he still packs a punch

SAUCY POET BUT DON'T SHOW IT

Hull City of Culture's latest success is an exhibition of its University's famous librarian and poet Philip Larkin – not his poems but his personal effects. While studying at Hull in the 1960s, I asked Larkin if he held poetry seminars I could attend. He looked at me... then walked off without comment.

Larkin was a peculiar man and the exhibition highlights his mistresses, jazz records, lawn mower and even a tape recording of him chatting with his mum.

What's not on show is the famous collection of porn mags he stashed in his office closet. The artist's blue period, no doubt!

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