

HISTORIC ENGLAND ANGEL AWARDS 2018

SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

- 15 finalists in Historic England Angel Awards 2018 revealed
- Annual awards supported by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation celebrate heritage heroes who have helped save historic buildings and places
- Voting for public choice award now open at [HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards](https://historicengland.org.uk/angelawards)
- Images: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/JpTHW4AAP3dZvsXz7> (more available on request)

From the rescue of England's oldest surviving purpose-built boys' club to the woman striving to improve access to historic sites for disabled people, 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 special quality of the handmade bricks produced by a family company in Suffolk, the beautiful craftsmanship of a stone carver working on Cornwall's most significant stained glass window and the stunning restoration of the Victorian Temperate House at Kew Gardens, among others.

Chaired by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the 2018 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 London's Gillian Lynne Theatre on 27 November 2018.

Andrew Lloyd Webber said: “I am thrilled to see the wide range of heritage projects included in the shortlist for the 2018 Historic England Angel Awards. This year we can truly call the Angel Awards a national celebration with England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and, for the first time, Wales hosting Heritage Angel Awards.

Everyone involved in these projects deserves to be recognised and congratulated on the vital role they play in protecting unique heritage, buildings, landscapes and craft skills for future generations. I am excited that for the first time we will be crowning an overall UK winner at the final ceremony.”

Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive of Historic England said: “The Angel Awards allow us to celebrate the people who work tirelessly to care for our irreplaceable heritage. So often they are in the background, but now we turn the spotlight on 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 five 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 15 shortlisted projects – three per category - are in the running for the **Historic England Followers’ 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 18 November 2018.

The Shortlist

Best Rescue of a Historic Building or Place, sponsored by Keymer (projects under £5m)

The Florence Institute, Liverpool

The Florence Institute, affectionately known as “The Florrie”, is the oldest surviving purpose-built boys’ club in Britain. It was founded in 1889 by former Liverpool mayor Bernard Hall and named as a tribute to his daughter, Florence, who died at just 22. For a century it provided safe recreation to boys from poor communities in south Liverpool and it was these same people who led the long struggle to not only restore

the building to splendour but bring it back to life for local people. Even after it had been damaged by fire and constant exposure to the elements, the building in the Dingle remained a repository of childhood memories for generations of working-class youth in the area. Its rescue and transformation into a modern, multi-purpose community hub means it is once again a place where people of all ages can create memories.

Wilton's Music Hall, London

Wilton's Music Hall in the East End of London has a turbulent past, surviving life as a rowdy Victorian music hall, Methodist mission and rag warehouse, as well as a fire and plans for demolition. Its restoration as a modern-day theatre and performance venue blends old and new to retain much of the building's historic fabric and unique identity. Without the efforts of staff and volunteers, the remarkable comeback of the cherished East End venue would not have been possible.

The Beonna at All Saints Benington, Lincolnshire

For the village of Benington in south Lincolnshire, the closure of their parish church was the catalyst for action. All Saints church had stood at the centre of the village for centuries and was not only the last remaining communal space following closure of the doctors, school, butchers and post office, but a source of civic pride. The Benington Community Heritage Trust secured funding to rescue it and reopen as the Beonna, a multi-purpose events and community space for all ages. Providing new support facilities for the young and old and with new employment and training opportunities, it has paved the way for social change.

Best Major Regeneration of a Historic Building or Place, sponsored by Selectaglaze **(projects over £5m)**

The Temperate House at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

The Temperate House at Kew is the world's oldest surviving Victorian glasshouse. It reopened in May after a £41 million five-year project to restore the Grade I listed site which saw 10,000 plants from 1,500 species brought into the glasshouse; 15,000 panes of glass restored and 69,000 elements of brick, steel and other material cleaned and repaired or replaced. Renovation has meant that its collection of threatened temperate plants from all over the world has been enriched by more rare species. These include, for example, the *Encephalartos woodii*, a type of cycad that has been called the loneliest plant in the world because there are only male specimens of it left. The Temperate House now plays an even more important role in Kew's wider mission to highlight the importance of plants to all life, particularly amid the global challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and food security.

The Historic Dockyard Chatham, Kent

For almost four centuries, the Royal Dockyard at Chatham on the Medway River made naval ships, including Nelson's flagship HMS Victory. Its closure left a chasm for communities whose lives had revolved around it for generations. For the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, the question was how to regenerate an 80-acre site to make it self-sustaining. Its entrepreneurial strategy of "preservation through re-use" has created a thriving multi-purpose site for future generations and a major attraction in the South East.

The Cromford Mills Creative Cluster and World Heritage Site Gateway Project, Derbyshire

The Cromford Mills in the Derbyshire Dales are home to inventor Sir Richard Arkwright's first mill complex and birthplace of the modern factory system. The restoration of Building 17 at the UNESCO World Heritage Site has made his work the focus of international interest, just as during the early Industrial Revolution. Owing to its former use as a dyeing centre, the building was severely contaminated and at one point its rescue was considered impossible. It is now a self-sustaining complex hosting a visitor centre and 45 offices.

Best Contribution to a Heritage Project by Young People

Playground Protesters! Raising the profile of the Suffrage Movement in Manchester

One hundred years after England celebrated the first vote for women in 1918, the cry of "Votes for Women" rang out in Platt Fields park, Manchester. A march by children dressed in turn-of-the-century outfits and waving flags, was just one of the highlights of a project that invited pupils from 10 local Heritage Schools to remember the suffrage movement and their impact on the city – not to mention experience some of the passion that went with it.

The Young Person International Training Project, Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust

The Young Person International Training Project was created to bridge the gap between the lack of training and opportunities for young people in Great Yarmouth and the millions of pounds for heritage funding that the town attracts because of its historic significance. The Great Yarmouth Preservation Trust teaches young people transferable conservation building skills in England and at workshops at a farmhouse in Bulgaria, where British youth work alongside trainees from other countries to create an international conservation community.

Celebrating 200 Years of the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital, Birmingham

As part of its bicentenary celebrations earlier this year, the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham opened its doors to almost 200 Year 5 and 6 children whose schools are participants in the Heritage Schools project. Pupils met staff, got up

close to hospital instruments and viewed photographs and other artefacts to learn about the hospital's fascinating history. They also left a stunning legacy in the form of eight large-scale prints for an artwork entitled "Birthday Bones", which will be on permanent display.

Best Craftsperson or Apprentice on a Heritage Rescue or Repair Project, sponsored by Ecclesiastical Insurance plc

The Bulmer Brick and Tile Company for the craft of traditional brick making, Suffolk

For over 80 years Bulmer Brick & Tile has been mining rich seams of London clay in Suffolk to hand make bricks for heritage projects all around the UK and further afield. The family firm is run by Peter Minter whose extensive knowledge about the historic fabric of buildings enabled the family to grow from a small firm matching bricks for individual customers to a thriving business working on prestigious buildings like Hampton Court Palace and the law courts at Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

Reuben Marsh for his restoration of the WWI Memorial East Window at St Pol de Léon Church, Cornwall

The restoration of St Pol de Léon church in Paul, Cornwall, was the result of a campaign by a community determined to preserve their unique church, particularly its much-admired WWI Memorial East window. In stone carver Reuben Marsh, they found the craftsman with a deep connection to the South West of England and the skills and sensitivity to do justice to the frame of what has been described as the most significant stained glass window of any age in Cornwall.

Allen Smelt Mill volunteers, Northumberland

The Allen Smelt Mill is a rare remnant of the lead mining industry of the North Pennines. The mill was at the centre of the lead mining industry in the Allen Valley between 1600 and 1897 but was in a perilous condition and all but lost beneath rubble and vegetation when work began to rescue it. Volunteers played a vital part in recovering the mill's remains and providing the impetus for a substantial rescue and restoration of the industrial heritage site.

Best Heritage Research, Interpretation or Recording

Kristy Cooper for Heritage Ability, Devon

The South West is brimming with heritage sites but full enjoyment of them has often not been possible for those who are Deaf, or have learning disabilities, limited mobility or visual impairments. The three-year Heritage Ability project is bringing changes to 20 venues to make them more welcoming for people with diverse disabilities. As part of her work to bridge the gap between the Deaf and hearing

worlds, Kristy Cooper delivers Deaf awareness training for staff and volunteers at heritage sites, as well as British Sign Language videos.

Mark Webb for knowledge-sharing charity Medieval Coventry

For many people, Coventry's history is synonymous with the devastation of the Blitz and post-war reconstruction, which are widely perceived to have erased all traces of medieval heritage. In fact the city has a rich surviving medieval history including a little-known period as England's 'boom town' and royal seat of power. Through his charity Medieval Coventry, Mark Webb is bringing this neglected history to life through a mix of traditional and innovative methods.

Pete Insole for Know Your Place project, Bristol

The Know Your Place project is a digital mapping resource that lets members of the public not only explore their local heritage but contribute to it, building new layers of history in counties across south west England. The brainchild of Bristol City Council's Principal Historic Environment Officer, Pete Insole, Know Your Place invites people to participate in managing heritage by sharing their stories. Community contributions enrich the historical archive and uncover history that would otherwise have stayed hidden.

2018 Overall Winner

The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation supports the Angel Awards scheme across the UK. The awards launched in 2011 in England, followed by Scotland in 2014, Northern Ireland in 2017 and Wales for the first time this year.

Andrew Lloyd Webber and a judge from each home country will choose one person or project as the overall winner from the 20 winning projects across the UK. The 2018 Overall Winner will be announced at the Historic England Angel Awards ceremony on 27 November 2018.

ENDS

Images from: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/JpTHW4AAP3dZvsXz7> Click on each individual image and then "I" for the caption. Click "..." to download.

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

[HistoricEngland.org.uk/AngelAwards](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/AngelAwards)

#AngelAwards18

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 has 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 Heritage Angel Awards Northern Ireland visit:

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

For more information about the Heritage Angel Awards Wales visit:

<https://rcahmw.gov.uk/about-us/heritageangelawardswales/>

About [Historic England](#)

We are [Historic England](#) the public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's spectacular historic environment, from beaches and battlefields to parks and pie shops. We protect, champion and save the places that define who we are and where we've come from as a nation. We care passionately about the stories these places tell, the ideas they represent and the people who live, work and play among them. Working with communities and specialists we share our passion, knowledge and skills to inspire interest, care and conservation, so everyone can keep enjoying and looking after the history that surrounds us all.

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 over £19.5 million 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.

About Ecclesiastical Insurance plc

Ecclesiastical is proud to sponsor the Best Craftsperson or Apprentice Award. We're a passionate supporter of heritage skills, investing in projects that will help ensure

the future of today's heritage. A financial services company with a charitable purpose, we are the leading insurer of Grade I listed buildings and are proud to have been trusted to protect much of the UK's heritage and art since 1887.

About Keymer

Keymer Hand Made Clay Plain Tiles and Wienerberger's Heritage Service are very proud to support Angel Awards and more specifically, the Best Rescue under £5m Award. It's an honour to be associated with this award. It's a wonderful recognition of the people who care and are passionate about the British history and its buildings. They dedicate their time and passion to ensure the history will continue through generations to follow.

About Selectaglaze

Founded in 1966 and Royal Warrant Holder since 2004, Selectaglaze is one of the leading providers of secondary glazing in the UK.

We are supporting these awards again to recognise the important work, the dedication and the skills required to bring these historic buildings back to modern day use. It is something we take great pride in and know the demands these old quirky buildings can present; having worked in Listed and heritage buildings all over the UK. By installing sympathetic secondary glazing treatments, we have helped bring many buildings up to 21st Century standards, making them warmer, quieter and safer for generations to come