



## Our 30th Anniversary

This year, the Trust celebrates its 30th anniversary, a great milestone that gives us the chance to look back at past projects and look forward to the future.

We're incredibly proud to have helped save some of London's most interesting, unique buildings, like St George Garrison Church in Woolwich, Poplar Public Library, 549 Lordship Lane in Southwark, and St. Pancras Waterpoint. You can read more about our past projects [here](#).

As we look to the future, we are renewing our commitment to delivering social impact for communities in Greater London.

Historic buildings are an essential part of the identity of London's high streets and contribute to making London's communities vibrant and better places to live, work and visit. When a building is lost, we lose a cherished community asset, along with the fascinating stories of people and events that are connected to the site. Our work ensures heritage is in a better condition, more widely recognised, and better understood and valued.

We are committed to supporting a

sustainable environment for the benefit for future generations of Londoners. Re-using historic buildings, rather than demolishing and rebuilding, can help tackle climate change through increasing energy efficiency and minimising the release of embodied carbon dioxide.

To celebrate 30 years of the Trust, we have launched a new Fighting Fund. We want to raise £30,000, which will enable us to quickly act to save historic buildings across London that are at urgent risk of falling into permanent disrepair. Thanks to our generous supporters, we have already raised £10,000 towards this ambitious total. If you would like to help, please contact [director@londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk](mailto:director@londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk) or go to our online [fundraising page](#). We are so grateful for your support. Thank you.

**Here's to the next 30 years!**

*Dr Laura Crossley*



### NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Hello and welcome to our new look newsletter. It's a privilege to be able to share some of the fantastic work the team are doing at the moment.

I've been fortunate enough to be the Director of London Historic Buildings Trust since April. In that time, I've been so inspired by the work staff, trustees and volunteers are doing to celebrate local stories and people, support high street regeneration, and save some of London's historic buildings.

I'm looking forward to meeting more of our supporters and partners over the coming months. It's always great to hear from people who would like to work with us or find out more about our work. Please do get in touch on [director@londonhistoricbuildingstrust.org.uk](mailto:director@londonhistoricbuildingstrust.org.uk).

Best wishes, Laura



## A CLOSER LOOK AT THE TIN TABERNACLE

From the outside the [Tin Tabernacle](#) in Kilburn might look like an unloved, shabby, iron church. The inside however, is utterly unexpected and clearly shows the love that the local branch of the Sea Cadets have given this building for over 70 years.

After taking over the un-used church in 1949, the Willesden Sea Cadets set sail towards creating an extraordinary training ship. The 1950s Sea Cadet Training Manual encouraged the creation of “atmosphere”, and the unit commanders clearly took this seriously. We don’t know exactly who was responsible for designing and building the impressive nautical features, but a few names have come down to us through the years as important contributors.

Former Sea Cadet officer, Lt (SCC) David Locke, tells us that the bridge was built in the early 1960s during the tenure of Lt Cdr (SCC) Frederick Nunn RNR and can be seen in a photograph taken in 1967. From the late 60s, the commanding officer was Lt Cdr (SCC) Doug Greathurst RNR who was responsible for the addition of the Bofors gun and the Oerlikon autocannon.

There is still much about the décor that remains a mystery; who’s idea was it to build the partition walls out of old Leyland buses? And how did part of a film set from Shepperton studios end up in the Chapel? A dedication on the wall of the chapel mentions a Lt Cdr (SCC) C. Evans as a major contributor to the décor as well as many others but this is likely to be a conundrum we never get to solve.

Perhaps more will be discovered about those who made this unique space, perhaps not, but when someone steps into the Tin Tab for the first time and looks around in amazement, it is not just a building they are seeing but the work of countless dedicated individuals. We hope their legacy will continue to be preserved for many years to come.

### EMILY ABREHART, VOLUNTEER



An archaeologist by trade, I’ve always loved historic sites. I started volunteering for the LHBT in the autumn of 2020, after finding them via browsing on Instagram!

I started as a research volunteer working on the virtual tour of the St Pancras Waterpoint. I never thought I could become quite so obsessed with a train station as I did! On the completion of the project, I was thrilled to be asked to start working on the Tin Tabernacle.





# PROJECT UPDATE

## South Ealing Cemetery Chapels

After completion of a 2019 Options Appraisal, LHBT reviewed the recommendations with building owners Ealing Council. The consensus was that, at this time, a full building repair project was not viable and an alternative approach to prevent further deterioration was required. LHBT went on to develop a plan for a phased approach; with a first phase of urgent repair and enabling works, to allow the site to be used on a meanwhile basis.

The Trust went on to secure funding from Historic England and Ealing Council and, following a competitive tendering process, Butler Hegarty Architects, who had previously led on the Appraisal and are extremely familiar with the site's complexities, were appointed to lead on the Development Phase.

We're currently part way through this Phase; identifying the extent of the urgent works and exploring options for meanwhile use that will open up the site to groups that can use it to support their community.

*Project meeting at the Chapels*



## Tin Tabernacle, Kilburn

The Tin Tabernacle is an extremely unusual and special building, which has been on the Heritage at Risk Register for a number of years. LHBT are keen to find a viable solution for its future that embraces its unique heritage and opens it up to new audiences.

The Trust led on the development and delivery of an Options Appraisal, which was completed earlier this year. We are now working with the site owners and leaseholders to review the recommendations of the report and identify what the next steps will be.

We continue to work closely with the management committee of the Sea Cadets to support their operations and ongoing management of the building.

This included helping to secure a Covid-19 grant from Historic England to undertake urgent repairs to the roof and facilitating the Tin Tabernacle hosting an art installation as part of the recent [Brent Biennial](#).

*Project meeting at the Chapels*



## Former Girls' Charity School, Edmonton

LHBT has been busy progressing a project for the repair and re-use of the former Charity School, working closely with project partner, [Learning for Life Charity](#), to refine our proposals and build relationships with partners.

We are committed to providing ongoing support to the building and the trustees of the owning Charity. In this we are not alone and must extend our huge thanks for the [Enfield Society](#); Hon. Secretary Richard Stones has been working tirelessly to resolve the ownership position and Enfield Society volunteers have undertaken the immense task of clearing the garden 'wilderness'.

LHBT also identified a meanwhile user of the site, the [Florence Trust](#), who have recently signed a 24-month lease of the buildings to use as affordable artists space. They've undertaken a substantial programme of maintenance.

**The School will be part of [OPEN HOUSE](#) on Sat 17th September 11-3.**

*Florence Trust Director, Steven Allbutt, meets former caretaker Irene Money*



# TRAINING

Over the past few months, following the success of our inaugural training programme, Visioning & Viability in 2021, I've been working to develop LHBT's next training initiative. And I've ended up with two!

## HOW TO

The aim of this training programme is to provide practical advice on 'how to' deliver certain aspects of a heritage project. The short, snappy sessions serve as an introduction to a topic, providing attendees with insight and starting points from which to explore a topic further themselves.

We've delivered sessions on building research, funding, governance, and meanwhile use. The recordings and slides of these are up on our website. Next up we have programming and phasing, ESG, environmental sustainability, heritage interpretation, and permissions. Beyond these I'm keen to deliver sessions on maintenance, procurement and brief writing, heritage values, as well as following up any suggestions that come out of the current sessions.

## Building Futures

We're also establishing an in-person training programme called 'Building Futures'. This will help groups at an early stage understand what is required to establish strong, socially focused heritage projects. The training will be offered to communities in person at accessible and inspiring locations across London.

First up, we will be holding training in Enfield for local groups and organisations. Following Enfield, our next stop will be Newham.

To find out more about our training programmes and access previous training sessions, please visit our website, [here](#).



*Hannah Southgate  
Project Manager*



## FREE TRAINING RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

RESILIENT HERITAGE

VISIONING AND  
VIABILITY

UNDERSTANDING  
HERITAGE FUND PROJECTS

HOW TO:

## 'HOW TO' COMMUNITY TRAINING PROGRAMME AUTUMN 2022

UNDERSTAND THE ROLE  
OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
September 26th 2022  
1.15pm

MAKE SUSTAINABILITY  
INTERVENTIONS TO  
HISTORIC BUILDINGS  
October 5th 2022  
1.15pm

CONSIDER ESG FOR  
HERITAGE ORGANISATIONS  
AND PROJECTS  
October 19th 2022  
1.15pm

UNDERSTAND PLANNING  
PERMISSIONS AND LISTED  
BUILDING CONSENT  
November 8th 2022  
1.15pm

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



Historic England