

Charlie MacKieth

Preston belongs to Charles Quick (In Certain Places)

I think it really just started a conversation between us about various aspects of the square, where Preston and what one might do with our different types of practice very informal

Lorraine Norris Chief Ex PCC talking about Harris Flights before it was installed

Our objective has been to say we would like to bring activity into the city centre, we would like to have on offer in the city centre on regular basics, some sort of culture leisure entertainment experience as part of the reason for being in the city centre as a draw to bring people in and the Harris Flights is really the first one of those post Guild experiences .

One of the things that attracted us to this particular project was the ability to have multiple events. So you have got this temporary structure that provides you with a canvas and it is now up to some programming, we will bring in professionally organised events from outside but really the challenge is there for the community to use it, for them to see it as a real opportunity for them to perform or do whatever they want to. Critically it is called the Harris Flights ... and one of the exciting things is it draws you into the Harris Museum

Bernard Hayes deputy Chief Ex of PCC talking about Harris Flights before it was installed

We are really excited by this project. A lot of people said they would have liked to have seen those steps from the top of the Harris continue right of the way down to the Flag Market and this, all be it temporary, is a chance to see how that works. I am sure the listed building status of the Museum would prevent us doing something like that permanently, but I am sure it will encourage people to actually go into the Harris Museum and enjoy some of the exhibits in there.

Tim Joel Event manager for PCC talking about - the regeneration that the Harris Flights might bring to the city square. Before it was installed.

Certainly the aim is that we will start to increase footfall into the city centre, our high streets are changing, the main purpose of our high streets is shifting from people coming into shop with the decline of our high street shops. So I think looking to get people into the city centre changing their relationship with the space and what they come in for, so its not all about shopping its about coming in and enjoying events enjoying them communally together.

There is the beginnings of the regeneration of the Flag market Square. The city council have put a lot of money in to restoring the physical space and the regeneration of the cenotaph, work that is on-going and will still be on going through the flights programme if we can change people's relationship with the city square, start to introduce that cosmopolitan European feel. Through people just coming and having lunch on the steps and people meeting friends on the steps lets meet on the flight before we go out for lunch or before we go out to dinner. It will become that focal draw for a four week period, then we can start to slowly change peoples behavioural relationship with the space, and then we will be able to build on that and certainly cement the city centre flag market as a focal hub for that activity and people get use to that.

I also think there is huge benefit to the museum of people being able to come into the museum where as they might not have before Through the programme they take the opportunity to visit the Museum. So the benefits of it are two fold really it will be exciting to see how those pan out

People want to sit on top of the steps and onto the platform of the Harris which you do not usually get access to you have got a vista of the city which you don't usually get to see

I think it will spark debate around how people do entre the Harris I think also there will be a lot of desire for it to be made permanent which we saw with the foundation that in certain places provided 7 years ago, the large screen that we had in for the Olympics last year. These big thinks that have a big impact in the city centre for a lot of benefit people.

The debate around the positive benefit that the steps bring to the Harris and the Flag Market I think will be something that will be on going and will continue long after the project is finished.