

For immediate release
Press release



The city is yours to explore...

Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival Launches its 2017 programme

Now in its 28th year, the Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival is back to throw open the doors of the city in celebration of Glasgow's architecture, culture and heritage. From **11-17th September** visitors can get behind the scenes in some of Glasgow's iconic historic buildings as well as working factories, breweries, theatres and more! With a whole new history, heritage and archaeology themed programme, featuring hundreds of open buildings, walks, talks, tours, exhibitions, concerts, special events and children's activities, the city is yours to explore!

Images: The Lord Provost of Glasgow opens the doors to the city, see images -

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1q83wezq354p22f/AADF_3Ap6UsfE7StQ9KIFcbMa?dl=0

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

The 2017 Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival Programme features 116 open buildings, 50 walks and many special events including a series of pop-up concerts, performed by Scottish Ensemble in three of our festival venues: a former clay pipe factory, an iconic Category A listed Govan building and an Edwardian bathhouse. Additional events bringing venues to life include two exhibitions commissioned by the festival. Emerging artists Nima Sene and Joanne Dawson are creating new artworks in response to Pollok House and Holmwood House, their histories and archives, which will be exhibited in the buildings during the festival. Other events include a chapatti making workshop at the Glasgow Gurdwara, Rowing taster sessions at the West Boathouse on Glasgow Green and a silent movie screening with live music accompaniment at Pollokshaws Burgh Hall. The full programme is available to view online at www.glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.com and printed brochures can be picked up from Glasgow libraries and at pick-up points across the city.

All events are free to attend, booking opens for ticketed events at 10am Wednesday 23rd August.

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Glasgow Doors Open Days pop-up hub at St Andrew's in the Square: In true Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival style, an historic city landmark is being opened to the public and packed full of exciting events. The Category A listed, 18th Century former church will become the pop-up hub during the festival, visitors will be able to

- Attend lunchtime and evening talks:

A packed programme of talks in our festival hub at St. Andrews in the Square taking you on a whistle stop tour across Glasgow's history, heritage and archaeology. From finding out about the origins of Glasgow place names, to a look at Glasgow's prehistoric past (with object handling!) to an illustrated talk from the ever popular Lost Glasgow to finding out about the city's HERstory; there's something for everyone!

- Explore the building throughout the week of Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival (11-17th September)
- Collect information and talk to staff and volunteers about what's on during the city-wide programme.
- Enjoy a design market on Saturday 16th selling locally crafted products.

Dedicated Children's Programme: 2017 will see the third dedicated Glasgow Doors Open Days Children's Programme featuring over 50 FREE events and activities for young ones of all ages, across the city! From arts and crafts and dress-up to rocket-making and rowing taster sessions, there's something for everyone; plus with quizzes and games there are opportunities to learn about Glasgow's buildings and the city's history and heritage.

QUOTES

MollyMae Whawell, Events and Development Coordinator at Glasgow Building Preservation Trust, said:

"Each year the Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival throws open the doors of the city and reignites the natural curiosity of thousands of visitors. I'm delighted that our 2017 programme not only features over 100 buildings that will welcome in the public, but many programmed events including some fantastic lunchtime and evening talks at our festival hub, exhibitions and concerts.

Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival is not only an opportunity for international visitors and for those from surrounding areas, but for Glaswegians to reencounter the city, to get into buildings they walk past every day, and to reconnect to the story of Glasgow. I'm truly excited to be sharing this year's programme and can't wait for our bookings to open this Wednesday."

Karen Cunningham, Director, Festival of Architecture said:

"I am delighted that Glasgow Doors Open Days is part of the packed, colourful programme for the Festival of Architecture 2017. I'd urge everyone to get out and about and explore Glasgow's fantastic architecture and built heritage and enjoy discovering hidden gems as well as old favourites."

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EXTRA INFORMATION

Programme:

- This year 116 buildings will take part, 50 tours and walks plus talks, special events and a dedicated children's programme with over 50 events and activities.
- All events are free.
- **Bookings for ticketed events open THIS Wednesday 23rd August at 10am. Tickets sell out fast!**
- All event information is available at www.glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.com

Print: The 2017 brochure can be found in Glasgow libraries and participating venues.

Booking: Some events must be booked in advance. Pre-booking for these events will open on Wednesday 23th August at 10am. Details of how to book events can be found in the brochure and children's print or www.glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.com

Images: Relevant to this release will be sent direct from our photographer Eoin Carey

[ENDS]

Notes for Editors

Essential to include in all Press when referring to Doors Open Days:

Doors Open Days is coordinated nationally by the Scottish Civic Trust. It runs throughout Scotland every September as part of European Heritage Days. For more information see www.doorsopendays.org.uk Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival is coordinated locally by Glasgow Building Preservation Trust. For more information see www.glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.com

Festival of Architecture Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival is proud to be part of the Festival of Architecture 2017, Scotland's Celebration of design, creativity and build environment. The Festival runs throughout September.

The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) was founded in 1916 and is the professional body for chartered architects in Scotland. Including student members, Honorary Fellows and retirees, the Incorporation has over 4,700 members. The RIAS promotes excellence in architecture in Scotland.

St Andrew's in the Square Formerly the church of St Andrew's in the Square in Glasgow's East End, and last used as such in 1990, this building dates from 1754 and is widely regarded as one of the finest classical churches in Britain. It was designed by the architect Allan Dreghorn, based on James Gibbs' famous St Martins-in-the-Fields in London and built by the master mason, Mungo Naismith. It was the city's first new church to be built since the Reformation. Today, the building is a performance and event venue.

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Background to Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival

- Glasgow Doors Open Days is a free festival celebrating the city's architecture, culture and heritage.
- Doors Open Days first took place in Glasgow and Ayr in 1990 where it formed part of the European City of Culture celebrations.
- Held in the third week of September each year, there are tours, walks, talks, and exhibitions, children's activities, in addition to more than 100 buildings being open to visitors to explore Glasgow.
- Glasgow Doors Open Days is coordinated by Glasgow Building Preservation Trust, a charity that focuses on saving Glasgow's built heritage by establishing new uses for and restoring much loved old buildings.
- Doors Open Days takes place throughout Scotland and is part of European Heritage Days. Information about the national programme can be found at www.doorsopendays.org.uk

Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival Funders

- Glasgow Doors Open Days is funded largely by Glasgow City Council and sponsored by a number of other organisations. For full list of Sponsors see: <http://glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.co.uk/supportus/>
- Glasgow Life – Received a grant from Glasgow Life Arts Development Scheme for the New Interpretations: Contemporary Art in Heritage exhibitions at Holmwood House and Pollok House.
- Received an 'Awards for All' grant from the Big Lottery Fund to support increasing accessibility and including translation of the brochure into two different languages and braille. BSL interpreters for a number of walks, live captioning for talks in the festival hub.

Doors Open Day Facts and Figures

- Glasgow was the first ever Doors Open Days to be held in the UK.
- Over 26,000 visitors came to the festival in 2016
- In 2016 there were over 3,500 visits by children to Glasgow Doors Open Days Festival events.
- 2017 is the 28th year that Glasgow has hosted Doors Open Days event.
- There will be a photography competition as part of the event in 2017 encouraging the sharing of photos of Glasgow.

Useful Links

www.glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival.com
www.gbpt.org
www.foa2017.com #FOA2017
www.doorsopendays.org.uk
www.standrewsinthesquare.com
Facebook.com/GlasgowDoorsOpenDays
Twitter.com/GlasgowDOD
Instagram.com/glasgowdoorsopendaysfestival

Contact

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