

# **CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP**

**Newsletter No. 47**

**June 2022**

## **RETROSPECTIVE**

**As this Newsletter goes to press, the Heritage Group established in 1973, is now in its 49th year and looks forward to celebrating its Half Century in 2023. We are the longest established CIBSE Specialist Group. This Newsletter looks at recent events, but also recalls some of our past activities and publications.**

The country is thankfully now starting to emerge from the various restrictions imposed by the covid pandemic during the years 2020 and 2021 with several lockdowns preventing any travel and social contact to take place such as AGM's and Committee Meetings.

The Heritage Group were therefore delighted to be able to hold their first AGM and Committee Meeting since 2019 on the 5<sup>th</sup> May at CIBSE HQ in Balham. By coincidence the 2020 AGM was due to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March the same day that started the first pandemic lock-down.

The AGM and Committee Meeting was held as a hybrid occasion between the members who attended in person, and by Martijn Kivit and Keith Dodd who attended by video link on a screen.

The Chairman at the AGM noted the Minutes of the previous AGM (held remotely) and asked those present to propose that they be accepted as a true record. At that point Martijn Kivit made his observations.

The Chairman also suggested that under the circumstances, unless there were any objections, the Committee and Officers continue as before.

The past two years had sadly seen the passing of members Geoff Brundrett and Gary Bennett and the Chairman noted that these two positions had not yet been filled.

It was proposed that the autumn Committee meeting be held as a combined Committee Meeting and heritage visit to Exeter to view the Cathedral and its engineering services. Keith Dodd has kindly agreed to see if a suitable venue can be found.

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**International Women's Day** was held on the 8th March this year and celebrated in the March and April editions of the CIBSE Journal. The Heritage Group has had Women Engineers on its Committee for more than 20 years, all of whom have made valuable contributions to both the Group and to CIBSE.

**Geraldine O'Farrell**, a Senior Building Services Engineer with Historic England, has served as Vice-Chair of the Heritage Group and is currently Honorary Secretary. Geraldine has also served on the CIBSE Board and in 2018 was awarded the CIBSE Silver Medal.

**Caroline Cattini-Dow** is a Principal Engineer & Building Services Engineering Team Leader with Historic England, has worked as Advisor to the CIBSE Membership; in 2018 received the Knowledge Sharer Award and in 2022 received the CIBSE Bronze Medal.

**Edith Blennerhassett** has represented the Heritage Group in the Republic of Ireland and served on the CIBSE Ireland Region Committee. Edith is currently a Director at Arup's Office in London, having expertise in sustainable design, healthcare and historic buildings.

**Dr Jane Insley** is a Consultant to the Group and previously Curator at the Science Museum.



**Geraldine O'Farrell**



**Edith Blennerhassett**



**Jane Insley**



**Caroline Cattini-Dow**

# NEW HERITAGE GROUP ARCHIVIST



**Dr Sam Johnson at Lake Vyrnwy, a Reservoir in Powys, Wales.**

Sam has taken over as Group Archivist from Brian Roberts, who had served as Group Archivist for 35 years. Sam obtained his PhD for research into the way heat and moisture are transferred within historic buildings and how materials respond to the various environmental fluctuations. He then worked with Nick Renwick, Architect in the Vale of Glamorgan, on the restoration of Penllyn Castle.

Sam is now the Built Heritage Conservation Officer for Powys County Council, responsible for the protection of the historic built environment, which in Powys includes 3911 listed buildings and 55 conservation areas. Many of these buildings are engineering marvels, including the Elan Valley reservoirs, and the associated aqueduct, built in the 1890s, to provide clean drinking water to Birmingham; while built in the 1880s is Lake Vyrnwy to provide drinking water to Liverpool. On a historical note, this area saw the construction of the Montgomery Canal, completed in 1821, and the opening of several railways in the 1860s. These merged to form the Cambrian Railways.

There are many large houses in Powys which contain interesting engineering technological items, such as Vaynor Park, with the remains of an Edwardian electrical system and the heating coils from a Perkin's system.

**Note:** The Heritage Group Archive is now housed in the Architects Library, Bute Building, Cardiff University.

# PAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS

By Members of the Heritage Group



The House of Commons



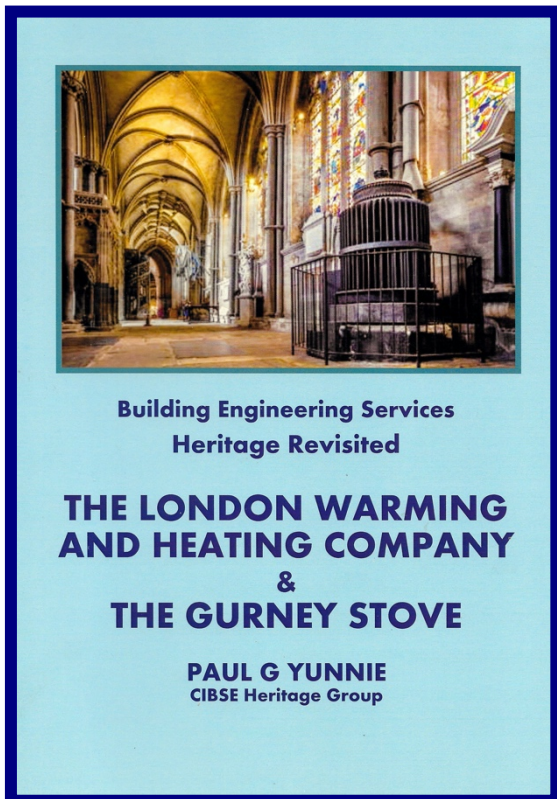
Milam Building, San Antonio

By **Henrik Schoenefeldt**: *Reappraising, Rebuilding The House of Commons Environment*, ASHRAE Journal, January 2022.

Henrik is Full Professor for Sustainability in Architectural Heritage at the University of Kent.

By **David Arnold**: *Made in America (Air Washing Technology)*, CIBSE Journal, March 2022.

David is a Past President of CIBSE and a former Director at Large of ASHRAE.



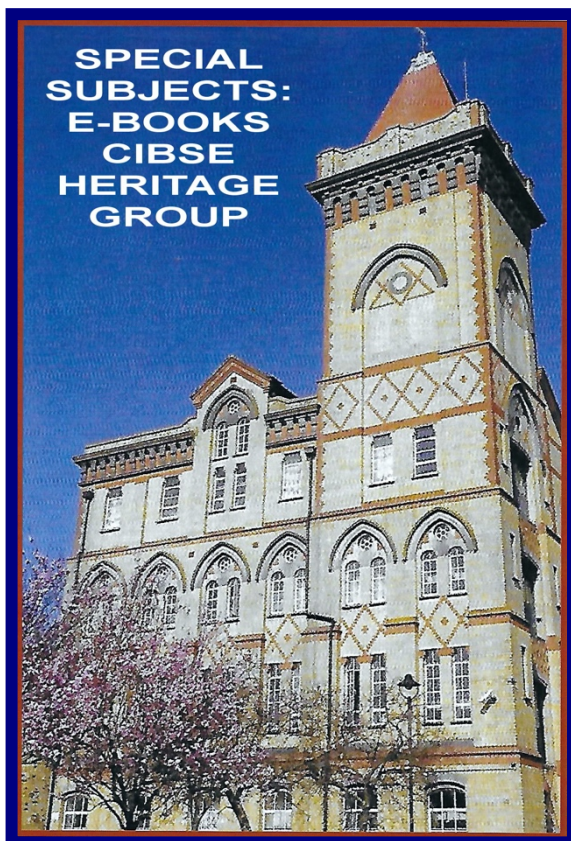
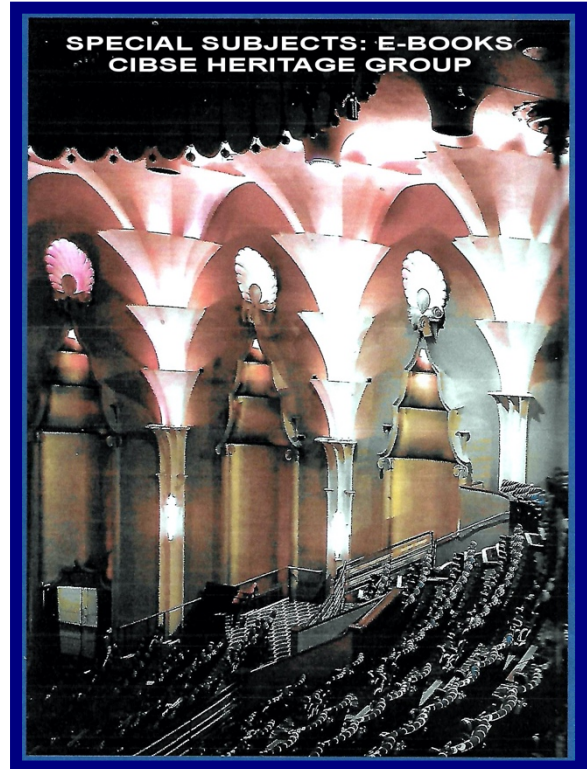
Paul joined the Heritage Group in 1984.  
Vice Chairman 1984-2005.  
CIBSE Silver Medal 1989.



Frank joined the Heritage Group in 1998.  
Set up and runs Heritage Website.  
CIBSE Bronze Medal 2008, Silver Medal 2014.

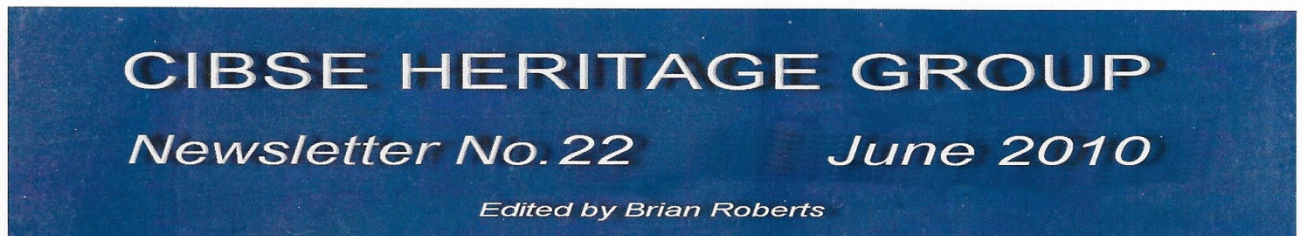
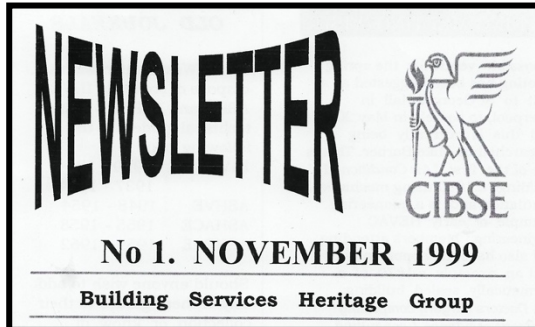
# THE HERITAGE GROUP WEBSITE

During the pandemic, many items have been added to our website covering historic buildings, places, systems, equipment and companies. A small selection is given below.



# HERITAGE GROUP NEWSLETTERS

The first issues of the group newsletters numbers 1 to 6 were written by Mike Barber in the period 1975 to 1985 originally as the Architectural Working Party that then became the Heritage Group. The first issue of the new digital Newsletter was produced in 1999 with Frank Ferris as Editor. Brian Roberts became Editor in 2008. Now they act together with two editions a year, and with Special Editions from time to time, including six on the work of the NHS during the first pandemic.



# HERITAGE GROUP NEWSLETTERS

## CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP

*Newsletter No.40 Special*

*December 2018*

## CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP

*Special Newsletter No.1*

*April 2020*

**TO ALL NHS STAFF - THANK YOU**

## CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP

*Newsletter No.44*

*December 2020*

### THE GROUP WORKING PARTY DURING LOCKDOWN



**Andrew  
More**  
Chairman



**Neil  
Sturrock**  
Vice Chairman



**Geraldine  
O'Farrell**  
Hon. Secretary



**Brian  
Roberts**  
Archivist / Editor



**Frank  
Ferris**  
Webmaster

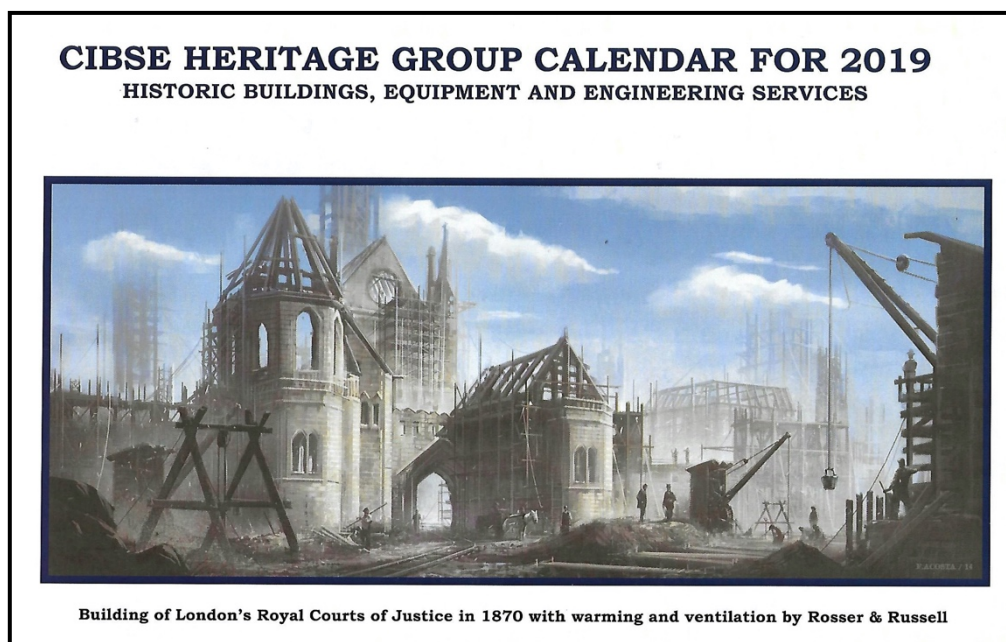
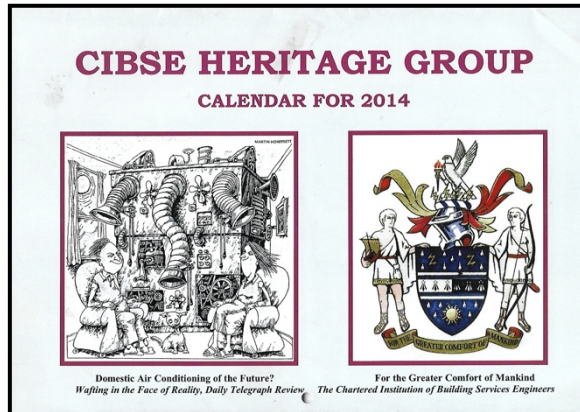
## CIBSE HERITAGE GROUP

*Special Newsletter No.46*

*December 2021*

# HERITAGE GROUP CALENDARS

Brian and Frank, with Chris Sugg, have produced an Annual Calendar since 2012.



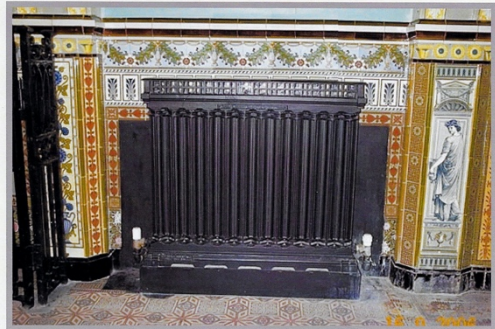


# HERITAGE GROUP BOOKS



**WILSON WEATHERLEY PHIPSON**  
Victorian Engineer Extraordinary  
1838-91

Brian Roberts



**Building Engineering Services**  
**HERITAGE REVISITED**

**Part 12**

**Frank Ferris**  
**CIBSE Heritage Group**



**WATER PUMPING AND  
SEWAGE STATIONS**

**BRIAN ROBERTS**



**THE GAS LIGHTING  
OF TOWER BRIDGE**

From 1864, relit 1901 and upgraded  
all the way to 1966

**CHRIS SUGG**

Brian Heritage Group Chairman 1984-2011  
CIBSE Silver Medal 1994  
Honorary Fellow CIBSE 2011

Chris Group Member since 2002  
For Institute Gas Managers & Engineers  
Special Heritage Group Certificate 2019

# THANK YOU ENGLISH HERITAGE

The Heritage Group also recalls guided tours, sponsored and organised by English Heritage/Historic England, including the examples below.



Henry VIII's Eltham Palace and the Courtauld House.

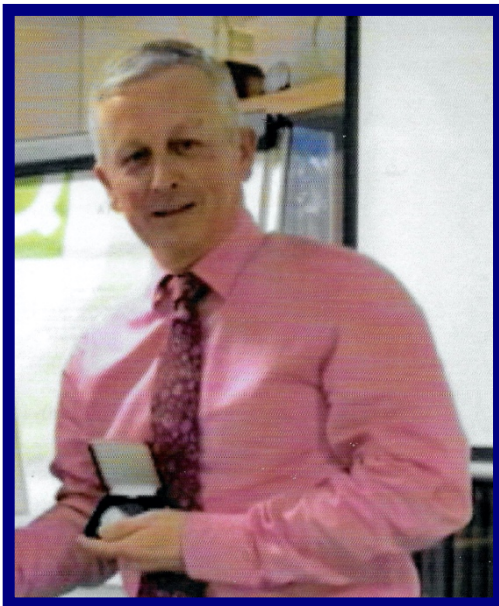


Dover Castle and the Napoleonic War Tunnels, converted to air raid shelters, a Military Command Centre and an underground hospital during the Second World War.

# THANK YOU ENGLISH HERITAGE

**David Drewe** has been a member of the Heritage Group for over twenty years. He is Manager of the Building Services Engineering and Emergency Planning Team. In 2016, David was awarded the CIBSE Bronze Medal. The Heritage Group thanks David and his Team, pictured below (previously part of English Heritage) for Sponsorship of our Newsletter since 2006, and of our Annual Calendar since 2014.

**Andrew More** is a Senior Building Services Engineer with the English Heritage Technical Commissioning Team, member of the Heritage Group since 2006 and Chairman since 2016, steering the Group through the continuing difficult years of the pandemic.



**David Drewe**



**Andrew More**

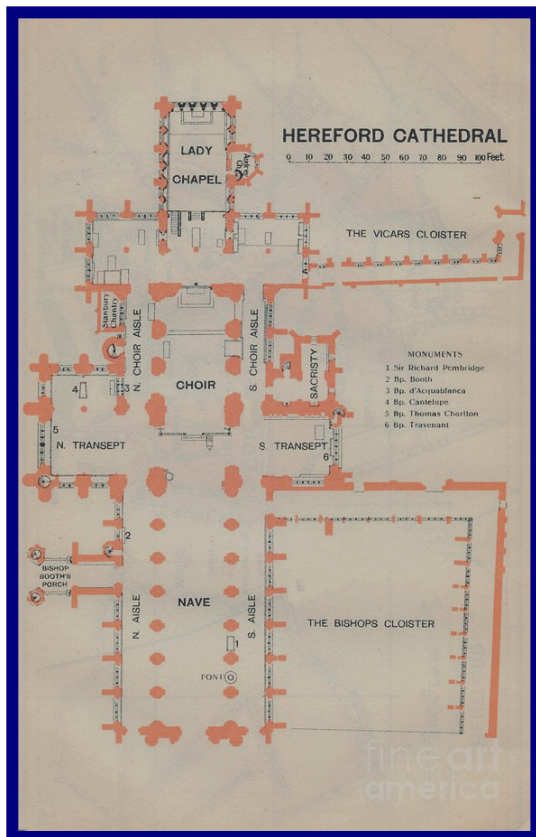


*(First photograph, left to right) David Drewe, Andrew More, Caroline Cattini, Geraldine O'Farrell*

# HERITAGE GROUP ACTIVITIES

The only Heritage visits made by group members since 2020 have been,

- 1) Sam Johnson and Frank Ferris to the Bridewell Magistrates Courts Building in Bristol to comment on the old natural ventilation system and Sugg gas burner
- 2) Frank Ferris visited Hereford Cathedral by invitation of the Cathedral Librarian/Archivist to photograph the Gurney warm air stoves and search their Library for historic references to the stoves in the Cathedral Chapter Books.
- 3) Frank Ferris visited the Cathedral again in February this year to attend a talk given by the Cathedral Librarian/Archivist outlining the history of the Gurney stoves and their future.



This Newsletter is sponsored by



Historic England