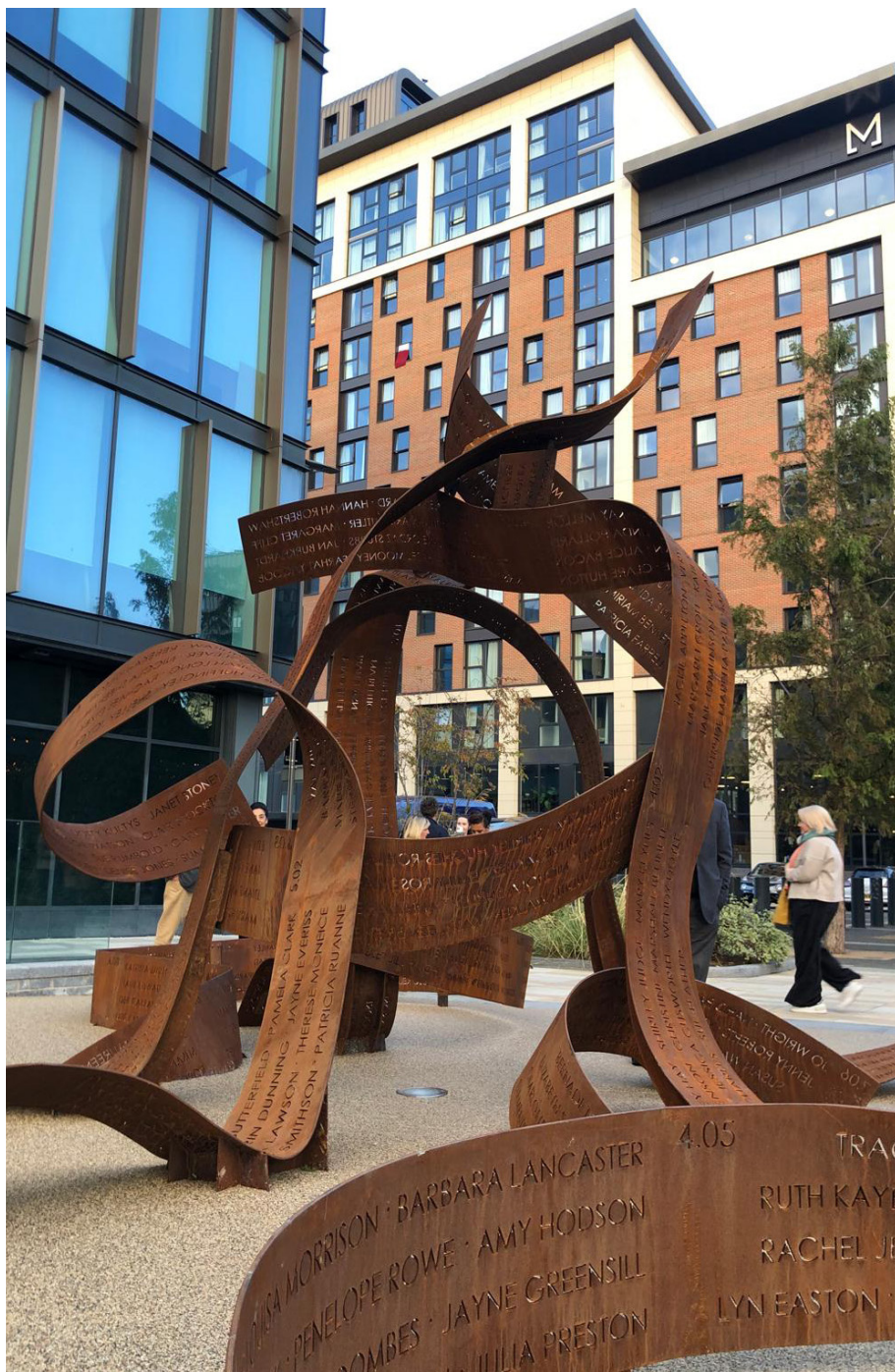


# OUTLOOK



## LEEDS CIVIC TRUST NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024



THE NEW PUBLIC SCULPTURE FOR LEEDS, 'RIBBONS' STANDS ON QUARRY HILL

### RIBBONS SCULPTURE

Roderic Parker and Martin Hamilton report on this new sculpture for Leeds.

[SEE PAGE 2](#)

### OTLEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE

Clive Woods tells the story of this now disused building.

[SEE PAGE 4](#)

### PLANNING ISSUES

Mike Piet discusses the past month's planning news.

[SEE PAGE 6](#)

### BLUE PLAQUE FOR NADINE SENIOR

Amy Sutcliffe recounts the milestone unveiling of our 200th plaque

[SEE PAGE 8](#)

### YHACS LUNCH

Martin Hamiton reports on this 25th anniversary lunch held in Leeds.

[SEE PAGE 10](#)

### HERTFORD CIVIC DESIGN AWARDS

Martin Hamilton reflects on theatres, North and South

[SEE PAGE 11](#)

# RIBBONS SCULPTURE

**This new sculpture at Quarry Hill enshrines the name of 383 Leeds women in corten steel 'Ribbons'.**

## **RIBBONS: A PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'SCULPTURE AND REPRESENTATION IN LEEDS'**

'Ribbons', a sculpture championing some of Leeds most inspirational women, was unveiled on 11th October by Rachel Reeves MP. The Trust, one of the sculpture's six supporters and funders, convened a panel discussion on 'Sculpture and Representation in Leeds' a few days later, on 17th October, in a room in the Playhouse overlooking the sculpture.

The 4-metre-high sculpture stands on Quarry Hill, and consists of five intertwining steel ribbons, with the names of nearly 400 Leeds women cut into the steel.

Our panel was a distinguished one. Discussion was led by Professor Griselda Pollock, Professor of Social and Critical Histories of Art at The University of Leeds. Joining her were Pippa Hale, a local contemporary artist and the creator of the 'Ribbons' sculpture, Jane Bhojroo, Principal Keeper at Leeds Art Gallery and Alison Lowe, OBE, Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime for West Yorkshire.

Prof. Pollock introduced the panel. Alison Lowe told us that the idea for the sculpture went back seven years, when she led a City Council review of statues in the city in response to the Black Lives Matter movement. One of the group's recommendations was to support the proposals for a sculpture garden for the memory of David Oluwale (now completed with the recently unveiled 'Hibiscus Rising' sculpture). Another was to commission 'Ribbons'. This had already been selected for the Feminist Public

Sculpture in a project conceived by Rachel Reeves.

Pippa showed us a short video explaining her design ideas (a ribbon binds things together, and the five ribbons all emerge from the ground). It showed how the sculpture was made, from 2-metre lengths of Corten steel, rolled into shape and welded together. The names came from a public consultation, and include mothers, carers, entrepreneurs, teachers, craftswomen, musicians and artists.

Jane spoke about the role of sculpture in public places. We have moved on from having statues of individuals, often glorifying them. Examples of what is now more acceptable are the 'Angel of the North' and the various works on the 4th plinth in Trafalgar Square. In Leeds we had, for a short while last year, the Damien Hirst anatomical figure in Briggate.

Griselda agreed that there has been a radical change in our culture, led by thinking about the issues raised by the Black Lives Matter movement and the awareness of the influence of slave ownership on our history. 'Ribbons' and its collaborative beginnings may yet become an historic event in the history of sculpture. She then invited comments from the audience, though too many to be covered here.

The first comment though was very moving. A lady said that many years ago she had sometimes been refused entry into Quarry Hill flats because of the colour of her skin. Now there is a sculpture where the flats used to be, and her name, after a long career as a midwife, is on it.

Is 'Ribbons' finished or could more names be added? Yes, it is finished, limited in part by the

amount of material, but there could be smaller versions in outlying areas reflecting local people.

Were the names on 'Ribbons' organised in any way? Not really: names with more nominations were lower down but the layout was really governed by fitting names on to 2-metre lengths of steel.

Have we done enough about the audit of public sculpture in the city? The panel thought not; many different local cultures were not celebrated enough for making Leeds what it is, and public art is a way of doing this.

Walking out of the Playhouse afterwards and looking at 'Ribbons' with lights playing on it was quite an experience.

## **RODERIC PARKER**

## **EVENTS COMMITTEE MEMBER**



CLOSE UP TO THE SCULPTURE





THE PANEL (L-R): JANE BHOYROO, PIPPA HALE, ALISON LOWE, GRISELDA POLLOCK

#### Martin Hamilton writes:

It was such a pleasure to join trustee Jane Taylor and Trust President Jeremy Burton for the “sneak preview” of the ribbons sculpture unveiling the day before the public launch. The Trust, which agreed a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of its manufacture back in 2020, was finally able to see the fruits of its investment in the city’s public art.

Four years ago, Rachel Reeves, who lobbied for better female representation, was a local back bench MP when the work was commissioned so it was fitting and symbolic that she returned as the first female Chancellor of the Exchequer to speak about how this new piece of art starts to redress a deficit in the representation of women in our city.

Two of our Trustees – Lucy Moore and Antonia Stowe – both feature as two of the nearly 400 women named on the sculpture alongside Lynda Kitching – now Trust Vice President, and former Trust volunteer and centenarian Doreen Wood. Pippa Hale is also a former Trustee. The sculpture also features a number of blue plaque recipients, including Isabella Ford, Leonora Cohen, Ivy Benson, Beryl Burton and Fanny Waterman and rainbow plaque recipient Angela Morley. A truly magnificent achievement and one I am delighted that the Trust is associated with.



LUCY MOORE



LYNDA KITCHING



ANTONIA STOWE



DOREEN WOOD



ANGELA MORLEY



IVY BENSON



LEONORA COHEN

# THE MECHANICS INSTITUTE, OTLEY

## Heritage at Risk Top 10

Following on from our article on Kirkgate in September's edition of Outlook, we're following up with our next feature from our Heritage at Risk List Top 10. In this article, we will be focusing on the former Mechanics' Institute in Otley, a building that served at the heart of its community for almost 140 years.

## The Mechanics Institute, Otley

The Otley Mechanics' Institute was a public institution that served as a centre for education, entertainment, and community events for over a century. The building sits within the Otley Conservation Area and was Grade II listed in 1974, but despite its celebrated past it is currently noted on Leeds City Council's Building's at Risk Register and was subsequently featured by SAVE Britain's Heritage as their 'Building of the Month' in August last year.

Mechanics' Institutes were founded in numerous towns and cities during the nineteenth century. Leeds (now the City Museum), Pudsey & Yeadon are other local examples, but what was their purpose? Mechanics Institutes were not centres of training for budding railway engineers or bridge builders as one might assume, but places where ordinary people could go to be educated in matters of science and practical arts.

Otley's own Mechanics' Institute was formed in 1849 when the Otley Useful Instruction Society (founded in 1835) merged with the Mutual Instruction Society. Prior to the merger, they had held evening meetings and lessons in a yard off Kirkgate, before later moving to a chapel on Bridge Street. By the 1860's the members of the

Mechanics' Institute decided to erect a dedicated building at Cross Green to promote adult education in the town.

Designed by Charles Fowler of Leeds in the Italianate style, the foundation stone was laid by local philanthropist Mrs Emma Dawson (of Weston Hall) on 19th June 1868. With stone sourced from the Pool Bank quarries and at a cost of £4,000, the Institute opened in 1871. The building became the main forum for public events and adult education in the town with lectures, theatrical performances and concerts all held there.

An Arts School, designed by Alfred Marshall, was added to the back of the building in 1894. Henry Dacre organised a 'Model Village'

exhibition in the Institute, which together with donations, paid for the cost of the new addition. Mrs Fawkes of Farnley Hall laid the foundation stone in June 1895.

The Institute provided a central hub for education within the community, hosting evening classes for men in science, numeric, reading and writing skills, whilst classes for women included dressmaking, sewing and embroidery. A small fee covered costs and the courses were well attended. As well as being a hub for learning, the Institute was also a place for entertainment with plays, readings and animated films on offer along with pantomimes, children's parties and wedding receptions.



OTLEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE



During World War I, the Institute became a hospital ward for the wounded, as well as hosting classes in first aid. The Institute's role in the war effort was renewed in the 1940's, hosting instruction for Civil Defence personnel and as a place of temporary housing for evacuees from London who were later rehomed in the area.

Following World War II, entertainment was the primary attraction bringing people to the Institute. Improvements in education had served to undermine the Institute's original purpose almost rendering it redundant, but temperance balls, beer festivals, dances, a billiards room and children's entertainment continued to bring the community together in the space. Otley Little Theatre was also established here in 1939.

By the 1950's the hard reality of cost was starting to hit. In 1956 the committee presented Otley Urban District Council with a gift of the entire building and by 1971 its name was changed to the Otley Civic Centre. Following local government re-organisation in 1974, the building was transferred to the ownership of Leeds City Council and subsequently became the offices and meeting place of Otley Town Council. The Institute remained an important building locally, I myself remember going to see an Alan Ayckbourn play at the theatre here in the 1990's and visiting Otley Museum that was also housed in the building.

Over the years, the building has slowly deteriorated due to lack of maintenance. Following the financial crash and the period of austerity that followed, the cost of running and refurbishing the building had reached the point where it was considered a significant financial burden and it was eventually closed in 2010. The Town Council was asked to relocate and the Otley Museum closed its doors. A local Friends group was established in a bid to help save the building but sadly, they were not able to raise the sums needed.

The building was put up for auction in 2020 by Leeds City Council and sold for £600,000. It was returned

to the market just a few short months later at a much higher guide price, however it was subsequently withdrawn and the building currently remains empty and in a deteriorating condition. Two unsuccessful planning applications have followed and, at present, the future of this once proud building remains uncertain. The side wall of the building is at risk of collapse and the roof, which is in a poor condition, is adding further to the structural strain. Scaffolding supports the building but this temporary measure alone will not stop the continued decline of the structure. The former Otley Mechanics' Institute is in desperate need of a suitable new use, one that could serve to highlight its surviving original features and help to preserve its remaining character.



OTLEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE

## CLIVE WOODS, HWG MEMBER

## WITH RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ELLIE THOMPSON, LCT INTERN

The Heritage at Risk list has been recently updated with new photographs.

[You can access the heritage at risk list on our website.](#)

## NEXT YEAR SEES THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEEDS CIVIC TRUST...

How quickly time flies-it does not feel like 10 years has elapsed since we celebrated the 50th anniversary!

That decade has seen huge changes not only in the Trust but in Leeds more widely.

So what are the plans for recognizing all this?

Events Committee with the wonderful support of Jodie and Amy have put together a year that will see a social media campaign drawing attention to the 60th year with 60 years branding and taglines, exhibitions, walks and lectures that reflect the 60 years. In addition, a poll to find the people's favourite building built in the last 60 years leading to an award at the Leeds Architecture Awards.

Of course, we have not forgotten other visits to interesting places, HODs, plaque unveilings and much more!

So come to the AGM at The Met on 24 February for the launch. See you there!

## JANE TAYLOR

## EVENTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

# PLANNING ISSUES

## Another busy month for the Trust's Planning Committee, with two presentations, numerous planning applications to review and progress on a number of pro-active projects being pursued by the Trust.

Our first presentation in October related to a 24 storey residential development on Bath Road in Holbeck. While noting the design was better than many recent schemes, we felt the site was very constrained, being tight up against the unused railway viaduct on one side and a live railway line on the other. A single way out under the arches is not appropriate for a large residential development and there needs to be cooperation with developers of the adjoining sites to create a more permeable site capable of delivering a vibrant community. If plans go ahead as envisaged, there will be three adjoining tall towers but moving between them will involve long circuits along surrounding streets. For this reason, we submitted an objection to the scheme.

In late October, we had a presentation on what will be the next phase of the Wellington Place development. Preliminary

construction work has started on a new building (9 WP) alongside Whitehall Road and we were shown initial drawings of the next block which is planned to sit on the other side of the walkway leading to Viaduct Gardens and The Junction residential development. We felt this was an interesting design that prioritised materiality and detailing, sitting well alongside the existing and proposed blocks.

Unfortunately, this month has seen a return to the all-too-often situation where we felt we had to object to far more schemes than we felt we could support. The following applications merited an objection:

- 75A Great George Street: it is proposed to convert a traditional shop into a study/gym linked to the residential unit above – the planned 'garage door' appearance would have an adverse effect on the row of traditional shops and the historic buildings in the surrounding

### Conservation Area

- Regent Street roundabout (Sheepscar end): it is proposed to construct a six floor block of student accommodation on the vacant site opposite Aldi – we felt the site was over-developed (with little amenity space and no acknowledgement of the Sheepscar Beck alongside) and would be better served by a taller simpler design to close the view up Regent Street

- 16 Duncan Street: we felt this application for a fast-food takeaway lacked information on the proposed signage, an important element on a listed building

- 17-21 Duncan Street: we objected to proposed banner signage advertising student accommodation in this listed building

- 19 High Court Lane: while accepting conversion of offices to residential units, we felt the proposed roof dormers would have an adverse effect on the listed building and views of the Minster beyond

- St Albions, Albion Place: the building owner wishes to erect gates to prevent rough sleeping in the porch but the application does not provide any details as to how these will be fixed to the listed building

- new Flannels store, Briggate: the company has applied matt black vinyl to the windows which has completely changed the character of the listed building, otherwise sensitively restored – it has asked for retrospective consent but we have supported the City Council's Conservation Team in objecting to its retention.

We only supported two schemes. The first was the provision of bedrooms at Waterloo House (behind the Corn Exchange) for use by visitors to the Buddhist Centre



THE NEW FLANNELS SHOP ON BRIGGATE





BATH ROAD, HOLBECK

and the second was the sensitive revitalisation of Morley Town Hall as part of the Town Deal project – the latter will see the creation of new audience facilities to support events in the Alexandra Hall and the opening up of the Queen Street frontage to create a café for town centre visitors.

Amongst the many ‘no comments’ were new gates to the public lifts giving access to the Parkinson Building, alterations to shops in Leeds Market, refacing a building in High Court as part of its conversion to residential use and minor alterations to a pub in Wellington Street. We also considered initial plans for a new building for Leeds Beckett University on the open-air car park in front of the Rosebowl – this is an outline application with regard to access only but the illustrative material submitted in support showed an interesting design. We agreed to invite representatives from LBU to talk to the planning committee at a future meeting.

An application that we will need to consider in due course is one submitted on behalf of the Trust itself. This is for the restoration of a stone-built building in Roundhay Park that was formerly used as public toilets. Currently partially roofless, it is suggested that it could be used by an artist, a plant sales location or any other use complementary to those already in the Park. More details on

this in future.

Updates on subjects discussed previously include planning consent being granted for a large residential development at Mabgate Mills, consent refused for a conversion at Farnley Hall and plans for a Care Home in Boston Spa (to which we objected and the Council refused) being taken to appeal. Work has started on site at the former Yorkshire Bank building next to the Arena (to be demolished to make way for student accommodation) and Platform\_ (a giant residential scheme on Sweet Street, just south of Temple Works – this includes renovation of the Commercial PH).

In our committee meetings, and in other sessions around the city, we discussed the following matters:

- plans for the Leeds City Centre Business Improvement District to expand southwards to include South Bank
- plans to open another 120 bed Premier Inn hotel in Leeds City Centre through conversion of an office block over the Canal from Granary Wharf
- the issue of anti-social behaviour at the Penny Pocket Park opposite Leeds Minster – we hope plans to address this will not conflict with our wider plans for Eastside which may be taken forward as part of a Council regeneration initiative
- concerns over the significant changes to the former NatWest Bank

on the corner of Otley Road and North Lane in Headingley – as part of its conversion to a shop and flat over, much of the character has been lost through unapproved reconstruction of windows/dormers and we feel that enforcement action should be taken against the developer.

On the transport side, we noted that statutory consent has been granted for the electrification of the railway between Leeds and York as part of the TransPennine Route Upgrade. This will require the raising of Crawshaw Lane Bridge near Garforth on extended abutments to provide clearance for overhead cables – built in 1834, the bridge is the oldest cast iron bridge in the world still in use over an operational railway and will be sensitively restored with new railings.

That is all I have time and space for today but November and December are already looking busy, with a number of external meetings as well as the regular Wednesday committee sessions. I can also commend the short sustainability webinars organised to inform members of current issues and trends. All members have been sent an email with the details.

## MIKE PIET

### CHAIR OF LCT PLANNING COMMITTEE

#### RENEWABLE ENERGIES TECHNOLOGIES WEBINARS:

Talks and Q&A with expert speakers:

- **Electric Vehicles: 13/11**
- **District Heat Network & Heat Pumps: 27/11**
- **Retrofit: 11/12**

All webinars will take place 16:40-17:20, online only.

Registration details have been sent to all members via email.

# BLUE PLAQUE FOR NADINE SENIOR

On Friday 4th October, we unveiled our 200th blue plaque.

This milestone plaque commemorates Nadine Senior MBE, trailblazing dance teacher and founder of the Northern School of Contemporary Dance, which to this day remains the only provider of conservatoire-level dance education outside of London.

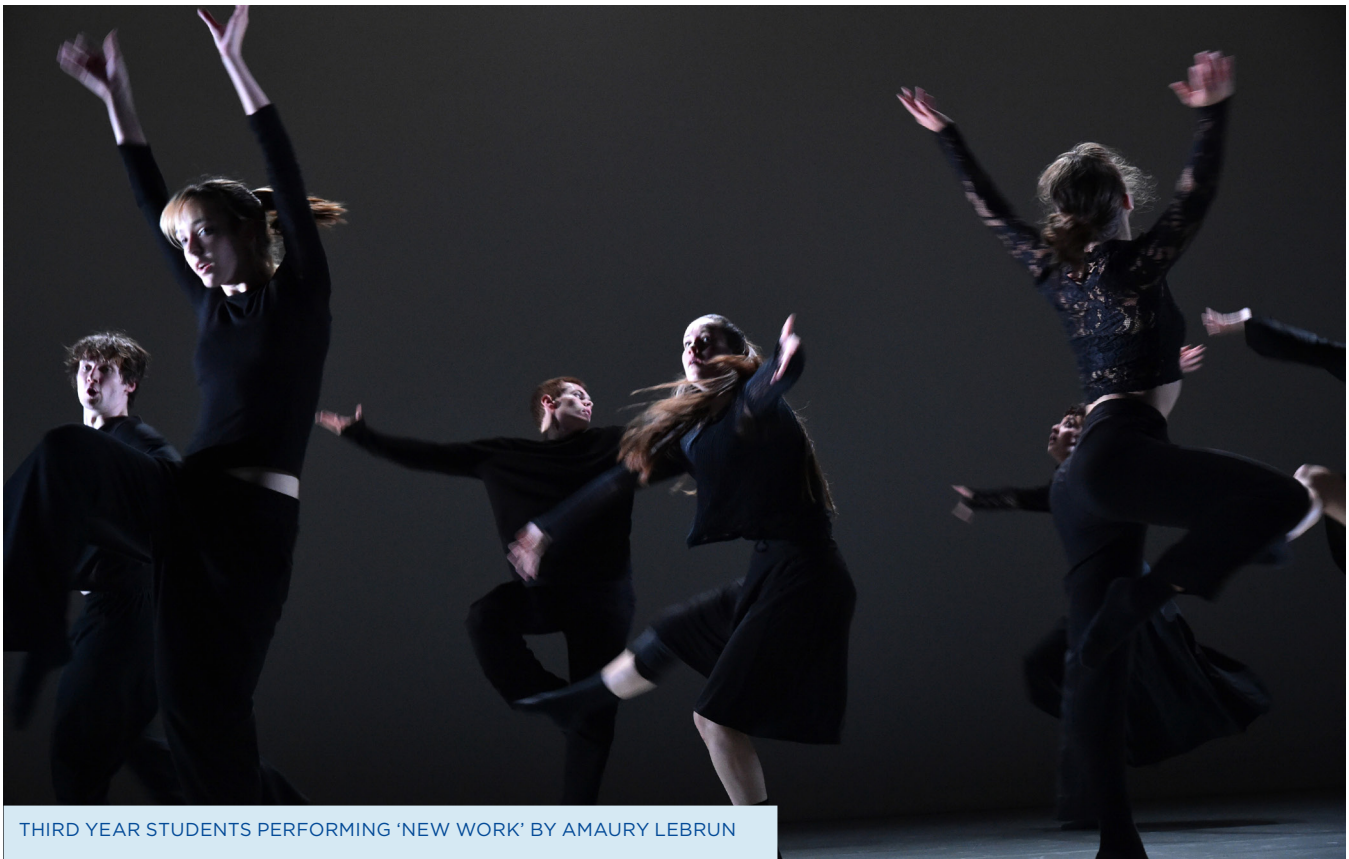
Before the unveiling, guests were invited to a performance from NSCD's third year students. The state of the art hall was packed to the brim not only with current students, but also with alumni eagerly reunited to celebrate their school's founder and former teacher.

We heard from co-founder of NSCD, Alison Beckett, who spoke

of Nadine's search for raw talent in potential new students. This idea seems quite ordinary these days, but this regard for innate passion in children with no formal training ran in sharp contrast to the norms of the often elitist dance world, where a high degree of training was usually the only respected indicator of talent.

CEO of NSCD, Sharon Watson, started her speech by telling us Nadine was her PE teacher at Harehills Middle School. Nadine was not a trained dancer but was passionate about encouraging children to express themselves through movement. Former student Gary Clarke, now an acclaimed choreographer, recounted his

moving experience of receiving a NSCD prospectus through the post and applying to the school. He had no dance training of any kind and lived in a deprived, high crime area, where positive opportunities and life chances for children were scarce. Nadine recognised Gary's talent and ambition and welcomed him into the school. There was no shortage of similarly evocative stories, where students have been pulled out of poverty and given a chance, thanks to Nadine's revolutionary approach at the NSCD. Ending the indoor speeches, artist Khadijah Ibrahim recited her poem about Harehills Middle School, where she was a student and Nadine was a teacher.



THIRD YEAR STUDENTS PERFORMING 'NEW WORK' BY AMAURY LEBRUN





NSCD CEO SHARON WATSON

After the performance and speeches inside, guests met members of the public outside the striking NSCD building, that was once a synagogue, for the unveiling. We heard from local MP Fabian Hamilton, who also attended our unveiling for the Battle of Holbeck Moor the week before, who recalled his and his colleagues at Leeds City Council's experiences corresponding with the founders of NSCD to secure the then disused synagogue building to become a home for the school. At her third Leeds Civic Trust plaque unveiling in a four week period, Lord Mayor Councillor Abigail Marshall Katung counted down to the unveiling by spelling Nadine's name letter by letter with the crowd. The plaque was unveiled by Nadine's son, Gareth Senior.

An estimated 100 guests attended the unveiling, along with a sea of students, witnessing a historic moment for their school.

Darren Henley CBE, CEO of Arts Council England, addressed invited guests at a toast inside after the unveiling. The unveiling was followed by a photographic exhibition of NSCD over the years.

The plaque reads 'NADINE SENIOR MBE. Visionary teacher who championed dance education in Leeds. She founded the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in 1985 as the first public sector conservatoire dance school, following the success of her dance teaching as deputy head at Harehills Middle School. Many former pupils have become successful professionals in the arts. 1939 - 2016.'

**AMY SUTCLIFFE**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND  
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER**



DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AT THE UNVEILING



# YHACS 25TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH

The Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies held their 25th anniversary lunch in Leeds at The Met Hotel.



DESSERT! CHOCOLATE

The Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies or YHACS for short has been operating for 25 years, and to celebrate this milestone, we held a celebration lunch at the newly refurbished Met Hotel (Or Metropole to give it its Sunday title) Just over 60 people gathered to hear a talk about architecture and design from Abigail Scott Paul. Abigail may be familiar to some readers as the Director of External Relations for the Leeds 2023 festival. Her



RENDITION OF THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AS A 'BORING BUILDING'

current post is Global Head of the Humanise campaign, an initiative led by renowned designer Thomas Heatherwick which is a mission to make buildings "less boring." Heatherwick has produced some striking buildings and structures across the UK, but close to home is known as the designer of the Maggie's Centre at St James's Hospital). This building quite rightly won the overall project of the year prize at last year's Leeds Architecture Awards and there is no

doubt that the building is anything but boring!

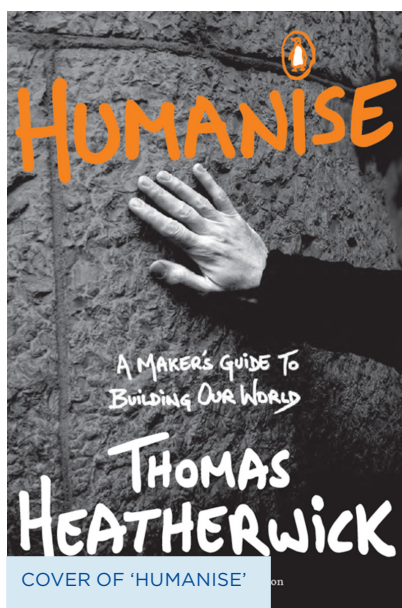
When our Planning Committee meets, a common criticism is that buildings presented to us are too samey. This manifests itself in elevations that lack definition and interest. The Humanise campaign defines boring buildings as those that are "too flat, plain, straight, shiny, monotonous, anonymous or serious" and promotes building which "lift the soul." Heatherwick has also highlighted the John Lewis building in Leeds as being one that is at least interesting.

To gain support for the campaign, Humanise generated AI images of the most iconic buildings in the UK using data from the most soulless buildings produced in the last 75 years. The resulting images (which are startling) were then sent to key influencers across the country.

It was a stimulating afternoon, with good food in good company and I certainly left with a sense that we can and should strive for more interesting designs closer to home.

**MARTIN HAMILTON**

**DIRECTOR**



COVER OF 'HUMANISE'



MINGLING AT THE MET



# HERTFORD CIVIC DESIGN AWARDS

In what seems to have become a bit of a sideline, I was invited to visit Hertford to assist as external assessor for their architecture awards. For those of you who have not visited, Hertford is a very pleasant town in the home counties commuter belt. I was impressed with its bustling centre – a mix of old and new, and its setting on the banks of the River Lea (which flows into the Thames), and also appreciated the hospitality shown by the local society who made my brief visit so enjoyable.

The society has yet to make an announcement about the prize winners, so I need to be circumspect in what I say, so this short article is really one overriding observation.

The visit brought home to me was how much land values influences quality. I looked at everything from housing developments to a sports centre and plenty in between. I was obviously looking at the cream of the crop (this was a shortlist not a long list), but nonetheless it became clear that these projects were often



A BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED SHOP FRONT IN THE CENTRE OF HERTFORD

working to a decent budget and it showed.

Perhaps most startling was a theatre project. The Hertford Theatre has many parallels with the Leeds Playhouse. It was a scheme to upgrade, update and refurbish an existing theatrical space. It created some new performance areas, a new bar and a new “skin” providing a more prominent frontage to the building. The original budget for the building was £18 million when it was approved in 2018 but has now ballooned to in excess of £30

million. Compare this with our own producing theatre (Leeds Playhouse) which was revamped following a similar timescale and had similar objectives but at just under £16 million was achieved at almost half the cost. Leeds Playhouse is a regional theatre serving more than 1 million people. Hertford has a population of 25,000! The difference was not apparent in the overall building design (both have their merits) but in the internal detailing where significant sums had been spent on the fit out.

The same observations could have been made of housing scheme on the outskirts of Hertford. Clearly produced by a volume house builder but perhaps with more finesse and nuance than schemes we see closer to home (and incidentally a very frequent bus service running through the middle).

Of course quality does not necessarily equal good design, and it is clearly possible to produce well designed buildings on a budget but the additional resources undoubtedly help!

**MARTIN HAMILTON**  
**DIRECTOR**



THE REVAMPED HERTFORD THEATRE

# WHAT'S ON?

**PLEASE VISIT [WWW.LEEDSCIVICTRUST.ORG.UK](http://WWW.LEEDSCIVICTRUST.ORG.UK) TO BOOK. OR CALL THE TRUST (PLEASE HAVE YOUR BANK DETAILS TO HAND)**

**30  
NOV**

## NORTHERN STAR BLUE PLAQUE UNVEILING

Join us for our 201st blue plaque celebrating the Northern Star newspaper. Northern Star was a chartist paper read aloud in pubs and factories, with a circulation bigger than The Times and was printed in Leeds. [Register on our website.](#)

**17**

**JAN**

**£6/£8**

## CHAPELTOWN COHOUSING (CHACO) VISIT

Join us on a visit to this co-housing project in Chapeltown. Hear about the trials and tribulations of working together to create a diverse and supportive community. [Register on our website.](#)

**11**

**FEB**

**£6/£8**

## CALVERLEY OLD HALL VISIT

After our hard hat tour in September 2023, we can now view the end result of this massive two year project to bring an at risk Grade I listed building back into use. [Register on our website.](#)

**24 FEB  
THE  
MET  
HOTEL**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our 2025 AGM will be held at the Met Hotel in the evening. We look forward to recounting the past year with members and introducing our plans for the Trust's 60th Anniversary. Registration form and papers to be sent out in 2025.

## FEBRUARY LECTURES 2025

Dr. Kevin Grady will return once again to Leeds Minster every Wednesday the history of Leeds. Keep your Wednesday lunchtimes free and watch this space for the 2025 topics!

**5 DEC**

**LCT  
OFFICE**

## CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Join us for a festive gathering at our Wharf Street offices to celebrate the holiday season! Enjoy some mulled wine and mince pies while catching up with fellow members and volunteers. Drop in between 2pm and 6pm. [Register your attendance on the booking form.](#)

# OTHER INFO

## SIXTY-SEVEN SKYLINES WALKING TOUR: MABGATE TO HUNSLET

Join Hyde Park Art Club 'Is This What We Have Left?' artist James Thompson for a walking tour of art spaces past and present from Mabgate to Hunslet.

Saturday 9 November, 14:00-16:00. Free of charge. Meet at East Street Arts. [See more and register on eventbrite.](#)

## BERENBLUM AND THE BARI BOMB

Join Andy Wilson, Engagement Officer at Yorkshire Cancer Research for a presentation hosted by the Leeds and District Association of the National Trust telling the story of how tragic incidents in both world wars and the work of a young researcher in Leeds, Isaac Berenblum contributed to the discovery of chemotherapy – a treatment still used for around a third of all cancer patients worldwide.

12 November, 10:00 for a 10:30 start, St Chad's Parish Centre, Far Headingley. £7.00. Contact Ann at [c.lightman@sky.com](mailto:c.lightman@sky.com) for further details.

### You can contact us at:

Leeds Civic Trust  
17-19 Wharf Street  
Leeds LS2 7EQ

### Telephone:

0113 243 9594

### Email:

[office@leedscivictrust.org.uk](mailto:office@leedscivictrust.org.uk)

### Newsletter Editor

Jane Taylor

### Find us online:

[www.leedscivictrust.org.uk](http://www.leedscivictrust.org.uk)  
[@LeedsCivicTrust](https://facebook.com/leedscivictrust)

### Disclaimer:

The views expressed in the articles of this Newsletter are the views of the authors of the articles and not necessarily the views of LCT

### Produced and distributed by:

Leeds Civic Trust

Leeds Civic Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation  
1014362

This newsletter is intended for the members of Leeds Civic Trust. Membership begins at £30 for individuals and £40 for household and community groups.



Find out more online:  
[www.civicvoice.org.uk](http://www.civicvoice.org.uk)  
[www.yhacs.org.uk](http://www.yhacs.org.uk)