

HISTORIC ENGLAND PRESS RELEASE: For immediate release Monday 10 April 2017

HISTORIC ENGLAND ANGEL AWARDS 2017

OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!

- **Andrew Lloyd Webber seeking new Heritage Angels**
- **New categories announced including Best Craftsperson or Apprentice on a Heritage Rescue or Repair Project and Best Rescue, Recording or Interpretation of a Historic Place**
- **First time an Overall winner will be chosen from the winners of all UK countries hosting Angel Award schemes**

Do you know of a historic landmark that has been rescued from ruin? Or a listed building that's been beautifully repaired and put to new use? If you, or any person or group that you know, has rescued a historic building, monument or site, then The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation and Historic England invite you to enter or nominate others for the Historic England Angel Awards 2017. You have from now until Sunday 4 June 2017.

Andrew Lloyd Webber, who founded the Historic England Angel Awards in 2011, said: "I am delighted to announce that the Historic England Angel Awards are open for another year of applications. Too often the individuals and groups who work tirelessly to protect their local historic buildings go unnoticed. We set up the Angel Awards six years ago to change all that. I encourage everyone to come forward and celebrate these stars of heritage – those who keep our heritage alive and thriving for the next generation deserve to stand in the spotlight."

Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive of Historic England said: "We are surrounded by historic buildings and places that tell the story of who we are, but many depend on local volunteers and groups for their very survival. The Angel Awards celebrate the work of those heritage heroes. With the new categories for 2017, I'm looking forward to hearing about fresh kinds of people and rescue projects, which I know will inspire us all."

By entering you'll be in with a chance of having a film made about your heritage project and attending our red carpet Awards ceremony at The Palace Theatre, London in the Autumn.

Joshua Aitken-Dunkeld, 2016 winner of the Best Contribution to a Heritage Project By Young People said: "This award is one of the best things that's happened to me, it feels a bit like a dream."

Carlo Diponio, Construction Supervisor at Dudley Zoo and 2016 winner of Outstanding Contribution to Heritage, sponsored by Aon Estates Practice: **said:** "Wow! This award is totally unexpected. You must give it a go – you will remember it for the rest of your life!"

The awards are judged by a panel of experts from the heritage sector before a shortlist of 12 is put before the judges – three per category. Chaired by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the judges this year will include historian Bettany Hughes, TV's Restoration Man George Clarke, the Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend Dr John Hall and Historic England's Chief Executive Duncan Wilson.

We welcome applications from anyone involved in a heritage rescue, for example, private owners who have turned neglected buildings into treasured homes, commercial organisations and companies which have restored historic industrial buildings, volunteers who have saved a local landmark for the community, and groups including trainees or apprentices who have employed exceptional skills on a rescue. We also welcome previous applicants who have got further with their project or who feel they have a stronger alignment to our new categories.

Award Categories 2017

The Historic England Angel Awards are for:

Best Rescue of a Historic Building

This award recognises volunteers and professionals, individuals and groups who have rescued a historic building. This category includes locally and

nationally listed buildings, sites on the Historic England Heritage at Risk Register and places of worship. The age or type of building does not matter as long as it is a historic building that appears on a recognised heritage register. It does not have to be listed; it could be part of a conservation area or a local building of significant interest. All sizes of rescue project are eligible, as it is the actions taken to rescue them that will be judged.

Best Contribution to a Heritage Project by Young People

This award will recognise the contribution to heritage projects by young people up to the age of 25. The award can be for individuals or groups and can include students and young apprentices. Groups can include school children, projects from social clubs or local volunteer groups. The 'contribution' should be towards a heritage project or place (as above, this doesn't have to be listed). Adults may enter an application on behalf of under 16s, and where relevant, both would be acknowledged.

Best Craftsperson or Apprentice on a Heritage Rescue or Repair Project

This award will recognise a volunteer, professional individual or apprentice who has demonstrated the application of craft skills that have been key in repairing or rescuing a historic site. For example, it could be someone who has carved stone gargoyles for a church, repaired a historic window, or learned how to recreate Elizabethan bricks for a particular rescue. The craft can be from any discipline, for example, woodwork, masonry, metalwork or thatching.

Best Rescue, Recording or Interpretation of a Historic Place

This award recognises volunteers and professionals, individuals and groups who rescue, record or interpret any kind of historic place. This could be an archaeological site, scheduled monument or battlefield. For example, it could be a group of local people identifying areas of improvement for their local conservation area, an individual who has restored a historic garden, a group who have saved a stone circle or a team who have helped research archaeological remains in a landscape.

Historic England Followers' and Telegraph Readers' Favourite

All 12 shortlisted projects from the four categories above will be open to this award voted for solely by the public.

Overall UK Winner of Angels (NEW FOR 2017)

For the first time Andrew Lloyd Webber and a judge from each home country who host an Angel Awards scheme, will decide on an overall winner for the year. The winner will be crowned at the Historic England Angel Awards in London.

END

Further information from: Historic England Press Office Tel: 020 7973 3250 or communications@HistoricEngland.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITOR:

Historic England is in its second year of a three-year funding agreement with the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. The three years of funding are for 2016, 2017 and 2018 and total £150,000.

About Historic England: We are Historic England (formerly known as English Heritage), the public body that champions and protects England's historic places. We look after the historic environment, providing expert advice, helping people protect and care for it and helping the public to understand and enjoy it.

About the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation: The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation was set up by Andrew in 1992 to promote the arts, culture and heritage for the public benefit; since inception Andrew has been the principal provider of funding for all its charitable activities.

In 2010, the Foundation embarked on an active grant giving programme and has now awarded grants of more than £16m to support high quality training and personal development as well as other projects that make a real difference to enrich the quality of life both for individuals and within local communities. Significant grants include £3.5m to Arts Educational Schools, London to create a state of the art professional theatre, £2.4m to The Music in Secondary Schools Trust, £1m to The Architectural Heritage Fund, \$1.3m to the American Theatre Wing and over £350,000 annually to fund 30 performing arts scholarships for talented students in financial need.

In 2015, the Foundation awarded over £1.5million in 46 new grants to organisations, made 17 grants totalling £860k to projects in their second and third year of funding and provided 30 musical theatre scholarships worth over £300k to young performers on the brink of their careers. In addition, the

Foundation pledged a further 3 years' funding to the Historic England Angel Awards and established the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards with the Scottish Civic Trust and Historic Environment Scotland.

About The Telegraph: The Telegraph is the media partner for the awards.