

WHITBY BLUE PLAQUES

Guidance Document November 2018

The rules of the Whitby Blue Plaque Scheme reflect those initially devised by English Heritage, formally created in 1986. For further detailed information on the Whitby Blue Plaques please access the Whitby Civic Society website (<https://www.whitbycivicsociety.org.uk>) and click on the BLUE PLAQUE folder under the PUBLICATIONS header.

A Blue Plaque is created to honour a person or persons.. Whitby Civic Society (WCS) maintain a short list of possible subjects and then chooses where they are to go. WCS looks after them and makes any repairs or refurbishes them if and when necessary. WCS creates the designs of each individual plaque from the outset and pays for their creation and costs. However, help with the costs have been known to be appreciated at times and only with their permission.

The fundamental criteria which need to be met are :

- The nominated figure(s) must have been dead for 20 years or have passed the centenary of their birth.
- Plaques can only be placed on the actual building once inhabited by that person, if at all possible, and not the site of where the building once stood.
- Buildings marked with the Blue Plaque must be visible from the public highway.
- Nominated figures should be considered eminent in their own profession or calling, and known to have made an important, positive contribution to human welfare or been a benefactor to the town in some way.
- The reason for their selection should be recognisable to the passer by and deserve national recognition.
- They must have resided or have important connection with the town for some time or achieved importance there, within their life and work.

Currently, Whitby have 20 Blue Plaques. Booklets exist of all existing Blue Plaques, which include a photograph of each plaque together with some brief details, plus a street map showing the position of each one and a walking route that can be followed in order to see all of them. Guided walks can also be arranged to take people around Whitby to visit them.

Nominations can be proposed at any time and will be assessed shortly after receipt of the nomination form. The nomination form can be found on the WCS website (see above). The successful nominees will then be placed on a shortlist. The presentations of the new Blue Plaques will be made at an appropriate time once the new updated versions of the booklets have been printed and are available for purchase.

Please email Whitby Civic Society if you require any further information or if you wish to nominate a Blue Plaque. Please send nominations to, the Secretary of the Whitby Civic Society, preferably by email whitby_civic_society@yahoo.co.uk or hand in at the next meeting.