

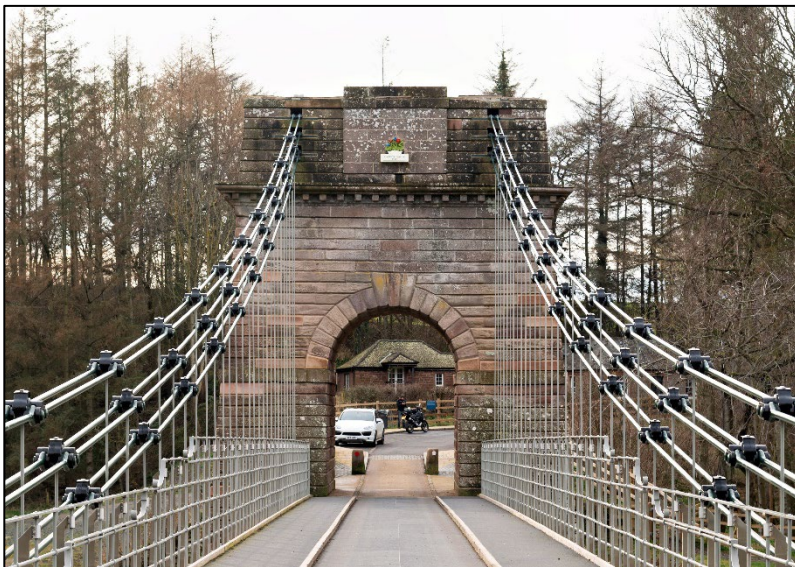
# NORTHERN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Programme

2024 - 2025

Sept 2024

[www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk](http://www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk)



The Union Chain Bridge, over the Tweed, whose conservation is the subject of our April lecture.

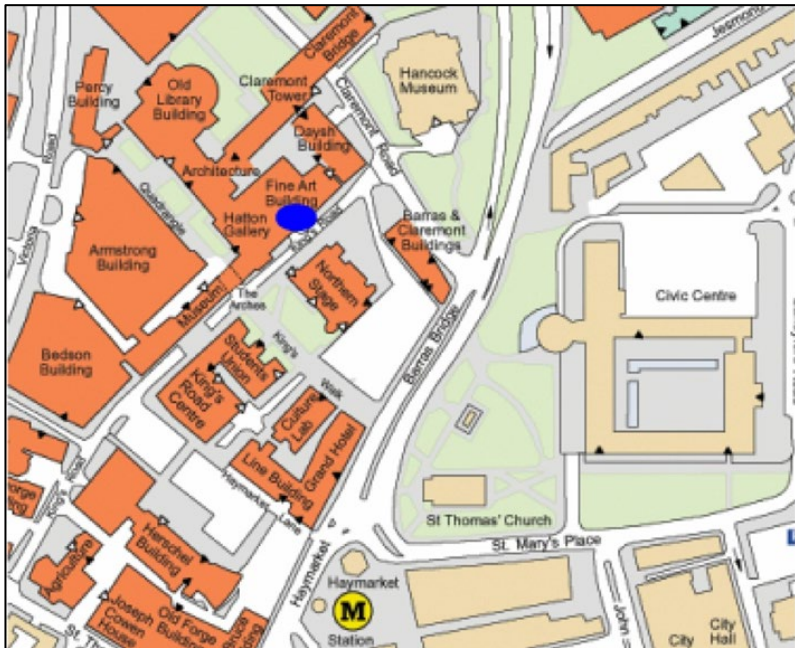


# NORTHERN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society was established in the 1970s. It aims to encourage the study and enjoyment of architecture, buildings, their contents, and settings by organising lectures and visits. It usually holds its lectures in Newcastle upon Tyne and enjoys a close association with the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape of Newcastle University.

## THE LECTURE THEATRE

Unless otherwise stated lectures are held in the Fine Art Lecture Theatre of Newcastle University - its location marked by the blue oval on the map below. Main access to the lecture theatre is through the doors at the top of the flight of steps alongside the building, whilst for those with mobility issues there is an access door near the foot of the steps. This latter has a push button for signalling to people inside that you require access. Doors open at 7.00pm with liquid refreshment usually available, and lectures start at 7.30pm. Disabled parking and easy access to the lecture theatre are available, on King's Road.



## **FRANCIS R N HASWELL**

### **Methodist Architect**

Stuart Barlow

9 October 2024



Society member Stuart will talk about North Shields architect Francis Robert Newton Haswell who, during the second half of the 19th Century, left a legacy of intriguing buildings in North Shields and elsewhere, while becoming a principal member of the town's establishment and earning the title of Methodist Architect. Haswell was one of the founding members of the Northern Architectural Association who attended the inaugural meeting in 1858. Stuart practised architecture in London, specialising in sustainability, before settling in North Shields.

## **ARTS AND CRAFTS FURNITURE**

### **Then and Now**

Nicholas Hobbs

13 November 2024



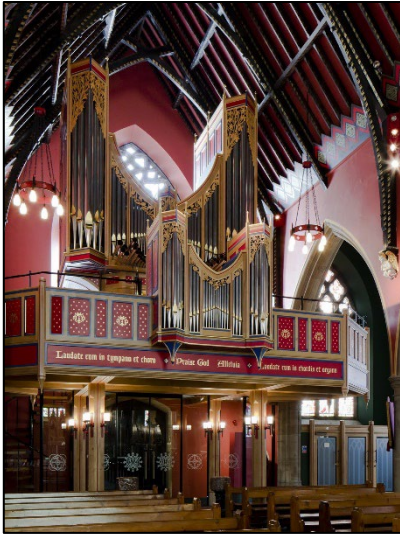
Nicholas Hobbs is an established British designer-craftsman of fine furniture, producing contemporary pieces in the Arts and Crafts tradition. 2010 saw a 25-year retrospective exhibition at the William Morris Gallery, Walthamstow, London. This talk will feature a selection of his work for home and ecclesiastical settings. Nicholas will also talk about his Arts and Crafts forebears and how their skills and methods of design and construction have inspired him throughout his teaching career in Loughborough and at his workshop in Cumbria.

## CHRISTMAS EVENT:

### St. Mary's R C Cathedral

Kevin Doonan

4 December 2024



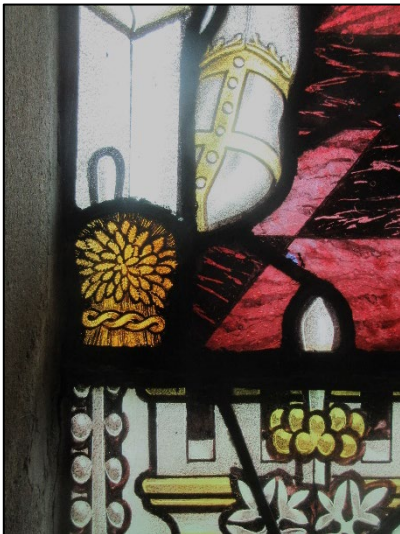
As usual we will hold our Christmas event at one of the region's most historic buildings, this year at Newcastle's Roman Catholic Cathedral. Kevin Doonan the Cathedral Architect will guide us around the cathedral and describe the improvements he has made to the building over several decades.

The organist will give a short recital to demonstrate the wonderful Tickell organ inserted into the west end about twelve years ago. The event will include a buffet and hopefully, Kevin can be persuaded to recall a few of his other favourite conservation projects.

## MEMBERS' EVENING

Host: Hugh Dixon

15 January 2025



The Members' Evening is an opportunity for members to raise topics of interest, air architectural enthusiasms, or simply fly architectural kites. Please volunteer to Hugh Dixon.

[hughdixon7@gmail.com](mailto:hughdixon7@gmail.com)

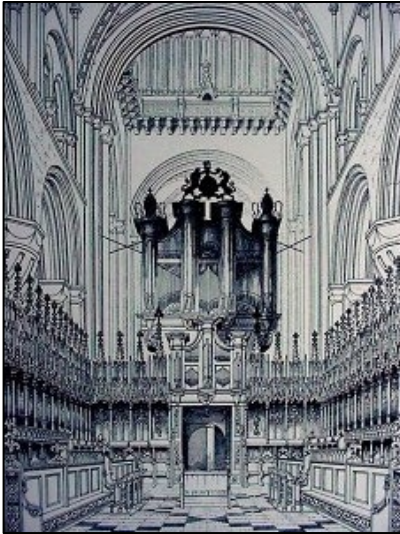
The evening's topics could include:

- A favourite stained-glass artist.
- The biography of a relative with an interesting architectural career.
- A favourite building which deserves more attention.

# THE FATHER SMITH ORGAN OF DURHAM CATHEDRAL, 1683 – 1873.

Richard Hird

19 February 2025



The Durham Cathedral Chapter contracted in 1683 with the King's Organ maker, Bernard ("Father") Smith, for a *"good, perfect, laudable and harmonious great Organ and Chair Organ [17 stops altogether] with a case of good, sound and substantiall Oak wood.."*

Our speaker Richard Hird grew up in Yorkshire, studied at Oxford and Leeds, and took up the profession of Town and Country Planning. He is an organist, sits on the Durham Diocesan Advisory Committee and the British Institute of Organ Studies. He has jointly authored a book on *The Organs of Durham Cathedral*.

## BEST PRACTICE: LIME IN CONSERVATION

Dr Tim Meek

19 March 2025



Tim is an apprenticeship-trained, award-winning bricklayer, who in his early twenties attended night school, then university and undertook a degree in archaeology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

In the 1990s he was commissioned to lime render Aykley Heads House in Durham by Conservation Developers Rivergreen, and he gave a talk to this society.

His major projects include Kilcoe Castle and the Great Hall at Stirling Castle. His PhD researched the Wall Coatings of Scotland.

## **THE CONSERVATION OF THE UNION BRIDGE**

Speakers to be confirmed

9 April 2025



We are planning a lecture to explain the wonderful conservation work that has been carried out in recent years to the Union Chain Bridge. When it opened in 1820 it was the longest wrought iron suspension bridge in the world with a span of 137 metres, and the first vehicular bridge of its type in the United Kingdom. The deck of the bridge was completely dismantled during the process of conservation. We hope that we can coordinate a presentation that both explains the history of the bridge and the detail of the processes used in its conservation.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Location to be agreed**

May 2025

Each May we arrange to have our AGM at a building or area of great architectural interest. The meeting includes a buffet, a short lecture, and a guided tour. We will announce the location and send out booking information in January 2025.

## **DAY TRIPS**

**by Coach or Cars**

We organise day trips every summer to places or areas of interest. In 2024 we visited South-East Northumberland, the North Tyne Valley and Brampton in Cumbria.

These trips are always popular and well attended. In summer 2025 we intend to continue this tradition with more fascinating architectural locations.

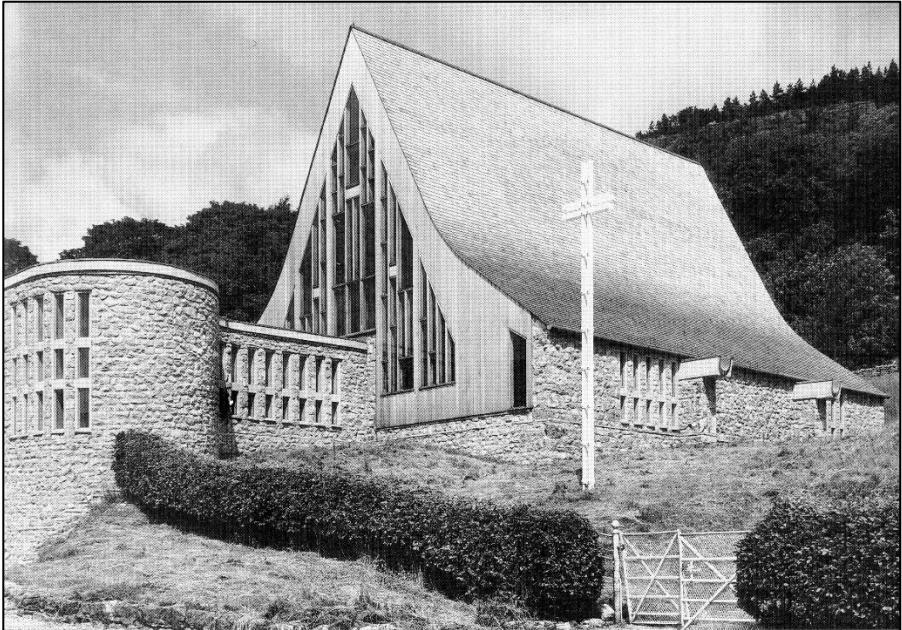
Any suggestions for visits and offers to help with the organisation are always very welcome.

# LONG WEEKEND ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

## George Pace: Church Architect in Yorkshire

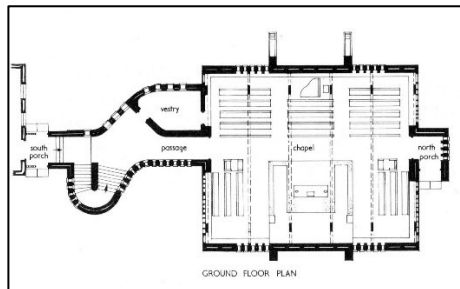
27 - 29 June 2025

We have reserved accommodation at the Scargill Movement's Community in Wharfedale, from where we plan to visit a mix of architectural wonders in the Skipton area. The chapel and other buildings were designed by George Pace, (1915 – 1975) and we intend to visit several of his other works during our three-day trip. Booking forms will be available in January 2025.



Images of Scargill Chapel

From the book: *The Architecture of George Pace*, by his son, Peter Pace.



# **NORTHERN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Visit our website for the latest information:

[www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk](http://www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk)

For further information contact the events secretary: Ian Wells

e mail: [events@northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk](mailto:events@northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk)

Phone: 07766 258581

**Ideas for future events are always welcome!**

## **ZOOM BROADCASTS**

For those who cannot get to the lecture theatre, whenever possible (and when permitted by the speaker) we aim to stream the event live on Zoom. The necessary link code is sent to members' e-mail addresses a few days before each lecture.

An extensive library of recordings is available to members.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The annual subscription is due for renewal on the 1<sup>st</sup> March

To join please download the membership form from our website, and send it to our treasurer: Maria Carballeira

e mail: [treasurer@northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk)

## **SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE 2024/2025 SEASON**

Individual subscription £21

Two people at the same address £27

Students in full time education £10 (for the academic year)