**A Hull Daily Mail Exclusive**

**Breaking news**

It has been reported that a large number of mysterious wooden crates have been found in an underground chamber in Hull.

The crates, unearthed in mid-February during Public Realm improvement, were thought to have been uncovered near the junction of Whitefriargate and Land of Green Ginger in a previously undiscovered part of the tunnel system lying under the city. All of the crates are stamped with the mysterious wording “*To Hull From Land of Green Ginger*”, but the contents remain unidentified.

Garry Taylor, City Manager for Major Projects and Infrastructure for Hull City Council said -

‘Underground discoveries like this aren’t as unusual as you might think – the uncovering of Ye Mecca Smoking Café on King Edward Street last August proves that.

‘There are a number of legends surrounding Hull’s elaborate labyrinth of networks, drains and vaults, which place everyone from monks and merchants to smugglers and young offenders at their heart over the centuries.

‘Since the discovery, we have invited Humber Field Archeology to investigate further. We have no idea what the crates in the vault are, when they were stored, or what they contain.”

Lucie McCarthy, Principal Archaeologist at Humber Archaeology Partnership said:

‘We have been informed of a number of wooden crates discovered by contractors earlier this year. What they assumed was a solid floor turned out to be the roof of a hidden chamber, previously unmarked on any maps we have knowledge of.

‘This is a fascinating discovery, though unfortunately not something we can take on within our remit; we’ve passed it on to a group of local enthusiasts calling themselves The Green Ginger Fellowship, who have been involved with previous investigations around this area.’

Hull’s sprawling subterranean world has long been the subject of legend and rumour, with – unsubstantiated - talk of Queen Victoria herself using a tunnel connecting Paragon Station to the Mercure Royal Hotel during her celebrated royal visit in 1854. Much of the area was used for shelter during The Blitz and most probably for smuggling over the years – previous excavation work has revealed some sort of tunnel running between Ye Olde Black Boy and the River Hull, suggesting its primary function was less than ingenuous.

Read more about the legends surrounding the tunnels underneath Hull.

Links to other HDM stories about tunnels, including the Ye Mecca Smoking Cafe