

Trailblazers Project 2024

From May to September 2024 Make it York/York Civic Trust will be producing a Tansy Beetle sculpture trail around York with each beetle representing itself and a lesser-known person or group who have contributed to the culture and heritage of York. The Tansy Beetle is almost unique to York and is found on Tansy plants near the river Ouse.

YPS has successfully nominated archaeologist Mary Kitson Clark, who in 1941 was the first woman elected to the YPS Council and also, as an experienced archaeologist, created as “Curator of Roman Archaeology”. Although she had applied for the paid role of “Keeper of the Yorkshire Museum” the other Trustees realised her value as a volunteer and quickly commissioned her to write a report on the Museum’s Roman Collection which led to her recruiting a team of women such as Elizabeth Brunskill, later a YPS Trustee and Archivist of York Minster Library, to catalogue and sort out the collection and arrange for some items to be stored in the Lake District away from potential bombing in York.

York Museums Trust has agreed to host the Mary Kitson Clark sculpture in Museum Gardens, and historian Sarah Sheils, with project lead Catherine Brophy, are discovering more about her life and career and will be giving a Café Scientifique talk at Bootham School for the York Festival of Ideas on Wednesday June 5th at 7pm.

We were also one of 12 groups who successfully bid for a grant for a community project along these lines:

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society – a series of creative activities for school and community groups, including drawing, drama, video, scrapbooking, research, and storytelling, to encourage involvement in archaeology and celebrate the heritage of the Yorkshire Museum and Gardens, unearthing hidden stories of local people.

Any YPS members interested in further research into both local and YPS history are invited to join the history group that we are planning to set up, meeting in the Lodge.

If you would like to be involved, please let Catherine Brophy know on cafesci@ypsYork.org

YPS Members’ monthly lunch

Join us for our drop-in monthly lunch thanks to staff of the Theatre Royal Café who have agreed to host YPS, provided we purchase lunch or light refreshments. Meeting from 12pm onwards, order your food and drink at the Café and then join us upstairs in the Upper Foyer, reserved for our sole use. We will be delighted to enjoy lunch with friends new and longstanding. Come along on any of the dates below; no need to book.

- Tuesday 12 March
- Tuesday 9 April
- Tuesday 7 May
- Tuesday 11 June

On 9th April why not come along to the drop-in lunch, then use your membership card in the Yorkshire Museum to visit the new Star Carr Exhibition, which opens just before Easter, before taking your seats in the Tempest Anderson Hall for our talk on “Managing the Thornborough Henges” by Keith Emerick? You may also be interested to know that later in the summer the Activities Group is planning a visit to include the Thornborough Henges.

Exploration from your armchair

The Royal Aeronautical Society website has a podcast of a lecture on Sir George Cayley given in 1973 by Charles Harvard Gibbs-Smith:

<https://www.aerosociety.com/news/podcast-sir-george-cayley/>

as well as interesting extracts from Cayley’s notebooks and even one of his school books on its Heritage website:

<https://aerosocietyheritage.com/biographies/george-cayley>

The Society of Antiquaries of London features a talk about Boynton Hall on its YouTube channel. Given in York last November, this looks at the changes made to the Hall by succeeding generations of the Strickland family, who owned it for 400 years.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Z1DDyCL7cg>

News from **York Museums Trust** of two important exhibitions: *Star Carr: Life after the ice* opens in the Yorkshire Museum on Friday 22nd March, while from May the Art Gallery will have on display *The Water-Lily Pond* by Claude Monet, on loan from the National Gallery. If you would like to support the Trust’s work, donations are welcomed: <https://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk/support-the-trust/donations/>

Diary

Important Note: Please check the following times, dates and venues carefully, in particular our lectures in the Tempest Anderson Hall, as times and days of the week do vary. For the most up-to-date information, please keep an eye on our website: www.ypsyork.org

Tue 20 Feb, 2.30pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
Archbishop Vernon-Harcourt, Archbishop of York 1807-1847

Tony Vernon, Lord Vernon

Wed 28 Feb – YPS Visit
Skinningrove and “Land of Iron”
NB Fully booked

Tue 5 Mar, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
Lilies of the Sea: Martin Lister (1639-1712), crinoid fossils and chemical theories of fossilisation
 Dr Anna-Marie Roos, FLS FSA, University of Lincoln
A Martin Lister Anniversary Lecture

Tue 12 Mar, 12 noon - YPS Social Event
Members’ Monthly Lunch at York Theatre Royal

Tue 19 Mar, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
 To to be confirmed
 Professor Clive Roberts, University of Durham

Wed 20 Mar, 7 for 7.30pm – Café Sci
Venue: The Den, Micklegate Social
Sustainable Farming (title to be confirmed)
 Biorenewables Development Centre

Tue 9 Apr, 12 noon - YPS Social Event
Members’ Monthly Lunch at York Theatre Royal

Tue 9 Apr, 2.30pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
Managing the Thornborough Henges
 Keith Emerick, Historic England

Lodge Opening Times

While Frances continues her convalescence after knee surgery, the office will be open on **Thursday afternoons from 2.00 to 4.00**, but please do telephone first before making a special journey.

Our thanks to Catherine Brophy for “filling in” during Frances’ absence and of course best wishes to Frances for a smooth recovery.



Tue 23 Apr, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
John Phillips and the Cambrian Explosion
 Professor Rachel Wood, University of Edinburgh
A John Phillips 150th Anniversary Lecture

Tue 7 May, 12 noon - YPS Social Event
Members’ Monthly Lunch at York Theatre Royal

Tue 7 May, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
The Science of the Singing Voice
 Professor Helena Daffern, University of York

Wed 15 May – YPS Visit
RHS Bridgewater *See flyer enclosed*

Tue 21 May, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Identifying and Protecting Historic Parks and Gardens Dr Victoria Thomson
Joint lecture with The Yorkshire Gardens Trust

Wed 5 Jun, 7 for 7.30pm – Café Sci
Venue: Bootham School
Mary Kitson Clark (title to be confirmed)
 Sarah Sheils & Catherine Brophy

Tue 11 Jun, 12 noon - YPS Social Event
Members’ Monthly Lunch at York Theatre Royal

Tue 11 June, 7pm – YPS Lecture
Venue: Tempest Anderson Hall
What’s that smell? Science behind human body odour Professor Gavin Thomas and Team

Thur 13 June – YPS Visit
Southwell Minster and Workhouse
See flyer enclosed

Dates for your Diary
 Sat 21 & Sun 22 September
William Smith 200th Anniversary Study Day & Field Visit with the Yorkshire Geological Society

SAFEGUARDING

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society (YPS) takes seriously its obligations and responsibilities to protect and safeguard the welfare of any child, young person or vulnerable adult who attends our events. Unless otherwise stated, all our events are open to members and non-members. We welcome children provided that they are accompanied by a responsible adult. The Safeguarding Policy is displayed at the Lodge. The Safeguarding Officer is Ms Catherine Brophy, Trustee, (cafesci@ypsyork.org) to whom all safeguarding concerns should be addressed.

PRIVACY

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society (YPS) holds members’ names and addresses and, where supplied, telephone numbers and email addresses. This personal information is used for sending out details of our activities. The information remains confidential and is retained within the Society. Members may have access to their personal information on request by contacting the Clerk at info@ypsyork.org