

# The Canterbury Society

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Canterbury City Council  
Military Road  
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Dear Mr Brown

## Listed buildings at risk in Canterbury

We are writing on behalf of the Canterbury Society to express our concern about a number of buildings in the city centre. All are listed buildings in a conservation area; the first two are on the Heritage at Risk Register.

### **7 St Margaret's Street (The Loft/Ha Ha bar)**

This building is currently being propped up by unsightly steel joists which partially block the pavement and are a disgrace to one of our main tourist routes. We understand that it belongs to the council but is sub-let in legally complicated ways. This historic building needs to be brought back into use as soon as possible.

### **2 The Borough**

This timber-framed building is in the process of being restored, but for months now work appears to have stopped. We are left with unsightly scaffolding, which obstructs the pavement and obscures the entrance to the music shop next door. We suggest that the owners be ordered to complete the work, to protect this building and its neighbours against further decay..

### **16 St Radigund's Street**

This workshop/warehouse is unused and neglected. However, it was here that Count Louis Zborowski constructed two Chitty Chitty Bang Bang cars in 1921-2. He was a well-known local engineer and an internationally respected racing driver. The building still shows interesting evidence of its past use and is also a very attractive addition to the street scene. It would benefit from refurbishments.

### **The Weavers, High Street**

A casual glance might suggest that this much-photographed building is in reasonable order. However, closer inspection shows that it is seriously neglected. The windows are rotting and birds' droppings can be seen on the window ledges. There is also a question about whether health and safety regulations are being met.

### **8 St Alphege Lane, corner with King Street**

This modest house has a notable history, represented by a beautiful ceiling, said to have been installed to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's visit to Canterbury. However, the building is sadly neglected and the owner appears unwilling to remedy the problems.

All these buildings urgently require attention and action if they are not to deteriorate further. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss what could be done and would be grateful if you could let us know what you plan to do about each one?

Yours sincerely

Jan Pahl  
Chair

Virginia Webb  
Secretary

CC..Colin Carmichael. David Kincaid, Clive Bowley  
Gerry Warren, Kentish Gazette