

RICS in Bristol

Innovation in Conservation

Celebrating RICS surveyors working in heritage

Thursday 2 October 2025

Doors will open at 08:45; we are aiming to start promptly at 09:15.

Circomedia, St Paul's Church, Portland Square, Bristol BS2 8SJ

Organised by [RICS in Bristol Local Member Group](#)

Contact: williamstewart@ekkist.co or karen@gwilliamssurvey.co.uk

Agenda

08:45 – Arrival (Refreshments and pastries served)

09:20 – Welcome

- Dan Broadbent, Event Manager at Circomedia
- Karen Gwilliams FRICS, Bristol Local Member Group & Chartered Building Surveyor Certified in Building Conservation

09:25 – A summary of the repair and conservation of St Paul's Church, Portland Square, Bristol in 1999-2003.

- Philip Hughes MRICS, Principal – Philip Hughes Associates

09:40 – Historic England's role in developing and disseminating sector-wide climate adaptations for historic buildings.

- Alan Gardner MRICS, Head of Historic Building Climate Change Adaptation, Historic England

10:25 – Investigations, philosophy and planning for a project: Winterborne Clenston

- Philip Hughes MRICS, Principal – Philip Hughes Associates

11:10 Break

11:25 – Patent Slate Testing undertaken at BRE for use on the Palace of Westminster; and forthcoming works at Victoria Tower.

- Tim Mason MRICS, Principal Heritage Building Surveyor, Pick Everard
- James Smith MRICS. Principal Heritage Building Surveyor, Pick Everard

12:10 – Current and future work of the RICS Building Conservation Advisory Group to promote building conservation within and beyond the RICS, accreditation/re-accreditation, etc.

- David Humphreys FRICS, Director, Architectural Conservation Professionals Group and Chair of the RICS Building Conservation Advisory Group
- Jessica Jones FRICS – Principal Development Manager at Network Rail and Vice-Chair of the RICS Building Conservation Advisory Group

12:30 – Thanks and closing remarks

- Karen Gwilliams FRICS, Bristol Local Member Group & Chartered Building Surveyor Certified in Building Conservation

12:35 – Buffet lunch and networking

13:30 – Close

Biographies

Philip Hughes MRICS

Principal, Philip Hughes Associates

Philip is Principal of Philip Hughes Associates. With over 35 years of experience of the repair of historic buildings, Philip's influence and impact has been substantial across the sector. He was the first surveyor to be awarded a travelling scholarship by the SPAB and was later Technical Secretary and Chair of the Technical Panel for the SPAB and served on the RICS Buildings Conservation Committee and Skills Panel. With his practice team Philip has worked on some of the most highly significant buildings and structures across the south-west and further afield, including the work to repair and adapt today's venue, St Paul's Church, for a new use.

Alan Gardner MRICS

Head of Historic Building Climate Change Adaptation

With over 30 years of experience in building conservation, Alan has worked as a contractor, statutory adviser, advocate for the SPAB, and contract administrator for award-winning projects. His breadth of knowledge, experience, and strategic vision enable him to collaborate effectively with partners across the heritage sector. Alan's role at Historic England involves developing and advocating for best practice in mitigating the impacts of climate change on our historic fabric.

Tim Mason MRICS**Principal Heritage Building Surveyor, Pick Everard**

Tim began his building surveying career with the City of London Corporation working on projects at Tower Bridge, Leadenhall Market and commercial sites across the city. From there Tim joined the National Trust, looking after part of their London portfolio. Tim has been with Pick Everard for four years, leading design teams working on the Palace of Westminster and the Natural History Museum during this time.

James Smith MRICS**Principal Heritage Building Surveyor, Pick Everard**

Building surveying was a second career for James and he gained experience and chartered status whilst with the National Trust. James joined Pick Everard in 2020 as a specialist Heritage Building Surveyor as part of a growing team covering Heritage and Culture. James's skills include the administration of NEC contracts, the use of BIM in a heritage context and condition survey and defect analysis.

David Humphreys FRICS**Director, ACP Group and Chair of the RICS Building Conservation Advisory Group**

David is the founding director of ACP Group, which is an international, award-winning multi-disciplinary built heritage consultancy, with extensive experience in the conservation and management of ancient structures and buildings in Ireland, England, Newfoundland and SE Asia (offices in Ireland and Singapore). ACP have worked on over 1,000 projects since it was established in 2000 for private clients, charitable organisations, government departments and public authorities.

Jessica Jones FRICS**Principal Development Manager, Network Rail & Vice-Chair of RICS Building Conservation Advisory Group**

Jessica Jones is the Principal Development Manager at Network Rail. Jessica has over 15 years' experience of managing major projects and people, including complex masterplanning and heritage-led regeneration schemes.

Venue

St Paul's Church in Portland Square is a beautiful, re-conditioned church in the heart of Bristol city centre. For the first half of the week, it is home to Circomedia BTEC students as well as the Youth Circus and evening classes. From Thursday through to the weekend Portland Square can host a variety of guests such as professional touring companies, student performances, weddings, and corporate events. Some classes still run over the weekend and the space houses one of the UK's only permanent flying trapeze rigs. All shows and performances are held at Portland Square.

Walking: St Paul's Church is approximately a two-minute walk from Cabot Circus Shopping centre, ten minutes from Broadmead and Bristol's central bus station and 25 minutes from Bristol Temple Meads Station.

Car: There is metered parking available around Portland Square (charges apply 24/7). Alternatively, there is a nearby NCP car park and parking in Cabot Circus shopping centre. Please note there is a 20mph speed limit across much of Bristol city centre.

Many streets in the city centre (not including Great George Street, Charlotte Street or upper Park Street) are part of Bristol's Clean Air Zone. [Please find out more and check any associated charges for your vehicle here.](#)

Bike: You are welcome to park your bike in the church grounds; there are plenty of spare railings. Please be aware that there has been bike theft from outside the church previously, so please ensure your bike has a secure safety lock.

Taxi: A taxi from Bristol Temple Meads Station will cost around £6 one way.

What 3 Words

- The main front entrance is used for corporate events:
<https://what3words.com/total.offer.native>
- The side entrance is available for disabled access:
<https://what3words.com/mostly.ledge.chop>

