



PONTEFRAC  
CIVIC SOCIETY

# PONTEFRAC

# Voice

JUNE 2023





## Coronation – Local highlights

### Decoration Squad display gains community support

**Pontefract's Decoration Squad, overseen by Phil Cook, Vice Chair of Pontefract Civic Society, has been busy over recent months, gathering painted bottoms from plastic bottles in order to create this fantastic display on Pontefract town hall, complete with the cypher of King Charles III.**



Phil Cook said, *"I'm so pleased with the community response, and of our small band of active volunteers, who have also erected a number of union flags, although we just couldn't replicate the comprehensive programme that we did for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee"*.

Pontefract saw other events taking place, including a screening of the Coronation by Wakefield Council at Pontefract Castle plus a Paddington film and the Windsor concert. St Giles' Church hosted an organ recital and a civic service on the Sunday afternoon, following the big day.

Paul Cartwright, Civic Society Chair, also said *"the plastic bottle bottoms are recycled as best we can; in fact, some had to be taken from a former liquorice display, which now means we're collecting again, especially those painted white"*.

If anyone wishes to donate plastic bottle bottoms, or get involved in creating these installations, please contact the Civic Society via email on [info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk), or by phoning 01977 708658 for further information.

**Video slideshows** on Facebook – with special thanks to Linda Benson-Henfrey and Derek Norfolk for creating, updating and publishing three products; 1. When royal Charles's came to Pontefract, 2. All the King's Horses and all the King's Men, and 3. Looking back at how Pontefract celebrated the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

**ITV Calendar** – a pre-recorded interview for Coronation activities across Pontefract was aired on Friday 5 May, which focused on the many community, business and council contributions to the weekend.

**BBC Radio Leeds** – A live interview down the line for the Andrew Edwards breakfast show took place at 7:40am on Saturday 6 May in Essex, before Paul and Christine Cartwright jumped on the Tube to head into central London for the full Coronation experience.

After a very wet day in London, the icing on the cake was a smile and wave from the very relaxed royal couple, King Charles III and Queen Camilla – at around 4pm they escaped Buckingham Palace in their Rolls Royce for Windsor Castle. Paul and Christine were just a couple of yards away on the central roundabout of Wellington Arch.

For the **Pontefract Art Club** contribution, refer to our Community Groups section of this issue.





## Chair's Report

# Precinct abuse – takeaways, taxis, and opportunistic lazy drivers

**Do you think these drivers should get away with it?**

**Do you think Wakefield MDC is doing enough to prevent this abuse?**



We've been regularly monitoring the situation for years, more frequently over the past year. Recently, when part of Jubilee Way was coned off to one lane, no additional measures were put in place to prevent opportunistic drivers taking a short cut down Beastfair.

We have continued to raise this whole situation with the Council, who have said on numerous occasions that the bollards across the district were all installed at the same time, and many are failing. They are therefore looking for a replacement solution, but as it's district wide, this is costly. Throughout this lengthy saga, we have requested additional temporary signage (there's only one sign on Valley Road, which is on an exit – not an entry point), and we've asked for temporary barriers which could be manned by operatives. Nothing has been done, other than to be told that this isn't possible.

In January, Cllr Matthew Morley (Planning & Highways) promised that Pontefract would be a priority for a solution in the late summer; we've yet to hear a confirmed

date from Council officers. Meanwhile, this misuse has increased, and it will only be a matter of time before someone is injured, or even killed.

On 4 April, Cllr David Jones agreed with one of our complaint emails, and on 5 April I specified where temporary signage ought to be in place. On 19 April, West Yorkshire Police confirmed that permanent signage for issues such as this was absent across the Wakefield district, even though it was in use in neighbouring Leeds and Bradford.

I've also photographed the same signs in Stamford, where the council use temporary signage and barriers on the highway for their large weekly Friday market. If they can achieve this, why can't Wakefield MDC? The police are prepared to support enforcement, though they do not have the powers until the correct permanent signage is in place, and they raised this with the council in mid-April.

Meanwhile, we continue to take photographs, we send them to the Council, and we wait.

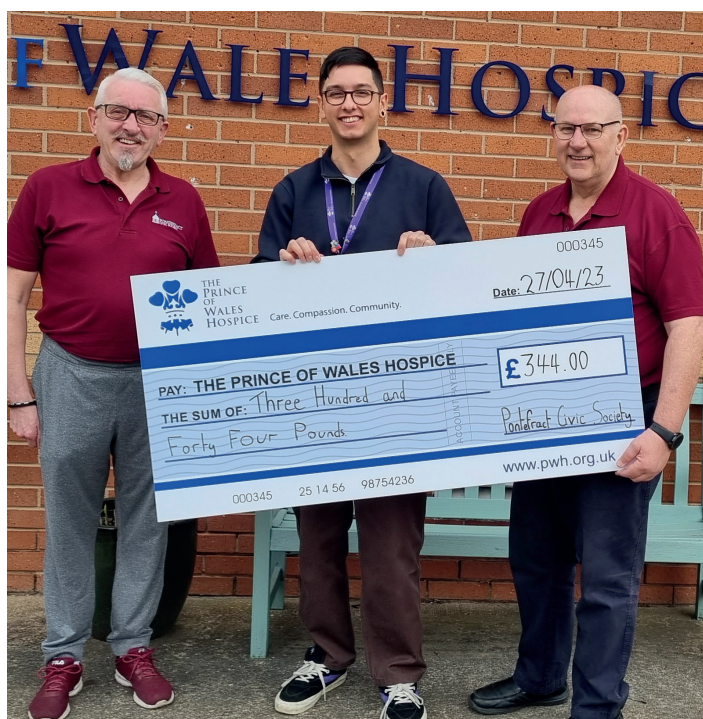


## Civic Society calendar supports the hospice

**Over 100 calendars were sold by a combination of Pontefract Civic Society and The Prince of Wales Hospice shop on Cornmarket.**

Over 100 calendars were sold by a combination of Pontefract Civic Society and The Prince of Wales Hospice shop on Cornmarket.

Paul Cartwright, Civic Society Chair said, *"In recent years, our board has agreed to support the Hospice by designing and selling our annual calendar, and we were able to make a donation"*.



Jake Ahmed, Hospice Community and Partnerships Fundraiser said *"We'd like to say a huge thank you to Pontefract Civic Society; they have raised a fantastic £344 from the sale of their calendars, which they kindly donated to our shops to sell. We are always so thankful for our community's incredible support"*.

## The Yorkshire Society Heritage Summit

**A year after we hosted the inaugural summit, Dave Hogg, Paul and Christine Cartwright headed off to Victoria Hall in Saltaire for a full day of heritage, conservation and nature for The Yorkshire Society Heritage Summit and Symposium.**

A lunchtime guided heritage walk was thrown in for good measure, as well as an acoustic set from a singer/guitarist, and a majestic performance of the organ as it rose from the depths of the building to appear on stage. The exhibition included 30 organisations, and around 100



delegates for the full day symposium; both statistics were double what was achieved in Pontefract, which is great for The Yorkshire Society and great networking for the region. For further details, visit <https://theyorkshiresociety.org/>.

## Civic Voice Convention

**On Friday 19 May, this event in Halifax started after lunch with a town centre tour with the Conservation Officer and Markets Manager from Calderdale Council, pointing out some grand historic Georgian and Victorian buildings including the town hall, and an art deco building.**



The tour and the story of Borough Market, including the 'streets in the sky', were brought alive by the passionate Markets Manager; whilst the building is old and being conserved, it is reinventing itself with a zone for the night time economy.

On Friday night, we had an excellent dinner at the Piece Hall.

On Saturday the convention continued, being co-hosted by Halifax Civic Trust & YHACS, where we heard from Create Streets & JTP Architects on placemaking, followed by branding from Rhubarb Design House.

After lunch, it was Heritage-led Regeneration at Dean Clough, The Piece Hall, Calderdale Council on filming locations, and Page Park Architects on the revamp of Leeds town hall. For further details go to <https://civicvoice.org.uk>.



## WMDC Pontefract Regeneration

The agenda for this quarterly meeting is defined by the Civic Society, and therefore we push for debate with officers and usually a senior councillor. On this occasion we were joined by Cllr Tony Hames.

An action schedule of **regeneration projects**, large and small, was discussed after a town centre site visit by elected members, followed by our walk with the regeneration representatives earlier in 2023. All of these projects require budgets and grants to be sourced, but at least it's a start, and it's very thorough.

The indoor **Market Hall** refurbishment has commenced, which will include the two iconic Gilbert Scott designed telephone boxes at our request (key visual options for community promotions).

**WDH** will start some work on their Horsefair site in April 2024. The recently completed residential building called Neptune House (Stuart Road) hasn't been viewed by our Planning Group, nor has it been occupied.

We await further news on the future redevelopment of the **Kiko's** site.



We have raised the current state of the **Buttercross** with the council, both the flagstones and internal decoration needs work.

Conservation guidance from the local authority and Historic England for **The Counting House** (or as we prefer



to call it 'The Merchant's Warehouse') was refreshing to hear, with a completely different openness from the new owner, Guy Lister.

Sadly, there was no progress from Mid Yorkshire NHS Trust and Homes England for the **Dispensary and Hermitage**.

With four projects in two locations (**Town Hall and Friarwood Valley Gardens**) requiring answers from the **Corporate Landlords Team (CLT)**, it was concerning there no one from that team present, nor was a report tabled. A CLT presence is now required at these meetings.

We are awaiting an update from **Environment/ Streetscene** on a proposal at Pontefract Castle that we'd previously put forward for the use of some surplus **wooden planters**.

On **leisure**, we sought to support a proposal from the Friends of Pontefract Park for **outdoor table tennis**, which many towns across the country now have, though this is currently being blocked by Aspire management.

**On transport**, we can report confirmed commencement dates for:

- Monkhill Station lifts and footbridge – July 2023
- North Baileygate changes – Autumn 2023
- Horsefair 'Streets for People' – Spring 2024 Paul – do these last two come under Highways rather than transport?

## Grants Successes



We are fortunate to be able to support a youth project in Friarwood Valley Gardens having been awarded **£500 from the council's Capital Development Fund for an art commission and youth workshop led by Rachel List, also a plaque will also be purchased and a tree will be planted.**

We're thrilled to announce that we have been awarded a Culture Grant by Wakefield Council of £975. The project is being delivered by Rhona Crichton from **Pontefract Art Club**, leading towards an art trail by schools for Liquorice Shoots and the Liquorice Festival in July. This is also supported by engagement with local businesses across Pontefract town centre.

We were also successful in May in gaining a Culture Grant from Wakefield Council of £1,415 for our **Heritage Open Days** programme, which enables us to deliver an art and culture-themed festival for the community and visitors during September.



## Diary of a Chair

**I've met with a number of colleagues in a wide range of scheduled meetings and activities:**

- Eric Houlder's funeral
- WMDC & Jacob's Consultants, on the relocation of the NHS staff car park
- Online meeting for a funded youth art project in Friarwood Valley Gardens
- WMDC Creative & digital networking at Tileyard North
- Police, WMDC & Local Businesses support meeting
- ITV Calendar interview for the coronation activities in Pontefract
- BBC Radio Leeds coronation live interview for the Andrew Edwards Saturday show
- Mayor, Cllr David Jones & Mrs Annette Jones farewell event at Wakefield Town Hall
- Rhubarb Radio meeting for WheelFest 2023
- Friends of Fitzwilliam Station visit
- Prince of Wales housing - consultation event on modular housing
- WMDC Pontefract Regeneration meeting
- Royal Garden/crown installation in Friarwood Valley Gardens
- King's Croft review and planning for Christmas events



- Co-hosted The Yorkshire Society Heritage Summit & had our stall at Saltaire
- Civic Voice Spring Convention in Halifax
- Prince of Wales Hospice Club 5 site visit to the Town Hall
- West Yorkshire Lieutenancy Freemasonry grant meeting
- Armed Forces Day site visit
- WMDC Pontefract Events catch up
- 11 internal Executive and Group meetings

*Paul Cartwright - Chair*

## Meet the Executive



**Originally from London, Peter started his career with one of the 'Big Four' banks in the mid-seventies.**

A In 2002 he relocated to Wakefield, before moving to Pontefract in 2017. After 40 years with NatWest Bank/RBS, he retired in 2015. For most of his career he

focused on managing client relationships and believes that the skills acquired over that period are of real value to the Civic Society today.

Peter has been a member of the Executive and Futures Group over the past couple of years, contributing in a variety of ways. He is a regular photographer at our events, and has been very busy administering the vehicle exhibition for the WheelFest Event. Peter told us *"my aim is to help the Civic Society achieve its key aims and vision. Pontefract is a great place to live. If we can continue to get our residents, businesses and community groups to do their bit to help, that all mounts up to quite a lot of benefit for the town"*.

Peter is a trustee of the Myotonic Dystrophy Support Group, a charity based in Nottingham. In the past he held other voluntary roles; he was a Director of Counsel and Care for the Elderly for 10 years, and held the post of Honorary Auditor for a financial industry discussion forum for over 12 years. He is also a lifelong fan of Arsenal FC.

*Peter Ferrari*

## Membership

### Welcome our new members

- Pontefract Calligraphers – Community Group
- Dr Nathan Loynes & Mrs Nicola Loynes
- New Collaborative Learning Trust (New College Pontefract) – Silver Business Member

It couldn't be simpler to renew online:  
<http://www.pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk/product-category/membership/>

## Potential Business Members

Our member officer is on the website, though if you wish to talk to us first, do please get in touch.



## Welcoming businesses to Pontefract



Kensushi & Japanese Kitchen  
(Gillygate)



Salter Row Coffee Lounge  
(Salter Row)



Vape and Mobile  
(Beastfair)



Ocho 8 Hair & Beauty  
(Ropergate)



MV Hair & Beauty  
(Market Place)



Sid's Pantry  
(off Colonel's Walk)

# Volunteer Appeal

## Specific project areas

We are considering changing the name of our Citizenship Group to ensure it is seen as being relevant, given the broad area of its activities in the public arena. The Group is our 'shop window' and the connection with the community via social media, our website, our PR/books/merchandise stall, and a contact point with schools. We Need You volunteer in some of these roles.

## Honorary Secretary, Trustee & Coordinators

If anyone fancies giving this a go, let Paul know.

## Administrators

Each working group needs admin support for a few hours per month or week, depending on the group.





## Working Group Reports

### Citizenship Group

The Citizenship Group, whilst low in numbers, continues to punch above its weight with members being involved in overseeing the upcoming **WheelFest**, where we will have over 70 vehicles in five zones across the town centre, supported by numerous activities, including a small stage for live entertainment.

It is hoped that this will become an annual weekend event giving a boost to our local independent businesses. Again, KLH Events has been a tremendous help to us in staging an outdoor artisan market on the Saturday, followed by an indoor craft fair at the Town Hall on the Sunday.

The Group currently arranges various events and is the umbrella group for working with schools and other community group members. Whilst the active members



This is a free event for exhibitors and the public, and we're working in partnership with KLH Events who will have a craft fair in the Town Hall.

If this isn't enough, we're working on another brand new event, **Liquorice Shoots**, as the Saturday warm-up event on 8 July to the annual **Liquorice Festival** on Sunday 9 July.

in the group are low in number, we are currently reviewing the group name to better reflect the wide range of activities that the group does, therefore we would welcome new active members to help bring our town alive by supporting the community. If interested, please email [info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk)





## Decoration Squad Update

Well, the Decoration Squad has set off on this year's projects at a great pace with a fantastic display for the coronation, which gained TV interest by promoting active volunteering whether at home or by assembling these installations.



The five metre by three metre flag was made possible by the community working together, collecting and painting the bottoms of plastic bottles, which are always in need, and we need more volunteers. We'd also like to thank our collection points which allows the public to drop off bottle bottoms. The Decoration Squad is now working on a new display for the annual Liquorice Festival by recycling the previous installation, so keep an eye out at the Festival for a photo opportunity with new decoration. As the year moves on, other opportunities will be taken to create new decorations for our town's events where you can become involved.



Phil Cook - Citizenship Group Coordinator

## Heritage Group



Earlier this year, Pontefract Civic Society was invited by Experience Wakefield to promote our bookable guided tours at the National Coach Operators Travel Show in Birmingham.



Under the banner of this year's theme, 'Art & Culture' we are pleased to announce that Heritage Open Days 2023 will run from Fri 8 to Sun 17 Sept, as the official national festival, though we may extend those dates locally if that is more beneficial to a small number of events.

Our old favourites will return, though we are pleased to announce that some locations and events will be added to our programme for Pontefract and surrounding villages.

## NEW

- RAF Snaith Museum/Pollington Heritage Centre
- St Edmund's Church in Kellington
- St Michael's Church in Womersley
- New talks at Pontefract Castle, the Magistrates Market, and Pontefract Town Hall.
- HODFest – new bars linking their artist events into our programme
- Pomfret Gallery art launch
- Pontefract Choral Society concert

We are also pleased to announce that we have secured funding of £1,415 from Wakefield MDC Cultural Grants programme all of which is allocated based on the items in our application.

On all these enhancements and our regular events, look out for our publicity from 1 Aug onwards.

Paul Cartwright - Interim Heritage Coordinator



## Talks & Tours Group

**Our talks are usually of local interest, historical or connected with Yorkshire. April's event was pure entertainment, with a breathtaking display of magic by local Ray Roberts.**

He also told the story of how he became involved in magic, and how his act has evolved over the years. As this was a new direction for us, a lot of people were asked for their opinion on this, and I am happy to say everyone we have spoken to thoroughly enjoyed the evening and thought it was a good idea. Ray will be back next year!



Our May event was the esteemed Chris Cade, performing as Isambard Kingdom Brunel, with his trademark stovepipe hat. The event was well attended and the audience participation waving union flags for Queen Victoria went down well. Subject to arrangements with WMDC, we have just booked Chris to perform his shortened version "A Christmas Carol" again; this will be on 30 November, by popular demand. If you missed last time in December, it's worth getting into your diary.

Again, subject to discussions with WMDC and suitable

interest leading towards ticket sales, another popular act – the Haley Sisters – will be returning to the Assembly Room on Saturday 23 September. This is just after the



Heritage Open Days festival which has a theme of all things art and culture. Planning for this event is ongoing.

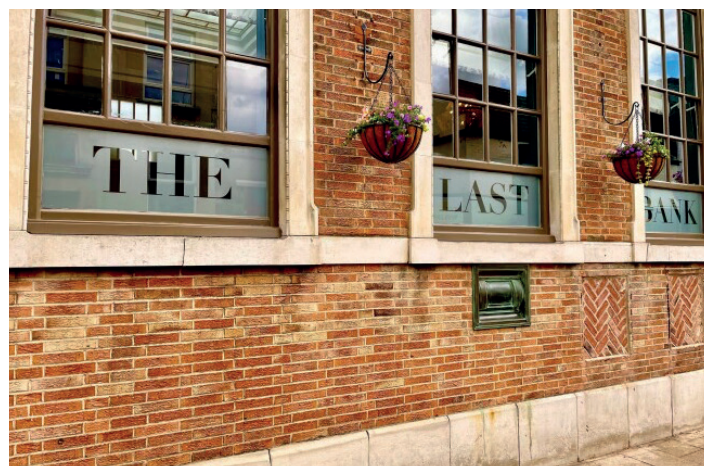
We are planning a short, guided tour of Wetherby hosted by the Wetherby Civic Society in the next couple of months; look out for the date, and book early!

Dave Hogg – Talks & Tours Coordinator

## Planning Group

**The Planning Group met in March and April to review pending planning applications and comment as appropriate:**

- Former HSBC Bank on Ropergate – bar and flats above – support
- Counting House – owner is following guidance – neutral
- Chep on Park Road – solar panels on roof – support
- Hairdressers demolition and re-build between Blaza and Mad Ox – support in principle
- Former Thomas Cook – application to be a betting shop – object
- The Last Bank – tables and chairs on pavement and in parking bays – neutral



We have recently received lists of licensing applications and temporary event licensing, which enables the group to monitor and respond to them.

We are continuing to compile a list of contenders for the 2023 Design Awards and are looking to arrange visits to premises on the lists.

If members of the Civic Society are interested in planning matters, it is worth walking around the town to see what is happening. The applications are available to view on the Wakefield Council website and the Council welcome comments from members of the public.



Evelyn Westwood – Planning Group Coordinator



## Rail Group

**We have held three regular Group meetings this year in the Town Hall. Group members join the regular on-line briefings from Northern Rail discussing timetables and operational performance.**

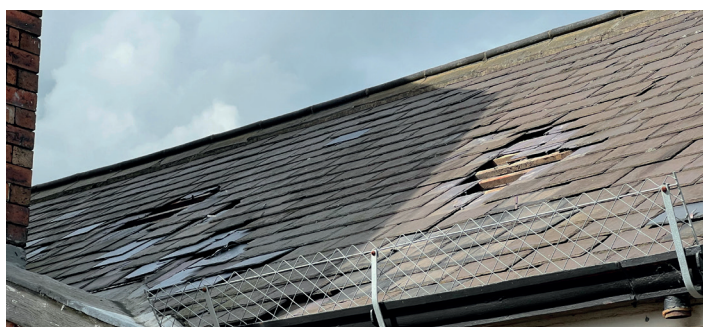
Our continued membership of Railfuture has involved members attending and contributing to their regular Yorkshire Branch meetings, as well as their on-line webinars.

Through our meetings with officers from Wakefield Council we have been consulted on the installation of lifts and other improvements at Monkhill Station with work scheduled to start later this year.

So far this year we have made some progress on the following Campaign Priorities.

### Baghill Station

On 16 May we organised a meeting in St Giles' Church with an officer from the Arch Company, who are the owners of the station building, David Mather (City & Town Regeneration Officer, Wakefield MDC), Brian Mayhew



(South Ward Councillor), and Sean Stephens (owner of Southgate Business Centre & Pomfret Business Centre). This was to discuss the future of the building and to explore with the wider Pontefract community possible alternative uses. Arch are currently in the process of carrying out some repair work; in time they will circulate plans of the interior and will organise a site visit.



### Fitzwilliam Station

Adoption schemes for all three stations – On 2 May we visited Fitzwilliam Station to see the work that their Station Adoption Group has achieved, which involves reporting issues to Northern Rail, and displaying community and schools' art in poster cases; something we may seek to emulate on a smaller scale in the years to come. As an aside, we also saw a hidden gem in a community centre, namely artefacts from the military museum which used to be housed at Cannon Hall. We are grateful to Morris Barrows for hosting us.



### Community Rail Partnership

We have agreed that all three stations will join the Partnership, which should give us access to financial support to improve our stations, allowing us to involve the local community, local schools, New College and businesses in new projects, probably for 2024.

***Our meetings will continue throughout the year and we are always keen to encourage more members with an interest in rail to join the Civic Society, and become active in our group's lobbying and campaigns.***

Anthony Dee – Rail Group Administrator



# Events Calendar

## 2023 Events

### PONTEFRACT *Events 2023*



PONTEFRACT  
CIVIC SOCIETY

#### PCS TALK & EVENTS

#### OTHER EVENTS

##### JANUARY

- 25 "RAILWAYS OF PONTEFRACT – PAST & PRESENT" by Peter Cookson
- 30 2022 DESIGN AWARDS Town Hall

15-17 & 19-21

DICK WHITTINGTON PANTOMIME  
Town Hall

##### FEBRUARY

- 15 PONTEFRACT WAKES FAIR, AND HISTORY OF FAIRGROUNDS by Steven Smith
- 28 CIVIC SOCIETY AGM Town Hall

##### MARCH

- 15 FIRST SIEGE OF PONTEFRACT CASTLE by David Cooke
- 18 COMMUNITY SHOWCASE Town Hall

29 EASTER EGG HUNT  
Friarwood Valley Gardens

##### APRIL

- 19 A LIFE IN MAGIC by Ray Roberts

11 PONTEFRACT RACES  
24 PONTEFRACT RACES

##### MAY

- 17 ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL Performance by Chris Cade

3 PONTEFRACT RACES  
6 KING CHARLES III CORONATION  
14 HOSPICE CYCLOTHON Pontefract RUFC  
26 PONTEFRACT RACES

##### JUNE

- 10 WHEELFEST Town Centre
- 17 CIVIC DAY
- 21 PRISON TO PALACE by Veronica Bird

3 HOSPICE SUMMER FAIR  
12 PONTEFRACT RACES  
17 ARMED FORCES DAY Pontefract Park  
25 PONTEFRACT RACES

#### PCS TALK & EVENTS

#### OTHER EVENTS

##### JULY

- 8 LIQUORICE SHOOTS Town Centre
- 19 WHAT MADE YORKSHIRE GREAT, AND WORKING WITH JOHN POULSON by Stewart Hartley

3 PONTEFRACT RACES  
9 LIQUORICE FESTIVAL Town centre, castle & Friarwood Valley Gardens  
11 PONTEFRACT RACES  
21 PONTEFRACT RACES  
30 PONTEFRACT RACES

##### AUGUST

1 YORKSHIRE DAY Friarwood Valley Gardens  
9 PONTEFRACT RACES  
12 FRIARWOOD FESTIVAL Friarwood Valley Gardens  
20 PONTEFRACT RACES

##### SEPTEMBER

- 8-17 HERITAGE OPEN DAYS Various Location
- 20 THE VICTORIAN CIRCUSES OF LEEDS by Steve Ward

21 PONTEFRACT RACES  
28 PONTEFRACT RACES

##### OCTOBER

- 18 THE BATTLE OF FLAMBOROUGH HEAD by Dave Cooke

9 PONTEFRACT RACES  
23 PONTEFRACT RACES  
TBC LIONS LANTERN FESTIVAL Castle & Friarwood Valley Gardens

##### NOVEMBER

- 15 A DAY IN THE LIFE OF YORKSHIRE COAL MINER by Dave Hogg

11 ARMISTICE DAY  
12 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

For more information, contact us by email:

✉ [info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk)

or visit us on social media:

f @PontefractCivic





# Community Group News

## Pontefract Art Club – The King's Coronation

**The Art Club wished to celebrate the Coronation in a more imaginative and creative way.**

It was decided that we would investigate and research the wide range of Coats of Arms from all the Commonwealth countries which have animals, birds or mammals represented on the shields. The task for each member would be to represent their chosen animal etc in an exciting artistic manner.

For example, England would be represented by a lion, The Falkland Islands a penguin and The Ascension Islands a turtle. 20 members took part in this event and the paintings were exhibited in Pontefract library during the Coronation celebrations.

Information

*"The shield is held up by "supporters". For the UK these are the Lion and the Unicorn.*

*When the King is crowned, he is not just the Head of State for the UK but also the Commonwealth. Each territory or state has a coat of arms and each of these has their own "supporters".*

## Liquorice Shoots

**Pontefract Art Club is taking part in this year's celebration "LIQUORICE SHOOTS" in Pontefract.**

The task for each member is to create a colourful and creative piece of artwork depicting the town's rich history of liquorice growing. The artwork will be the size of a postcard and will be graphic and / or representational.

The postcards will be displayed in Pontefract Library during the town's celebration of Liquorice.

Rhona Crichton

REMINDER:  
LIQUORICE SHOOTS  
SATURDAY 8TH JULY  
PONTEFRACT  
TOWN CENTRE

## Pontefract in Bloom

**The summer planters and hanging baskets will be coming out in the next couple of weeks and we're still looking for sponsorship.**

To provide the summer floral displays in the Town Centre and parks costs over £6,000 each year, of which half comes from local authority grants. We are dependent on sponsorship for the rest. Our sponsor leaflet has more details.



## Gold for Pontefract Summer 2022

**Help us colour Pontefract with flowers this summer by sponsoring a floral display!**

Following last year's Gold Award for Pontefract from Yorkshire in Bloom **Pontefract in Bloom** is again inviting local businesses, community groups, individuals, and families to sponsor floral displays in Pontefract Town Centre for summer 2023. There are 16 sponsors, and if there's a bracket on your business premises, we can arrange for a summer hanging basket to be provided. The planters and baskets will be fully planted for the summer under cover and installed in early June. Planting and watering services are provided by First Impressions Nurseries, Ackworth, who also display on the planters and publicised on social media. Businesses will be provided with a window sticker to show their sponsorship and sponsors also have the satisfaction of having contributed our town's enhancement. We also appreciate donations to help Pontefract in Bloom colour our town with flowers.

### Sponsorship prices 2023

**Hanging baskets:** £57.50 + VAT (£69) provided fully planted, maintained, and watered June to October by First Impressions Nurseries who will invoice.

**Planters:** Includes planting, maintenance, watering services and sponsor plaque. Invoiced by Pontefract in Bloom (we are not VAT registered).

**Bronze** - £75 plaque on one side of planter

**Silver** - £150 plaques on two sides of planter

**Gold** - £280 plaques on four sides of planter

**Donations of any amount will be accepted gratefully and acknowledged on social media and our notices.**



To contact us: email [pontefractinbloom@gmail.com](mailto:pontefractinbloom@gmail.com) or text 07876234054

Follow us on  @pontefractinb1

Website: [e-voice.org.uk/pontefractinbloom](http://e-voice.org.uk/pontefractinbloom)



PontefractInBloom

Pontefract in Bloom is run by unpaid community volunteers, is non-profitmaking, and all donations and sponsorship money go towards delivering Pontefract in Bloom.



# Community Group News



**Ponte Fract  
Choral Society**

**Summer Concert**

with  
**YEP Brass Band**

**Saturday 10th June 2023**  
**St. Giles' Church, Pontefract**  
**7.30pm**

**MUSIC FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING**



A variety of music from  
British composers including:

**Lennon & McCartney**  
**Elton John**  
**Andrew Lloyd Webber**  
**Karl Jenkins**  
**Hubert Parry**

**Tickets £10**  
(from choir members)  
or Pay on the door  
Accompanied under 16s FREE

**REMINDER:**  
**LIQUORICE FESTIVAL**  
**SUNDAY 9TH JULY**  
**PONTEFRACT TOWN CENTRE**  
**FRIARWOOD VALLEY**  
**GARDENS**



invite you to our

**GREAT BRITISH BASH!**



A family friendly evening  
celebrating the coronation  
of  
**King Charles III**



**Saturday 24th June 7pm**  
**St Michael's Church, Knottingley**

Tickets £7 including raffle and light refreshments  
Ann 07710 788225



Website: <https://liquoricesingers.wixsite/liquorice>  
Email: [liquoricesingers@yahoo.com](mailto:liquoricesingers@yahoo.com)

**REMINDER:**  
**LIQUORICE SINGERS**  
**SATURDAY 24TH JULY**  
**ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH,**  
**KNOTTINGLEY**

## Friends of Friarwood Valley Gardens

A large flower bed has been  
replanted to commemorate  
the Queen's Platinum Jubilee  
and the Coronation of King  
Charles III.



The centre piece is a large golden crown. The planting will  
take time to establish but it's already looking impressive.  
The Friends group paid for the project but its funds are  
now depleted and donations would be appreciated.

## Friends of Pontefract Park

**June is a busy month for Friends of the Park.**

The flower beds and lakeside boats have provided a beautiful spring display but now require clearing and replanting. Over 2,000 bedding plants are needed to give a good display. Look out for the planting dates on Facebook. The more help we get, the quicker it's done. The weekly litter picking sessions have continued throughout the year: every Wednesday at 10am. Equipment provided but bring your own gloves. We also provide litter picking equipment in the foyer of Aspire for opportunistic litter picking. If you want to organise a group litter pick in the Park email [friendsofpontefractpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofpontefractpark@gmail.com) or message us on Facebook: Friends of Pontefract Park.

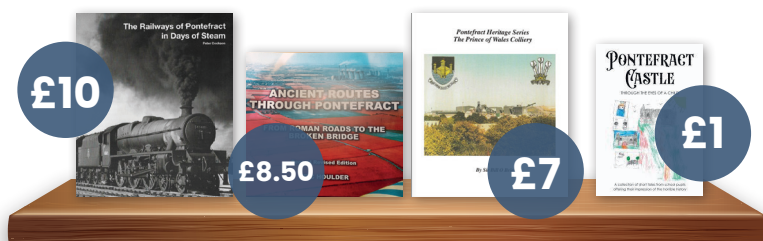
## Bookshelf



The J.S. Fletcher G.P. Rhodes Collaboration  
by Roger Ellis

Pontefract's Chequered History  
by Roger Ellis

Pontefract - Celebrating the Past; Looking to the Future  
by Martin Lodge

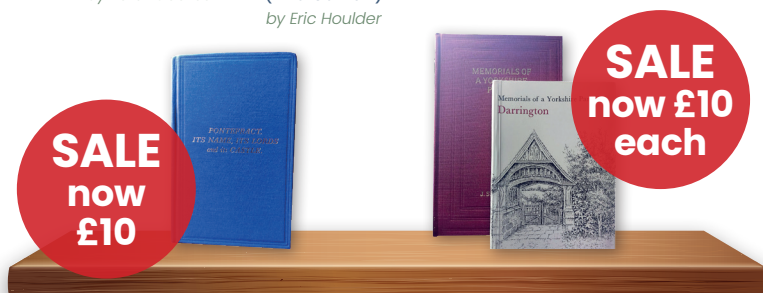


The Railways of Pontefract in Days of Steam  
by Peter Cookson

Ancient Routes through Pontefract (2nd edition)  
by Eric Houlder

The Prince of Wales Colliery  
by Sir Bill O'Brien

Pontefract Castle; Through the Eyes of a Child



Pontefract: Its Name, its Lord and its Castle

Memorials of a Yorkshire Parish Darrington



£1



£3

We also have a stock of quality branded pens for just £1.00, and lapel badges at £3.00.

Our Pontefract streetscape mug is now back in stock, and we also have new heritage tram mug.

£5.50 each



**Our local heritage publications are available for sale online, via email and phone.**

www.pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk/shop

alternatively phone: 01977 708658 or

Email: info@pontefractcivicsociety.org.uk for further information.

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## Donations & Bequests

**Have you thought of making a donation to Pontefract Civic Society during your lifetime, or leaving us some money in your will?**


























Pontefract Voice and our Annual Reports show the tremendous work the society and our members are doing to make Pontefract a better place. To continue our important work, then additional active members are always beneficial.

The civic society is both independent and non-political. As the town's 'watchdog' for the built environment, highways, rail, planning, architecture, heritage, events, business, and public amenities, we can speak on behalf of those who live, work, are educated here, or visit Pontefract, without fear or favour.

We would be absolutely delighted if you would make a donation or a bequest. Both the Chair and Vice Chair are available if you wish to discuss this in more detail.

**PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR PONTEFRACT CIVIC SOCIETY, LET'S GET NOTICED!**



Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member
				
Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member
				
Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Gold Member	Silver Member
				
Silver Member	Silver Member	Silver Member	Silver Member	Silver Member
				
Bronze Member	Bronze Member	Bronze Member	Bronze Member	Bronze Member
				

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## Memberships & Partnerships

