

Seventeen Nineteen (Holy Trinity)!

A Grade 1 Listed Building in Hendon



Seventeen Nineteen in Hendon

Sunderland Male Voice Choir evolved from the former Shiney Row Male Voice Choir in July 2022.

The Choir has recorded and performed some great material over the years. Recently, it has embarked on a programme of creating new musical material. Some of this material incorporates new arrangements of traditional numbers.

An exciting new initiative is the creation of brand-new songs based upon the region's rich local heritage and its people.

The Choir has been working with Sunderland City Council and members of the community to expand their outreach in Hendon, Sunderland.

One of the oldest parts of the City of Sunderland is steeped in a rich heritage which is being captured by the Choir in song.

This information sheet looks at the oldest Grade 1 Listed Building in Sunderland – Seventeen Nineteen (the Holy Trinity Church in Hendon).

The Hendon Music Project

Sunderland Male Voice Choir is creating a series about the rich heritage of the Hendon Ward of the City of Sunderland and its people.

The History of Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity was originally built as the parish church of the newly formed parish of Sunderland. The building was consecrated by the Rt. Revd. Dr. John Robinson, Bishop of London, on the 5th September 1719.

With the Port of Sunderland growing rapidly, the St. Michael's Church at Bishopwearmouth had become too small to serve the local population in 1712. Some merchants appealed to build a new church in the East End of Sunderland. An Act of Parliament was passed on the 9th March 1719 to create the Parish of Sunderland.

In 1719, the parish had 6,000 inhabitants, which doubled by 1801 and trebled by 1851. By the mid-19th century, it was largely populated by craft workers, sailors and labourers, who suffered from overcrowding and poor sanitation.

The church also served as the town hall, Magistrate's Court and the first library in Sunderland.

In 1735, Daniel Newcombe, the rector of the church, decided to add an apse to the eastern end to create a circular chancel. He paid for the extension.

The church roof was raised in 1803 to accommodate a new gallery and the windows were reglazed.

In 1854, the last burial in the graveyard took place.

The church was again reglazed in the early 1900's but community life in the area started to decline and the number of people attending church in the east end of Sunderland also declined.

The congregation continued to decline during the 20th century. The Church of Holy Trinity was forced to close on the 26th June 1988 and was transferred to the Churches Conservation Trust.

Sunderland Male Voice Choir

Contact: Kevin Lillie, Secretary & Public Relations
Tel: 0783 728 2202,
Email: info@sunderlandmvc.org.uk
Web: <https://www.sunderlandmvc.org.uk>



Church of Holy Trinity

Creating 'Canny Space' in Sunderland

In 1977, there was a vision to save the nationally important Holy Trinity Church and give it a sustainable future.

After many years of consultation, the concept of 'The Canny Space' evolved to create a community venue and exciting heritage attraction. Urgent conservation works and a craft skills training programme funded by All Churches Trust were planned.

Sunderland-native Dave Stewart from the Eurythmics joined the project as Creative Director. He recorded some material for a new album in the church.

In 2015, a Stage 1 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund was awarded to allow the project to be developed.

A Stage 2 bid was submitted for March 2018 to help release match-funding, which had been secured.

'The Canny Space' project was part of a 15-year cultural strategy set out by The Sunderland Cultural Partnership.

Holy Trinity Church has a unique appeal as it is the oldest Grade 1 Listed Building in Sunderland and is in the heartland of the early township in Hendon.

Preserving our past heritage through words and music!

Seventeen Nineteen - A Cultural Centre in Hendon

Visitors are encouraged to discover Sunderland's hidden stories, explore the space's possibilities and celebrate their living history.

Seventeen Nineteen hopes to change perceptions and create a welcoming space for celebration, imagination and discovery.

The Centre aims to collaborate with the community and surrounding cultural networks to bring people together to celebrate, meet, make, learn, perform and explore.

A generous grant from the All Churches Trust has allowed craft skills to be developed for future generations.

There are also educational programmes for primary and secondary schools.

Seventeen Nineteen has evolved into a community cultural centre whilst retaining the original Holy Trinity Church structure.

The Male Voice Choir Song

It is hoped that the new song created by Sunderland Male Voice Choir will provide a musical legacy about this important landmark in the heartland of Sunderland - Hendon.



A Historic Landmark in Hendon

Sunderland Male Voice Choir Information Sheets

Sunderland Male Voice Choir is producing a range of information sheets on its new music creation and project work. These sheets will be published within the 'Project' page of the Choir website.