

Yorkshire & Humber Association of Civic Societies

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www.yhacs.org.uk

Voice of the Civic Society Movement in the Region

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Does your society need a PA system?

Some years ago, YHACS purchased a PA system. We've made some use of it but these days our venues either come with PA systems built in or are small enough not to warrant their use. We also have a logistical problem in that the YHACS PA system is kept by one of our committee members: if the committee member can't come to the meeting, one of us would have to drive over to collect it as it's too bulky to carry on public transport.

We've now had an offer to purchase it from us by one of our member societies. However, before we commit to a sale, we thought it fairer to ask all our member societies for expressions of interest in purchasing the system. If you would like to make an offer to buy the system (which cost approximately £400 in 2004, we think), then get in touch with me, Kevin Trickett (kevintrickett@msn.com), before 6th December to record your interest. Once we know which societies are interested, we will invite you to make a bid. If no societies come forward, we'll do a deal with the society that first approached us.

YHACS Executive – we're recruiting!

If you were at the Goole meeting last month, or have read the latest YHACS newsletter, you'll know that the YHACS committee is thinking about succession planning, particularly for the leadership roles on the committee. On 28th January, we'll be holding our AGM in Harrogate and, as ever, we'll be asking you to elect or re-elect new committee members and officers.

Have you ever thought about joining the committee? We need a steady flow of new committee members to come forward to help keep YHACS going: new members bring new ideas and fresh perspectives.

If you'd like to know more, please contact me (email address as above). Duties are not onerous and you'll learn so much!

By the way, and with apologies, there was a broken link at the top of page 4 in my article in the Autumn YHACS newsletter – hopefully, clicking on [this](#) will take you to it.

2016 Heritage Angels Award Winners Announced

Members who attended the Goole YHACS meeting will have heard the fascinating presentation by Julie Duckworth, co-owner of the Lowther Hotel in which our event was held. Julie recounted how she, her husband, Howard, and their son had taken on this almost derelict building and brought it back to life through a sensitive restoration project. At the time of the meeting, we knew that Julie and Howard were up for a Heritage Angel award for what they had achieved in Goole and that the results were to be announced just a couple of days later.

Well, congratulations to the couple are in order! Find out more about their award [here](#).

The next YHACS newsletter.....

.... will be published in late January in the run up to our AGM. As ever, David Moss will be delighted to receive contributions from member societies. Please email your articles to him as soon as possible at damoss43@yahoo.co.uk

The big Conservation Conversation

2017 sees the 50th anniversary of the Civic Amenities Act of 1967 which first introduced into law the concept of Conservation Areas. Historic England and [Civic Voice](#) are looking to celebrate the fact and civic societies are being encouraged to use Civic Day on 17th June 2017 to promote awareness of Conservation Areas. Find out more [here](#).

In February, I have been invited to speak at a joint conference on Conservation Areas being co-hosted by Historic England and the Royal Town Planning Institute. I'd like to hear from civic societies across the region on what is happening to Conservation Areas on your patch. Have you been involved in getting a Conservation Area recognised? Or have you conducted a Conservation Area Appraisal for your local authority? How are the Conservation Areas in your village, town or city being maintained? Does the Conservation Area status actually mean something?

Please email me your stories (with photos if possible) of good (and not so good) practice and outcomes as I'd like to be able to tell conference delegates how civic societies are helping to make a difference when it comes to Conservation Areas.

YHACS AGM



Just a reminder that the YHACS AGM will be held on Saturday, 28th January 2017 at the Cedar Court Hotel in Harrogate. Please make sure you have the date in your diary! As well as guest speakers, usual business and news, we'll also be announcing the YHACS Peter Spawforth Awards.

And why not join us at the hotel in Harrogate on the Friday evening, 27th January for dinner? More details later but this annual event has become a very enjoyable and sociable part of our calendar, helping to get the year off to a very convivial start!

Kevin Trickett,

YHACS Chair



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