



YORKSHIRE & HUMBER
Association of Civic Societies

Member of



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SOCIETY INSIGHT

CIVIC SOCIETIES ASSEMBLE!

Following on from the success of the Civic Voice Spring Convention we organised in Halifax last May, co-hosted by YHACS and Halifax Civic Trust, I offered to organise another Convention in our region this year, but this time in Wakefield.

Civic Voice accepted the offer so, for the second year in succession, YHACS will be welcoming representatives from around the country to our region.

On behalf of YHACS, I am delighted that, later this month, Wakefield Civic Society will be your host once again – we last hosted a Civic Voice event in Wakefield in October 2017 – and what a great time we had! So, the challenge this year is to repeat that success and provide you with an interesting, engaging and entertaining couple of days. We've certainly put together a full programme – guided walks, a dinner, and a day-long event absolutely crammed to the rafters with guest speakers.



Our theme for the Convention is how we can use heritage and culture to stimulate the economic regeneration of our town and city centres. As you might be aware, Wakefield Council has decided to adopt a strategic approach to regeneration that encompasses these two themes: the district has a fascinating history which has also produced some rather wonderful architecture spanning from medieval times right through to the modern day. Meanwhile, our reputation for art and culture continues to attract creative people – and businesses to Wakefield. Not only do we have The Hepworth Wakefield art gallery, but we also have Tileyard North in the city centre and Production Park out at South Kirby. (Did you know that the likes of Lady Gaga come to Wakefield to rehearse their arena shows?) And it's not just a coincidence that we shall be holding the Convention in the very modern CAPA College – a training school for 16-19 year-olds in the performing arts.

We'll be hard pushed to show you everything in two days (you'd need at least two weeks, really, and then probably wouldn't see everything) but we hope to give those attending some insights into what Wakefield Council, supported by local businesses and, importantly, local Civic Societies, has achieved to date and

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**Westgate
Heritage Action Zone**

what is planned for the future.

The involvement of local Civic Societies, along with other community groups, has been a vital part of the story. We have been able to share local knowledge and insights with stakeholders and have also provided strategic support to long-term planning. We have been able to use the insights gained to show our members what is being planned and to facilitate debate about what sort of place we want Wakefield (both the city and the district) to be like in the future.

This approach has paid dividends all round. Not only have we met more people and forged relationships with a wide range of stakeholders, but we have also developed a good relationship with Wakefield Council. We are seen as a trusted partner, so we get invited to take part in all sorts of things. Importantly, Council officials and others want to hear our views.

For us, while a key benefit has been one of information exchange – we feel better informed and this helps us to stay relevant. Public perception of the Society has also changed over the years – more people have heard of us and are willing to support us either by coming to our events or by taking out membership. We closed 2023 with 359 members, the highest number recorded for over 20 years, and I'd like to think we are on track to improve on that again this year – a target of 400 members now seems achievable.

This hasn't come easy: a lot of work has gone into this with good deal of time and effort being expended. I am grateful to members of Wakefield Civic Society's Executive Committee for being actively involved in all aspects of our work – I certainly couldn't have done it without them.

So, why should you come to Wakefield for the Convention? Well, as Chair of YHACS until the recent AGM, I have seen the value of sharing ideas with colleagues from across the movement over many years. Listening to what others have done is always useful – you don't have to take it all on board but seeing *how* things are done elsewhere and, indeed, *what* is being done around the region and further afield, can be extremely valuable in framing your own thinking.



The Art House

And quite aside from the presentations, you get to network with others, to strike up conversations, make new contacts – some of whom will then go on to become firm friends. On top of that, I think we have a great story to tell and I'd like to share it with you.

There's a saying: when we travel, not only do we learn about others, we also learn about ourselves. Well, come to Wakefield and let's put that to the test! The Civic Voice Convention takes place over two days – from Friday afternoon, 12th April to Saturday, 13th April, with dinner on the Friday evening. You can find out all about the arrangements on the [Wakefield Civic Society Eventbrite page here](#).

I hope to see you there. Late bookings are possible!

**Kevin Trickett MBE,
President, Wakefield Civic Society.
Hon. President, YHACS**

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



This in my first *View from the Chair* after being in the role for almost three months.

The time since our annual general meeting in Harrogate has gone quickly and, after a bit of to-ing and fro-ing with the Charity Commission, which I'm sure will resonate with many of you, the handover from Kevin is complete. Our new treasurer, Jane Lee, is in charge of the bank account, so all is in order. Expect a call from her in the next few weeks as she updates our contact database.

We've also had our first executive committee meeting, at which we welcomed our new trustee Simon Green from Hull Civic Society. One of the big topics for discussion at the meeting was what we as a committee can do to help member societies – and we'd welcome your views on that.

Our 44 civic societies and trusts come in all shapes and sizes. We represent towns, cities, rural areas and the coast and have our own individual issues. However, we have common concerns too. Coming over loud and clear is that many of us struggle with recruiting people to serve on our executive committees.

Our chairs, treasurers and secretaries are getting older and people aren't stepping up to replace them. It's tempting to think younger people don't care – but that's patently not the case. You only have to look on social media to see lots of passionate people advocating for the places they love.

In Goole, where I am Chair of the Civic Society, one of our own members, still in her 20s, founded Dream Heritage, a not-for-profit CIC with the twin aims of rebuilding heritage and communities. As I write this, she's about to set out on a 162-mile paddleboard/kayak challenge along the Liverpool to Goole canal route to raise funds for this and her other causes.

On International Women's Day I attended the unveiling of the first of two Blue Plaques in Scarborough to commemorate the suffragette movement, which attracted around 80 people on a cold blustery day. This followed an approach to Scarborough and District Civic Society by a young woman who was researching the Materiality of the Women's Suffrage Movement for her PhD at the Department of Archaeology at York University. She secured funding to work on a knowledge exchange project with the civic society to help the town to better recognise and celebrate its suffrage history.

These are just two examples – I'm sure there are scores more across our region. Please share them with us. Our challenge is harnessing this energy and enthusiasm to create the passionate leaders of the future civic movement.

A couple of weeks ago I was invited to a meeting of Grimsby and Cleethorpes Civic Society's executive committee. I found it refreshing to see a 12-strong committee brimming with ideas and enthusiasm. You'll be able to meet some of them at the YHACS summer meeting in Cleethorpes on July 13th. Please put the date in your diary.

So how did they recruit?

They were proactive in seeking out people with similar aims and inviting them in. One committee member told me she had been approached after she campaigned about flooding in a local park.

Paul Cartwright, President of Pontefract Civic Society and a YHACS trustee, recommends signing up to the Charity Excellence Framework www.charityexcellence.co.uk. Pontefract have found the resources and newsletter very helpful. Paul recommends the webinar on recruiting trustees and there is lots of free information on running a charity, including funding.

Martin Hamilton, Director of Leeds Civic Trust, YHACS trustee and Chair of Civic Voice, has used social media to reach out to people with the simple message: *"Did you know you can volunteer at Leeds Civic Trust? We have opportunities at varying levels of commitment, including committees and panels, projects and general ad hoc support."* With so many demands on people's time, splitting up roles like this may attract more people to get involved.

In Goole, we're members of partnerships including the Goole Town Deal Board, Together for Goole (an umbrella group for charities) and are taking a lead on the Goole 2026 group working towards celebrations for the town and port's bicentenary in 2026. These alliances bring us into contact with many other active volunteers, business people and local councilors.

Many societies use Heritage Open Days and other community events to connect with people. These are a chance to engage with people of all ages and show that heritage can be fascinating and fun. Several of our trustees' societies do this particularly well and are prepared to share their experiences.

Societies across the region have found different ways of engaging people which work for them and may work for you – events, outings, walks, talks, films, lunch and dining clubs, design awards, books, leaflets, social media... the list goes on.

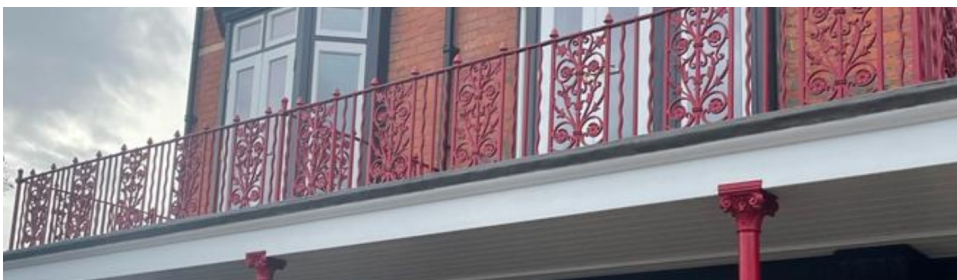
So if you're facing a recruitment challenge remember you're not alone but part of a larger family of societies who have been there too. Reach out and ask for help. Perhaps we can find you a "buddy".

If you need help and advice with trustee recruitment, community engagement, Heritage Open Days or any other issue please get in touch with the YHACS executive committee by emailing info@yhacs.org.uk or speaking to any of our trustees.

REGENERATION PROJECTS IN GRIMSBY & CLEETHORPES

Cleethorpes are looking at a regenerated Market Place, which leads from the main shopping street, St Peters Avenue, towards the Pier. Currently a congested car park, a number of schemes are being looked at, with a preview in early March which was attended by members of GC&DCS Exec. Committee.

The market area has not been upgraded for many years, is not an appealing area, but has some interesting architecture. Between the end of the market and the beach, is Pier Gardens, which again, is potentially to be remodelled, with various options shown at the preview mentioned earlier. These schemes are paid for by levelling up funding. Already undertaken, is the renovation of Victorian Balconies (through Townscape Heritage Funding) along Alexander Road, running parallel to the Central Promenade.



Grimsby schemes have been undertaken, with more work to be done. It started with the remodelling of St James Square in Grimsby town centre. The Riverhead, site of one of Grimsby's first ports, is going through a makeover, though not looking anything like the original proposals that we were invited to comment on a few years ago!

The West Haven, a collection of fire damaged and historic buildings, is being transformed into, amongst other things On Side's Youth Zone. This is funded by

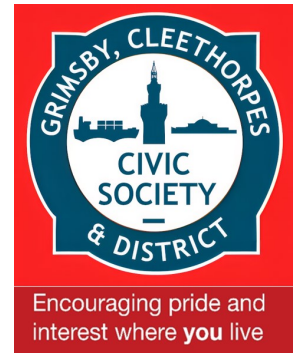


the Great Grimsby Town Fund. These former dockside buildings have had various uses over the years but have been derelict for a long time. There will, potentially be a block of apartments created from a former granary. Town housing is also within the plans to renovate the area. The main town centre shopping street, Victoria Street, though relatively short in comparison to other towns, is in a sorry state. It was pedestrianised some years ago, but with the loss of House of Fraser,

British Home Stores, Argos, and shortly Barclay's Bank, there are an increasing number of large, empty Victorian and 20th Century properties. Our Society has a "Community Champion" on the board of "2025Group", a collection of local business leaders from Grimsby town centre, which will enable us to get our point of view (and hopefully support!) into the mix.

One end of Freshney Place Shopping Centre is closing, with major building work being undertaken to create a Cinema, run by local Cinema chain Parkway Cinemas. That work will affect Victoria Street's end result.

On Grimsby Docks, part of the old Fish Dock area is being transformed into a



collection of studios, coffee shops etc. A long-term venture is to transform Grimsby's unique Ice Factory into a multi function conference/gallery space and hotel. However, these are within the ABP area, so access is via the port security at the moment which many are unhappy about considering it to be restrictive – but there are rumours about it moving to a more productive site for the modern port.

The iconic Grimsby Ice Factory Building, (now in a sorry state) and architect's drawing of planned refurbishment.

Pictures: Monuments Trust and Thistleton Waugh Architects.



GC&DCS have supported, and commented, on aspects of these schemes, and look forward to the regeneration of our area with interest. The funding has been explained to local people in the media, but there are still complaints as to why services haven't been supported instead!

Town centre: <https://www.nelincs.gov.uk/20-million-funding-is-major-boost-to-grimsby-town-centre-and-its-long-term-plan/>

Pier Gardens: is a 14,000 square metre garden area in the heart of Cleethorpes and is the subject of one of three Levelling Up Funded projects in the town, alongside Market Place and Sea Road.

Youth Zone is part of the Greater Grimsby Town Deal.

Alan Nicholson

Picture: Grimsby Creates

RICHARD WARD MEMORIAL PRIZE...

I'd like to remind all societies of our annual prize in memory of Richard Ward, a former YHACS committee member and treasurer.

The £200 prize, which is being funded by a legacy donation from Richard's estate, is intended to encourage civic societies to work with young adults, aged 18 to 30, who will be the future lifeblood of the civic movement. We've offered this prize for the past two years but so far have received no entries.

As I highlighted in my *View From The Chair*, there are many passionate young people out there keen to get involved in heritage and place-making projects. Let's make a commitment to engage with them, though we may have to think a little differently about the ways we do this.

The award will be presented at the next AGM in January 2025, with a closing date in November, so there's plenty of time to start working on this. I look forward to receiving a bumper batch of entries.

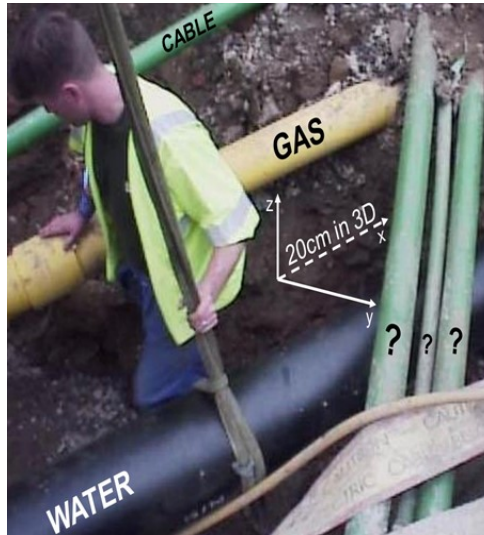
Margaret Hicks-Clarke

TARMAC IS SCARRING OUR STREETS... ...TIME FOR ACTION!

There are around 2.5 million street and road works carried out in England each year. These can cause significant disruption to people's journeys and create congestion which costs the economy around £4 billion annually. Street works are carried out by utility companies (e.g. water, gas, electricity and



Photographs by Mike Farrimond



telecommunications) to install, repair or maintain the 4million kilometres of buried pipes and cables beneath our streets. Road works are also carried out by the highway authority to maintain the roads or, for example, to install cycle lanes, bus lanes, traffic lights, or speed limit road surface signs.

The [Reinstatement of Openings in the Highway \(SRoH\)](#) is the national statutory code mandated by the Department for Transport (DfT) under Section 71 of the [New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 \(NRSWA\)](#). The SRoH outlines approved materials, expected standards of workmanship and levels of performance. Utility companies must follow this code so their work is safe and long-lasting. A 'temporary tarmac' may be used for **up to only six months**.

Photographs by Mike Farrimond

Within the Beverley pedestrianised area there is an increasing number of examples where reinstatement has been completed more than 12 months ago using tarmac or concrete (see photographs), the original stone pavers having been removed during excavation. Although there are a few good examples of utility Streetworks and reinstatement, the Beverley Civic Society does not want to see a gradual deterioration of the street scene if reinstatement standards are not enforced by the local Councils.



This is not just a Beverley problem, it is an endemic. Beverley Civic Society would like to see

- YHACS leading a campaign in Yorkshire to highlight this issue by:publicising the poor state of our streets.
- contacting all utilities to seek remedial action within legislative timescales.
- contacting all councils to encourage the tardy utilities to reinstate the highway using materials that matched the surrounding area...**NOT TARMAC!**

Nicholas Boys Smith, who chairs the [Office for Place](#) in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has said in a report quoted in the Guardian that telecoms and water companies are creating “street scars” in a “wasteful process” that is marring British high streets. He used the term “street scars” to describe black or grey slabs of concrete that disfigure the paving of streets and pavements, examples of which can be seen all over the UK.



The photograph (left by Mike Farrimond) shows one of these tarmacked areas, alongside which can be seen the block pavers that have been removed to allow access to the buried pipework. This stack of pavers and similar stacks at other excavations have mysteriously vanished, along with the workforce. Will they return to complete the work properly, as Highways regulations state that they should?

Street scar in Cardiff.

Photograph: Darren McLean



An example in Bristol.

Photograph: Stabilio X



Another example of works in a Scarborough seating area:

Photograph Dick Lidwell.



**Dr Michael Farrimond,
Treasurer, Beverley and District Civic Society**

CIVIC SOCIETY PLAYS KEY ROLE IN TRANSFORMATION OF GOOLE



In February, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and his Cabinet met in East Yorkshire for the first time – and where else but Goole!

It was probably a surprising venue for the political journalists as they consulted their sat navs to find out exactly where Goole was, but it was no surprise to those of us who have been working tirelessly to turn the town's future around.

The Cabinet met at the new £200 million Goole Rail Village built by Siemens Mobility, which goes into production this spring, creating 700 jobs. The company's joint CEO, Sambit Banerjee, described the investment in Goole as "levelling up in action".

It marked a key milestone in the town's remarkable resurgence over the last 14 years. It began with the Goole Renaissance Plan – a strategic development framework document facilitated by the now defunct Yorkshire Forward. It set out nine Goals for Goole focusing on placemaking, investment, housing, business, education, employment and capitalising on Goole's distinctiveness as the UK's most inland port.

When I first joined the Renaissance Partnership, which became Goole and District Local Growth Partnership, there was much talk about a promised spine road that would open up development land between the M62 at junction 36 and the town. Many of us sitting around the table were focused on improving the town centre and probably didn't grasp just how important this road would be in transforming the fortunes of Goole.

The road was finally opened in 2015 and Goole Civic Society was given the honour of naming it. We called it Tom Pudding Way, after the chains of "tom pudding" barges that towed coal along the nearby Aire and Calder Navigation for more than a century.



Tom Pudding Way is officially opened

At first nothing seemed to be happening and people questioned why so much money had been spent on a stretch of road. Then, after much lobbying by our local MP, Andrew Percy, and East Riding of Yorkshire's Inward Investment team, interest began to grow in the land on either side and Siemens Mobility chose Goole as the site for its new factory and associated rail village.

Other businesses also moved in, including Croda's new global distribution hub. Now one of Europe's leading tissue paper suppliers, Metsä, has picked Goole as the site for

its planned new state-of-the-art tissue paper mill in the UK, promising to create 400 jobs.

Great as the Siemens and other investments are, there was still the question of the town centre. Our ambition was that the people who came to work at Siemens would move to live in Goole, or at least to spend time and money there, and we needed a town centre that was attractive to them and the people already living in the town.

Regeneration of the town centre was happening, largely thanks to a few heritage-minded developers, but progress had been slow and sometimes frustrating. There were setbacks including an unsuccessful bid to become a Heritage Action Zone, other failed funding applications, shops and businesses deserting the town centre and the closure of our Victorian Market Hall, which Goole Civic Society launched a campaign to save.



The Goole Civic Society committee at a Christmas Market they organised in their campaign to save the Market Hall.

Then in 2019, the *Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities*, as it is now known, launched a Town Deal Fund to encourage economic regeneration and deliver vital infrastructure to towns across the UK with the aim of bringing them back to life. Goole was invited to apply for up to £25 million.

On 13th March 2020, just 10 days before the coronavirus lockdown, the newly formed Goole Town Deal Board assembled for the first time and I had a seat at the table on behalf of Goole Civic Society. That was the only time we met in person until August 2022, conducting all our business via video conferencing.



The first meeting of the Goole Town Deal Board.

We began work on an ambitious Town Investment Plan that would unlock the investment, setting out a series of objectives aimed at stimulating long-term growth. Partners were invited to suggest potential projects and the Civic

Society's number one priority was the Market Hall, a landmark building in the Conservation Area, with improvements to the public realm a close second.

The ideas were put out for consultation – not easy in a pandemic – and finally a detailed plan, which ran to 110 pages, was submitted in January 2021. It set out its objectives for the town and outlined its proposed projects. These included: A £4 million investment to transform the Market Hall into a food, drinks and events venue; improvements to the public realm and station hub; a major transformation of the town's leisure centre; upgrading the Victoria Pleasure Ground, home to sports clubs including Goole FC; a greenway and increased flood defences along the Dutch River; skills and employment investment and a £4 million Property Activation Fund to pump prime regeneration of properties in the town centre.

We had hoped to partner with others to improve rail services to Leeds but failed to get buy-in so instead we applied to fund the Goole and Howden Hopper, a bus connecting Goole and Howden railway stations, the town centres and Junction 36 business locations. In June 2021 we received the news we were hoping for - we had been allocated the full £25 million. There were jubilant headlines in the local press but, if the people of Goole were looking for instant results, they were in for a disappointment.

Then followed a period of writing and approving robust business cases for every project, which the Town Deal Board had to scrutinise and approve. It involved a massive amount of work for the team of East Riding of Yorkshire Council officers attached to the Town Deal Board.

Finally, all the business cases were approved by the Government and the next phase began – tendering for architects, planners and developers, consultation on the plans, followed by a period of refinement, and submitting the planning applications.

Now in 2024 – four years after our first Town Deal Board meeting – work has begun and people will start to see what the £25 million is being spent on.

The leisure centre has closed and the rebuilding work started, work on the Market Hall (below) is scheduled to begin in May, with a grand reopening in November, and our new Town Hopper bus should take to the road in May.



Our Property Activation Fund has received more than 40 inquiries, some of which are being worked up into full grant applications. Applications are made to an independent panel, including the Civic Society, which makes recommendations to the Board. The town centre improvements are being refined and set to be delivered over 2024/5 ready to provide the backdrop for Goole's Bicentenary celebrations in 2026.

A lot has happened since the Town Deal Board assembled for the first time in 2020. It's been a long and eye-opening process and many a time I've been reminded of Lincoln's famous phrase "you can't please all of the people all of the time".

We've still got a way to go but we can see the finishing line. Roll on 2026.

Margaret Hicks-Clarke



PONTEFRACT CIVIC SOCIETY... ...THREE EVENTS IN FIVE DAYS

On Tues 27 February, Pontefract Civic Society hosted its **Annual General Meeting**, which was wellattended by members and local ward councillors at Pontefract Town Hall.

Civic Society Chair, Paul Cartwright said *“The AGM was a success in showing via our Annual Report 2023 just what a good civic society can achieve, and we were pleased have Rachael Anderson (Magistrates Market manager) volunteer to fill the role of Honorary Secretary.”*

The AGM closed with the presentation of two new Community Group member awards, firstly a trophy, certificate and £75 cheque to the winner, Friends of Friarwood Valley Gardens for their crown bed and installation, and to the runner up, St Giles Belfry for their ‘Ring for the King’; they received a certificate and a cheque for £25.

On Fri 1 March, the civic society also hosted the **We Are Wakefield** business networking event which filled the town hall with around 140 delegates and 15 exhibiting businesses.



The event was led by Claire Sutherley DL, We Are Wakefield CEO, our Chair, Paul Cartwright presented the work of the civic society, followed by a representative from The Prince of Wales Hospice.



On Sat 2 March, Pontefract Civic Society hosted the **Community Showcase** in the town hall, hosting 17 local organisations from Pontefract and the surrounding area.

Paul Cartwright went on to say *“Over the four-hour period, there was a great buzz in the hall which enabled many conversations and much networking to go on. This event allows us to shine a spotlight onto our fellow community groups, which in turn allows them to recruit new members and audiences, and to provide services for those who need them”.*



For local information and to join the civic society visit www.pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk or call 01977 708658 for further information.



Paul Cartwright

*AGM Photography: Courtesy of Medlock Photography
WAW Photography: Antony de Csernatony of KRA:FT Media
Showcase Photography: Peter Ferrari, Pontefract Civic Society*

PONTEFRACT DESIGN AWARDS 2023



On Tues 30 Jan, Pontrfract Civic Society hosted its Design Awards for 2023, in the Georgian Nelson Room of Pontrfract Town Hall in front of a gathering of business and property owners, architects, contractors, representatives from Wakefield Council, and civic society members.

Civic Society Chair, Paul Cartwright said *“This is an evening to celebrate regeneration projects which enhance the historic streetscape and open spaces of Pontrfract as a place for residents and visitors to shop, relax, and enjoy.”* The civic society presented the Countess of Rosse Façade of the Year award to *Headhunters*, a two-year project, based on the façade’s bold and distinctive colour scheme and signage over all three floors of this potentially 16th century jettied timbered framed building. *Headhunters* were nominated in three categories, and they walked away with two justifiable awards.



Jenine Hunter, owner, said, *“I’m absolutely blown away to be entered into so many categories, and to have won two of them, makes all the hard work worthwhile. I can’t thank everyone that voted for me enough, and for all their kind words about my project.”*

Other awards presented on the night were:

- Civic/Commercial – Indoor Market Hall
- Special Commendations – Pontrfract Park Play Area
- Regeneration Award – No. 23/Erubi
- Residential Award – WDH Newport House
- Heritage Award – Red Lion
- Improvement Award - Headhunters

Philip Henfrey, civic society planning group deputy coordinator, said *“Our assessments start with the planning applications, followed by walking around the town checking the changes as they take place, and then suitable nominees are visited to discuss the work with owners; it’s a year-long activity for us.”*

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

Paul Cartwright

Ceremony Photograph: Courtesy of Medlock Photography

KEIGHLEY CS - HIGHLIGHTS

Keighley Civic Society - KCSoc - was formed in July 2023 and it's been non-stop since then, so here are our edited highlights. We'd love to hear from Societies or Trusts if you've got expertise on any of the following:-

- We're an unincorporated voluntary organisation with a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. We've got an Executive of 12 and a total of 23 members.
- We've got a Facebook page, Keighley Civic Society- KCSoc, with 60 followers.
- Bradford MDC has received Exceptional Financial Support from the Government so has to sell assets to service the debt and repay it eventually. We see an important role for KCSoc in this process, giving a voice and focus for Keighley concerns and helping to turn threats into opportunities.
- We've got Bradford District of Culture 2025 ahead of us so we'll be capitalising on every opportunity to showcase the Town and Parish of Keighley.

Photo posted to [Flickr](#) by Tim Green aka atoch at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/93416311@N00/3672965774>

Painting is by local artist Jess Kidd, called "Bingo".

Jess lovingly portrays the former Ritz Cinema during its recent incarnation as a bingo hall.



- We successfully applied for the former Ritz Cinema (above) to be listed as an Asset of Community Value with the help and support of the Cinema Theatre Association, an international organisation supporting campaigners to protect and enhance our great cinema cultural heritage. Look out for our cinema themed project to celebrate that heritage in 2025.
- We're registered as Advisory consultees with Bradford Council Planners through the efforts of Ilkley Civic Society on our behalf.
- We're working closely with Keighley Town Council and hope to soon be announcing that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between us. Future collaborations will include identifying 'problem sites' in the town and getting some action.
- We're actively represented on the Keighley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- We're working with partners to secure the future of The Picture House Keighley as an Asset of Community Value with a view to supporting a plan which will enhance provision and create an arts hub in the heart of the community for all ages ethnicities, abilities and faiths.
- We're planning to form a "Keighley's Young Civic" to involve our young people in all our future initiatives. Initially we'll be targeting 18- to 25-year-old college students.

Jane Lee (Honorary Secretary)
Honseckcsoc@gmail.com

BARNSELY CIVIC TRUST BENEFITS FROM PARTNERSHIPS



Barnsley Civic Trust's programme of talks has benefited from partnerships with other organisations.

In October we had Paul Darlow's talk on '*Mining under Barnsley*', surrounded by the traditional banners in the NUM Miners' Hall, itself steeped in history. We are returning there for a talk on George Orwell's stay in Barnsley - on The Road to Wigan Pier - before unveiling a blue plaque on the terrace of houses where he stayed. The Miners' Hall is also a destination on the tours we hold around Barnsley Town Centre.

Our main partnership is with Barnsley Archives and Local Studies Service: we are pleased with having talks at Barnsley Town Hall. The most recent talk held in the Council Chamber attracted over 120 people for '*The story of The Barnsley Canal - its history and its route*' by Stephen Woodcock. We even had a group coming from Wakefield! The talk was recorded and can be seen on the Barnsley Museums YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCh4zEA7zJY>



Our next talk is in partnership with the South Yorkshire Industrial History Society: in the period either side of 1800, Barnsley was the leading linen producer in England. Bill Gaunt, a member of both societies, is telling the story of the linen industry in Barnsley and its impact on the physical and cultural heritage of Barnsley.

Peter Roberts

Photographs courtesy of Peter Roberts



Reg. Charity No. 1112290

www.yhacs.org.uk

Please send any articles,
comments, letters or
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The Yorkshire and
Humber Association of
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.

Future Events/Dates In 2024

- Sat 11th &
Sun 12th May - Yorkshire Heritage Summit, Hull Minster, organised by our partner the Yorkshire Society. YHACS will have a stand at the Heritage Exhibition on the Saturday. See <https://theyorkshiresociety.org/events/> for details
- Sat 13th July - YHACS Summer Members' Meeting, Cleethorpes.
- Sat 12th October - YHACS 25th Anniversary Lunch and Autumn Members' Meeting, Leeds.

NEXT YHACS MEETING

SATURDAY 13TH APRIL 10:00 - 4:00 PM

CIVIC VOICE/YHACS SPRING CONVENTION AT WAKEFIELD

FOR DETAILS & GUEST SPEAKERS : GO TO THE LINK BELOW:

[CIVIC VOICE SPRING CONVENTION 2024 TICKETS, FRI 12 APR 2024 AT 14:00 | EVENTBRITE](#)

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