

St Hilda's Colliery Pit Head, South Shields, Tyne and Wear



Mining deep in history

Grade II listed St Hilda's Pit Head is all that remains of the once significant St Hilda's Colliery, which earned its place in history for its 1899 disaster – essentially a massive underground gas explosion – after which candles were outlawed in all mines across the country in favour of electric lamps. A considerable innovation in mining safety at the time.

The Pit Head comprises winding and pump houses, which survived the closure and clearance of the main pit in 1940, being used for ventilation and emergency access to neighbouring Westoe Colliery.

Works will be undertaken by Meldrum Construction and Mawson Kerr Architects are responsible for overall specification. All being well, St Hilda's will be ready for its new users in Spring 2018. A programme engaging the community will run alongside the restoration, working with Cultural Spring, Harton and Westoe Miners Banner Group and Customs House.



Building Managed By: **TWBPT**

Project Estimated Cost: **£188,000**

Owner: **South Tyneside Council and held by TWBPT on a 50 year lease**

Funders: **Heritage Lottery Fund, South Tyneside Council, Pilgrim Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Headley Trust, Sylvia Waddilove Foundation and Sir James Knott Trust**

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