

Yorkshire & Humber Association of Civic Societies

Registered Charity No: 1112290



www.yhacs.org.uk

Voice of the Civic Society Movement in the Region

BULLETIN 2019 – 01 (January)

Wishing all our readers a very happy and prosperous 2019!

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas, whatever you were doing, and are now ready to start the new year recharged and refreshed!

A time for New Year's resolutions, perhaps?

If you're the sort of person who makes New Year's resolutions, how about resolving to make 2019 the year when you get behind YHACS by offering the committee some practical support? Even if you don't make resolutions as such, you can still make a positive difference by committing your support.

Here's five ways you can get involved in supporting your regional association:

1. Make sure your society pays its membership subscriptions on time!

You may not be the one with control of your society's bank account but do have a word with your treasurer to make sure that the letter sent out by our treasurer, Richard Ward, at the end of 2018 inviting civic societies to renew their membership for another year has been received and is being acted upon. Subscriptions for civic societies remain at just £50 a year (donations to top this up are always welcome!) and are due now. It does make Richard's job a lot easier if societies pay their subscriptions timeously rather than having to chase you up.

[And don't forget that we now have memberships available for individuals: <https://bit.ly/2AsMcag>

2. Contribute something to the YHACS newsletter.

The YHACS newsletter, *Society Insight* is published four times a year, coming out just ahead of our quarterly meetings. The next edition will be published later this month.

Edited by David Moss, the newsletter's success depends on contributions submitted by our members.

Why not take a few minutes to write an article on something that you think will be of interest to our readers? You can tell us about your society's latest project or activity, or you can write about something topical that is likely to be of concern to our members, including personal observations on the built environment or the work of the civic society movement. Photos always help to make the article more interesting.

As well as general contributions, each edition of *Society Insight* has a theme, linked to the agenda of our next quarterly meeting. For our January 2019 edition, we are looking for items related to good design and beauty – picking up on the government's commission on 'Building Better, Building Beauty': <https://bit.ly/2CJdxqm>. Why not send us your thoughts?

The deadline for submissions for the January edition is this Sunday, 6th January, so don't delay! You can submit articles by email to David on damos43@yahoo.co.uk

3. Make 2019 the year when you attend one of our meetings!

The YHACS Committee organises four main events each year, starting with the AGM in January. While these are usually well attended, with around 40 or more people turning up, we could do a lot better! If you're already a regular attender at our events, you'll know that they are packed with useful presentations and other information that doesn't always make its way into our newsletters – you have to be there to get the benefit!

If you've not yet been to one of these quarterly meetings, then you really don't know what you're missing so why not make 2019 the year when you give it a go? Our AGM is in Harrogate on 26th January. For our Spring event we'll be in Sheffield (just waiting for Sheffield Civic Trust to confirm the date) and then we're off to Selby for the Summer meeting on 27th July and Pontefract on 26th October. Put the dates in your diary now!

And watch out also for other events that we organise from time to time such as our Design Workshop in February (keep reading for details).

4. Why not join the YHACS Committee?

There are two things that make YHACS so successful: the support of its members and the work done by the YHACS Committee in organising the events and keeping things going. We are always on the lookout for new committee members – every organisation needs to ring the changes from time to time and we're no different in wanting to refresh the committee with new people and new ideas.

Being a committee member isn't difficult and it's not particularly time-consuming – you should aim to come to the quarterly meetings and attend three or four committee meetings in addition as well as responding to emails between members of the committee throughout the year. If you are at all interested, now is the time to act as we are seeking new nominations from people willing to stand for election at the AGM on 26th January. Apart from the chair, who now serves for a three-year term with a maximum of two terms, all other members of the committee stand for one year at a time, renewable each year.

As YHACS is a registered charity, all committee members become trustees of the charity at the time of their appointment.

Please bear in mind: YHACS is your organisation but without volunteers willing to serve on the committee, there'd be no YHACS!

5. And finally, enrol for our Design Workshop on 5th & 6th February

We originally aimed to run this workshop last November but had to postpone to next month as one of the facilitators wasn't going to be available. If you registered for the November workshop and haven't yet re-registered for the new dates, please get in touch (details below). Our treasurer, Richard Ward, will be emailing invoices to everyone we currently have down to attend in the next few days. The cost is £50 for YHACS members (and those of you who are members of a YHACS member society) and £75 for people who are not members. If you know someone who might be interested, do pass these details on to them please.

YHACS Design Workshops – 5th & 6th February 2019

The workshop will be facilitated for us by Elizabeth and Richard Motley of [IntegreatPlus](#), a not-for-profit social enterprise consultancy based in Sheffield. IntegreatPlus offer architectural, planning and economic development support to communities, local authorities and built environment professionals to help deliver their “place-based ambitions”.

Dates and Location

The YHACS workshop will now run over two days: – Tuesday, 5th and Wednesday, 6th February 2019 and will be held at the Cedar Court Hotel in Wakefield.

The workshop will start at 10.00 am (registration with tea and coffee from 9.30 am) and end no later than 4 pm each day. We encourage anyone attending to come to both days.

Programme: The *provisional* programme (subject to change) is as follows:

Day one:	Morning	Building based design principles
	Afternoon	Built for Life – place based principles
Day two	Morning	Housing design and innovation
	Afternoon	Personalised housing choices

Cost: YHACS will subsidise the cost of the workshop for YHACS members but we do need to ask for a contribution towards the cost of refreshments. We are therefore asking YHACS members attending to pay £50 to YHACS in advance. This will cover the cost of teas/coffees and a two-course lunch each day.

We will also offer the workshop to people who are not YHACS members (or are not a member of a YHACS member society) but at a higher cost of £75.

Hotel accommodation: We appreciate that some people may wish to stay overnight at the hotel and the hotel has quoted rates for dinner bed and breakfast of £110 per night based on single occupancy of a room and £130 per night based on double occupancy. To book at these prices, please telephone the hotel on 01924 276310. Please note that it may be possible to secure a better deal by booking on-line through other websites.

How to Book

If you had booked places for the original November dates and have confirmed you wish to attend in February, you will receive an invoice. If you haven't previously booked but would like to do so now, please email me (kevintrickett@msn.com).

Our Treasurer, Richard Ward will then contact you to arrange payment which can be made by bank transfer or by cheque payable to YHACS.

Spaces are limited, so please book early.

Our AGM – Saturday, 26th January 2019

Old Swan Hotel, Harrogate

Papers for the AGM will be issued nearer the time of the meeting but as usual you can expect a full programme that starts with dinner at the hotel on Friday evening, 25th January and a Saturday morning activity ahead of the main meeting in the afternoon. The Old Swan is the hotel where Agatha Christie was discovered to have been staying when she 'disappeared' in 1926.

If you'd like to book a room, the hotel has offered rates for Friday evening as follows:

- £94.00 per room – Classic Single room for solo occupancy with Dinner and Breakfast
- £104.00 per room – Classic Double room for solo occupancy with Dinner and Breakfast
- £139.00 per room – Classic Double room for two guests with Dinner and Breakfast

(As ever, do look out for other offers, including those offered by other websites such as Booking.com)

Dinner will be served at 7.30pm for those wishing to dine together.

The AGM and members' meeting will start at 1 pm and conclude no later than 4 pm. After the usual formalities of the AGM, our theme for the afternoon's presentations and discussion will be around the new government commission to be led by Sir Roger Scruton on 'Building Better, Building Beauty'.

More details to follow....

Kevin Trickett MBE
YHACS Chair

