

Message from the Chairman



We've been very busy since our last newsletter. In addition to our monthly Council Meeting where we consider every planning application in the town's Conservation Area we have participated in Heritage Open Days' tours, the Great British Spring Clean, Pride of Place Awards and a 50th Anniversary celebration.

You will no doubt be aware that our President of over 20 years David Robinson sadly passed away in July 2017. David's passing left a big void in our organisation however, we were extremely pleased to announce in June this year that local historian and author Dr Richard Gurnham had agreed to be our new president.

Looking to the future, we will soon be unveiling a blue plaque to a pioneering female politician; we are identifying for candidates for our 2019 Pride of Place awards; and we intend to help Heritage Lincolnshire celebrate 25 years of Heritage Open Days next September.

We have been fortunate and had several members join the Council of Louth Civic Trust. As the only charity dedicated to the preservation of Louth's architectural heritage if you love Louth we would love to hear from you.

James Laverack BLE, MRICS
Chairman, Louth Civic Trust

CELEBRATING A HALF CENTURY MILESTONE



It was exactly 50 years to the day when Louth Civic Trust hosted their Golden Anniversary celebrations. It was on the 24th November 1967 that Louth Civic Trust formally became incorporated and to celebrate we were joined by representatives of Sleaford, Horncastle, Grimsby and Caistor Civic Societies as well as the Mayor, Town and District Councillors and members of Louth Navigation Trust.

The audience enjoyed a screening of an Anglia TV documentary about Louth which first aired in the mid 1960's titled 'Change or Decay'. The theme of the programme was that Louth as a traditional market town was a relic of a bygone age and needed to embrace change or stagnate, the younger generation having moved away to larger towns and cities.

In his introduction our Chairman, James Laverack explained that the film could be seen as a back drop to the great changes to come however, change had to be controlled and the threat of road widening and whole scale demolition was the driving force behind the formation of Louth Civic Trust.

After a short break a video tribute was paid to the late David N Robinson OBE who was the last surviving founder member of our organisation. The footage contained clips going back to the 1980's in which David talked about two of his great loves: the Lincolnshire coastline and Hubbard's Hills.

After food and refreshments the evening finished with the cutting of a 50th Anniversary cake by the Mayor Pauline Watson.



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Let's share our passion for Louth's heritage. Like our Facebook page and message us with ideas for posts.
facebook.com/LouthCT

Taking pride in planning

LCT Planning Chair Ian Trowsdale reminds us of the importance of planning

The Trust continues to provide local and constructive comments to East Lindsey District Council on planning, listed building and advertisement applications. Over the last twelve months over 50 applications have been considered by the Trust with its findings forwarded to the District council.

The numbers of applications received provides evidence of the continued interest in the Conservation Area as well as the historic areas of the town, such as the setting of Louth Canal. The focus of interest is the town centre, where businesses want to invest within the town. These have ranged from small businesses wishing to start up new enterprises, others making good uses of upper floors as well as national retailing chains and coffee shops seeking to move to Louth. Not only is this good for the area, but it is reassuring that there is a vibrancy and vitality within the town that enhances the core Conservation



Area. Good design that respects the historic character and appearance of the Conservation Area are the yardsticks by which successful applications have been judged. Our 'Pride of Place' awards reward those applications that have gone the 'extra mile' to complement the Conservation Area.

This year not only local businesses have been successful – the very businesses that make Louth a successful and vibrant place to live and work, but also a national chain of coffee houses that have invested in the town whilst respecting the local character and distinction.

Pictured Left: Tertulia, Eastgate, one of the 2018 Pride of Place award winners.

Louth's vibrancy impresses Grantham

Early in 2017 Louth Civic Trust agreed to host a visit from Grantham Civic Trust to the town. LCT Council Member Jean Howard agreed to take care of the necessary arrangements and a date of 19th July was set.

Initially we envisaged a party of between 10-20 visitors however, as the date approached we realised that this was an under estimate and that more assistance was needed from the Louth Civic Trust members.

Louth Town Council kindly opened the Sessions House for the 49 visitors and provided refreshments before being greeted by Cllr. Sue Locking. Jean Howard then proceeded to talk about the portraits of the past Mayors that adorned the walls before giving an insight into William Brown's remarkable Panorama paintings.

The party was then split into 4 groups and taken through the town to see the architectural and historical highlights.

After lunch the party reconvened to be guided around the



buildings of Westgate and St James's Church.

We understand that all the visitors thoroughly enjoyed themselves and that one of the party was heard to say that he wished Grantham was as busy on a market day.

Louth Civic Trust welcomes new President

In June we were delighted to announce that Dr Richard Gurnham had agreed to become Louth Civic Trust's new president.

Richard was born in Skegness and educated at the Grammar School and Nottingham University where he studied Economics and Social History. Richard's BA was followed by a PhD in 1976. He has lived in Louth since 1977 when he moved here to teach history and politics at King Edward VI Grammar School.

Now retired from full time teaching he gives regular lectures on local history and has written numerous books several of which are about Louth.

Richard said, "It was an honour to be invited and I hope that I can help advance the aims of the Civic Trust and that my books about Louth's history will help raise awareness of

the importance of preserving all that is good and beautiful in this grand old town"

'With Richard's knowledge I cannot think of anyone better suited to be Louth Civic Trust President and we were all delighted when he accepted' said Chairman James Laverack.



In the spotlight



Meet Committee Member Joanne Brogden

"I have always been passionate about renovating properties and to date I have renovated at least 10 (a couple of those dating back to the late 19th century). During the process I've been very conscious of keeping the materials, joinery, lighting, colour, fireplace etc. all in keeping with the era of the property, using reference books where needed.

When I moved to Louth in 2015 I was introduced to a group of people who suggested I became part of Louth Civic Trust. I wasn't sure how I would be able to contribute but went along anyway.

As it turns out, the Civic Trust is a diverse organisation which not only encourages sensitive conservation and restoration but also celebrates new architecture and design which sits in context with its surroundings, so instantly I became very interested and keen to be part of the group. There's always plenty of topics to discuss and no matter how small an input anyone can offer, a variety of opinions and suggestions from all walks of life are key to having a positive impact on the community.

It's been extremely interesting so far and a great opportunity to learn more about the history of the local area.

Funnily enough, since I've moved to Louth I haven't had time to start on my current project – a Victorian property! "

Anniversary Year Pride of Place Award Winners

At this year's AGM we saw three very deserving winners of our prestigious Pride of Place awards. The awards are given to individuals, group or business who Louth Civic Trust feel have made major improvement to the town.

This year the awards went to both large and small businesses who had made a major contribution to the town centre.

The winners were Tertulia on Eastgate (pictured on page 2), Ye Olde Whyte Swanne also on Eastgate and Caffè Nero on Mercer Row (pictured right).

All three had used traditional materials and signage to enhance the town centre.

We are now looking for candidates for our 2019 Awards so please let us know your suggestions.





Update on Civic Voice campaigns

Membership of Louth Civic Trust includes automatic membership of the national campaigning organisation Civic Voice. They campaign on behalf of Societies and Trusts nationally and are constantly seeking our views on key issues. You can get involved in any of their campaigns by adding your views or writing to your MP. For further information visit the campaign pages of the Civic Trust website: www.civicvoice.org.uk/campaigns/

- [Big Conservation Conversation](#)
- [Civic Day](#)
- [Local Heritage List](#)
- [Save our high streets](#)
- [Street Clutter Campaign](#)
- [Past campaigns](#)
- [War Memorials](#)
- [War Memorials Condition Survey Toolkit](#)
- [History of the civic movement](#)

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 21st February 2019
LOUTH CIVIC TRUST OPEN MEETING

7.00pm Elizabeth Court, Church Street, Louth
ALL WELCOME

Thursday 25th April 2019
LOUTH CIVIC TRUST AGM
7.30pm Conoco-Phillips Rooms, Louth Library

13th - 22nd September 2019
LINCOLNSHIRE HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

Next year Heritage Lincolnshire celebrate their 25th Heritage Open Days and to do so the event will cover two weekends running from the 13th to 22nd September. The theme is Lincolnshire Learning, Wisdom and Folklore and Louth Civic Trust, who have run several guided tours in the past, plan to do so again. Louth has several famous alumni and so there will be plenty to talk about.



Louth Civic Trust's popular
Heritage Open Days' Tour of
Louth.

Join us

Louth Civic Trust is an independent local charity encouraging community pride and passion for the history and identity of its buildings, streets and public places. It aims to protect and manage change in the town's landscape and architectural heritage through campaigning, education and action.

The work of the Trust is funded through membership subscription. As a member you become part of our campaign to maintain the unique historical identity of Louth's living and working environment.

As a member you receive regular activity updates, invitations to Civic Trust events and automatic membership of the national organisation Civic Voice.

Annual Membership

Individual £13.00

Joint £18.00

Junior (under 16) £5.00

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