



Holmfirth Conservation Group October 2017 – Newsletter

September was a month full of excitement for HCG. There was the successful launch of the interpretation board that is situated on the piece of land next to the Amien Cross in Towngate opposite Brambles. Leaflet guides are available at the library/TIC free of charge. If you haven't explored the route, take the opportunity and let us know if you have enjoyed the trail.

On the 22nd September Helen Bray, Photographer, treated a full house at Brambles to a viewing of little known photographs taken by her grandfather, Harry Bray and her father Trevor. Her generous gift to the community was to celebrate 100 years of Bray's Photographers, an event that she has dreamt of since her youth. A resounding thank you to Helen for sharing her amazing archive of photographs that she accompanied with her own insightful memories with humour and great panache. The event raised £245 towards our forthcoming publication costs.

Good news for Holmfirth – HCG and Holmfirth generally have been formally recognized by Historic England to deserve its funding support in order to ensure the Conservation Area Appraisal (CAA) meets the rigorous criteria required by Kirklees.

Forty-four of you surveyed the built environment and the public realm (all other open spaces, roads, view and vistas, street furniture etc) and thirteen contributed to the writing of the CAA that has been collated and edited into draft form by members of the HCG's Management Committee. This has been a mammoth task for which the community received little support to guide us along the way. It is testament to the commitment and persistence of the group that Historic England wants to support the process as it can see the benefit, not only for Holmfirth but for the wider area and also nationally of our work and experience which HCG will share.

Currently the draft is being assessed by Eddie Booth an experienced Conservation Consultant, who will guide us about any desirable changes. By the end of November any changes to the CAA will be complete and the draft CAA will be submitted to Holme Valley Council and Kirklees for comment. At the same time HCG will hold public open meetings where you will see the draft CAA and also have the chance to comment. Following the scrutiny of each group, a final version of the CAA will be written and published before submission to Kirklees.

Open meetings will be well-publicised with leaflets distributed within the CAA, on Face Book and our Website and an additional newsletter if it is booked within the month of October.

Please keep a watchful eye out for notification and news updates.