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HISTORIC ENGLAND ANGEL AWARDS 2017 SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

- 12 finalists in Historic England Angel Awards 2017 revealed
- Annual awards supported by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation celebrate heritage heroes who have made a lasting difference to historic buildings and places
- Brothers who transformed derelict baths into indoor BMX park and apprentice mason saving Britain's landmarks are among those shortlisted
- Voting for public choice award now open at [HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/angelawards)
- Images: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/Qlor4IBFFHa76Sqm1> (more available on request)

From the brothers who have transformed a derelict Victorian baths into an indoor BMX park to a milestone devotee who has saved over 150 markers, the Historic England Angel Awards, supported by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, celebrate the efforts of individuals and local groups across the country that have devoted their time and energy to bringing irreplaceable historic places back to life.

This year's shortlist recognises the invaluable contribution of an apprentice mason who braved high winds to secure a Lundy Island landmark, the production organisation which helps to dismantle stereotypes of disability and the local preservation trust determined to protect a fragile part of their county's heritage, among others.

Chaired by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the 2017 judging panel comprises historian Bettany Hughes, TV's Restoration Man George Clarke, the Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr John Hall, Baroness Lola Young and Historic England's Chief Executive Duncan Wilson.

The winners will be announced and presented with their awards at a glittering ceremony at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London on 20 November 2017.

Andrew Lloyd Webber said: ‘I’m delighted to champion the people who protect the precious buildings and places around us. Everyone who has been shortlisted for an Historic England Angel Award has made a significant difference to our landscape and built environment. Congratulations to all of them! This year I am especially pleased that we are crowning an overall UK winner for the first time, showcasing the crucial work that is being done across the country by local heritage heroes.’

Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive of Historic England said: “I am always impressed by the tireless commitment shown by our Angel Award nominees working together to care for our shared heritage. The variety of this year’s shortlists proves there are so many different ways to engage with our rich legacy of historic buildings and places and as ever, the judging panel will have their work cut out to choose the winners. It is essential that we champion the volunteers and heritage professionals whose work ensures we can continue to enjoy England’s wonderful historic sites for generations to come.”

Vote for your favourite

While the four category winners will be decided by a panel of expert judges, each project is now seeking the public’s support to win a further award. All 12 shortlisted projects – three per category - are in the running for the **Historic England Followers’ and Telegraph Readers’ Favourite** award chosen solely by the public.

Voting is now open. Cast your vote at [HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/AngelAwards)

Voting closes 5 November 2017.

2017 Overall Winner, Sponsored by Battersea Power Station

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation supports the Angel Awards scheme across the country. The awards launched in 2011 in England, followed by the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards in 2014 and the Northern Ireland Heritage Angel Awards this year.

For the first time, Andrew Lloyd Webber and a judge from each home country (England, Scotland and Northern Ireland) that hosts an Angel Awards scheme will decide on an overall winner for the year. The 2017 Overall Winner, Sponsored by Battersea Power Station will be announced at the Historic England Angel Awards in London on 20 November 2017, following the Scottish and Northern Ireland Angel Award ceremonies.

The Shortlist

Best Contribution to a Heritage Project by Young People

Beacon Hill Arts - Hidden Histories at Newcastle Castle

Young film-makers with learning difficulties, autism and additional needs worked with Newcastle Castle to bring to life the Hidden Histories of notorious characters from the castle's past. The talented Beacon Hill Arts team researched the lives of castle residents from bygone eras and then carried out all aspects of the film-making process to produce a trio of films about them and a music production. The project not only delivers a highly original history lesson, it helps to dismantle stereotypes of disability. The videos can be viewed on the [Newcastle Castle website](#).

Abraham Moss Community School, Manchester - Crumpsall Hall Heritage Project

Children in Years 8 and 9 at Abraham Moss Community School in Manchester poured their energy and enthusiasm into a [Heritage Schools](#) history project on the lost Crumpsall Hall and its former resident, philanthropist Sir Humphrey Chetham. The project grew out of a visit to archives where the students made some original discoveries that inspired them to dig deeper into local history, visiting sites and spending hours of their free time researching documents. To share their findings the pupils performed a *Horrible Histories*-style re-enactment of a Tudor feast, and became the subject of a short film which is now being used to train other teachers on how to deliver a successful school heritage project. The children continue to pass on what they learned so that this school project enriches the wider community.

Fiona Hailstone - Bringing Killerton Park to Life, Devon

After starting as a volunteer with the National Trust, Fiona Hailstone has become the leading source of knowledge on caring for [Killerton Park](#). Set in Devon countryside, the 6,400-acre estate needed attention: views had become obscured and two scheduled monuments were on the Heritage at Risk register. Reviving the historic landscape was a complex undertaking that would involve engaging staff and the local community with the significance of the parkland, as well as increasing the opportunities for visitors to enjoy it. Helped by specialist craftsmen and archaeologists, Fiona and her team of volunteers began by restoring the deer pales and monuments before researching the parkland's boundaries. The project has gone

beyond its original remit and even recovered a lost stately home whose existence had long been rumoured. The site of the newly-discovered house now forms part of the National Trust's 'Lost Killerton' experience.

Best Craftsperson or Apprentice on a Heritage Rescue or Repair Project

Anthony Goode - Dovecote at Barholm Old Hall, Lincolnshire

Anthony Goode, a specialist and trainer in building with earthen materials, expertly guided the repair of the listed dovecote in the grounds of Barholm Old Hall in Lincolnshire. The dovecote had remained unaltered since the 17th century but was on the Heritage at Risk register due to risk of collapse. Anthony championed the use of authentic materials in the repair and persuaded the architect and contractors to use earthen mortar as a way to preserve the integrity and significance of the structure. Throughout his professional life, Anthony has personally helped to keep the skills of earthen construction alive. By sharing his more than 50 years of experience, Anthony taught the team to source and use earthen mortar effectively and the architect and contractors are now confident of using these techniques in future. The project will be used to showcase that using the most basic building materials can produce stunning results.

Kenny Brunskill - Corbridge Bottle Kilns, Northumberland

Kenny Brunskill has carved out a niche as a mason working at extreme heights - a skill that is highly sought after in the world of conservation. Having left the British Army in 2003, Kenny developed a passion for masonry whilst working at Stone Technical Services. His enthusiasm, work ethic, maturity and natural skill at working at heights have made him the "go to" guy for masonry work on steeples and spires around the region. When the Tyne Building Preservation Trust looked to repair and consolidate the landmark Corbridge bottle kilns, it became clear that difficult access meant an innovative approach would be required. Kenny and his team devised a way to carry out repointing and brick replacement with a mixture of rope and spider crane, resulting in the safeguarding the immediate future of the kilns. They also ran a day for trainee bricklayers to experience the challenges of working at height.

Rachel Thompson - Fog Battery Station, Lundy Island

A volunteer for 10 years on Lundy Island, Rachel Thompson has played a crucial role in repairing its Fog Battery Station and ensuring the story of the Grade II listed complex is preserved for future generations. As an apprentice to National Trust mason Charlie Smith, Rachel braved extreme weather to conserve the central stack of the cottages, taking on repair of the chimneys alone in a project that significantly developed her conservation skills. Now she hopes others will enjoy exploring the complex and learning about the gunners who once warned ships from the rocks, as she did. A unique heritage site that had been neglected for more than a century, the

Fog Battery Station has been made safe and the planned conservation of its cannons will remove the complex from the Heritage at Risk register.

Best Rescue of a Historic Building, Sponsored by [Selectaglaze](#)

Claire Slattery - The Piece Hall, Halifax

In 1779, the West Riding of Yorkshire ruled the cloth trade and the Grade I listed Piece Hall is a monument to this time. Claire Slattery undertook a complex project to restore the beauty of the Georgian building and return it as a place of pivotal importance in Halifax. By 2009, work was urgently required to restore the stonework and remedy earlier repairs. Claire successfully secured funding to safeguard the future of the Piece Hall and in 2012 restoration work began. Claire also played a key role in developing heritage spaces within the building, where visitors can learn about what has made the hall so special throughout its history and experience its atmosphere as a trading hall. Thanks to the dedication of Claire and her team, [the Piece Hall](#) reopened to thousands of visitors on 1 August 2017.

Rich Moore and Marc Moore - The Source BMX Park, Hastings

Brothers Rich and Marc Moore have rescued a derelict Victorian swimming pool on Hastings' seafront and turned it into a state-of-the-art facility for BMX riders and skaters. Having raised more than £1 million in funding and enlisting the support of the local community they opened the [Source BMX Park](#) in March 2016. The brothers overcame significant construction challenges to turn the dank underground building into an all-weather centre for BMX riders and skaters. However their perseverance has paid off as the park has already welcomed over 70,000 visitors from all around the world. What was once a disused Victorian building that reflected the faded glory of a declining seaside town has become a vibrant new space that is helping to put Hastings back on the map.

Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust - Weavers' Cottages, Kidderminster

[The three Weavers' Cottages on Horsefair](#) were the only physical trace of Kidderminster's early history as a centre of weaving and spinning cloth. Many weavers worked at home on handlooms to produce Bombazine, an expensive cloth used in mourning dress that the town was famous for. By the 2000s the cottages had fallen into disrepair and were due for demolition, until the Worcestershire Building Preservation Trust stepped in with a viable plan to restore and convert the grade II listed cottages into modern-day dwellings. The determination of the entire team - with huge community backing - was crucial to the success of a project that had grown out of local pride. Completed in May 2017, this project combines a great rescue of a historic building with outstanding interpretation, as the WBPT has shared findings on Kidderminster's traditions and restored ties to its early history.

Best Rescue, Recording or Interpretation of a Historic Place

Adam Sutcliffe-Brown - Relaxed@Newmans tour, Coffin Works, Birmingham

[The Relaxed@Newmans factory tour](#) - specifically designed for people on the autistic spectrum by Adam Sutcliffe-Brown - has connected the Coffin Works museum with a sector it had failed to reach. Adam, who is on the spectrum, has introduced autism-friendly resources such as pre-visit videos and sensory toys and advised staff on how to modify tours so they are welcoming for those with autism and their families. Adam has also organised staff training to change perceptions of autism and help staff engage more confidently with all visitors. This experience has led Adam to give presentations at conferences and take other steps to encourage the wider heritage sector to improve accessibility to all.

Help for Heroes and Canal & River Trust - Heritage Heroes

[Heritage Heroes](#) is an ambitious canal restoration and career recovery programme run by Help for Heroes and the Canal & River Trust that is helping to smooth the transition to civilian life for 60 injured and sick service personnel and veterans. It has helped participants to learn new skills, gain qualifications and enjoy working in a team in the great outdoors. Sites to have benefitted include the Cotswolds Canal (Ryeford Causeway), Pocklington Canal (Thornton Top Lock), Kennet & Avon Canal (Bridge 99), and Wilts and Berkshire Canal (Pewsham Lock). By showcasing the value of restoration, the Heritage Heroes are inspiring the public to get involved and enabling the Canal & River Trust (and its many partner canal societies) to recruit new volunteers.

Nigel Ford - Milestone repairs, restoration and reinstatement across Norfolk

Nigel Ford has made it his personal mission to rediscover, repair and paint hundreds of milestones across Norfolk, most of which date from the early 1800s. Nigel has worked tirelessly to recover every accessible milestone in the county, whether concealed by brambles or lying in ditches, broken or buried. With the help of keen volunteers, from local Brownie packs and school children to HRH The Prince of Wales, so far over 150 individual markers have been restored to their former glory. At every step Nigel has passed on his practical knowledge as well as his passion, ensuring Norfolk retains its connection to a time when simple stones guided travellers through the county.

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**Further information and images from Historic England Press Office
020 7973 3250 / communications@HistoricEngland.org.uk**

**HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards
[#AngelAwards17](https://twitter.com/AngelAwards17)**

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Historic England Angel Awards were founded by Andrew Lloyd Webber and are co-funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. Since 2011 these annual awards have celebrated the efforts of local people, either individuals or groups, who have saved historic buildings and places.

Historic England is in its second year of a three-year funding agreement with the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. The three years of funding are for 2016, 2017 and 2018 and total £150,000.

For more information about the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards visit:

www.scottishheritageangelawards.org.uk

For more information about the Northern Ireland Heritage Angel Awards visit:

<https://heritageangelawards-ni.org.uk>

Award Categories

- Best Rescue of a Historic Building , Sponsored by [Selectaglaze](#)
- Best Contribution to a Heritage Project by Young People
- Best Craftsperson or Apprentice on a Heritage Rescue or Repair Project
- Best Rescue, Recording or Interpretation of a Historic Place

- Historic England Followers' and Telegraph Readers' Favourite
- 2017 Overall Winner, Sponsored by [Battersea Power Station](#)

About [Historic England](#): We are Historic England, the public body that champions and protects England's historic places. We look after the historic environment, providing expert advice, helping people protect and care for it and helping the public to understand and enjoy it.

About the [Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation](#): The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation was set up by Andrew in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit; since inception Andrew has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.

In 2010, the Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of more than £16m to support high quality training and personal development as well as other projects that make a real difference to enrich the quality of life both for individuals and within local communities. Significant grants include £3.5m to Arts Educational Schools, London to create a state of the art professional theatre, £2.4m to The Music in Secondary Schools Trust, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, \$1.3m to the American Theatre Wing and over £350,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need.

In 2015, the Foundation awarded over £1.5million in 46 new grants to organisations, made 17 grants totalling £860k to projects in their second and third year of funding and provided 30 musical theatre scholarships worth over £300k to young performers on the brink of their careers. In addition, the Foundation pledged a further 3 years' funding to the Historic England Angel Awards and established the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards with the Scottish Civic Trust and Historic Environment Scotland.

About The Telegraph: The Telegraph is the media partner for the Historic England Angel Awards.

About our sponsors: Founded in 1966 and granted a Royal Warrant in 2004, **Selectaglaze** is the leading designer, manufacturer and installer of secondary glazing in the UK.

Starting off with just four members of staff, the company has expanded over the years to 90+ and has continued to evolve its secondary glazing systems to meet the varying needs of a vast range of clients. Selectaglaze has had the privilege of working on notable projects from the Hoover Building to Windsor Castle, the Supreme Court to Banqueting House. By installing its systems, it has aided the buildings in becoming warmer, quieter and safer.

Battersea Power Station: batterseapowerstation.co.uk