

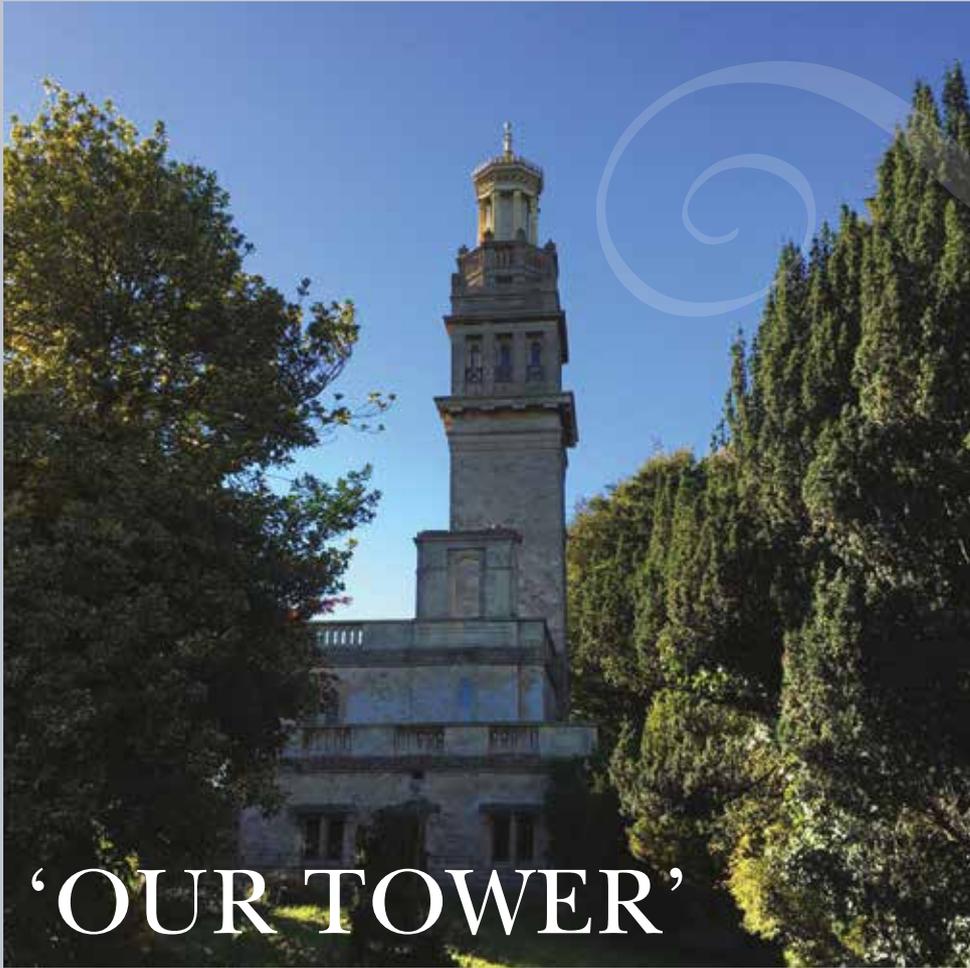
BATH MATTERS

THE BATH PRESERVATION TRUST NEWSLETTER

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BATH
PRESERVATION
TRUST



‘OUR TOWER’

We are very excited to announce that the National Lottery Heritage Fund bid for a major project at Beckford's Tower has been submitted. We will find out in mid-June if we have been successful in securing the first phase funding.

This project is driven by conservation needs of Beckford's Tower, which led to the building being placed on the National 'At Risk' Register, recognising that despite timely maintenance over the last twenty years we lack the financial resources to meet this urgent need. We are applying now, to make the most of an opportunity to engage with new residents of the housing development over the road at Enleigh, which includes a care home, school and 800 residents.

We are applying for £2,587,900 towards a total project cost of £2,877,400. As valued members, we want you to be the first to hear about our new fundraising campaign to help us

complete this project to restore the Tower and Landscape. We are looking to raise nearly £300,000 that will secure the Tower's future.

These funds will cover conservation works, land acquisition, community projects and new building work including iron window grilles and gates. Special project elements include new footpaths, opening the Grotto Tunnel and basement areas, lighting the top of the Tower, a new roof top walkway, interpretation of the landscape and for the first time, a specially designed museum with new interpretation and narratives about William Beckford. New standards will enable us to display items from Beckford's internationally significant collection not seen before. A Library and Archive project will make resources available to researchers.

This project relies on us working with many partners and we're thrilled to have the support of colleagues at B&NES, Historic England, The Landmark Trust, the National Trust, the World



Heritage Site Committee and many local groups including Age UK, 'Off the Record' and Creativity Works, as well as those in the nearby housing development including Anchor Hanover who run the new care home and staff at the new Primary School, Abbot Alphege Academy.

If you can help with fundraising or feel able to support the project yourself, please contact Claire Dixon at cdixon@bptrust.org.uk who will be very happy to hear from you. Whether or not we are successful in our grant application, the conservation works have to be completed and the amount we raise will determine the extent of work we can achieve.

We will keep you informed as our fundraising campaign develops. There will be opportunities to support us through many different events and activities and we thank you for your ongoing support.



Thomas Sheppard

CHAIRMAN

Welcome to our spring edition of Bath Matters.

Although we welcomed seven new trustees to our Board last summer we still have a few specific trustee vacancies. If you have substantial professional experience in town planning, conservation architecture, finance or public relations, then do consider making an application to be a trustee. We are keen to broaden our age and experience profile and so the only two absolute requirements are membership of the Trust and a passion for Bath's heritage and sustainable future.

We have spent time reflecting on the emerging challenges for Bath ten years from now and how we can make sure the Trust is well prepared. Although still a work in progress we see some emerging threads;

- a growing focus on the city's environment and on the general wellbeing of its citizens;
- how to maintain the infrastructure of our city for a rising number of tourists (currently almost five million) and
- with the city's traditional retail experience under pressure, the impact on our central streets if there are to be more empty shops.

Another emerging theme is whether our traditional membership model is the only way that individuals can show their support for the Trust. We have three times as many 'followers' on Twitter as we do paid-up members; is this a lack of willingness to take on the 'commitment' of membership, or do people wish to express their support in different ways? We have to look at the ways we engage with our citizens especially across the generations. There is much to think about.

For 2019 the Trust's four museums have a programme of activities and events around the theme of "the image" which explores how we capture special moments, people and places, whether through the painted image or photography. We had a themed programme on women's suffrage last year and it was fascinating to see how each museum made its own contribution; I am looking forward to seeing how they work together with this year's theme.

If you enjoy what the Trust does then, if you do not do so already, you may be tempted to volunteer. We are always looking for help to support our museums maybe as a guide, or perhaps behind the scenes with practical skills looking after our buildings, or perhaps as a trustee. At the very least I encourage you to ask others to consider Trust membership or give membership as a gift.

Thank you for your support.



Caroline Kay

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

"Heritage anchors people to their roots, builds self-esteem, and restores dignity. Identity matters to all vibrant cities and all people,"

World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development Rachel Kyte.

There is a growing focus on the relationship between heritage and well-being. The newly-launched strategic framework for the National Lottery Heritage Fund (formerly HLF) requires any applicant for funding to address how their project will improve wellbeing, and Historic England have published a report 'Wellbeing and the Historic Environment'.

It is an appropriate, if stretching, challenge to expect even small organisations like BPT to have a measurable impact on wellbeing. So many drivers for wellbeing are related to major social factors (such as poverty) that we do not have any prospect of alleviating it in any population-wide sense. Nor, indeed, is the relief of poverty one of our charitable remits. However, we are an organisation working for public benefit, and it is clearly important that we should seek to widen participation in our activities to the widest possible group of 'the public' and also offer bridges to people who might otherwise encounter barriers to participation.

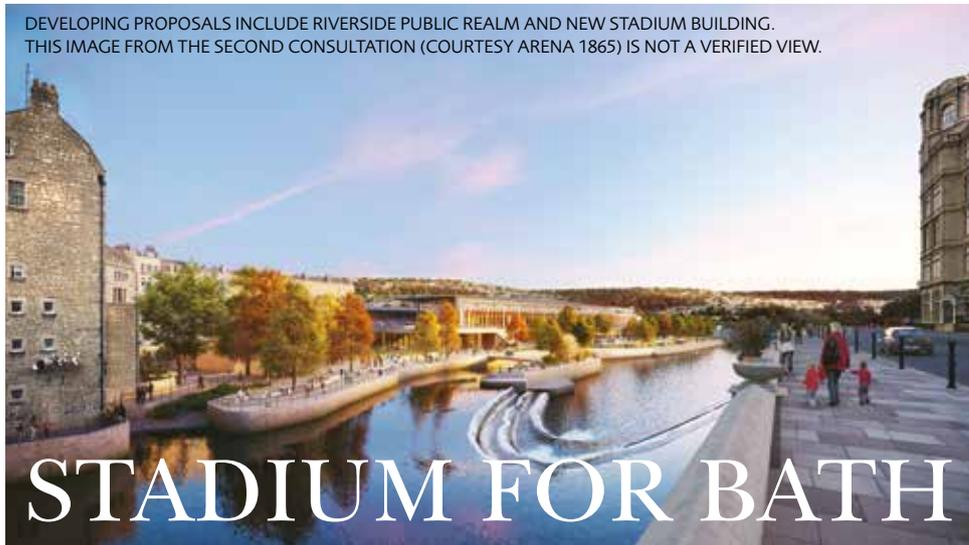
For a number of years now, our learning and outreach programme has done exactly this; often working in partnership with other organisations, we have been able to engage with individuals who might otherwise not get involved with heritage, due to issues of age, isolation or physical and mental health challenges. We are therefore very positive about being assessed on a contribution to wellbeing in relation to grant funding. This comes to the fore in relation to our planned Lottery application for Beckford's Tower 'Our Tower – Reconnecting Beckford's Tower and Landscape for All' – where we see a number of outcomes being related to wellbeing including providing physical opportunities for people to connect better with the landscape, strengthening the identity of the new community at Ensleigh and minority or disadvantaged groups by helping develop new connections with this totemic building, and helping the Tower to provide a sense of 'arrival', 'belonging' or 'return' to Bath, given its visibility from so many of the city's approaches.

Whether it is through this or our other museums, or for our work around planning which seeks to keep Bath's heritage alive and well as part of a vibrant city, we hope indeed that our work can make people feel better – about their city, about their sense of place in it, and about themselves.

Campaigning



DEVELOPING PROPOSALS INCLUDE RIVERSIDE PUBLIC REALM AND NEW STADIUM BUILDING. THIS IMAGE FROM THE SECOND CONSULTATION (COURTESY ARENA 1865) IS NOT A VERIFIED VIEW.



We have submitted a detailed response to the recent round two consultation on designs for a new rugby stadium on the Rec. Having been actively engaged with the project since its inception we have given detailed responses to emerging plans at each stage. The plans being developed by Grimshaw Architects are the most detailed yet and we have been able to give feedback on all elements presented at the consultation, as well as urging the team to ensure that the planning application contains all the necessary supporting documentation required for a scheme of this size and impact, including views analysis and a thorough

assessment of harm versus specifically defined public benefit.

Our response continues to focus on concerns over the impact of the height of the stands on the historic townscape and the visual impact on key views across the World Heritage Site. We are also concerned about the current design for certain parts of the stadium including the principle corners (NW and SE) and the East Stand, which is currently unresolved and uninspiring. We also addressed many other matters in our response which can be read in full on our website. We are expecting a planning application to be submitted later this year.

World Heritage Day – *Save the date*

Bath World Heritage Day 2019 will take place on Thursday 18 April. Join us at Green Park Station from 11am to 3pm for FREE activities suitable for all ages which will explore the city's architectural achievements and engineering landmarks – past, present and future. Our Conservation staff will be giving talks and leading walks around Western Riverside and our Learning & Engagement team will be offering the chance to try your hand at stone carving, and you can also watch expert stone masons at work.

We look forward to seeing you there! More details to follow on our website and e-news soon.



HAVING A GO AT STONE CARVING

GREAT SPAS OF EUROPE

Bath's bid for a rare double-listing as a World Heritage Site, ranking it alongside cities like Bruges and Barcelona, was made to UNESCO in January. The city is joining ten other European spa towns in seeking UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) recognition for their role as leading historic spa towns which changed the culture of Europe.

Spas were a huge European phenomenon from the 18th century to the early 20th century but only a handful of the grandest spas now survive in an authentic form. In the days before modern medicine natural mineral waters were taken to treat pain and disease and the spa towns become resorts for wealthy and famous clientele in a precursor to mass tourism. Spa towns have many unique urban forms and significant architectural ensembles in common, including spa buildings and visitor facilities such as spa houses, pleasure gardens, colonnades, churches, theatres, casinos, dedicated hotels and boarding houses. The built fabric of the towns combined with their parks and green spaces and surrounding 'therapeutic landscape' make them identifiably distinctive cities.

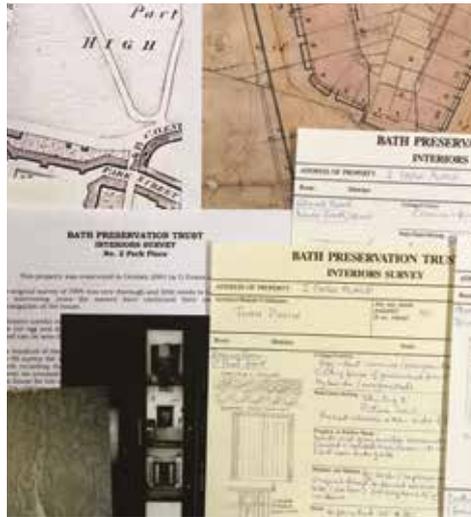
It has taken over 8 years of collaborative discussion and planning across Europe to complete the 1,434 page Great Spas of Europe World Heritage Site nomination. All being well, a recommendation will be presented to the 44th annual session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in June/July 2020 when the final decision will be made.

OPEN HOUSE

Our planning, conservation and membership team are located in the Schoolhouse at the Museum of Bath Architecture, on The Paragon. We are always happy to have visitors so feel free to drop in to the Schoolhouse Monday to Thursday 10am to 4pm.



BAIRDS MALTHOUSE, AMBRY 1964 BY LESLEY GREEN ARMYTAGE ONCE STOOD ON THE BATH QUAYS NORTH SITE BEING DEVELOPED FOR LARGE OFFICE BUILDINGS.



THE PARK PLACE INTERIORS SURVEY RECORDS AND A SKETCH OF SOMERSET BUILDINGS, MILSOM STREET 1939, FROM A COLLECTION OF PENCIL DRAWINGS BY R GRUNDY HEAPE PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF DETAILS AND CHANGES TO BUILDINGS. ALL IMAGES CREDITED TO MUSEUM OF BATH ARCHITECTURE.



BUILDING THE PICTURE

This year the exhibition themes across our museums are inspired by the use of imagery.

Photography, drawings and artworks all have an important part to play when it comes to researching house histories for your own interest or the planning and listed building consent application process. They provide valuable evidence of how urban and rural landscapes, buildings and places have changed over time, and they support the research needed to inform the approach to new development, design solutions, and the accompanying design and access and heritage statements and historic building reports. When it comes to managing change, image-based research is essential to help us understand the character and value of the historic environment and the heritage interest of buildings, to minimise harm.

If you're interested in researching the history of your house, street, favourite public space, landmark or local area here are our top 10 resources:

1. Bath in Time. This website has over 40,000 19th-20th century local images online to view, purchase prints, or licence for commercial use. The collection has important contributions from Bath Preservation Trust and the Museum of Bath Architecture. www.bathintime.co.uk

2. The BPT archive. Open by appointment you can search the archive which includes drawings, maps and photographs. We also have an Interiors Survey detailing the interior decoration of many listed buildings. www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk/archives-library

3. Bath Archives and Local Studies Collection. Historic records relating to Bath and the surrounding area including maps, photos, and 100,000 building plans. Online catalogues and guide to building research. www.batharchives.co.uk/records-house-history

4. Know your Place. Digital historic mapping for B&NES with some photographic images relating to locations. www.kypwest.org.uk/

5. The National Heritage List for England. You can search for listed buildings and add your own photos to 'enrich the list'. <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

6. Images of England. A 'point in time' photographic library of England's listed buildings, recorded at the turn of the 21st century. You can view over 300,000 images of England's built heritage from lamp posts to lavatories, phone boxes to toll booths, mile stones to gravestones, as well as thousands of bridges, historic houses and churches. www.imagesofengland.org.uk/

7. Victoria Art Gallery. Collections include works of art by artists who lived and worked in the Bath area and painted local scenes. Also topographical collection of Bath prints and drawings 18th-20th centuries. Search online. <http://art.bathnes.gov.uk/ow23/collections/index.xsp>

8. Historic England Archives. Online collections include The National Buildings Record, England's Places – architectural red box collection, and Archive History. Search online. <https://archive.historicengland.org.uk/>

9. Britain From Above. Aerial Photographs. dating from 1919 to 2006, the total collection presents an unparalleled picture of the changing face of Britain in the 20th century. It includes the largest and most significant number of air photographs of Britain taken before 1939. The collection is varied and includes urban, suburban, rural, coastal and industrial scenes, providing important evidence for understanding and managing the built and natural environments. www.britainfromabove.org.uk

10. The National Archives. A database of local history images and other resources held at Record Offices in England & Wales. Maps, plans, architectural drawings and photography can be searched online. <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Campaigning

WE'VE HAD OUR SAY...

It's been a busy winter for consultation responses. We supported the aims of the Clean Air Zone (CAZ) but have serious concerns about elements of the plans, including the overall zone boundaries (we felt the whole city should be covered to limit 'rat running'). In responding we stated that a CAZ can only be successful (and equitable in social terms) if there are viable alternative ways to travel, good walking routes, safe cycling infrastructure, and most importantly, cheap and widespread public transport; an overall 'package of measures' to reduce reliance on the car.

B&NES consulted on the Issues & Options for the new Local Plan 2016-2036 in late December. In particular, we supported provisional new policy options for purpose built student accommodation, but were astonished to see that B&NES's suggested 'Vision' for the future of the region did not include a reference to heritage, which is key to the economic, social and cultural value and future success. We were

also concerned that there is no proposed strategy for retail within the city and that the suggested policy relating to holiday accommodation was too weak and lacked clarity.

The Planning Reform paper in January 2019 looked at relaxing change-of-use rules for retail units to make some changes of uses permitted development (PD) including allowing some roof extensions (i.e 'air space') to be PD, in order to bring additional housing forward. We expressed strong concerns regarding both issues; we feel that the answer to the crisis currently faced by the high street is not via relaxing planning rules or sidelining the planning system (which exists to manage change appropriately) as this could have further adverse effects on the vitality, amenity, design quality and character of high streets and accelerate harmful change and loss.

Similarly, whilst we support urban intensification, we do not believe that upwards

extensions can be put under a PD umbrella because each proposal should be considered on its merits and against policy criteria. We've since signed an open letter to the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, joining signatories Shelter, RIBA and CPRE.



Cartoon courtesy of Civic Voice

YOUR MATTERS

Email from Mark:

I have had an offer accepted on a Grade II listed property in Bath but I have discussed with the vendor that I wish to seek advice on whether some alterations (mostly internal) would be permitted before proceeding with the sale. I am led to believe the property has been owned/inhabited by the same family for almost a generation. It is therefore in need of a sensitive but full refurbishment.

Internally, the ground floor archway between the sitting room and the kitchen appears to have been blocked up with a stud wall at some point in the past. Many of the other properties on the terrace (on visual inspection from street level) have this arch open, creating an open plan space at ground floor level.

At lower ground level, the space is arranged as two separate rooms, a hallway and a bathroom. All are in a state of disrepair and have not been used for some time but I would imagine they were used as a separate apartment at some point. I would like to reinstate this space as a kitchen/dining area. However, to make it more conducive to modern living, I would like to remove some internal walls to make the space open plan and family orientated. Any advice or comments you can make in the meantime would be greatly appreciated.

Our response

Over the years in Bath there have been changes to 'fashions' in thinking about alterations to listed buildings. 'Precedent' with regards to other buildings in the terrace is not a consideration in the planning process. Whilst there is a current trend for 'knocking through' to suit modern living, this can be seen as harmful to the 'special interest' of the 'heritage asset', as it disrupts historic plan-form and the ability to 'read' the building as it was originally built and used. Knocking through is usually resisted by the planning authority, unless it can be shown that the walls in question are modern additions or alterations and therefore plan-form and fabric has been lost already. At the very least, the stubs of any removed walls are required to be retained. In the case of the basement, if the walls are stud for example, this may indicate that the room layout is more modern, and therefore their removal could be justified. In this case, with a niched arch on the ground floor, it would be highly unlikely you could remove or open this up given it is a known surviving original feature of the dining rooms in this terrace (a sideboard would be placed in the niche for serving plates). The fact it has been lost in other buildings makes its survival even more important.

As always we stress that each proposal is determined on its own merits, and you can aid the process by providing detailed documentation which shows understanding of the building; its historical development and significance, and any other conservation or public benefits as part of the proposal. Such information helps the officer to consider your proposal and justification and weigh up the overall planning balance. Our publication *Making Changes* provides more information, contact us for a copy.

We are always happy to provide advice on conservation and planning, however we recommend that you also consult the Local Planning Authority as their views may differ.

✉ We'd love to hear your views and queries on heritage and planning issues that matter most to you. Please write to us at conservation@bptrust.org.uk or call 01225 338727.

Planning applications at a glance



Plumb Centre, Locksbrook Road

We reluctantly objected to this scheme for a large mixed use development opposite the listed Herman Miller building on Locksbrook Road. The scheme proposed demolition of the current Plumb Centre building and replacement with a building incorporating industrial space, a gym and student accommodation, and had some good elements, particularly the interesting use of an industrial design aesthetic with creative materials. However the building is one storey too high in our view, and would have an over-dominant effect on the Herman Miller building. We also have an in-principle objection to more private-sector student accommodation units in town given it is not certain that there is more need for this type of accommodation nor that it is relieving pressure on Bath's family housing.

4-5 Railway Place

This office building sits opposite the Railway Station next to the Royal Mail office. A recent application proposed to refurbish and modernise the building, including some major external alterations and the addition of an extra storey with a large amount of new glazing. The proposed nearly new building would be significantly higher than current, and would intrude on short and longer views into, over and out of the World Heritage Site, the conservation area and the setting of the listed buildings nearby including Brunel's Grade II* listed station. The Trust submitted a strong objection to the scheme. The decision is currently pending and we have recently seen a new application for change of use (under permitted development rules) of the building to residential apartments with only internal changes.

Conker Crossing

A community-led scheme to construct a new bridge over the Kennet and Avon canal at Bathampton gave the Trust's expert advisers on the Architecture & Planning Committee much to debate. The project came about after the community decided to find a solution to safety fears about the constricted nature of the village's roads and the lack of pavements on the listed 18th century bridge which is the only crossing over the canal.

The proposed bridge is a lightweight and contemporary sculptural piece of engineering; designed to allow easy access across the canal for all on foot, buggies, chairs and bikes. Our internal debates centred on the appropriateness of a new intervention into the canal being so boldly different to the current historic character of canal infrastructure. There was also concern regarding the amount of disruption to the canal towpath, and the proximity and therefore impact of this new bridge on the setting of the picturesque listed road/canal bridge just to the west. Our response took a measured approach, describing the concerns and suggesting the improvements of some of our advisers, but also recognised that the new bridge brought with it a suite of benefits and the light, modern, sculptured, see-through design was a good response to the sensitivities of the site.



Prior Park Dams

An ambitious project from the National Trust to 'future proof' the iconic ponds at Prior Park has been submitted to B&NES for planning approval. BPT has had regular reviews of the developing proposals and we are pleased to support the scheme. The project aims to restore and conserve the ponds, the banks and water management controls which have eroded over time) and to install largely hidden state-of-the-art 21st century flood engineering to ensure the dams can withstand and safely manage future climate change flooding. The design uses both modern and traditional crafts and materials in a sensitive and well detailed way to ensure the visual beauty of the ponds and dams are maintained and enhanced. Lost features original to the landscape as created by Ralph Allen will also be reinstated, for example the central cascade in the middle dam, work which will be supported by the World Heritage Site Enhancement Fund. We understand the project will begin in 2019.

CONSERVING THE FUTURE – A LEGACY FOR ALL

Thanks to a very generous legacy from late American BPT member Carl Mays, a distinguished conservation architect with a great love of Bath, BPT plans to launch later this year a paid internship programme with the purpose of giving to young planners, conservation architects and buildings historians the important work experience which can lead to future employment in the sector. We are currently in discussion with University partners to discuss how to take forward the internship scheme this year and also to provide other learning opportunities for former and future BPT interns.

The generosity of this legacy will be recognised in the naming of the fund as the Carl and Jeannette Mays Conservation Fund and more details will appear soon in e-news and on our website.

Learning and Community Engagement



AGE UK MEMBERS ENJOYING A TALK FROM BATH ASTRONOMERS



THE ASTRONOMY CLUB AT ST MARK'S SCHOOL EXPLORING TELESCOPES

STARGAZING AT THE HERSCHEL MUSEUM

This project, funded by the Ernest Cook Trust, is aimed at enhancing our offer to all visitors to the Herschel Museum. Recent activities have included stargazing through telescopes for the general public and also Age UK (B&NES) members. In collaboration with members of Bath Astronomers and the William Herschel Society, visitors have been able to use the replica of the telescope used to discover Uranus as well as a modern Dobsonian model. Young and old alike have enjoyed talks and also experienced a Virtual Reality spacewalk. We have also been visiting Astronomy Clubs in secondary schools to give students a hands-on chance to find out more about telescopes and how to identify features in the sky.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

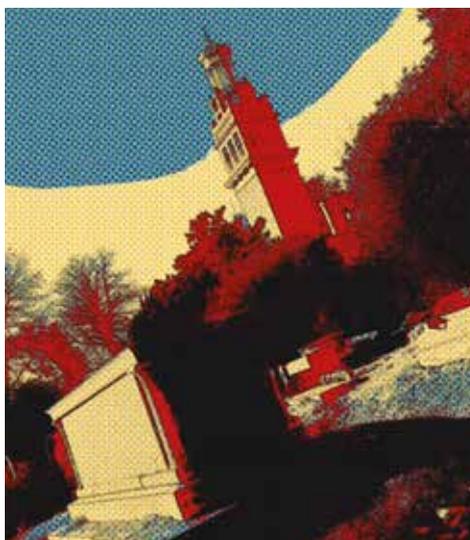
Every school holiday throughout the year, there is always plenty on offer for visiting families to help them understand and enjoy BPT's exciting collections and exhibitions. During the February half-term, there was a chance to design a doll in either late Georgian or Regency costume at No. 1, while at the Museum of Bath Architecture, a rhyming trail and try-on costumes helped children explore the museum. At the Herschel Museum, Native American moon calendars could be made.



DRESSING UP AS GEORGIAN CRAFTSPEOPLE AT MOBA

Photography at the Tower

The BPT's community engagement work continues to grow with several creative projects supporting mental health. The 'Snap and Stroll' photography group, in partnership with Creativity Works, has visited Beckford's Tower to take some artistic shots and their work is on display in the Servants' Hall at No.1. The @freshart project is part of the Pathways to Wellbeing project with other Bath museums. The group makes artwork inspired by No.1 which is displayed on hospital wards to brighten the environment.



A NEW VIEW OF BECKFORD'S TOWER
© KATIE ATHERTON



THE 'SNAP AND STROLL' GROUP AT BECKFORD'S TOWER

AN EVENT FOR YOUR DIARY

 **Friday 5th April at the Holburne Museum, Bath**

Learning Symposium: 'Why Museums Matter for Mental Health'. Aimed at any museum goer who is interested in this fascinating and important area of work, the event will bring together museums, arts organisations and mental health and social care professionals.

10am to 4.30pm, £30 including refreshments and welcome pack

For more information and to book a place visit: www.holburne.org/events/symposium-why-museums-matter-for-mental-health/

TOURS & WALKS

A key benefit of membership is to join the tours and walks we arrange. Peta Hall has again assisted us in arranging some wonderful days out for this year's tours including:

ENCOMBE HOUSE ESTATE

Purbeck, Dorset

Thursday 16th May 2019

9:30am to 7pm approx

A private visit to this stunning Georgian house and 2,000 acre estate, with 60 acres of formal gardens, built by John Pitt MP in the late 18th century.

Cost: £50 per person

LAST FEW
PLACES
ONLY



OXFORD – THE OLD AND THE NEW

Thursday 20th June 2019

9am to 6:30pm approx

Oxford, like Bath, has seen the development of new buildings in its historic heart and we will hear from an expert on contemporary architecture in Oxford followed by a private tour of the Ashmolean.

Cost: £50 per person



WEST HORSLEY PLACE

near Guildford, Surrey

Wednesday, 11th September 2019

8:30am to 7pm approx

West Horsley Place is owned by Bamber Gascoigne and is undergoing a vast restoration programme and we are very privileged to be allowed to see this magnificent estate at this time. We will also visit Polesden Lacey (National Trust) en route.

Cost: £55 per person

or £65 for non NT members

UPTON HOUSE

Tetbury Upton, Gloucestershire

Tuesday, 2nd July 2019

10am to 6:30pm approx

A private visit to this classical Georgian country house built in 1752 where the present owner commissioned a new double-height hall and wing in 2005. The house featured in Country Life in Sept 2017.

Cost: £45 per person



TO BOOK

your places on these tours,
please contact Jan Hull
on 01225 338727 or
jhull@bptrust.org.uk

Walks 2019

This summer our walks cover wide ranging subjects which we hope will intrigue you. For more information and to book please email jhull@bptrust.org.uk

BATHAMPTON (led by Stuart Burroughs)
Tuesday, 11 June

& Wednesday, 19 June

A walk to look at Bathampton's history and associations from the founding of Australia to plasticine.

BECKFORD AND THE ENSLEIGH DEVELOPMENT (led by Amy Frost)
Tuesday, 23 July & Saturday, 27 July

Find out about the 'Our Tower' project and then explore the new community on the former MOD site at Ensligh.

THE BOAST OF HERALDRY
(led by Roland Symons)

Wednesday, 7 August
& Tuesday, 13 August

Come and learn something about heraldry in Bath, including the many coats of arms, on this fascinating walk.

PLEASE JOIN US

We are always grateful for the support our members provide the Trust but we are keen to increase the number of members so, as Thomas Sheppard says, we encourage you to ask your friends and family to consider joining the Trust or giving membership as a gift. And do remember that membership provides free admission to all our museums to see the special exhibitions as well as the permanent collections. If you would like more details please contact Jan Hull, Membership Engagement Officer on jhull@bptrust.org.uk



THE FOUR WORTHIES – AN EXAMPLE OF THE WAY GEORGIANS PORTRAYED THEMSELVES

In 2019, our exhibition entitled *'Image Control: The Power of Perception Then & Now'* will be exploring how 250 years ago, the Georgians in Bath manipulated their own portraits to express messages about their lives and interests.

We are setting this against how living in the 'Age of Instagram', people are surrounded by carefully curated images of ideal lifestyles and standards, increasingly impacting mental wellbeing. However, we know that this theme is not new and that this can be seen through different mediums throughout history. The exhibition will invite you to dissect images of the past and encourage you to question both historical and contemporary pictures and decide what the truth behind the image is.

We are also looking at how we can create an image of a historic figure where no known image exists. The most famous example of this is Jane Austen – whose image features on the

£10 note; yet even that image is questioned and challenged by earlier portraits and images, of which only one actually dates to a time when Jane Austen was alive. Following this line of thought, we look to the first resident of No. 1 Royal Crescent, Henry Sandford. As far as we are aware, there are no known images of him, yet we know him intimately through the historic record and also the clues he left behind in his writings, his career and his family. Using this information, we have commissioned three contemporary artists to create their own personal interpretation of him to be displayed in the main museum as part of the exhibition.

Focus on the Collection

Our closed period at No.1 is often one of the busiest times of the year for the staff. This time is used to deep clean the entire house as well as carry out all the annual maintenance tasks.

This year's closed period was a particularly exciting one as we welcomed two new loans to the collection – we now have two paintings by Allen Ramsey hanging on the staircase leading up to the first floor.

Allen Ramsey, a Scot, is one of the foremost mid Georgian artists of the time so it is a really lovely opportunity for us to show some of his finer portraits. He attended an academy in Edinburgh, continuing his artistic education in Rome and Naples in Italy; visiting periodically throughout his lifetime. He established a successful studio in London and many British residents commissioned portraits from him between the 1730's and 1770's. He also returned to Edinburgh regularly. King George III appointed him King's painter (officially Principal Painter-in-Ordinary) in 1761, beating his rival Joshua Reynolds who spitefully remarked that Ramsay was "not a good painter" (Biographer Alistair Smart, 1952).

The portraits are of Peter and Amy Burrell (nee Raymond). Peter Burrell was a sub-governor of the South Sea Company and Member of Parliament (Hazelmere 1722-54 and Dover 1755-56).

MAIN IMAGE: PETER BURRELL AS IT WAS BEING UNPACKED. INSET: PETER AND AMY BURRELL ON THE STAIRCASE.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Our events programme this year is as varied as normal – from lectures and talks to interactive demonstrations! Our Costumed Interpreters will be appearing once a month to talk about all aspects of life in Georgian England, from medicine to cooking and laundry. We will also be carrying on our popular Conservation In Action sessions regularly, exploring how we look after and preserve our wonderful collection.

We will also be taking part again in the Jane Austen Festival in September but instead of our normal twilight tours, we will be talking about food and kitchens with interactive demonstrations and tours. Party in the City will be returning as part of Bath Festival and we are bringing back our Museum Lates. The Christmas Lates were popular so once a month we will be opening part of the Museum late – each event will have a different theme – from 'Image Control' to Halloween and Christmas! More information is available through our website.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

We began our year with our pre-season conference which included the introduction of Volunteer Induction Packs and our new BPT volunteer website. These packs are designed to act as a valuable source of information and training for all new and existing volunteers. Content of the packs vary depending on a volunteer's role and location but all will contain the BPT volunteer guide as well as this year's learning, training and lecture program. This year also saw the introduction of new BPT lanyards and badges.

In line with our 2019 Volunteer Action Plan (based on the results of our 2018 Volunteer Survey) our first of three Volunteer Open Days was held at No. 1 Royal Crescent in late January when we recruited a dozen volunteers in various roles across the Trust. We're pleased to say they're already in training.

Charlotte will continue to concentrate more time on volunteer recruitment and retention and new recruitment posters are now up across the city. We have also established a good new relationship with the VirginCare team, which promotes volunteer recruitment in the city.



Architectural PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

BATH IN MY EYES BY HASSAN EL-WAKEEL

Architecture is all around us; virtually everywhere we go there is some kind of building, structure or space. Photography is now the most accessible format of recording our lives especially with the development of the smart phone.

The Museum of Bath Architecture is exploring the intrinsic link between architecture and photography and the way in which people engage in the built environment through photographs. Come and see the competition winners and runners up photos from our Architectural Photographer of the Year Competition 2018.

As part of the exhibition we will have a number of related items for sale in the shop including Simon Christie's (2nd Place in the Bath Architecture category) "Bath Thanks" cards and Benedict Brain's "Brains Foto guides" maps.

The Museum of Bath Architecture is open:
Mon – Fri 1pm to 5pm Sat & Sun 10am to 5pm



CAMDEN CRESCENT SQUARED BY SIMON CHRISTIE

Museum of Bath Architecture

RECENT ACQUISITION AT MUSEUM OF BATH ARCHITECTURE

The Museum has recently been given a small watercolour sketch by David Cox (1783-1859) inscribed 'Bath from the Beacon Cliff' and dated c.1810. It is one of a series of Bath views made by Cox who was a leading early nineteenth century watercolour artist. The sketches were probably made in preparation for larger works. The image shows a team of masons at work, surrounded by large blocks of Bath stone and scaffolding. A similar view of the city from Beacon Cliff, but without the

construction work in progress, is in the Victoria Art Gallery collection and several Cox views of the city were published as a collection of prints in 1820. What makes this new addition to our collection significant is that views of buildings under construction during the Georgian period are quite rare, and this generous gift adds to our ability to illustrate the processes behind the creation of the city. The watercolour can now be seen at the museum in one of our new display cases.



BATH FROM THE BEACON CLIFF BY DAVID COX

UPCOMING EVENTS

Introduction to Photography

11 & 18 March, 22 & 29 April,
10 & 17 June, 23 & 30 Sept.

Run over two workshops aimed at the beginner and intermediate photographer. Learn the basics of composition, camera settings, lighting and photoshop. The workshops are based at the Museum of Bath Architecture but also include a photo walk of Bath.

10am to 12:30pm. £15 per workshop



YELLOW VESPA BY TIM BEALE

Introduction to British Architecture Part 3: 1914-2000

26 March & 2 April

The final part of our course covering British Architecture, this time looking at the move from Early 20th century Classicism and Art Deco Modernism to Post War Brutalism, Postmodernism and the move to High Tech.

9:30am to 12:30pm

£25 per session,
refreshments included.

For more details or to book contact
tbeale@bptrust.org.uk

Introduction to Bath Architecture

21, 28 May & 4 June

By popular demand we are introducing a new 3 week course looking at the key periods, buildings and designers that built Bath. Join Dr Amy Frost as she explores Bath architecture from the 18th to the 20th century.

9.30am to 12.30pm

£25 per session,
refreshments included

For more details or to book contact
tbeale@bptrust.org.uk

OUR VOLUNTEERS

We welcome Ian Thomson, our newest addition to the volunteer team here at MoBA. Ian is a retired architect with a keen interest in architectural history and talented architectural photographer.

Two of our weekend volunteers, Alana & Geni, have now left us having completed their MAs and returned home. We are now in the process of advertising and recruiting to fill those shifts.

Beckford's Tower and Museum



LAKE NEMI BY JOHN ROBERT COZENS, C1783-8. © TATE, LONDON 2018

PICTURES & POSTCARDS

William Beckford spent a lifetime travelling Europe, visiting famous cities and exploring unusual landscapes.

Every destination saw new items enter his collection and every journey resulted in new writings and ideas. He recorded these travels in words but also in images, through artists commissioned to travel with him, or sketches in

his own hand. *Pictures and Postcards: Beckford's Souvenirs* explores how Beckford captured his travels at a time before the invention of photography, and how others have recorded their visits to his Tower in Bath.

Beckford's Tower and Museum

UPCOMING EVENTS

 **6 & 7 April, 13 & 14 April and 20 & 21 April**

Quirky Quiz Trail for families

Come and discover some of William Beckford's surprising treasures with our quirky quiz trail.

Free with museum admission

 **Weekends from 24 July – 31 August**

Summer spirals

Find out why our spiral staircase is pink and called cantilevered, make your own spiral and climb the 154 steps to enjoy the view.

Free with museum admission

 **Wednesday, 2 October**
Beckford Birthday Lecture

The Beckford Birthday Lecture is our annual fundraising event, and we are delighted to have Charles Courtenay, 19th Earl of Devon, joining us this year to speak about William Beckford's time at Powderham Castle – the seat of the Earls of Devon.

The Museum of Bath Architecture
6.30pm, £10

 **Tuesday, 29 October and Thursday, 31 October**

Lansdown Cemetery Tours

Join us for atmospheric evening tours of Lansdown Cemetery. We will explore some of the cemetery's most notable burials, learn about the history of the landscape, and (weather permitting!) get a chance to experience sunset from the Tower's Belvedere.

From 5pm to 6:30pm, £10

BECKFORD BOOK GROUP

 **Tuesday, 25 June** 'Rebecca' by Daphne du Maurier 7pm to 8.30pm, £5

 **Tuesday, 24 September** 'Vathek' 7pm to 8.30pm, £5



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Beckford's Tower is currently recruiting for people to join our team of friendly and enthusiastic volunteer guides. With a major project in the near future, this is an exciting time to join the team at the Tower and be involved in how we shape and share the museum and surrounding landscape with visitors in the years to come. If you'd like to know more about our volunteering opportunities, please get in touch at tower@bptrust.org.uk

WEDDINGS

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with two local businesses to expand our weddings offer at Beckford's Tower. The Beckford Bottle Shop, located on Saville Row behind the Assembly Rooms, will be the official supplier of wine for Beckford's Tower weddings. For couples looking to continue their celebrations in Bath following a Tower ceremony, No. 15 Great Pulteney Street can provide stylish and eclectic private dining rooms and seasonal or bespoke menus.



Herschel Museum of Astronomy



Invisible LIGHT

William Herschel and Infrared

1:40 SCALE MODEL OF THE HERSCHEL SPACE OBSERVATORY, COMMISSIONED FOR THE 'INVISIBLE LIGHT' EXHIBITION AND MADE BY REBECCA GALLO (© REBECCA GALLO)

In March 1800, using three thermometers, a prism and a piece of white card, William Herschel made one of science's most ground breaking discoveries, infrared radiation. Used today in devices ranging from TV remote controls to space satellites, infrared is helping us to push boundaries in medicine, understand global warming, and photograph the furthest reaches of our universe. This year we explore how Herschel made all this possible through his discovery of 'invisible light'.

The exhibition at the Herschel Museum will feature exciting loans from the Royal Astronomical Society and Science Museum. Visitors will be able to view the notebook where William Herschel recorded the findings from his ground breaking experiments and some of the equipment he used: a glass prism and a handmade speculum metal mirror in a heliostatic mounting. The exhibition will also

explore how infrared photography has enabled us to look further into space than ever before through two important infrared telescopes, IRAS (Infrared Astronomical Satellite) and the Herschel Space Observatory. Finally, visitors will be able to learn about the different uses of infrared today, including thermal imaging cameras used in medicine and surveys which show how energy-efficient your house is.

Herschel Museum of Astronomy

EVENTS

Running throughout the 2019 season will be a series of lectures and talks corresponding to the 'Invisible Light' exhibition and a number of astronomical observing sessions from the Museum garden, full details are on the Museum's website.

 **Tuesday, 16 April**

Shine a Light on Science

A family workshop to explore Light and Colour – the Science of Rainbows, Infrared, Spectroscopes and more!

Located at Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution and Herschel Museum.

10am to 1pm

Tickets: bathboxoffice.org.uk
£8 adults £8 children



 **Thursday, 11 April
and Tuesday, 28 May**

Infrared radiation: Seeing farther and deeper, talk by Dr Bob Fosbury at No. 1 Royal Crescent

A free talk about Infrared light for families with children aged 9 years and above by Dr Bob Fosbury, an astronomer who worked for 26 years at the European Space Agency on the Hubble telescope.

11.30am to 12.30pm

Free – reserve seats by emailing
kpower@bptrust.org.uk (limited numbers)

 **Tuesday, 16 July**

Night-time Stargazing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy.

Take part in night-time stargazing at the Herschel Museum on the evening of the partial lunar eclipse.

8.30pm to 11pm

Adult £10, Concession £7,
Child £4 (limited numbers)

 **Thursday, 21 June**

Solar Observing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy

Take part in daytime astronomy on the day of the summer solstice from the very garden the Planet Uranus was discovered in 1781.

10am to 2pm

Free with normal admission



OUR VOLUNTEERS

We would like to say a big thank you to all the Herschel volunteers who made 2018 a successful year, it was the busiest year in Herschel Museum history! We had great feedback from visitors from all over the world praising the volunteer's efforts, such as:

'Really friendly and knowledgeable volunteers make this place!'

'The chap who greeted us on arrival was superb.'

'The lady on reception was so polite and welcoming.'

'We enjoyed our time learning about the sun and telescopes with your excellent guides in such a wonderful spot!'

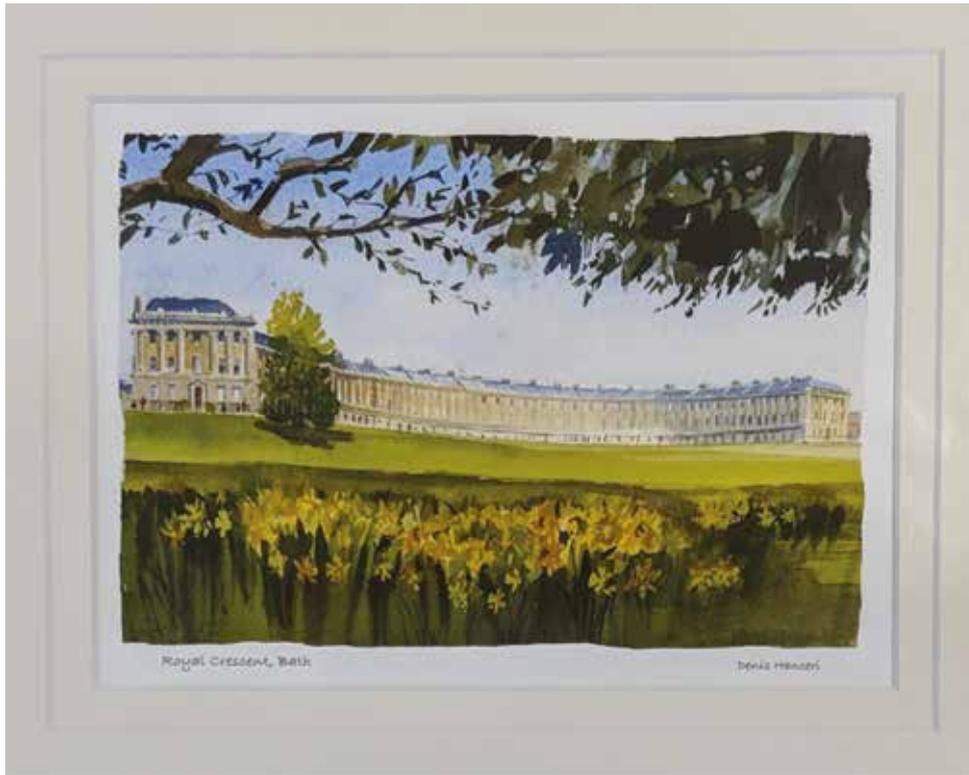
We have been fortunate to have support for not only the front of house role, but also school visits, social media, astronomy events, and garden maintenance. Rebecca Gallo, a placement volunteer studying a degree in model making at Bournemouth University, has designed and made a scale model of the European Space Agency's Herschel Space Observatory for our exhibition 'Invisible Light'.

We are always looking for friendly and enthusiastic people to join the volunteer team, so please spread the word!

Focus on the Collection

The displays at the Herschel Museum have had a bit of a spruce up during the winter closed period. Many of the pictures have been moved to new locations in order for the story in the museum to flow more succinctly. Visitors are now introduced to all the members of the family, through their portraits, in the Dining Room, and can ponder the use of astronomy in 18th and 19th century satirical prints as they make their way up the stairs. All the objects in the museum have also been given new labels and further stories about the Herschels' lives have been added.

Our Archives and Museum Shops



SHOPPING IN OUR MUSEUMS

We have a wide range of gifts, books and cards and the museum shops are open to the public again. At No. 1 Royal Crescent the displays in the shop have been refreshed during the winter maintenance period and new stock lines have been brought in. New ranges include artists' prints of the Royal Crescent, including this watercolour with daffodils.

We also have a greater variety of greetings cards and notecards on offer than we had before. Some of our best sellers from Frederica Cards that have been out of stock for nearly a year, have been reprinted and are available to customers once more.

The first days of re-opening at No. 1 Royal Crescent have been busy and yielding an average transaction value of over £8. This gives us a good start and an opportunity to invest more in new product ranges in the near future, and adjust our offer to a wider market. Come and explore all our shops and see the varied range of goods we offer.

ARCHIVES

The archive at Bath Preservation Trust occasionally receives donations of records from outside the organisation. Last year the archive made one such acquisition, from the family of the late Bath architect Patricia Fereday.

Patricia trained under respected Bath architect, Hugh Roberts, at a time when it was difficult for women to enter the profession. She went on to work as a freelance architect for private clients and practices in Bath and the South West, and won a conservation award for the restoration of The Warren House, a 17th century property in Cambridgeshire. Her influences were vernacular architecture, the Arts and Crafts movement, and Frank Lloyd Wright.

The collection of over 100 of Patricia's sketches and plans for properties in and around Bath have been sorted and catalogued in the archive by an undergraduate student, Paige, from Bath Spa University while she was on placement at the Museum of Bath Architecture.



PLAN FOR ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HOUSE, DRAWN BY ARCHITECT PATRICIA FEREDAY

World Heritage Site Enhancement Fund



PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PIERREPONT STREET SIGN, BEFORE AND AFTER.

FIFTIETH STREET SIGN

The Fund's programme of conserving and restoring Bath's historic incised and painted street signs has now been in progress for nine years, and the milestone of completion of the fiftieth sign has been reached, in Pierrepont Street. There are more planned for next year, and suggestions are always welcome.



JOHN WOOD TRAIL

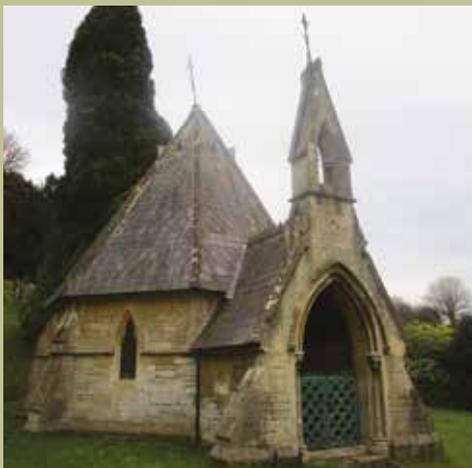
A Trail to celebrate the lives and achievements of the two John Woods, father and son, is being modelled on the World Heritage Site City Trail. Maps will guide walkers on a tour of the Woods' architecture in the city centre, and to Upper Swainswick church, burial place of John Wood, and Woolley church, designed by his son.



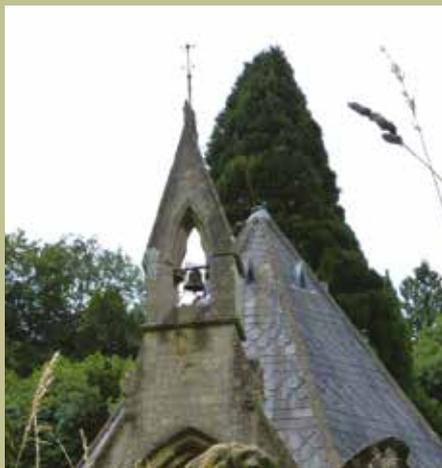
WOOLLEY CHURCH

OCTAGON CHAPEL IN SMALLCOMBE CEMETERY

A.S. Goodridge's Octagonal Non-conformist Chapel has been neglected in recent years, suffering from damp problems and stone decay especially to the little belfry. With the help of volunteers, and financial support from the WHEF and the Council, a French drain has been installed, new stone carved for the belfry, and a bell reinstated.



THE OCTAGON CHAPEL



THE CHAPEL'S BELFRY

SYDNEY GARDENS

Heritage Lottery Funding has been granted for new planting, landscaping, and restoration of some of the Gardens' historic features. The WHEF will help fund the repair of the Edwardian cast-iron Ladies and Gents loos, which date from the early years of public conveniences. The fragile structures are Grade II listed, and on the "At Risk" register.

THE DILAPIDATED EDWARDIAN LADIES' IN SYDNEY GARDENS



For further information, help and advice, or to suggest possible projects, please contact the Fund Administrator, Ainslie Ensom, on whsef@bptrust.org.uk

AGM date and time announced in Bath's newest community space

This year's BPT AGM will take place on 4th July 2019 and revert to an afternoon time of 3:30pm. In the spirit of exploration of places and venues which may be new to our members, it will take place at The Hub, Mulberry Park. This is the new community venue providing a focus for the housing development on the old Foxhill MOD site, alongside the new school, nursery and café. There is limited parking at the venue so please think about using the bus, which travels direct to the door. More travel details will follow with the AGM papers, together with the speaker and opportunities to walk the site. The meeting will be followed by tea, coffee and cakes.

Thomas Sheppard has mentioned on Page 3 that the Trust is always interested in hearing from potential trustees, in particular (at this time) from people from the disciplines of town planning, finance, PR or education. The AGM is the chance for the membership to vote for new trustees, which can be put forward by the existing board but can also be nominated from the membership. If you want to be formally considered in this way, please contact Caroline Kay in the first instance ckay@bptrust.org.uk

We will need to receive any formal nominations by **Thursday, 4 April**.



BATH
PRESERVATION
TRUST

bath-preservation-trust.org.uk
admin@bptrust.org.uk
+44 (0)1225 338 727

We are a membership organisation and a registered charity.

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