

Doncaster Civic Trust

An independent group of local people interested in Doncaster's heritage

80 Years
Doncaster Civic Trust
1946-2026

April 2026 Bulletin



Executive Committee members receiving the Civic Mayor Appreciation Award at the Mansion House on behalf of the Trust

Welcome to the April Bulletin for the Doncaster Civic Trust

Everyone should have now received their Special edition of Trust Topics celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Trust.

If you haven't received a copy please let me know.

Doncaster Civic Trust Meetings in April

Thursday 23rd April - Members Meeting and Talk
(see details below).

Monday 13th April – Planning and Conservation Committee

Members Talk Programme

In March, we welcomed back Eric Jackson with his story of the History of Almshouses especially those in Doncaster and Pontefract. The event was well attended and very interesting.



Thursday 23rd April Chris Barron – Treasures in the Tower- the Story of Doncaster Grammar School Railway Society and Museum

St Peter's Church Hall, Chequer Road, Doncaster DN1 2AA starting at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available after the talk. Ample Free Parking available.

Chris Barron is a Doncaster Civic Trust Member and also a Trustee of the Doncaster Grammar School Railway Collection. He was instrumental in securing a new home for the collection at the Danum Gallery, Library and Museum (previously the Danum Gallery), ensuring the preservation of hundreds of items, including locomotive nameplates.

Explore the fascinating history of The Doncaster Grammar School Collection, started by pupils and teachers at Doncaster Grammar School in the 1930s. Discover the range of railwayana treasures that were hidden from view for years.

Doncaster Civic Trust

80th Anniversary

Celebrations

Proposed Members Visit to Doddington Hall and Gardens - Wednesday 17th June 2026

In the past one of the regular activities the members of the Civic Trust enjoyed was a visit to a Historical House or Garden. As part of our 80th Anniversary celebrations it is proposed to organise a visit to see this family owned and run Elizabethan Hall and Gardens in the beautiful Lincolnshire countryside.

A coach will pick members up in Waterdale Doncaster and transport them to the Hall with a return mid-afternoon. The cost will be £32.50 per person which will include the coach trip and entrance and tour of the Hall.

If you hold any of the following memberships there are reduced entrance fees:

- [Historic Houses](#) Members – free entry to the Hall & Gardens (applies to 'Hall & Gardens' ticket & 'Gardens only' ticket)
- [Art Fund](#) – 50% off 'Hall & Gardens' ticket (not valid for 'Gardens only' ticket)
- [CPRE](#) – 2 for 1 on 'Hall & Gardens' ticket (not valid for 'Gardens only' ticket)
- [RHS](#) Members – free entry to the Gardens only (not valid for Hall entry)
- [Gardeners' World](#) – 2 for 1 entry to the Gardens only (not valid for Hall entry)
- However members of the above must be prepared to pay the full entry cost if the Hall conditions do not allow concessionary admission to count towards the minimum number for a "tour"
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If you are interested in the trip I need to know as soon as possible i.e. by Tuesday 7th April. To book a place please contact me by email dct.membershipsecretary@gmail.com or telephone 07749240257

NB we do need a minimum of 20 people for the trip – we will not run the event if we have less than that number book a seat.



Doddington Hall

and splendid Gardens



Doddington Hall is an example of a fine late Elizabethan Mansion, it is still a lived-in and much loved family home, alive with history and interest.

Over 400 years of unbroken family occupation has resulted in fascinating collections of furniture, weaponry, paintings, ceramics, textiles, household objects, porcelain and a wealth of amusing stories all to be found in and around Doddington Hall.

A visit to Doddington offers a unique insight into family life through the ages and the challenges of looking after such an estate in the 21st century.

For many, the gardens at Doddington are just as spectacular as the Hall itself. Remaining faithful to the original Elizabethan layout, mellow walls provide the framework for the formal East Front and West Garden. Beyond the West Garden begins the lovingly restored Wild Garden.

There are several refreshment options with tea- rooms and cafes and restaurant. Plus, a well-stocked farm shop and clothing store to wander around.

Yorkshire Heritage Summit 2026

Wednesday 25th March 2026 Barnsley Civic

This annual Heritage Summit is an opportunity for voluntary groups, large and small, to come together and share new ideas, as well as giving the general public an opportunity to meet organisations and hear about their work.

This year's summit organised by The Yorkshire Society in conjunction with Barnsley Council and Barnsley Civic Trust, was held at the Civic Theatre in Barnsley. The Doncaster Civic Trust were given a stall at the Yorkshire Heritage Exhibition opened by The Mayor of Barnsley, Cllr David James Leech.

Myself and Steve Kimber manned the stall and enjoyed conversations with people from all over Yorkshire. It was satisfying to be able to promote the City of Doncaster as well as the Civic Trust. Hopefully many of the folks we talked to will consider a visit to the city sometime this year.



Cllr David James Leech, Mayor of Barnsley opening the afternoon session



Manning the Stall!

Executive Committee Changes



Pete Walker, (pictured recently meeting the Mayor at the Mansion House) has now taken on the role of Secretary for the Doncaster Civic Trust.

Mark Waterhouse is now the Treasurer of the Doncaster Civic Trust



We are always interested to hear from members interested in joining the Executive Committee. There are always new and long term projects to help plan and organise.

City of Doncaster Heritage Open Days 2026

Plans for this years Heritage Open Days Festival (11th to 20th September) are continuing. As well as repeating many of the previous year's favourite events we are welcoming several new venues. (more details to follow in the next few months).

It is hoped to offer more Heritage Walks this year around the wider Doncaster area as these always seem to be popular events.

WATCH THIS SPACE!!

Facebook and Wider Social Media

Don't forget that the Doncaster Civic Trust has a presence on Facebook. This is a private group but all members are welcome to join. Here we try and share local news that we think will interest members and we are always happy to see posts from members. Why not join?



However, we are aware there are other Social Media Websites and it would be interesting to hear which websites our members regularly use. This could influence how we develop our "Online Presence" in the future. Please let me know your views or recommendations

If you have any feedback to anything you see in the bulletin, please get in touch. Or is there something you would like me to add each month?

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