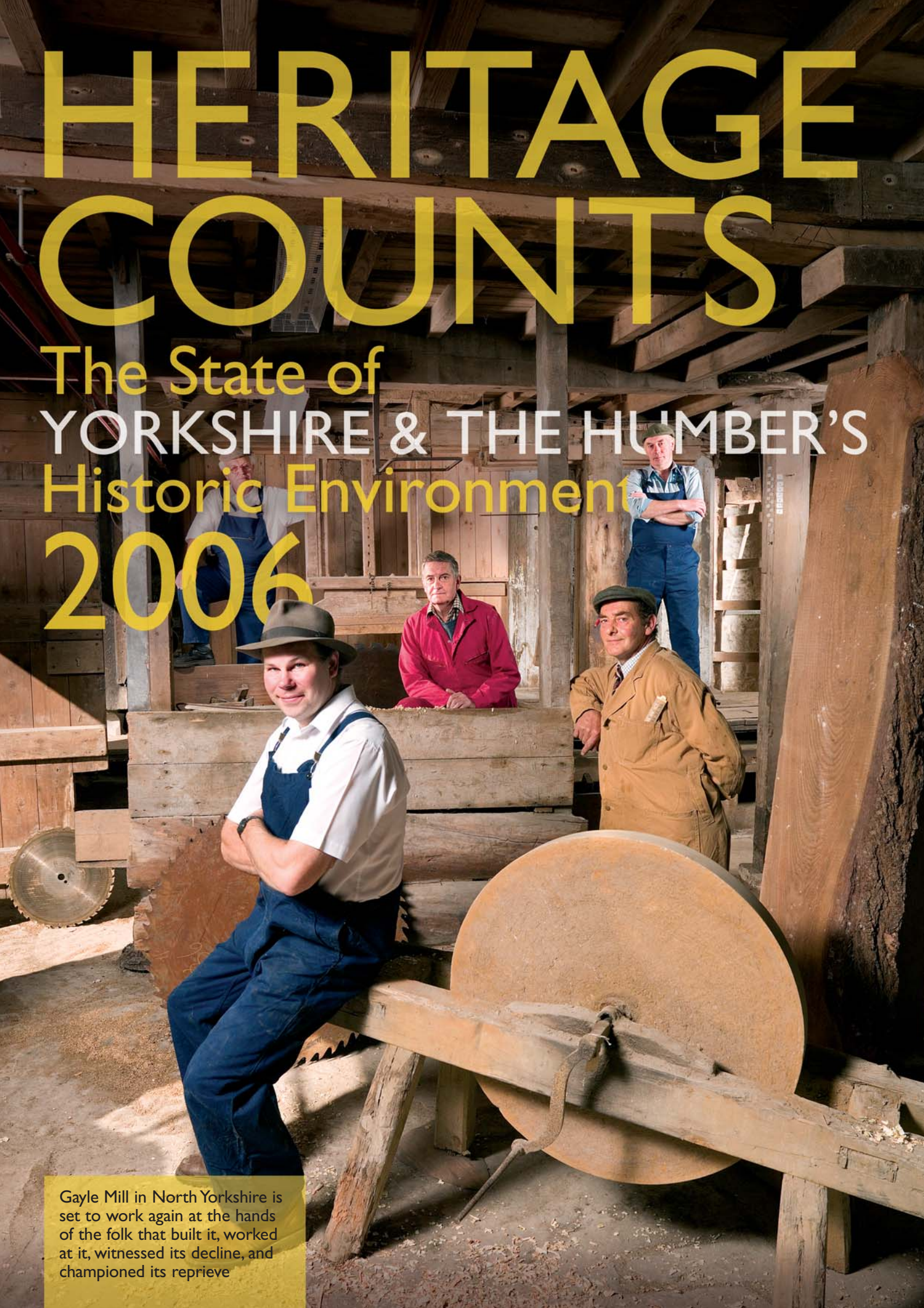


# HERITAGE COUNTS

The State of  
YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER'S  
Historic Environment  
2006

A group of five men are posed in a historic wooden mill. In the foreground, a man in a white shirt, blue overalls, and a brown hat sits on a large wooden beam. Behind him, a man in a red jacket sits on a wooden crate. To the right, a man in a tan jacket and a flat cap stands. In the background, two other men are visible: one in a white shirt and blue overalls, and another in a blue shirt and blue overalls. The mill is filled with large wooden beams, a large circular wooden wheel, and a circular saw blade is visible on the left. The floor is covered in wood shavings.

Gayle Mill in North Yorkshire is set to work again at the hands of the folk that built it, worked at it, witnessed its decline, and championed its reprieve



# HERITAGE COUNTS 2006

## YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

*Heritage Counts 2006* is the fifth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. The report identifies the principal trends and challenges facing the historic environment, with a particular focus in 2006 on the role that *communities* play by valuing and engaging in England's heritage. This report is one of nine separate regional reports and has been prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum. It should be read in conjunction with the national *Heritage Counts 2006* report, available at [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk), where further statistics relating to the Yorkshire and the Humber region can be found.

In the pages that follow, the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum has chosen a selection of case studies which illustrate the inseparable link between communities and heritage, and how heritage can actually strengthen communities. This might be by creating connections between different cultures and age groups, or where funding for the historic environment brings new income to the local economy, or it might be simply about giving people the tools and the confidence to get involved and to speak up about what they value.

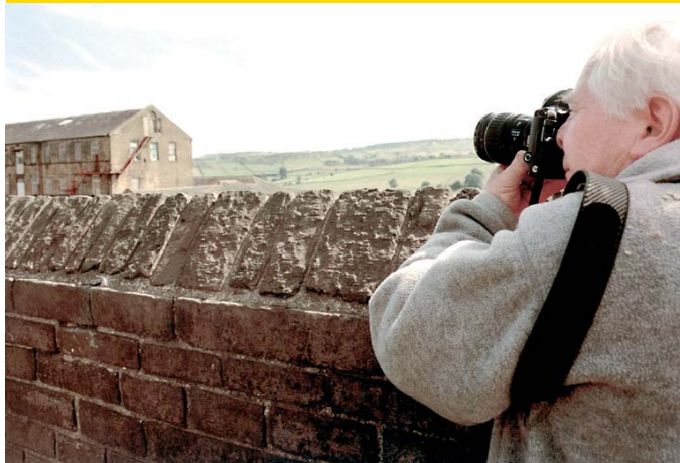
The strong link between heritage and community was acknowledged in the foreword to *A Force for our Future* in 2001, when the Secretary of State described the historic environment as something 'which can bring communities together in a shared sense of belonging'. Five years on, the public value of and participation in heritage is at the forefront of the work of the sector; for example through the launch of the major national campaign *History Matters – Pass it On*. 2006 has also seen the publication of the first statistics from the Department for Culture Media and Sport Taking Part survey, designed to assess participation rates across all cultural activity, including heritage. It is therefore timely to look at the theme of communities and heritage more closely.

This report suggests that community activity in heritage projects is widespread and well supported in the region. However, there are still issues about providing people with the capacity and confidence to experience and engage with the historic environment. It is heartening that two thirds of people participate in some way in the region's historic environment; however, this rate is lower than the national average. The partners in the sector share an ambition to find ways to encourage more communities and individuals to visit and enjoy the historic environment.

This report is aimed at a wide range of groups, agencies, organisations and individuals with an interest in communities and heritage. We hope it provides an introduction to some of the policy issues and inspirational projects in Yorkshire and the Humber region on that theme.

MADDY JAGO CHAIR, YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM

**IMAGES OF ENGLAND** is a Heritage Lottery funded project which is creating a digital image library of England's 370,000 listed buildings. One photograph is being taken of each listed building by volunteer photographers, such as John Turner, shown here photographing a listed mill in West Yorkshire. John has been an *Images of England* volunteer since 2000. He has taken more than 5,000 images for the project across the Yorkshire and the Humber region.



**COVER STORY** Gayle Mill was built in the heart of a community because that community, with its water supply, provided raw materials for hard work. From 1784 that meant cotton, textiles, and, from 1869 when a turbine replaced the waterwheel, wood, made into everything from rakes to the distinctive Gayle haycart. Work and community are ingrained in its life and history and future. In rescuing this nationally important Building at Risk, North of England Civic Trust worked with locals in the Gayle Mill Trust to ensure 'their' mill, and the power in 'their' beck, would continue to work for them, showing that renewable resources are, in these parts, as old as the hills.

Graham Bell, Director, North of England Civic Trust

# DEFINING COMMUNITIES

An edition of *Heritage Counts* dedicated to the theme of *Communities* and *Heritage* cries out for an agreed definition of what we mean by communities. The fact that the word is plural gives a clue to its meaning. While some may not feel part of any community, many people might identify themselves as belonging to more than one community: the neighbourhood or area in which they live; the community which best expresses their origins in terms of ethnicity, faith or belief or perhaps social class; the community to which they belong in terms of their work or key interests. Community can thus be geographical, cultural and interest-based. An example in Yorkshire and the Humber region is the strong sense of cultural identity associated with its industrial heritage such as mining, metalworking, agriculture and textiles. Our identity is always multiple, with different aspects being evoked in different contexts.

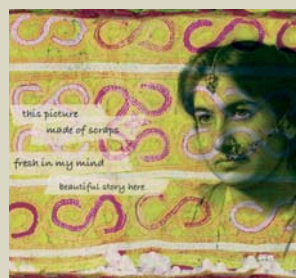
Yorkshire and the Humber is home to a diverse population of around five million people, the majority of which live in the major cities in the South and West Yorkshire sub-regions. There are great variations in population density: Bradford is one of the most densely populated districts in England, whilst Ryedale in North Yorkshire is one of the most sparsely populated. Parts of the region are experiencing major and rapid economic growth, particularly the financial, legal and media sectors around Leeds, whilst some, particularly South Yorkshire and the northern uplands, remain eligible for EU structural funding to support economic recovery, beginning to take place in areas like Sheffield. Whilst the region's population is predominantly white, there is also one of the highest concentrations of South Asian ethnic groups in the country.

The heritage sector has long-established and deep links with many communities, but recognises it can expand this further for mutual benefit. This report begins with a brief look into the current debate on public value and the historic environment, and goes on to discuss community participation, engagement, regeneration and prosperity and the historic environment.

The case studies illustrate successes as well as demonstrating some of the issues that need to be overcome to allow communities to enjoy and participate in the historic environment of Yorkshire and the Humber region.

## YORK'S COMMUNITIES AND HERITAGE

York's most famous heritage assets are its Roman and Viking remains, its medieval buildings and street patterns and its railway history. However, other lesser known aspects of the city's cultural heritage are equally rich and are highly valued by the local community.



York has always attracted people from different cultures to live and work in the city. The **Material Cultures – Messages from York** project brought together people who came to York and made it their home to share their

experiences and memories of life before and after arriving in the city. They shared significant objects from their past and present, contributing memories, words and possessions which artists from York College, working with the residents, helped develop into artwork offering poignant insights on life in York for those new to the city (as shown above).



The opening of the **Royal Observer Corps (ROC) Group 20 Headquarters** (left) cold war bunker in Acomb in 2006 as a visitor attraction presented an opportunity to tell a modern story in York's history.

Its interpretation and presentation were, and continue to be, strongly led by the community who had lived and worked around the Bunker. An oral history project with local residents who had been volunteers in the ROC until the decommissioning of York Bunker in the early 1990s helped English Heritage to understand and demonstrate to the public the way in which the installation was used. Many of the volunteers remain involved as guides at the Bunker and continue to help develop the interpretative material documenting both its defensive and social importance.



York's **outlying settlements** have rich histories which are also sometimes overlooked in favour of the city itself. Many groups around York are actively engaged in researching, learning from and promoting their local

history, and benefit from the support of a Community Archaeologist funded by York Archaeological Trust. For example, archaeology and history groups in the village of Poppleton have continued work on understanding the village's archaeology after it featured in a Time Team programme in 2005 and will develop training opportunities with English Heritage Archaeological Survey and Investigation Team for other local archaeology, history and heritage groups in the city (above).

# WHAT COMMUNITIES VALUE

The historic environment sector has in recent years been engaged in a keen debate about how to identify what people value. It is clear that many people care deeply about the environment in which they live and that there is a significant amount of personal interest and commitment to the local historic environment. But capturing this, quantifying it, and using it to help make a case for increased public funding, and how that funding should be prioritised, is the present challenge for the heritage sector. The 'Capturing the Public Value of Heritage' conference held in January 2006 was an important part of the response to that challenge, and the national joint agency campaign *History Matters – Pass it on* is centred on capturing strong public expressions of support for history and the historic environment.

According to the Axiom National Lifestyle Survey (2004 and 2005), the population of Yorkshire and the Humber are content with their neighbourhoods, with an average 91% over the last two years reporting that they like where they live. They are also engaged in activities to benefit their neighbourhood or community; civic participation, for example charity and voluntary work, has increased across the region, as has general interest in improving the local environment. These trends are consistent with figures for the rest of the UK.

Different communities are likely to value different elements of the historic environment. A good example is the Castleford Heritage Group: their plans for the regeneration of the town are heritage-led, but heritage as defined by local people. Castleford has no designated historic assets but is nonetheless culturally and historically rich. Some of the Castleford methods for capturing local values are set out in the transactions of a community heritage conference held at Castleford in 2005; they include creating heritage maps, and using creative arts like sculpture and poetry to encourage ideas about local significance. The Castleford Heritage Group is now recognised nationally as a leading light in community-led heritage regeneration, and is inspiring communities elsewhere.

**SALTAIRE WORLD HERITAGE SITE (WHS)** is an internationally important example of a mid-nineteenth century model industrial village in Bradford, West Yorkshire that has survived almost completely intact.

One of the most important aspects of the place is that it is home to a living and working community which values its special character, but agrees that it has scope to develop, particularly in terms of tourism.

In 2005, a survey to help develop a first-of-its-kind environmental capacity study found that 72% of Saltaire residents were satisfied with the WHS as a place to live and a third cited the WHS status as a factor in their decision to move to Saltaire; almost half (46%) strongly agreed that more visitors should be encouraged.

The environmental capacity study has been developed to help ensure that the WHS is conserved to high standards and widely recognised for its heritage value whilst continuing to be a vibrant and interesting place to live, work and visit.

Expressions of public value of the WHS's special character are captured in events such as the *Inspired by World Heritage Art Exhibition*, part of the 2005 Saltaire Village Festival, which encouraged artists of all ages to develop art work 'inspired by World Heritage.' It was so successful that it was repeated in 2006. The piece below was produced by Saltaire Grammar School for the 2005 event.



**The relevance of a place is more than its listed or scheduled structures, features, environments or species: it is about the meanings local people attach to it.**

*Whose Heritage Is It Anyway? Community Engagement in Heritage Management Conference Transactions, Castleford, March 2005*

## History matters to people in the Yorkshire and the Humber region because...

*'...it helps tell us who we are and how we came to be...more importantly it gives a skeleton to the body we call community...'*

David Hepworth, West Yorkshire

(from the *History Matters – Pass it on* website)

*'...it is how we best explore what we share and what we have in common rather than what divides us.'*

Martin Bashforth, North Yorkshire

*'...it is not only a record of the past, but an account to learn from and pass on to future generations...'*

Emily Trafford, North Lincolnshire



# COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

One of the key challenges facing the sector is encouraging more people from under-represented communities to visit historic monuments, landscapes and buildings. The Government has set a Public Service Agreement (PSA) target to increase by three percentage points by 2008, the proportion of people from black and minority ethnic communities, from lower socio-economic backgrounds and with a limiting disability, attending designated historic environment sites.

To determine whether the sector has met this challenge, the DCMS with the support of English Heritage and other agencies has set up the national Taking Part survey to measure participation. *Heritage Counts 2006* is the first opportunity for the sector to explore what this survey is telling us about participation by under-represented groups and the levers and barriers to attendance. The final baseline for participation, against which progress will be judged, will be known in late 2006. The statistics for Yorkshire and the Humber region will be available on [www.heritagecounts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk).

Provisional results from the survey show that in Yorkshire and the Humber about 65 per cent of those surveyed visited designated historic environment sites, which whilst encouraging, is lower than the national average of around 69 per cent. The figures show that leaving aside the rates for London (significantly lower) and the South East (significantly higher) the rest of the country falls into two 'families'. Yorkshire and the Humber's participation rate is similar to that for the North East, North West and West Midlands, and suggests that whilst the challenge to meet the PSA target is greater in the region, it applies to its neighbours too. When the first full year of Taking Part data is available, it should be possible to conduct regional analysis to establish why the participation rate is lower and what the sector might be able to do in response.

However, whilst the initial figures suggest that there is more to do, regional activities in the heritage sector reflect a healthy combination of well-supported national initiatives such as Heritage Open Days, and a wealth of local events to inspire enthusiasm for the historic and cultural environment for everyone, whether consciously targeted to reach out to wider audiences or not. Agencies outside the heritage sector are also becoming aware that encouraging participation in the historic environment can help deliver the Government's continued focus on community wellbeing, particularly in the most deprived areas. The case study about Bradford is one such example.

## COMMUNITY HERITAGE PROJECTS IN HULL

Two Heritage Lottery Fund grant programmes are helping various communities in Hull to get involved in their local heritage, whilst developing skills and building links in their area.

A Young Roots grant is helping young people in North Hull explore their local area's social history and gain new, transferable skills with the help of Route One Young People's Resource Centre.

The project will help younger members of the community to explore their heritage through research, using archive material at Hull Central Library, and to collect oral histories from older people in the area, helping to promote co-operation and understanding between different age groups. They will also acquire film-making and photography skills as they will document their findings in a DVD and display. The young people themselves conceived the project, and their own decision-making committee will lead the work and oversee participation. Through this project, they will gain their skills and service award for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, a Citizenship Portfolio and in-house Hull Youth Service awards.

A Your Heritage grant funded a project completed in December 2005 called **Forgotten City**. Children, young people and adults with a range of disabilities from eleven organisations uncovered Hull's wartime memories. The grant funded research, workshops and presentations that included mapping the history of cinemas lost due to bombing in WWII, reviewing wartime dance and music, making costumes, collecting artefacts and examining the effects of war on local architecture. An exhibition of film, drama, music and dance was held in December 2005 (below).





The Walk of Friendship in Leeds

## PARTICIPATING IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT: PLACES OF WORSHIP

Research highlights how important places of worship are to people and communities. A national MORI poll in November 2005 showed that:

- 72% agreed that 'a place of worship is an important part of the local community'
- 58% agreed that 'places of worship make our neighbourhood a better place to live'
- 72% agreed that 'places of worship provide valuable social and community facilities'
- 63% agreed that 'places of worship should be more actively involved in our local community'
- 69% agreed that 'places of worship should be more accessible to the local community'

Local communities that care for these buildings are harnessing this enthusiasm and exploring new ways of attracting visitors, as part of both national and regional initiatives.

For example, Heritage Open Days (HODs) is a national initiative to encourage more people to visit local places and buildings. It is jointly run by English Heritage and the Civic Trust, and takes place in September. At a local level, a visit to the parish church is often the most easily accessible cultural experience for communities and individuals, and Yorkshire's places of worship have swelled the number of properties involved in the region's Heritage Open Days in recent years. Working in partnership with English Heritage, Bradford Faith Forum created a successful Heritage Open Day event in 2004, opening places of worship from many local faiths to the local community to encourage people to discover more about their culturally diverse neighbours. Their event is now in its third year and has played a significant part in Bradford Trident – a New Deal for Communities (NDC) partnership – winning the national Equality and Diversity Award from the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit. The NDC is a government initiative tackling issues around housing and the environment, jobs, education, crime and health, with a strongly community-centred focus. The buildings and places that the community value for its cultural, historical or other associations can clearly play a central part in such initiatives.

At a regional level, 'Treasures Revealed' in Leeds in May 2006 was a week of activities and events coordinated by the Churches Regional Commission to celebrate the contribution that places of worship make to life in the city. 30 places of worship took part including a mosque, a Greek Orthodox Church, a Hindu temple, United Reformed Churches, Anglican churches and Roman Catholic churches, a Methodist church and a redundant church in the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. Activities ranged from guided tours, concerts, recitals, performances, open days, a walk of friendship, a treasure trail and a chance to try gospel singing. The event attracted local community members as well as visitors from as far afield as London. Treasures Revealed 2007 is already being planned.



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There are many different ways that communities can engage with the historic environment and make a difference. Activities include volunteering, active membership of local and special interest groups and societies, and through engagement with public agencies on strategic issues that affect the historic environment, particularly land-use planning.

A key concern for the sector is how to build the capacity and confidence of local communities to engage effectively with public agencies on heritage-related issues. Equally there are issues about the capacity of those agencies to respond and engage with communities. Many local authorities have responded enthusiastically to a request by English Heritage to identify an historic environment champion for their authority. There are currently fourteen authorities in the region with historic environment champions. They are listed in the statistics section of this report on [www.heritagecounts.org.uk/regions](http://www.heritagecounts.org.uk/regions).

Local groups and organisations can benefit from a dedicated facilitator (see case study), to help with a wide range of heritage related projects from events to strategic planning. The images below depict community training with English Heritage at Cawood Castle Garth (left) and an open air performance at Nostell Priory depicting the Featherstone Massacre following the miners strike of 1893 (right).



**COMMUNITY HERITAGE FACILITATORS** are increasingly recognised as a powerful boost to the capacity of communities to engage in the raft of issues surrounding cultural heritage and its management. Facilitators undertake tasks and projects identified by the community and represent their interests, often attending meetings with local agencies, other community groups and funding agencies, and support and if required run events. Lorna Hey, the Community Facilitator for the Castleford Heritage Group in West Yorkshire, described the function clearly: 'I am the employee of the group and their tool... I don't tell the group what to do, I develop their ideas and help them deliver.' The issue is one of funding, most posts are paid for by external agencies, and groups therefore need to be in a position to make a successful application for such support, and to think long term and develop an 'exit strategy' for when the funding ceases. Agencies outside the traditional heritage sector may be able to assist; the Home Office Change Up programme and the Big Lottery Fund both offer funding to support the work of voluntary sector groups.

Emma Winterton, the facilitator at Cawood, near Selby, North Yorkshire, has helped the Parish Council set up a sub-group to produce a conservation plan for Cawood Garth, whilst the Heritage Group has produced a management plan, held events and activities for all ages, and begun to make environmental improvements to the site for the benefit of the community. The educational potential of the site has been a key focus, with projects involving York University and English Heritage for local residents and primary school children to help investigate and map the Garth.

Sarah McGlinchey is the local community access officer funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund at Nostell Priory. Her primary role is to help the local community to use the 350 acres of parkland recently acquired by the National Trust. 'We use the parkland to encourage recreation, health and opportunities for volunteering and learning, working closely with the Youth Offending team and local community colleges' she explains. 'Events such as open air theatre are a fantastic opportunity for local children to celebrate their heritage and discover what life would have been like for their ancestors'.



## LOCAL MANAGEMENT OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Friends of Monk Bretton Priory are successfully managing a historic site in Barnsley, South Yorkshire on behalf of English Heritage, providing a popular events and education programme and enjoying strong local support for their work. The Friends were founded in July 2002 to promote the cultural, historical and religious importance of Monk Bretton Priory within the local and wider community. They are regenerating the site through environmental enhancement and encouraging social cohesion through successful and varied events and education programmes, such as the 250 classic cars from a regional car club on show in June 2006 (below), which brought together local people, new visitors, local businesses and societies and local press and media.



### Engagement with the public sector and local government

Every local authority in England is in the process of producing a new type of local plan, a Local Development Framework (LDF), as part of the government's reform process. The LDF will include a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), setting out how the community will be involved in the preparation and revision of Local Development Documents. LDFs sit within the framework of the Regional Spatial Strategy, prepared by the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly, and together they make up the statutory development plan for any area of the region against which any planning application or development proposal will need to be assessed.

To date, five of the region's authorities have prepared SCIs. Feedback on the development of the LDFs in the region suggests that the time and knowledge requirement of communities and individuals is significant, and this will need to be addressed to enable meaningful and inclusive input into this important process.

There is also scope for communities to engage in and shape other high level strategic initiatives in the region, many of which will have, or are having a significant impact on historic places and buildings.

Yorkshire Forward's Renaissance Towns and Cities Programme aims to ensure that towns and cities are well-designed, connected and accessible for people to use and enjoy and that they offer an attractive blend of housing, services, facilities and social activities. The programme develops its strategic vision and delivery processes with local communities through 'town teams' assembled to

represent amenity, business and political interests.

Scarborough's Renaissance Programme reached delivery stage in 2005, with the local Civic Society providing a strong voice on the town team, which agrees, reviews and endorses actions to deliver £25m of projects. This initiative has already attracted over £200m of private sector investment. Designs for Scarborough's major project, the new public realm on the harbour side, are complete with work scheduled to begin in October 2006.

The new Sheffield Civic Trust (SCT) was launched at the Millennium Galleries on 12 June. It came about in direct response to the city's major regeneration developments. Katie Stewart, Development Officer for the Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies, said that the SCT would 'provide the community with an organised, independent, informed and effective voice' in relation to change proposed for Sheffield's built environment, and 'foster a constructive dialogue between the community, the local authority and developers.'

These examples illustrate the key role that the Civic Trusts and Societies in the region can play in expressing community views on change in the historic environment and public realm. However, across other heritage sector interest and volunteer groups, capacity remains a concern. Heritage Link's *Making Consultation Matter* report (available on the Heritage Counts website) suggests practical solutions to help heritage groups engage more effectively and persuasively in planning matters, from Regional Spatial Strategies to Conservation Area appraisals.



# COMMUNITY REGENERATION

It has long been argued that the historic environment can play a significant role in helping to regenerate communities. A great deal of funding related to the historic environment has had this very goal in mind.

The term regeneration is being used here to refer to the programmes and funding designed to breathe new life into physical assets: historic towns, cities and landscapes (for example through European Union Objective 1, Objective 2 and Yorkshire Forward programmes), neighbourhoods (such as New Deal for Communities and the Heritage Lottery Fund's Townscape Heritage Initiative), or individual historic environment assets or projects (for example through awards from English Heritage or the Heritage Lottery Fund including the now closed Local Heritage Initiative scheme). It can also mean the capital investment by public sector and other agencies in historic buildings and places, for example, the purchase of Nostell parkland by the National Trust with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. In recent years, major funding has also been channelled into non-physical heritage projects, such as reminiscence and oral history projects and arts and cultural events, all of which enhance community regeneration through heritage.

## 'DISCOVER BEIGHTON'

In 1985 Brookhouse Colliery in Beighton, South Yorkshire, closed. Fifteen years on there were divisions in the community, anger at the run-down state of the village and cynicism about the idea of rejuvenation. Whilst European Union Structural funds have made a visible difference through public art and environmental action, a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for 'Discover Beighton' has helped bring the community together through exploring its heritage.

Developed and created by local people, Beighton's community archive is a rich mix of oral history recordings, photographs, memories and stories, available for everyone to enjoy. Local people were trained as oral history interviewers, web site editors and managers and heritage trail designers. 'Discover Beighton' was ambitious in its scope, having to confront difficult issues, including the miners' strike which the community steering group ultimately felt was too contentious to be a theme for the oral history archive. It sought to bring people together: old and young; long-term residents and newcomers. A local resident recently commented 'the project has brought the village back to life.' Right: audio editing training for website volunteers at BBC Sheffield.



The People's Park in Halifax (left) received funding from English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Calderdale College for a comprehensive repair and regeneration programme which was completed in 1998. The benefits to the

community have been numerous and include a popular annual multi-cultural festival, weekly live music including traditional brass bands, and straightforward access to recreational space: young people now have somewhere for cricket practice. 'Before the restoration, the park was rarely visited, and there were no events for people to enjoy. Now we have thousands of visitors each year, and the local community have a green haven on its doorstep again.' (*Anne Glushchenko, Chair of the People's Park Festival Committee*).



Introduced in April 2002 to provide funds to mitigate the impact of aggregates extraction on the historic environment, the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) enabled English Heritage to distribute nearly £4 million to over 100

projects across the country in 2005-06. In Yorkshire and the Humber in 2006, the ALSF funded 'The Romans on the Don', specifically aimed at bringing the knowledge gained from local aggregate extraction to the communities affected in innovative ways. The image (above) shows the launch of 'The Romans Are Coming!', a comic for Key Stage 2 children, at Doncaster Library in June 2006.



# COMMUNITY PROSPERITY

It is widely understood that the future of any community is determined to a large degree by the prosperity of the local economy. Without jobs and incomes a community will not be able to sustain itself. The historic environment sector has been trying to articulate the argument that putting more resources into heritage can play a role in enhancing the prosperity of communities, either directly because of the impact on the tourism economy or indirectly because it enhances the 'image' and quality of life of a place which in turn may help attract and retain economic activity.

Yorkshire and the Humber region has a unique regional investment process based on Sub-Regional Investment Plans (SRIPs). They are being produced by Yorkshire Forward (the Regional Development Agency) to ensure the most effective use of public funds by fostering close coordination of funding streams including the RDA's own budget, European Union structural funds and other key public sector funds. Each SRIP is supported by a Strategic Economic Assessment, and it is a challenge to ensure that both the high level and local issues of the region's historic environment are adequately reflected in them. A review of one of the key documents which helps inform this process at a regional strategic level, the Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum's Investment Strategy, was begun in 2006.

These case studies show that the tourism economy is critical for many of the communities in the region's most sensitive historic areas, as is business diversification and support.



## BUSINESSES IN HISTORIC PLACES

English Heritage, Leeds City Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund have been engaged in partnership area grants programmes for over

ten years. The latest scheme funded by English Heritage and the City Council focussed on the multicultural residential Chapeltown area, north of the city centre. 'The £400,000 facelift of the Newton Grove shops not only returned the buildings to their 1880s splendour, but secured local shops for the community.' (Richard Taylor, Conservation Team Leader, Leeds City Council).

## TOURISM AND LOCAL PROSPERITY

The South Humber Bank Heritage Tourism Programme aims to bring the attractive historic and natural environments of the South Humber to a wider audience. The project will address tourism issues on the South Bank of the Humber, creating high quality integrated attractions on heritage and cultural themes.

The project is being led by the South Humber Bank Partnership, comprising the Environment Agency, English Nature, English Heritage, North Lincolnshire Council, the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and the Queen Street School Preservation Trust, to deliver projects which support sustainable tourism in the area. Yorkshire Forward has allocated £2.41 million, partnered by English Heritage, the Environment Agency, North Lincolnshire Council, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The focus will be developing key historic attractions like Thornton Abbey (below) and developing coordinated marketing activities.

The project aims to benefit the local community and economy by creating:

- 10 direct jobs
- 87 indirect jobs (local businesses)
- 2760 school visits (formal education)
- 150 out-of-school project visits
- 275 training days
- 192 educational opportunities for adults and community groups
- assistance for 15 local groups (approximately 400 individuals) to develop local heritage projects.





## KEY REGIONAL STATISTICS FOR 2006

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND DISTRICT LEVEL DATA, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.HERITAGECOUNTS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.HERITAGECOUNTS.ORG.UK)

- There were 31,895 listed buildings in the region in April 2006, 6.8 per cent of which are grade I or grade II\*. Of these highly graded buildings, 106 (4.9 per cent) are 'at risk', a net addition of 7 buildings since 2005.
- 11 (52 per cent) of the region's local authorities have, or are preparing, a register recording how many grade II buildings are at risk.
- The region had 2,673 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in August 2006. A survey in 2004/05 found that 55 per cent of monuments in the region were at either high or medium risk.
- One fifth of the region is within a National Park. There are two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty wholly within the regional boundary (the Howardian Hills and Nidderdale), and two partly within (Forest of Bowland and Lincolnshire Wolds).
- There are 784 Conservation Areas in the region, 320 of which have character appraisals.
- There were 56,155 planning applications in the region in 2005/06, a reduction of around 3,500 on 2004/05. There were 2,530 applications for listed building consent and 334 applications for Conservation Area Consent, both roughly in line with 2004/05.
- £26.2m of grant was offered to historic environment projects in 2005/06 by the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and local authorities. £5.1m was awarded to community organisations by the Heritage Lottery Fund. A share of the National Trust's £2.5m projects budget for Yorkshire and the North East was also spent in the region, and since 2000, just under £45m has supported historic environment projects through EU Objective 1 and 2 programmes.
- There were 54,468 education visits to English Heritage properties in 2005/06, slightly down on 2004/05, but still the third best year since 1998. There were also approximately 30,000 education visits to National Trust properties.
- Approximately 430,000 visits were made to heritage attractions in 2005/06, representing 8 per cent of all visits in the region. This figure is 2 per cent up on 2004/05, alongside a strong (8 per cent) increase in visitor numbers across all attractions.
- There were 14 Historic Environment Champions in the region in July 2006, representing 64 per cent of all local authorities, County Councils and National Park authorities.
- 65 per cent of people responding to the DCMS Taking Part survey in the region reported having visited a designated historic asset in 2005/06.

### What people living in Yorkshire and the Humber region feel should be passed on to future generations...

**'...respect for heritage, environment and people'**

*Melanie Devine, North Yorkshire*

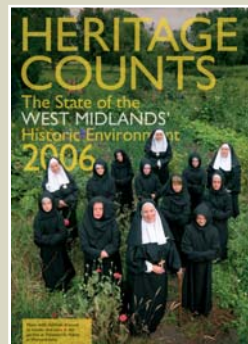
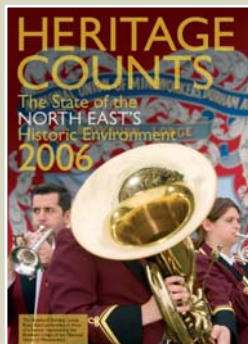
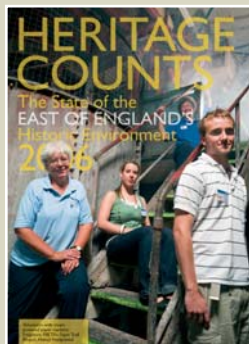
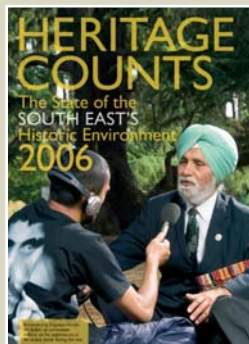
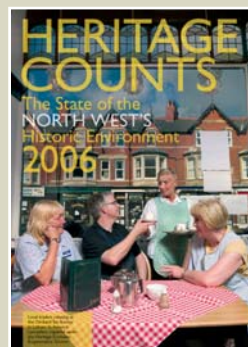
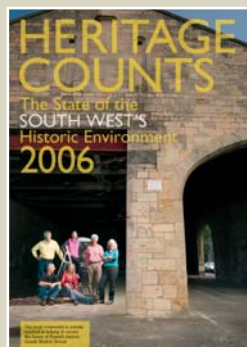
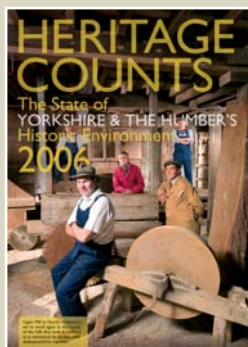
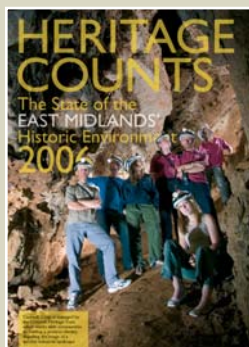
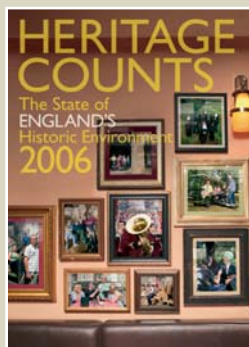
**'...The joy of discovery'**

*David Morling, Leeds*

**'...An understanding that...by looking back, we can see how to develop.'**

*Emily Trafford, North Lincolnshire*

Quotations from the *History Matters – Pass it on* website



## The Yorkshire and Humber Historic Environment Forum consists of the following agencies and organisations:

Yorkshire Forward  
The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly  
IHBC  
ALGAO  
Yorkshire Culture  
Yorkshire Cultural Observatory  
Heritage Link  
The Yorkshire and Humber Association of Civic Societies  
Historic Houses Association  
British Waterways  
Heritage Lottery Fund

National Trust  
Yorkshire Gardens Trust  
Yorkshire Tourist Board  
Yorkshire and Humber Museums, Libraries and Archives Council  
Churches Regional Commission  
Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber  
CBA Yorkshire  
Country Land and Business Association  
York Consortium for Conservation and Craftsmanship  
CABE

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