



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER
Association of Civic Societies

Member of



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PRIDE IN PLACE

CIVIC VOICE SPRING CONVENTION COMES TO YORKSHIRE

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Back in January, I tuned in to one of those Civic Voice 'Membership Monday' webinars with which I'm sure many of you will be familiar. During the webinar, Civic Voice Director Ian Harvey mentioned that Civic Voice was thinking of hosting its first annual convention since the one held in Birmingham in 2018 – but they needed help to host it.

Ever the opportunist, I contacted Ian to suggest that YHACS might offer to co-host the event should it go ahead. Then, after I shared my thoughts with the YHACS committee, Alan Goodrum, who is both the YHACS treasurer and chair of Halifax Civic Trust, offered to host the event in Halifax. We put the offer to the Board of Civic Voice and the rest, as they say, is history – and that's why around 70 members of the civic movement and invited guests from around the country will be heading to Halifax later this week to take part in the first Civic Voice Convention in nearly five years.

Bringing members together face to face is always beneficial – not only for sharing information and expertise but also for building networks and making friends. After what we might soon be referring to as 'the Covid years', facilitating a get-together of this nature for civic society members has a special poignancy and I'm delighted that we are doing it one again in Yorkshire for the first time since 2017 (when we all met in Wakefield).



For those able to get to Halifax in time, there are a number of walking tours of the town centre on Friday afternoon, all organised by Halifax Civic Trust. Even if you've never been to Halifax before, I suspect it will have the ring of familiarity to most having been used as a backdrop for the popular TV dramas *Gentleman Jack*, *Happy Valley*, and *Last Tango in Halifax*.

As well as providing fascinating insights into the history of the town and its architecture, the tours should help build a healthy appetite for those attending the dinner on Friday evening.

Our venue for the dinner and Saturday's Convention will be the Grade I listed Piece Hall – an historic survivor of the great eighteenth century northern cloth halls. These buildings were, of course, a product of the textile trade that was

centred on the West Riding of Yorkshire from the 12th to the 19th centuries. It is no coincidence that part of the Convention's agenda will focus on the Piece Hall as an example of heritage-led regeneration. Indeed, the theme of the Convention is 'Pride in Place' and how the civic movement, developers and local authorities can all play a part in helping to create – or preserve – attractive places that people are proud of; places where they want to live, work or visit.

We have a terrific line-up of guest speakers – something for everyone, so to speak. If you're coming to the Convention, be sure to bring your pens and notebooks – there's going to be a lot to take away and to share with your committees!

On behalf of the YHACS committee, Halifax Civic Trust and the board of Civic Voice, I look forward to welcoming you to Halifax in person.

See you there!

Kevin Trickett MBE, Chair, YHACS



VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Sometimes, I have to stop for breath and take stock – 2023 seems to be rushing by so quickly. Already some five months into the year and I have to wonder where the time has gone; I know it's just something people say, but it really does seem to be the case that I am busier now than I was before I 'retired'. However did I find the time to do a day job as well?

Since the beginning of the year, I have been immersed in my own Society's programme of events and planning matters. We held our own AGM in April and presented our first Design Awards in three years as part of the evening. (If you'd like to see a write up of the results, [have a look at this.](#))

At the end of 2022, we decided to try live-streaming our events – it sort of worked but we have improved the technique each time to the point now where we are confident enough to offer the live stream option to the public as well as our members. This has enabled us to retain at least some of the on-line audience we built up over the last three years while ensuring any members who cannot attend in person can remain involved. These events are recorded and then uploaded to Vimeo, sometimes for everyone to see and sometimes restricted just to members. (If you'd like to watch the recording of our Design Awards presentation which followed our AGM, [you can see it here.](#)) Hosting events with a live-stream and then producing a recording, all takes time, of course, but our members seem to appreciate it and it's difficult to see now how, or why, we would reverse the decision. Live streaming is here to stay.

On top of our regular meetings, the Society also re-launched its popular monthly Dining Club which had been paused since it last met in March 2020, just before lockdown was invoked. As we have had so many new people join the Society over the last three years, we decided to ask all members to indicate whether they wished to join/re-join the Dining Club – and over 70 people responded to have their names added to the list. Fortunately, they don't all want to go to every outing – numbers have settled somewhere around 25-35 each time we dine out, which is just as well as finding restaurants that can host

such large groups isn't always easy and we try a different restaurant each month.

That members are willing to support our events in person has been very encouraging; we were nervous at first that people had become so used to doing things on-line over the last three years that there would be some reluctance to come out and circulate – and, of course, everyone is three years older, which also has an impact on who comes to our events (and who doesn't).

I know other civic societies are also returning to in-person events and that we are gradually feeling a sense of normality once again. It was with this in mind that I felt able to offer the services of the YHACS committee to help host the Civic Voice Spring Convention knowing that people would be likely to turn out and support such an event. Of course, the ongoing rail dispute casts a pall over anything requiring travel by train – will there, or won't there, be a rail strike? In the end, we have been spared, but the threat of a possible rail strike has had an impact on people's willingness to travel long distance.

I'm pleased to say people have booked in sufficient numbers to make it all worthwhile – thank you! I'm very grateful to those who worked with me on the organising committee – Martin Hamilton, Robert Osborne and Ian Harvey from Civic Voice and Alan Goodrum from Halifax Civic Trust. Their support has been invaluable. I would also like to thank members of Halifax Civic Trust who are helping with the arrangements in Halifax to make the event a success and I am hugely appreciative of our guest speakers who are giving up their time. I am also grateful to the YHACS committee who agreed to take the risk of underwriting the cost of the event and that YHACS should be the signatory to any contracts we had to sign. The risk has paid off and we should break even overall.

I am sure now that we shall have a most enjoyable, informative and even entertaining two days together. It should prove to be a memorable occasion that we will be talking about for years to come. (Well, I certainly will!).

Did you see our webinar *Saving the Modern*?

As YHACS members will know, the YHACS committee decided to focus efforts on the Civic Voice Spring Convention and to replace our usual spring and summer YHACS events with webinars. We took the view that to try to fit in three big events in the space of a few months would have been too much – both for us and for our members.

We offered our first webinar – *Saving the Modern: The work of the Twentieth Century Society* on 26th April and we opened it up to the general public as we wanted to promote the YHACS brand. (We had opened an Eventbrite account for the Civic Voice Convention, so why not use it?)

A recording is available and the link was circulated to members afterwards. If you haven't had the link and would like to watch the recording, let me know and I will email it to you. We have been asked not to make the link generally available, however, so access is for YHACS members only.

Our Autumn Meeting - Richmond

We plan to offer at least one more webinar during the summer but, I'm pleased to report, that a generous offer from Richmond and District Civic Society means that our autumn meeting will be held as an 'in person' event in the town on 7th October – so do make a note in your diary.

Our Annual General Meeting – report

The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men gang aft a-gley, wrote Rabbe Burns – and that was our fate with the Annual General Meeting held on 28th January 2023.

For our first in-person AGM since 2020, we returned to the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate. Some of us, as has become the tradition, travelled to the hotel on the Friday evening and had dinner together. This proved to be a very useful opportunity as, by the end of the meal, two of those present had agreed to join the YHACS committee the following day – Welcome Jane Lee and John Clarke!

We then assembled at the hotel on the morning of 28th January and had a reasonably good audience for a pre-lunch presentation I delivered on the problems facing civic societies. One new person turned up – George Eglese – and he too found himself agreeing to join the committee! After lunch, some 45 members from across the region were present for the AGM and, after some hastily re-written slides, all members of the committee seeking re-election, together with our three newest nominees, were elected unanimously. The only person not re-elected was Jim Robinson of Addingham Civic Society who had announced that he wished to retire on this occasion. On behalf of the membership, I presented Jim with a gift token to show our appreciation for his support as a committee member over the previous nine years (*Photo, right*).



We then moved on the presentation of the YHACS/Peter Spawforth Awards. Although the number of entries was a little down on previous occasions, we were able to make three awards:



1st Prize (£200) plus the Peter Spawforth Trophy – Halifax Civic Trust for their Wakefield Gate project (*Photo, left, top*).

2nd Prize (£100) – Addingham Civic Society for a project to create a digital archive of some 15,000 photos (*Photo, left, middle*).

3rd Prize (£50) – Pontefract Civic Society for their programme of events to celebrate the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee (*Photo, left, bottom*).

Unfortunately, no entries were received for the Richard Ward Memorial Prize, something we hope will be addressed in 2024.



After the presentation of the awards, we turned to our guest speaker – but this is where things didn't go quite according to plan. We had invited Ian Harvey, Director of Civic Voice, to speak to bring members up to date with the plans for Civic Voice. Sadly, a car he had hired broke down on the outskirts of Harrogate and, while Ian was prepared to abandon the car, the hire company insisted he remain with the vehicle until it could be recovered. Fortunately, we had both his slides and a plan B – Martin Hamilton took to the stage to present the slides Ian was due to talk to. Ian, I gather, finally made it home at around 7pm.....

Anyway, that's enough from me for now. I've got sausages to prick and clinkers to riddle – plus a Civic Voice Convention to prepare for! Until next time.....

Kevin Trickett MBE, Chair

THE CHANGING AND DISAPPEARING FACE OF BRITAIN



An eye-catching article in *The Guardian* back in March 2007, began:

"It was the 1940s: Britain was at war with Nazi Germany, thousands of its sons were dying across Europe, the threat of an invasion by Hitler was real. In that dark hour the government turned to its landscape to unify the nation, using images of the White Cliffs of Dover and the South Downs to exhort Britons to "fight for it now". Today, the image of Britain's countryside is no less pervasive or powerful. Scottish highlands and rolling chalk landscapes, open moors and TS Elliot's deep "insisting" lanes between the hedgerows, are evocative national symbols and powerful tourist lures. But the landscape which inspired generations of artists, soldiers and visitors is in danger of surviving only in fragments of protected "natural" theme parks. While all around, Britain's natural heritage is transformed into barren and monotonous ecosystems."

It is a vital part of Britain's national identity, yet every year more of it is lost to development. What kind of countryside do we want? And how can we save what is left?"

It was a good question then and it is still being asked now. And with more aggressive building, this natural physical decline is both the backdrop to, and a mirror of, equally dramatic changes for Britain's rural communities.

Even back then, 16 years ago, the article pointed out that *"On the one side these hamlets, villages and small market towns are being atrophied by social changes stemming from the decline of farming to the mass closure of shops, post offices, buses and even schools. On the other side they are under pressure from ambitious building plans for houses and other infrastructure, and the excitement and fear of the advent of mass fuel crops.*

Quaint, rose covered cottages; hollyhocks and delphiniums in 'gardens full of stately views' remains a seductive and idyllic vision in the 21st century. Look no further than the middle classes running for the country's rolling hills. Fed up with crime-infested conurbations and unable to get their children into the inner-city school of their choice, the countryside represents a dreamy bolthole to bring up young families."

At the time, the Commission for Rural Communities (CRC) reckoned that on current projections, the rural population will rise nearly 20% by 2027.

Covid of course, merely accentuated that move.

Add to that economic pressures, the large influx of migrant workers, planning reforms, threats to the biodiversity of nature and the raft of issues which we are

all cognisant of and we seem to be worse off than ever.



In late March, the local Skipton rag led with an eye-catching headline of “Hundreds of new homes could be built in the Craven Dales.” We were told that, in 2021, a call for housing development sites, prompted by a need for more permanently occupied homes in the national park, resulted in more than 100 sites being put forward. Initial checks reduced the list to 33 sites with possible developments of between five to 100 homes. Most are in the Yorkshire Dales National Park’s largest settlements of Grassington/Threshfield, Embsay, Sedbergh and Hawes.

A local residents Group has been set up and at a meeting of the Parish Council on 11th April around 100 people attended along with all 7 parish councillors present, our NYCC councillor and the YDNPA Sustainability Officer. Two of the councillors, who are brothers, farmers and owners of the two main sites offered for building, declared a pecuniary interest.

One of the LRC members has submitted a report of the meeting and advised that Threshfield village had grown 4-fold since 1960 and that the proposed 130 houses would represent a further 46% increase on the current stock. This would mean more than a 6-fold increase since 1960. How can this be called ‘sustainable’? He further asked that as Threshfield only represented just over 3% of the population of the YDNP, why were we being expected to absorb 21% of their proposed housing increase.

He further reported that Peter Stockton (YDNPA) seemed to indicate that the overall number of houses required was a top-down figure and was not based on any accurate identification of local need. Threshfield was a target because it had a number of services (school, medical, dentist, shops etc. He said that the aim would be for 50% of the houses to be ‘affordable homes’ but admitted that this was an aspiration. He further stated that housing developers were more interested in larger sites than smaller ones as they are more cost effective/profitable.



It was recorded that many in the room felt that even ‘affordable’ homes would, in fact, be unaffordable for most young people in Threshfield. Many also felt that the interests of residents were being sacrificed to accommodate the needs of housing developers. It became known that there had already been a private meeting between the Parish Council, councillor Richard Foster and the owners of the land identified for over 100 houses. The PC chairman (one of the owners) said that this private meeting had been informal and so no minutes were taken, nor were they required.

Most residents feel that some new affordable homes are required and no one in the room objected strongly to one of the smaller sites. It was felt that any such site should be of a suitable size that it would integrate with the existing village.

But that building on the two main sites will destroy the character of our village which has dwellings interspersed with crofts and fields thus transforming Threshfield into an urban sprawl serving commuters to Skipton.

100 houses is far too big for Threshfield, in particular it would place a huge burden on local services (water/sewage, schools, traffic, medical/dentist facilities etc) which cannot cope with present demands.



Much of the discussion was impassioned and disappointment was expressed that the owners of the land were wanting to sell a large tract of it in the very place that would do the most damage to the character of our village.

We await the reports on 24th April from the consultants who have been hired by the LRC and a further public meeting will be held on 3rd May for these to be shared.

Deadline for responses to the YDNPA Local Plan was 12th May 2023.

Judith Blackburn

A PLACE HUMANS AND WILDLIFE CAN BE PROUD OF!

Spenn Valley Civic Society (SVCS) may be a small society, but we continue to work to improve our local built-up area in the middle of the West Yorkshire conurbation.



Volunteers after laying the pond's liners in Oct 2022

We opened our Jo Cox Community Wood in March 2020, a transformation of poor grazing land and a former council rubbish tip. Since then we've enlarged the site and in 2022 started an ambitious project to create a big wildlife pond. We "took the plunge" and used crowd-funding to raise the necessary £11,000. After a nail-biting few months we succeeded, and work began in September 2022.

Eight months later we've got a 25m x 15m small lake and have just planted it up

with oxygenators and aquatic plants, thanks to a grant from the National Gardens scheme. We now await some calm warmer weather so that the pond can come alive with organisms and food for tiny creatures that'll form the food chain for wildlife.



SVCS members planting aquatic and pond-edge plants



Pond at end of April 2023, viewed from Spen Valley Greenway



Jo Cox's sister Kim Leadbeater, MP for Batley & Spen constituency, at a Children's Easter Egg Hunt at the Jo Cox Community Wood on 8th April 2023

We couldn't have done this big challenging project without many local residents and loyal volunteers who braved the mud and cold to lay a "sandwich" of underliner, butyl liner and overliner; and to shovel tons of subsoil and 57 tons of river sand.

Our aim is to create a place where communities can come together, and where people can enjoy a calm natural space, in honour of the values of our former MP Jo Cox, who was murdered in 2016 whilst carrying out constituency duties. This was initially thwarted by Covid restrictions, but the wood's popularity is growing fast and was shown during a free children's Easter Egg Hunt this April, when about 150 children and their families turned up.

This summer we're entering Yorkshire in Bloom's "It's Your Neighbourhood" competition as we've improved our area and increased biodiversity through our wood and pond.

Erica Amende

HUDDERSFIELD CIVIC SOCIETY TALK



Huddersfield Civic Society is hosting a talk by Professor Neil Jackson in Huddersfield on Wednesday 24 May to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Peter Womersley, the Cleckheaton-born modernist architect whose distinguished career began with his 1953-54 design for Farnley Hey, near Huddersfield



Farnley Hey (1953-4). Farnley Tyas, Nr Huddersfield.
Photo Courtesy of © Neil Jackson

This lecture shall explore Womersley's architecture, moving from houses to medical and governmental buildings, sports stadia and office buildings, including the Midland Bank in Huddersfield.

Although his output was limited, Womersley was highly regarded in his day and nine of his buildings are now listed – six in Scotland and three in England. The lecture coincides with the publication, by the Twentieth Century Society, Historic England and Liverpool University Press, of the first book on Peter Womersley, authored by the speaker. It is hoped that copies will be available for purchase at a discounted price at the lecture.

Neil Jackson is Professor Emeritus of Architecture at the University of Liverpool and a Past-President of the SAHGB.

Talk details: Wed, 24 May 2023 19:00 - 20:30 at New North Road Baptist Church, New North Parade Huddersfield HD1 5JU (close to rail station)

Bookings please by https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peter-womersley-1923-1993-architect-talk-the-best-house-in-britain-tickets-593311940987?utm_source=eventbrite&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=post_publish&utm_content=shortLinkNewEmail

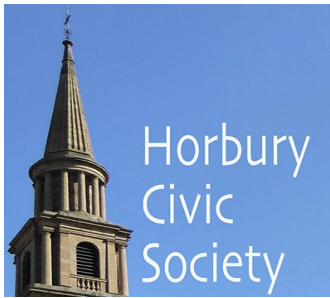
Tickets are free to members of societies sponsoring this event:

- Huddersfield Civic Society
- Huddersfield Modernist Society
- Twentieth Century Society

£5 donation at the door from non-members please.

Thank you.

Geoff Hughes



JOHN CARR, ARCHITECT, BORN IN HORBURY

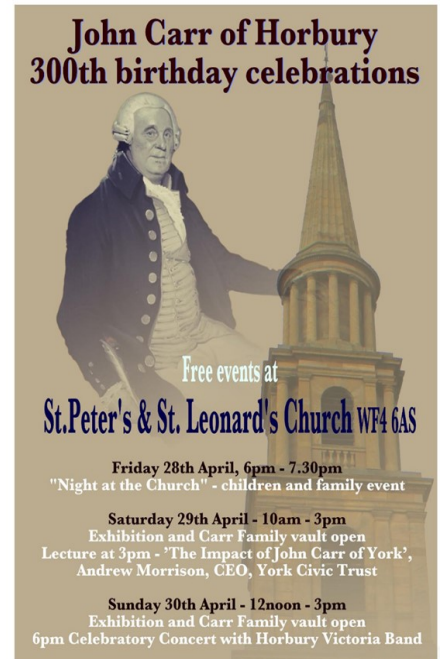
John Carr, the celebrated architect, was born in Horbury, in the year 1723.

He was the eldest son of a master mason, and from his earliest years showed a decided taste for architecture. In 1748 he set up in business for himself, and soon established a reputation as one of the leading architects in the north of England. He designed and built many fine bridges, houses and public buildings, including Buxton Crescent in Derbyshire and Harewood House, one of the most magnificent Palladian mansions in the country.

Carr was Lord Mayor of York in 1770 and 1785 and became known as John Carr of York; but we are re-claiming our most famous son as John Carr of Horbury.

The programme of celebratory events begins at our own John Carr building, the Grade 1 St. Peter's Church, on 28th April. See www.horburycivicsociety.org.uk for more information.

The flyer sets out the opening programme of April events; more will follow including excursions to Buxton and to Wentworth Woodhouse.



Graham Roberts

SCARBOROUGH'S 21ST BLUE PLAQUE CELEBRATES ARTIST PETER MARNY

One of our Society's aims is to organise the Civic Society blue historical information plaques attached to buildings where notable people lived to promote civic pride in the beauty, history and character of Scarborough and its surroundings. So the unveiling of our 21st Blue Plaque was another milestone for the society. We have plans for further plaques to be installed over the next few months.

We had a great turnout for the unveiling of the blue plaque (right) which was to celebrate the artist Paul Marny.

Cllr. Rich Maw kindly attended the event and undertook the official unveiling. The house at 12, Royal Avenue, was occupied during the 1890s by Marny, his French wife



Claire and her father. The north-facing, top floor front bedroom, served as his painting studio.

A highly prolific artist, Marny was noted for both his landscape and town scenes with a particularly strong architectural theme, his work having been exhibited at both the Salon de Paris and the Royal Academy. His early career in his native France is believed to have included working at the Sèvres porcelain factory as an apprentice ceramic artist in addition to a further role as a scenery painter at the Paris Opera.



During his twenties he studied lithography, attaining such a mastery of the process that by 1857 he exhibited two chromolithographs at the Paris Salon, the official art exhibition of the Academie des Beaux-Arts during the era when it was the pre-eminent centre for art in Europe.

Whilst working for a French architect in Belfast, he developed his knowledge of and appreciation for buildings, particularly that of Gothic architecture. It was here he was persuaded to come to Scarborough in the late 1860s by the pioneering photographer and art connoisseur Oliver Sarony.

Marny arrived in Yorkshire, in the wake of the expansion of the railways to the town in 1845 and at a time of the extensive and rapid development of Scarborough's affluent South Cliff area. To the Paris-born painter, the dramatic, ever-changing atmospheric scenery of the Yorkshire coastline and its hinterland would become a compelling attraction. Marny produced work for Sarony's gallery at Gainsborough House. This building was situated on the site of what is now a car park next to St Martin's Church, on the town's south side. Sarony's aristocratic connections led to his Yorkshire work being sold to members of Europe's numerous royal houses and landed gentry in Britain.

Primarily a watercolourist with a very distinctive signature style, Marny's profuse oeuvre consisted of scenes of Yorkshire and images of France and the Continent derived from both his annual visits back to his native land and others painted largely from memory.

He would later enter into a business arrangement with another significant patron, art dealer John Linn, who accepted all of his prodigious creative output in return for a substantial weekly retainer.

As a tutor, he taught many local artists. Despite tempting offers from London art dealers, he refused to move permanently from his North Yorkshire base. In his final year, with the passing of his wife and failing health, on medical advice he went to live in with a relative in Birmingham, only to return a few weeks later to his much-revered Scarborough. He is buried with his wife and father-in-law in the town's Dean Road cemetery.

Paintings by Marny are held in numerous galleries including Scarborough Art Gallery, Pannett Park, in Whitby, and the Usher Art Gallery in Lincoln.

Adrian Perry



PONTEFRACT'S AGM SUCCESES AND NEW TRUSTEES

On 28 Feb, Pontefract Civic Society hosted its Annual General Meeting at Pontefract Town Hall, which received a comprehensive annual report bolstered by 70 events and activities for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with 50 things planned for Heritage Open Days.



Civic Society Chair, Paul Cartwright said *"Many of our 2022 successes were due to volunteers across the organisation and the wider community playing a part in delivering a full programme of work, including participation from community groups, businesses and schools."*

The core objectives for any civic society focus on the built environment, regeneration and public realm, which includes being a watchdog for planning applications, conservation and heritage. As well as making minor changes to the charity's constitution, members elected Evelyn Westwood as Planning Group Coordinator, and the board co-opted Karen Fletcher, as well as Peter Ferrari and Dr Colin White, all of which strengthens the future of Pontefract Civic Society by bringing in a variety of skills, experiences and interests.

Paul went on to say, *"2022 was a productive year, and we're planning for 2023 to ensure that the civic society is equally as productive and visible in the town. Small activities will commence with the Community Showcase in March, followed by the Coronation in May. Major events will follow in June with WheelFest, then July will see Liquorice Shoots, and we'll have Heritage Open Days in September. Furthermore, now that we have 15 community groups in membership, we are eventually able to launch an annual competition to identify the best project, and up for grabs is the Community Group Cup and up to £100"*.

South Ward Councillor David Jones was invited to speak, who went on to say, *"Pontefract Civic Society continues to deliver for the town, whilst being a critical friend of the council. I'm looking forward to a busy 2023, and one thing I would like to see is more blue plaques for Pomfretians"*.

For local information visit the civic society website at www.pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk

Paul Cartwright

PONTEFRACT DESIGN AWARDS 2022

SHINING A LIGHT ON NEW & ENHANCED PLACES



On Mon 30 Jan, Pontefract Civic Society hosted its Design Awards for 2022, in the splendour of the Georgian Nelson Room of Pontefract Town Hall in front of an impressive gathering of business and property owners, trades people, representatives from Wakefield Council, and civic society members.

Civic Society Chair, Paul Cartwright said *“this is an evening of celebration regeneration projects which enhances the historic streetscape of Pontefract as a place for investors and visitors, with a further year of a clear shift from retail to hospitality and activity-based experiences.”*

The civic society presented the Countess of Rosse Façade of the Year award to The Mad Ox based on the façade’s distinctive colour scheme, graphics, signage, lighting, and pavement space (photo, left). Bradley’s Real Estate was awarded Façade Runner Up (photo, right).



Carl Jeffery, owner, said, *“Chuffed to bits! Thank you, so much people of Pontefract and Pontefract Civic Society for awarding us the Façade of the Year. We are absolutely speechless. This is our family business and accolades like this makes all our hard work really mean something. We’ve had a great 10 months so far and can’t wait for the next 10 years”.*

Other awards presented on the night were for improvements in shop fronts, architecture & design, place-making, and the Pontefract Racecourse Co. Ltd., scooped two awards for projects in two different categories:

Civic/Commercial (a new or extended significant building)



**The Stables Accommodation
Pontefract Racecourse**

Commercial/ Civic Award

- **Special Commendations (complete ground floor refit)**

*Orchard Farmhouse
Special Commendation*



- **Regeneration Award (catalyst for retail expansion & footfall)**

*The Last Bank
Regeneration
Award winner*



- **Residential Award (creating attractive, distinctive, quality dwellings)**

*4 Mill Hill
Residential Award winner*



- **Heritage Award (respecting a heritage building from the ground to rooftop)**

*The Robin Hood
Heritage Award
winner*



- **Improvement Award (attractiveness or character of the property)**



**The Pavilion Café
Improvement Award
winner**

Paul Cartwright, civic society chair, said “All the award winners were very appreciative of our recognition in making Pontefract a better place for everyone. The variety of projects, from housing, service, hospitality to racing accommodation, and Farmer Copley’s luxury AirBnB, shows that we rewarded the right projects, and Pontefract continues to be a successful market town. We’re already listing projects for 2023 assessment”.

For local information visit the civic society website at www.pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk or call 01977 708658 for further information.

Paul Cartwright

HERITAGE DAY IN PONTEFRACT FOR HARROGATE U3A

In March, Pontefract Civic Society had the pleasure of hosting 45 visitors from Harrogate U3A, who arrived by coach at 9:45am, and departed at 3:30pm, and they had a fantastic heritage day with our volunteers and Wakefield Council teams.

Paul Cartwright, civic society chair, planned the day in conjunction with the Harrogate organiser, Heather Law, who said, “I want to say thank you to you and all of your team. Everybody thoroughly enjoyed it and the feedback was really good. I heard comments such as “a really good, full day out”, “we learnt a lot”, “Pontefract was impressive”, and “we’d no idea there was so much history there”. Thank you to Paul, an excellent guide.”



Paul went on to say, “It was a real pleasure to start in the Town Hall and Assembly Room, then walking around the town centre, visiting the museum, and after lunch on to the castle”.

Pontefract Civic Society had the assistance of Rosemary Barnes, Yorkshire Blue Badge Guide, who’s a civic society member, plus there were four other members in support, one of which was the purple-clad town crier, John Turner, who equally impressed the visiting party.



If any other groups wish to have a heritage walk in Pontefract, please contact the civic society via email on info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk,

Paul Cartwright



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER
Association of Civic Societies

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www.yhacs.org.uk

Please send any articles,
comments, letters or
questions to the editor:

David Moss

The Yorkshire and
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Civic Societies (YHACS)
is the distinct voice of the
civic society
movement in the
Yorkshire and Humber
region, and our vision is
to enhance the quality of
life for all citizens in the
region by engaging
citizens not only in the
protection of local
heritage but also in the
promotion of sustainable
economic development
and urban renaissance.

Sat 7th October - YHACS Autumn Meeting in Richmond

NEXT YHACS MEETING

SATURDAY 20TH MAY 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
CIVIC VOICE CONVENTION & MEMBERS' MEETING
AT HALIFAX PEECE HALL

GUEST SPEAKERS

MARTIN HAMILTON - CHAIR, CIVIC VOICE
NICHOLAS BOYS SMITH - DIRECTOR, CREATE STREETS
CHARLES CAMPION - PARTNER, JTP
KEVIN TRICKETT, MBE - CHAIR, YHACS
ALAN GOODRUM - CHAIR, HALIFAX CIVIC TRUST
NICOLA CHANCE-THOMPSON, DL - CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE PEECE HALL
JEREMY HALL - MANAGING DIRECTOR OF DEAN CLOUGH
JESS DAVIDSON - ARCHITECT, PAGE/PARK
JAMES LODGE AND ALEX MCINTOSH - RHUBARB DESIGN HOUSE
PETER VARDY & RICHARD MACFARLANE, CALDERDALE COUNCIL

CONTACT: KEVIN TRICKETT ON @YHACS.ORG.UK

Executive Officers, Committee Members and Portfolios

- **Chairman**, Kevin Trickett (*Priorities for Growth*)
- **Vice Chairman**, Margaret Hicks-Clarke (*Civic Pride & Engagement*)
- **Secretary**, Helen Kidman (*Planning*)
- **Treasurer**, Alan Goodrum
- **Exec Committee Member**, Malcolm Sharman (*Heritage & Culture*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Tony Leonard
- **Exec Committee Member**, David Moss (*Newsletter and Communications*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Paul Cartwright
- **Exec Committee Member**, Martin Hamilton (*Housing*)
- **Exec Committee Member**, Alan Nicholson
- **Exec Committee Member**, Jane Lee
- **Exec Committee Member**, John Clarke
- **Exec Committee Member**, George Eglese