

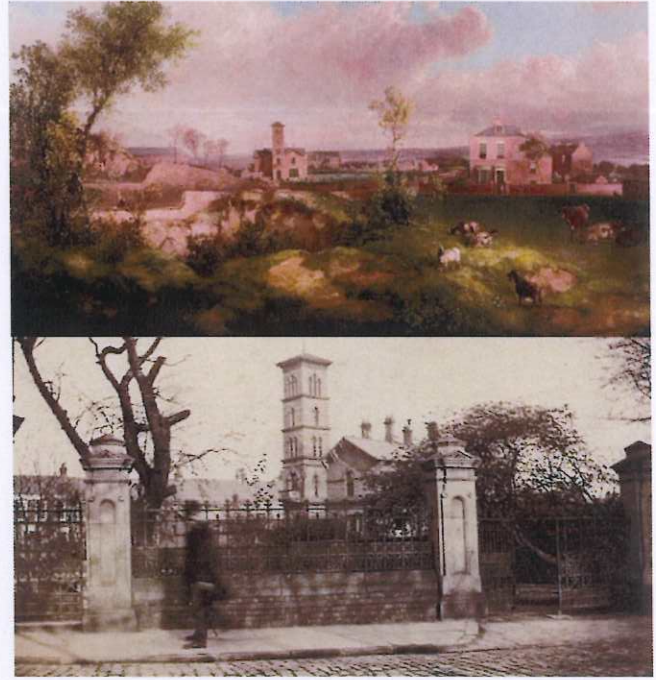
# NORTHERN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

[www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk](http://www.northernarchitecturalhistory.org.uk)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held on **Saturday 25th September 2021** at

**Bede Tower, Burdon Road, Sunderland**



### PROGRAMME

Attendance at the AGM and for the talks is free of charge. *Optional refreshments £9:00*

**11.00 a.m. Foregather in The Refectory** (*tea/coffee/biscuits for those who have paid for refreshments*).

**11.30 a.m. Talk in the Meeting Room** (free) Speaker: Dr. Michael Johnson.

**12.30 p.m. Buffet lunch in The Refectory** (*for those who have paid for refreshments*).

**1.30 p.m. AGM in the Meeting Room** (free).

**2:00 - 4.00 p.m. approx. Walking tour of architectural highlights in the vicinity of the venue** (free)

**Led by Dr. Michael Johnson**

Bede Tower was built in 1851 for Anthony John Moore – solicitor, chairman of the gas company and Mayor of Sunderland 1854-5. Moore also developed parts of the surrounding area employing G. Andrew Middlemiss as his architect. For Bede Tower Middlemiss derived its Italianate architectural style from Queen Victoria's Osborne House on the Isle of Wight (built 1845-51). The painting above right, dating from around 1854, shows the original house in its grounds surrounded by virgin countryside. The photograph beneath dates from around 1890 by which time the house had become a boys' school. Then in the First World War it served as a convalescent home for wounded soldiers. It passed through the hands of various institutions through the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century before being bought by Sunderland Polytechnic in the 1960's. The rather brutal additions of Theatre, Gymnasium, Refectory, etc., date from that ownership. Sunderland High School then purchased the complex along with the terrace of houses running at right angles to its frontage and used them for a while before they were purchased by the Vardy Foundation for Bethany City Church, who are our hosts for this event.

Getting there: see overleaf for map which shows nearby Metro, bus and railway stations (all within 10 minutes' walk). If coming by car note the arrows on the map indicating a one-way system on the approach roads. The entrance (pictured beside the map) is not immediately obvious from a distance so approach slowly up Burdon Road. If using SatNav set it to SR2 7DZ (this is not the postal address).

Note: Entrance to the building is through the modern wing to the right of the original house as seen from the car park.

# Bethany CITY Church



Bethany City Church  
Bede Tower, Burdon Road  
Sunderland SR2 7EA

Telephone: 0191 5654000

Web: [www.bethanycitychurch.org](http://www.bethanycitychurch.org) and [www.bedetower.com](http://www.bedetower.com)

Hours: We are always open during office hours 09.00 to 17.00 on weekdays  
We are open at other times for special events and Sunday services

## Transport

**Car:** The entrance to Bede Tower is on Burdon Road. Set your satnav to SR2 7DZ (this is not our actual post code, but is the best one to use for satnav).

**From the South**  
Drive north along Ryhope Road to the traffic lights at the junction with Mowbray Road. After the lights take the right hand lane to filter right onto Park Road. At the next traffic lights turn right and immediately move into the left hand lane. The entrance to Bede tower car park is 100 metres on your left.

**From the North, or West**  
Follow the A690 to a roundabout at the junction with Stockton Road. Take the third exit on to Stockton Road. Go through the traffic lights near the bus station, and then a second set of lights. The road bears left onto Park Road. At the traffic lights turn right and immediately move into the left hand lane. The entrance to Bede Tower car park is 100 metres on your left.

**Metro:** The nearest Tyne and Wear Metro station is Park Lane

**Rail:** Sunderland railway station is about half a mile to the north

**Bus:** Park Lane bus station is five minutes walk from Bede Tower

