

News

10.05.12

New public square honours rail engineer

Doncaster has honoured the legendary locomotive engineer, Sir Nigel Gresley, by naming its new civic square after the man who designed and oversaw the creation of world famous locomotives like the Mallard and the Flying Scotsman in the town.

Mayor of Doncaster, Peter Davies, said: "Sir Nigel Gresley was the most celebrated engineer of his era and a true railway legend. He had a close affinity to Doncaster so it is fitting we name our new public square after such an important figure in our history. Doncaster continues to benefit from his legacy today."

Sir Nigel Gresley Square is the focal point of the town's new Civic and Cultural Quarter which is transforming the Waterdale area. The construction of the new £20 million performance venue and civic offices is well under way. Housing, offices, leisure and other developments are also planned as part of the scheme.

Muse Developments' regional director, Dan Needham, said: "We're delighted Doncaster's new civic square has been named after a figure so richly embedded in the town's heritage. We look forward to the official opening of Sir Nigel Gresley Square which will mark the next key milestone in the delivery of this exciting £300 million regeneration scheme."

Sir Nigel Gresley Square will officially open during a big Diamond Jubilee celebration event on Sunday 3 June. The new civic offices will be complete later this year and the new multi-purpose venue will open in 2013.

The new square features a range of comfortable seating, architectural lighting, a water feature, raised lawns, paved areas and a piece of public art. It was designed by landscape architects Whitelaw Turkington and built by main contractor North Midland Construction.

The CCQ project is supported financially by the European Union, as part of the European Regional Development Fund's support for the region's economic development through the Yorkshire and Humber ERDF Programme.