



COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES *in any colour*

Notable people and places of our area

STATEMENT

GCDSCS is committed to celebrating any person with some connection to our area who have had, or gone on to have, a positive impact in their civic, professional, sports or business life. GCDSCS is also open to celebrating any building or renovation of building which has had or is shown to have, positive impact on our area, or business it was built for. To be recognised as a *Notable Person* with attachment to this area, we do not distinguish whether that person was born, grew up or worked here. However, they must have demonstrated some *positive impact* in their field at some time and that maybe before, during or after their attachment to this area. In the case of buildings, consideration will be made according to relevant criteria.

In our experience, Commemorative Plaques:

- Cast metal Plaques are costly to have made with additional cost implications in their positioning
- 3D printed Plaques have been pioneered by the Society since 2024, and their use continues to be monitored
- NELC Planning Department will need to be consulted regarding the applying for, and paying for, Planning Permission for the siting of Plaques
- It is not 'a given' that a building's owner(s) will welcome a Plaque sited on their property
- carry no guarantee to remain where they are sited; new owners may choose to have them removed or the site itself may not remain, or they may be removed by 'persons unknown' for no known reason other than for malicious intent
- only come into their own as part of a 'tour' when wholly domestic areas may not be suitable as part of a tour

This Policy's purpose is to set out GCDSCS' position on 'Blue' Plaques:

- GCDSCS will not *set out* to identify any particular person or building in order to celebrate that person or building with a Blue Plaque
- GCDSCS is not likely to source or arrange the siting of a Plaque desired by others. We will, however, give support (if we warrant it) to others who wish to purchase and position a Blue Plaque
- Towards this, we may carry out research, to an amount we think fitting, towards the celebration of a *Notable Person* or *notable building/business*
- Should the subject of a Plaque for a Notable Person be raised by others, we do not insist on it being after a person's death, but the sponsor must be made aware that depending on that person's age, they may go on to achieve even greater things. (Conversely, there have been instances in the past where a person's impact is found not to be as positive as hoped. This is where GCDSCS representatives must carry out research and this may result in a withdrawal of support.)

These points will be considered in all events but may be overridden for instance when specific funding has been sought to install a series of new Plaques to provide a Visitor Trail

GDCS commits to:

Celebrating expertise, skill and enterprise of a person who has been proved to have had a positive impact in their field.

Celebrating the positive impact a business or building has had to lasting positive impact in our area or in the wider area

Further reading:

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/blue-plaques/about-blue-plaques/>

<https://www.kingsleynapley.co.uk/insights/blogs/real-estate-law-blog/blue-plaques-and-what-they-mean-for-a-property-owner>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_plaque

Reviews / dates:

Updated April 2025