

THE YORKSHIRE SOCIETY (1980)

YORKSHIRE ROSE PLAQUES

The Yorkshire Society seeks to honour the achievements of distinguished people born in Yorkshire by electing plaques in places with which they were associated.

Percy Shaw, O.B.E. 1890 – 1976

Inventor of reflective road studs (cats eyes)

Plaque unveiled at his birthplace, 1 Mill Lane, Boothtown, Halifax, by his nephew, Mr Trevor Shaw on 20 March 1986.

Christopher Saxton c.1543 – 1610

Elizabethan cartographer who in 1579 published the first county atlas of England and Wales. A plaque sponsored by Mrs. J. G. Bramley of Lofthouse, Wakefield was unveiled on 15 April 1987 by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, Councillor Mrs Rose Lund at the New White Bear Hotel, Tingley, Morley, near the village of Dunningley, where Saxton lived for many years.

Thomas Spencer 1851 – 1905

Co-founder of Marks & Spencer Ltd.

A plaque sponsored by Marks and Spencer was unveiled on 17 July 1987 by the Mayor of Skipton, Councillor E.J. Spencer at Woolworths Store, High Street, Skipton, on the site of Queens Court, the birthplace of Mr Spencer.

Colonel J T North 1842 – 1898

The Hunslet born nitrate millionaire and first Freeman of Leeds who in 1890 donated Kirkstall Abbey and grounds to the City of Leeds. A plaque was unveiled at the Abbey by Councillor Mrs E. Nash Chairman of Leeds Leisure Services on 18 April 1988.

Following works to the Abbey the plaque was resited in the Visitors Centre .

A re-dedication ceremony was held on 9 October 2008.

Henry Moore, O.M., C.H. 1898 – 1986

Internationally famous sculptor.

A plaque was unveiled by Mr G.T. Wright, Managing Director of Hickson & Welch Ltd, Castleford at the Henry Moore Clinic, 26 Smallthorne Lane, Castleford, near the site of the house where Mr. Moore was born and brought up. The ceremony took place on 20 July 1989 in the presence of the Mayor & Mayoress of Castleford.

Colonel Rowland D.G. Winn M.C.,D.L., of Nostell Priory 1916 – 1984, 4th Baron St.Oswald,
the first Vice – President of the Yorkshire Society (1980)

A plaque sponsored by the St. Oswald family and Mr Rodney Walker, was unveiled in Wragby Church, Nostell, on 1 June 1990 by Sir Jack Smart, President of the society.

Sir Donald Bailey O.B.E. 1901 – 1985

Inventor of the Bailey Bridge, born at Rotherham. A plaque jointly sponsored by Rotherham Borough Council, was unveiled at the Council offices by Lady Bailey on 26 September 1992.

Herbert H Asquith 1852– 1928

Prime Minister 1908 – 16, born at Morley.

A plaque was unveiled at Morley Town Hall by Councillor P. Paley on 29 September 1992.

Herbert Smith, C.R.Ae.S. 1889 – 1977, born near Skipton.

A plaque for his great services to aviation was unveiled at Skipton Town Hall in the presence of Mrs Nora Smith on 8 December 1992.

Benjamin Henry La Trobe 1764 – 1820

Architect of the White House, Washington, U.S.A.

A plaque was unveiled 1 May 1995 at No 34 Fulneck, the Moravian Village where Mr La Trobe was born, by Mr Michael Mingo, Cultural Attaché to the U.S. Embassy.

James Harold Wilson, Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, 1916 – 1995

Prime Minister 1964 – 1970 and 1974 – 1976, born at Huddersfield.

A plaque was unveiled at Huddersfield Central library by Lady Wilson on 4 February 1996.

Benjamin law 1772 – 1837

The inventor of “Shoddy” in Batley.

A plaque was unveiled at Batley Library on 19 July 1996 by Mrs Elizabeth Peacock, M.P. a Vice President of the Society.

Sir Martin Frobisher c. 1535 – 1594

Elizabethan Naval Commander and explorer, born Altofts.

A plaque was unveiled by Sir Jack Smart, President of the Society, at Sir Martin Frobisher School, Altofts on 10 July 2000.

John Wyclife c. 1328 – 1384

Religious reformer and translator of the Bible. A plaque was unveiled by the Bishop of Ripon and Leeds in the presence of the Mayor of Richmond at the Richmond Branch of the Yorkshire Building Society on 24 April 2002.

Thomas Christopher (Kit) Calvert M.B.E. 1903 – 1984

Outstanding contributor to the economic, cultural and religious life of Hawes and Wensleydale. A plaque was unveiled at his original bookshop on 11 May by his daughter, Mrs Florence Garnett .

Mary Ward 1585 – 1645

Founder of the world wide Congregation of Jesus and the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She championed education for women and the right of Nuns to pursue ministries outside of convent walls.

A plaque was unveiled on 31 March 2007 at the Bar Convent, York by Sister Jane Livesey Provincial Superior of the Congregation of Jesus.

Eric Knight 1897 – 1943

The Menston born author was the creator of Lassie the star of many films and TV series . As well as producing a number of novels which outsold Steinbeck, Hemingway and Woodhouse he led a very eventful life serving in both World Wars.

The Plaque was unveiled on 26 May 2012 at the Library, Menston by the Lord Mayor of Bradford , Councillor Dale Smith .

Michael Spedding founder of Fox's Biscuits .

To celebrate the 160th birthday of the founding of Fox's Biscuits, a major local employer, a plaque was erected at on 9 September 2013 at 17 Whittaker Street, Batley the home of Michael Spedding c 1879 .

The plaque was unveiled by Mr Colin Smith , Managing Director of Fox's Biscuits.

Jane Tomlinson CBE 1964 – 2007

A plaque to honour the life of Jane Tomlinson CBE was erected on 18 March 2015 at the Art Gallery and Henry Moore Centre, Leeds .

Despite suffering terminal cancer , Jane's personal efforts in undertaking a series of athletic challenges raised over £1 .8 million for cancer and children charities . Her appeal, launched in 2002, had reached £ 7.6 million .

The plaque was unveiled by Jane's husband Mike and daughter Suzanne accompanied by The Lord Mayor of Leeds , Councillor David Congreve .