## THE BRICK



#### **WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER**



#### WE'VE PUBLISHED OUR ESG POLICY

We are delighted to introduce our ESG policy, demonstrating LHBT's commitment to ensuring our activities put Environmental, Social and Governance considerations at the forefront of our work.

The Trust's guiding principles are to provide deep and lasting positive social impact and sustainability is at the core of the heritage work we do. Now, more than ever, we recognise the critical part which re-use and re-purposing of historic buildings has to play in a sustainable future.

Our ESG policy clearly sets out the ways in which the LHBT will develop positive environmental and social strategies on each project and, how we as an organisation, operate with transparency and integrity.

We recognise that these are evolving issues and we are committed to continual learning and measurement of our progress to ensure our policy is fit for purpose and aligned with best practice and relevant regulation.

**READ THE POLICY** 

#### HELEN SHELLABEAR, VOLUNTEER

Helen is a Chartered Surveyor who, in her main role, specialises in the asset management of office and industrial assets in the South East of England. Helen has a longstanding interest in heritage having studied History and the Conservation of Historic Buildings at university.

She volunteers for LHBT providing guidance and advice to the board and Buildings Committee; most recently drafting the ESG policy and inputting into the integration with the impact measurement framework.

Helen is a strong advocate for sustainability and recently completed Imperial Business School's course on Sustainability in Business and the Better Building Partnerships ESG for Real Estate Professionals.





#### NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

December 2022 is an exciting time for LHBT as we celebrate our 30 year anniversary. It's provided a fantastic opportunity to reflect on our past projects and to look forward to the future. None of the work the Trust has achieved would have been possible without the dedication of trustees, staff and volunteers who give their time and expertise so generously to ensure LHBT is able to save London's historic buildings and give them a new lease of life as vital community assets. As we celebrate this milestone, and come to the end of another busy year, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank them for their work.

Of course, LHBT also relies on generous donations from individuals and organisations. I'd like to offer a huge thank you to all the people who have donated to LHBT and supported our work this year. Thanks to you we can carry out more urgent work to save buildings at risk across London.

All the best for a wonderful 2023, Laura













"As soon as I come through the side gate there is a feeling of peace, and when I walk through the door of my studio I feel a calmness, and the hubbub of the rest of my life becomes irrelevant."

Sylvia, Artist



## CONNIE BOOTH, VOLUNTEER

Connie Booth is an art historian who lives in London and spends her time doing what she enjoys most researching and writing about historical subjects. She started volunteering as a writer for the LHBT earlier this year and contributes news articles, as well as newsletter and social media. content.

READ CONNIE'S NEWS ARTICLE

### 'Meanwhile Use' is bringing new life to our Charity School project

The Girls Charity School, located in the Church Street conservation area in Edmonton in North London, has acquired its first occupants in nearly 10 years. These are six artists from the Florence Trust, an artist mentoring and residency program, and they have turned the premises into a lively hive of creativity.

The Florence Trust's occupancy is based on a concept called Meanwhile Use, which is the temporary use of vacant commercial space while it awaits longer-term redevelopment, and with the view to support local growth and deliver social value. Their occupancy will last for two years, from June 2022 until June of 2024, at which time the LHBT will begin its restoration project.

Meanwhile Use is an ideal socio-economic solution for the involved parties and the wider Church Street community. The empty building will be in active use and the new occupants and their visitors generate increased footfall for the local shops and cafes. Furthermore, remedial and safety work has been carried out on the building, which has helped arrest deterioration until restoration begins.

For the Florence Trust, the ooccupancy fees are a fraction of what commercial premises cost, thus providing an affordable solution after they had to leave their former premises of nearly 30 years. Moreover, the resident artists are delighted with their new studios – they draw inspiration and motivation from the building's historical charm and character.

With the Florence Trust becoming a meanwhile user of the Charity School, not only is LHBT achieving its overall goal of working with the London Boroughs and Historic England to restore buildings in order to remove them from the Heritage-at-Risk Register, but it is also fulfilling its aim of delivering meaningful social impacts by ensuring its projects embrace groups and people that might not otherwise engage or associate with heritage assets.

After falling into disrepair and sitting empty for nearly 10 years, we're pleased that through Meanwhile Use, the Charity School's is once again flourishing.











#### THE PETTICOAT LANE HERITAGE TRAIL IS LAUNCHED

We're delighted to announce that our latest project has been completed, with the Petticoat Lane Heritage Trail now live! Over the past year, we've been working with Tower Hamlets Council and local organisations and community members to develop a pilot heritage trail project centred on the Petticoat Lane High Street Heritage Action Zone. Working with socially-focussed design studio, make:good, and employing local people to research stories of Petticoat Lane that fascinated them, we now have a 10-stop heritage trail that can be accessed both on the streets of Petticoat Lane and digitally: https://www.petticoatlaneheritagetrail.org/.

This trail is temporary; it's in place whilst we fundraise for Phase 2 which will see more heritage activities, more paid opportunities and a permanent 20-stop heritage trail installed in the public realm. Please check out the temporary trail and online hub and leave your thoughts so we can make sure Phase 2 is even better.

VISIT THE PETTICOAT LANE HERITAGE TRAIL WEBSITE

Delivered in partnership with



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## Volunteer visit to Pitzhanger Manor

In November LHBT volunteers were invited to Pitzhanger Manor for a visit, to thank them for their ongoing work supporting the trust and allowing them to meet each other and some staff and trustees.

Fae Clark has just joined the team of volunteers as a social media researcher: "It's great to volunteer for LHBT as it's an opportunity to learn about my local heritage and also meet other people interested in London's historic buildings.

It was lovely to have a tour of Pitzhanger from one of their knowledgable volunteers. I learnt a lot about Soane's architecture and I was especially interested in learning





about the paint restoration. It was also great to have the chance to meet other volunteers and discuss our interests. From this event, I have made connections with people working for different organisations in the heritage sector and we began talking about ways to maintain a volunteer community and to stay in touch when we're all doing things separately.

I am looking forward to getting involved more and I'll definitely be visiting Pitzhanger again!"

THANK YOU AGAIN TO ALL OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS.

<u>Pitzhanger Manor</u> is Sir John Soane's country house in Ealing, which has reopened following a £12m restoration project.

# HOW TO: we've delivered 10 free workshops and we're planning more

We've now come to the end of our first HOW TO training season, thank you to all who supported us as speakers and those who joined as attendees. From May to November 2022 we delivered training sessions ranging from research, to meanwhile use, to sustainability interventions. This was only ever meant to be a handful of sessions but the interest was such that we ended up with 10 sessions, with nearly 200 participants.

We are now going through the final feedback forms but the overall consensus is that HOW TO has been a great success. We have also thoroughly enjoyed delivering HOW TO, so much so that we are keen to launch a second season in the near year! Watch this space.

YOU CAN WATCH RECORDINGS OF ALL THE WORKSHOPS FOR FREE ON OUR WEBSITE

Training programmes are generously supported by Historic England through Capacity Building Grant funding







