

Yorkshire & Humber Association of Civic Societies

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www.yhacs.org.uk

Voice of the Civic Society Movement in the Region

BULLETIN 2018 – 01 (January)

A happy New Year to all our readers!

YHACS AGM: Harrogate, Saturday, 27th January 2018

The beginning of a new year means our AGM can't be far away. We'll be sending out the 'official' papers very soon, so keep an eye on your inbox but in the meantime, now is the time to start thinking about your travel and hotel arrangements, particularly if you are planning to come to Harrogate on Friday evening.

Once again, we will be holding the Annual General Meeting at the Cedar Court Hotel in Harrogate, starting at 1 pm on the Saturday afternoon and with a 4 pm finish. We hope to have something organised for your entertainment and elucidation on the Saturday morning, starting at around 10.30am and finishing in time for you to take lunch at the hotel if you wish. Some of the YHACS committee and their partners will be at the hotel on Friday evening, 26th January (at their own expense!) and we'd like to invite you to join us for dinner at the hotel at 7.30 pm as has become the tradition in recent years.

The hotel is offering special rates for anyone attending the YHACS event: £76.00 bed & breakfast for a single room and £86.00 double occupancy on a flexible rate which can be cancelled up to 4pm on the day. Alternatively, if you'd like to have a mini-break in Harrogate, you can take advantage of a two night leisure break at £90.00 per person per night inclusive of a 2-course dinner on the first night and breakfast on both days. This is a pre-payable rate and is non-refundable and not amendable after booking.

You can, of course, explore other offers on-line through various hotel booking websites to see if you can beat these offers. If you book dinner bed and breakfast, you can still join the YHACS dinner – just let the hotel know you will be doing this. **More importantly, if you are going to join us for dinner, please let me know so that I can make the arrangements for our group.**

YHACS needs *YOUR* help!

YHACS exists in part to help support the civic movement in our region but we can only do this through a strong and active committee. This year, we know some of the current committee members are looking to stand down so we are keen to find replacements! Would you be willing to get involved? The commitment is not huge: we have around three committee meetings a year, usually in York on a Saturday (from 11 am to 3 pm) as well as organising the quarterly members' events. We have the administration down to a fine art these days, so there is really very little work to do. However, you will need regular access to your emails to facilitate discussion between meetings.

As a member of the YHACS committee, you would be there to represent the interests of YHACS, not to represent your own society, and to feed in ideas based on your experiences of the civic movement. This is your chance to help shape the future of the organisation and I urge you to consider doing your bit!

Following the change we introduced to the YHACS constitution at last year's AGM, while committee members are generally elected to serve for one-year periods, the chair will now be elected for three years. Don't be shy in stepping forward to take on the chair's role. I am more than happy to stand aside! Please do get in touch with me or any of the other YHACS committee members if you are interested in learning more.

YHACS Futures Workshop

Last year, we ran our first YHACS Futures Workshop to help societies to think about the future. The workshop was facilitated for us by external consultant Barbara Paterson.

A little bit later than envisaged, we are now ready to run a second workshop for a new group. This will be on Saturday, 24th February and will be at the offices of Leeds Civic Trust in central Leeds. The workshop will run from 10.30 am until 4 pm (coffee from 10.00 am) and is free to attend and lunch will be provided.

If you would like to book a place, please email me. Places are limited, so do book early!

Civic Voice - War Memorials Condition Survey Workshop – Wakefield

Civic Voice have organised a workshop at Wakefield Civic Society's office at Wakefield Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon, 13th February. The workshop is free to attend but you must book places in advance. You can do this on-line via Eventbrite [here](#).

Civic Voice Campaign to Protect the Nation's Conservation Areas

Have you seen that Civic Voice is mounting [a campaign](#) to protect the nation's Conservation Areas? They are seeking donations from societies and individuals to build a fund to strengthen the movement. If you or your society can make an additional donation, follow the link above for more information.

Civic Voice also aims to be an ever present voice for the movement in Parliament through their All Party Parliamentary Group for Civic Societies. They have three events in the pipeline with the first event taking place in London on 31st January, debating the "The future of conservation areas". If you would like to attend this event, please contact Civic Voice to book your place.

Kevin Trickett MBE
YHACS Chair

