

BATH PRESERVATION TRUST

Issue number 77 | Spring 2013

2013 A momentous year for the Trust!

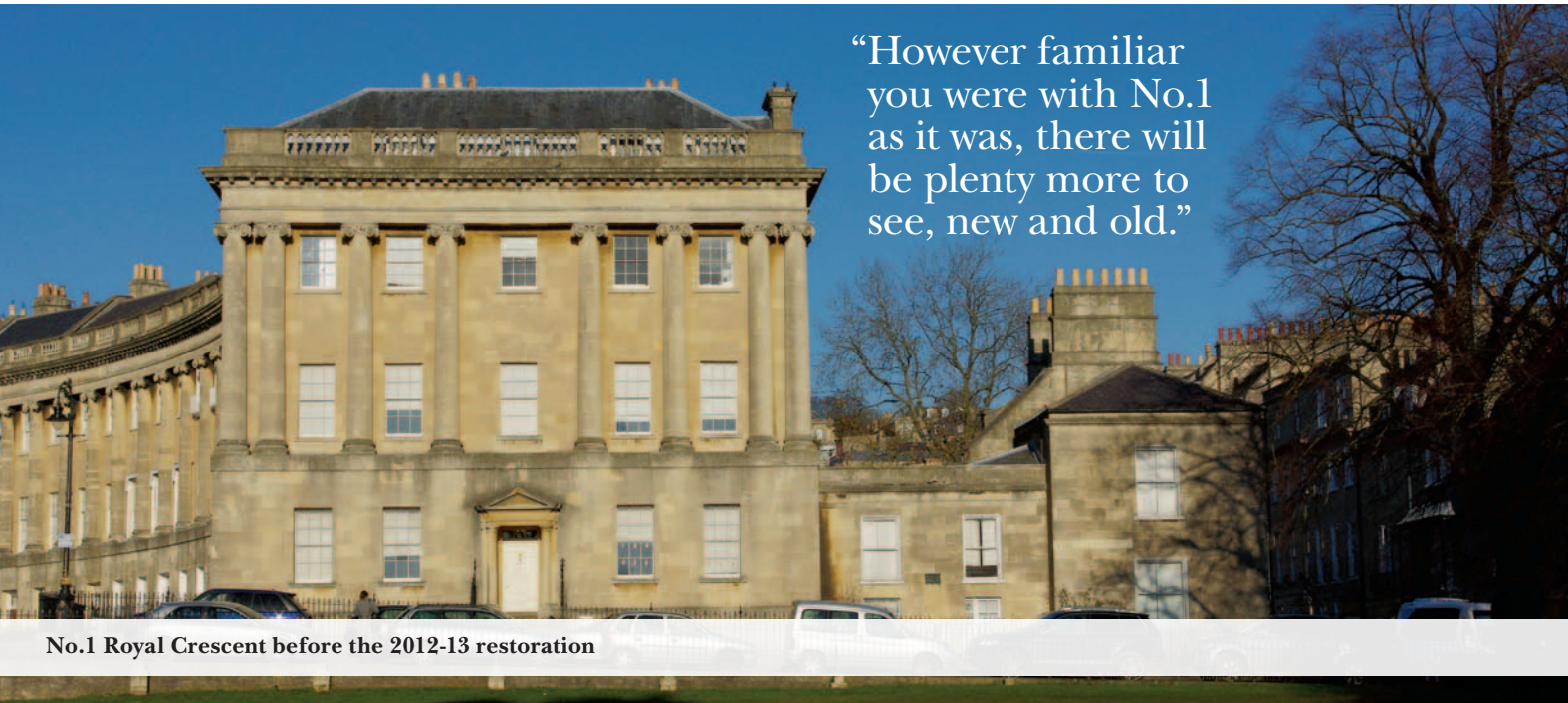
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Restoration of No.1 Royal Crescent during the 1960s.
This image will be included in the exhibition opening on 21 June.

www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk

Welcome



“However familiar you were with No.1 as it was, there will be plenty more to see, new and old.”

No.1 Royal Crescent before the 2012-13 restoration

Message from the Chairman

2013 is a momentous year for the Trust. On Midsummer’s Day, 43 years after the museum at No.1 opened its doors to the public for the first time, we will be reopening the greatly expanded No.1 Royal Crescent to all comers. I won’t spoil the excitement, but suffice it to say that however familiar you were with No.1 as it was, there will be plenty more to see, new and old. We hope you will all be more than pleasantly surprised, and will already be planning to bring your friends and family to visit.

In an ideal world, we still have about £500,000 to raise for the project, and we hope that as many of you as possible will continue to support it, perhaps through the newly launched *No.1 Fan Club*, for which there is a leaflet enclosed. All members of the Fan Club will get preview visits as well as other perks, and we will also be holding a huge ‘Thank You’ party for our supporters on Friday 28 June. Do please think about taking this last opportunity to be part of that supporter network.

The Trust is however much more than a manager of museums. Our campaigning work continues to have, I believe, increasing relevance in a changing world and a changing city. It is likely that Bath will undergo significant development over the next decade, some good, some less good, but the Trust, with its membership behind it, can only try its best to influence public officials and private interests for the benefit of the historic City as a whole.

I should like to take the opportunity here to pay tribute to former trustee Air Commodore Alun Morgan, who brought immense wisdom, experience and notably kindness and courtesy to the work of our Architecture and Planning Committee and the Trust as a whole. Alun died in January 2013 and the packed church at his funeral was an apt reflection of the value and esteem in which he was held by the Bath community. We at the Trust were fortunate to know him and to have benefited from his company.

Edward Bayntun-Coward

Message from the Chief Executive

There comes a point in all building projects where, to muddle my imagery rather, the ship has set off down the slipway and there is nothing to be done but watch until it hits the water. Of course, standing and watching does not describe in any way what the team at BPT has been doing and continues to do, and I’d like to take the opportunity at this point, before the big splash in the summer, to pay tribute to my staff colleagues and Trustees for all the work they have done in reinventing the interpretation, content, fabric and funding of the Trust’s flagship museum. We have all been challenged in this project, but that is no bad thing.

At the same time Bath is being challenged on a number of physical fronts. The Council has taken one step towards mitigating the threat of uncontrolled housing development by adopting revisions to its Core Strategy which it hopes will satisfy the planning inspector later in the summer. However, these changes involve loss of green belt around Bath, a key part of the protection of the World Heritage Site and of particular concern for the communities of Southstoke and Weston. We are relieved to see that other specific areas, such as the Newton St Loe site, have been explicitly excluded. The Trust has long argued for a Buffer Zone for the World Heritage Site and we believe that until there is a coherent definition of how Bath’s urban edges are to be contained, the landscape setting of the City remains vulnerable. We would encourage members to respond to the consultation on the Council’s website, so that the Planning Inspector has a clear sense of the views of the people of Bath.

It is only with clear, well defined policy, accompanied by close and assertive enforcement, that there can be meaningful development control. We are half-way through a public inquiry and legal process on the former Fullers’ Earthworks site. Other key sites such as the Woolley Valley and some City centre sites need real strength from the Planning Department - at a time of diminishing resources - if the character of the World Heritage Site is not to be degraded. We will continue to watch closely on all these matters and we hope that our members will support us in doing so.

Caroline Kay

Bath Preservation Trust Campaigning

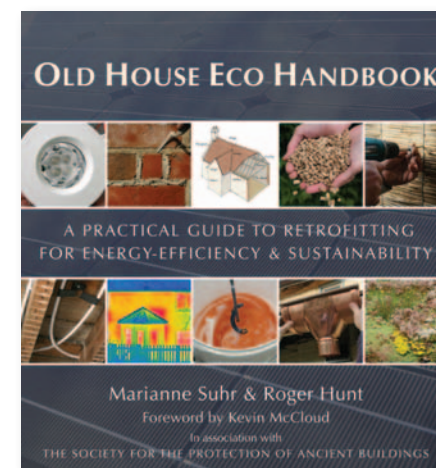
Core Strategy and the MOD Sites

The draft revisions to the Core Strategy are now out for consultation and interested parties should check the Council’s website (www.consultations.bathnes.gov.uk/consult.ti/PCSCS_consultationHome) if they wish to respond to the revisions. These increase the housing need for B&NES to 12,700, and also allocates several areas of greenfield land for housing. B&NES intends fully to meet this housing need by providing sufficient site allocation for it. Around Bath, the greenfield sites are on the Southstoke/Odd Down plateau, Lower Weston and on part of the school playing fields at Lansdown. These areas of land are IN ADDITION TO the three vacated MOD sites. These have now all been sold to developers, with Curo (the B&NES social housing provider) purchasing Foxhill, Warminster Road being purchased by developer Square Bay and the Ensleigh site by a subsidiary of IM Properties Plc. The Trust commented on the concept statements for these sites and we will wish to engage closely with the developers as any plans proceed. We would like to hear from our members as to their views about the increase of housing in B&NES; please contact Caroline Kay on ckay@bptrust.org.uk.

The Sustainable Construction and Retrofitting SPD

The Council adopted in February a Supplementary Planning Document on sustainable construction and retrofitting, which for older buildings drew heavily on the Trust’s award-winning work on this subject, Warmer Bath. The SPD covers possible retrofit solutions for all building typologies, though for listed buildings and undesignated buildings in conservation areas supplementary guidance is still in preparation and we understand will be issued by September. The document can be obtained from the Council’s website.

However, while waiting for this additional guidance, BPT members may be interested in *The Old House Eco Handbook*, a lavishly illustrated SPAB publication by Marianne Suhr and Roger Hunt, subtitled *A Practical Guide to Retrofitting for Energy Efficiency and Sustainability*. This is an enjoyable and detailed read which covers the principles of conservation and their place in the environmental agenda, as well as showing and demonstrating different techniques for meeting the energy needs of old properties. The challenges of producing any publication in this fast-moving area are considerable, but the principles of how to approach the subject, together with the excellent illustrations and examples, make this a valuable addition to the bookshelves of anyone concerned with this subject, be they homeowner or adviser.



To order *Old House Eco Handbook* at the special offer price of £24.00 inc. UK p&p (RRP: £30.00), please call Bookpoint on 01235 400 400 and quote the code 46OHEH

Bath Abbey

Consultation on proposals to improve facilities at Bath Abbey began at the end of 2011 and continued throughout 2012. The Trust maintained an objection to the proposed third floor extension to Kingston Buildings and expressed concerns about design of the space between Kingston Buildings and the Abbey, the need and justification for whole-scale internal reordering of Kingston Buildings, and the impact on the significance of the vaults and the extent of changes to them. We were pleased that the proposals approved in early 2013 omitted the extension to Kingston Buildings and included a much clearer explanation of the case for the internal interventions to this modest but important terrace (one of the few surviving artisan terraces in the city centre). We continue to monitor developments on the next phase of the project (internal reordering of the Abbey itself), including any proposal to relocate the very important monument to Archbishop Montague.



Kingston Buildings showing the roof extension now omitted

The Rec

At time of writing, Bath still awaits the Charity Commission’s determination of the Scheme which would permit the Rec Trust to reissue a lease to Bath Rugby enabling them to extend the Rugby facilities on the Rec to provide a three-sided arena (with removable East Stand) occupying slightly more than the current area, while also regularising the Leisure Centre as a legitimate use of Rec land and taking into Rec Trust control the pitches at Lambridge.

Bath Preservation Trust has maintained a holding position on the Rec which awaits firm proposals as we feel there has been much speculation, but few facts to date. The Trust has not objected to the Rec Trust’s desire to create a legal lease to Bath Rugby enabling them to significantly improve the ground facilities and the truly ancillary amenities, because the current buildings let down the City Centre. We recognise that the design development on this sensitive site will be challenging and that key views should be respected and maintained.

Bath Preservation Trust Campaigning

Bath Green Homes

The open ‘green homes’ event in April showcased twenty examples of different housing types which have been made more energy efficient across the World Heritage Site, including heritage homes. The Building of Bath Collection became an exciting and informative ‘hub’ for the event, and the Trust also held free lunchtime practical demonstrations which promoted draught-proofing and improving the energy efficiency of traditional sash windows. For more information and case studies, and how to get involved in 2014, visit the event website at www.bathgreenhomes.co.uk. If you are planning on undertaking any energy efficiency improvements to your home or have done so already and would be interested in showcasing your home so that other homeowners in Bath can learn from your approach, then we would love to hear from you.



Bath Western Riverside

Further planning applications were submitted early in 2013 for phase II of the development of Western Riverside. Alison Brooks Architects have developed detailed designs for contemporary townhouses along the river frontage, and apartment blocks. The Trust has not objected to the proposal which reflects the character of Bath; however, we have raised concern about the use of stone cladding as a roofing material and have urged the applicants to provide further justification and evidence to support the effectiveness and suitability of this material. We anticipate further planning applications coming forward later this year for the development of the tall ‘object’ buildings along the riverside.

Bath Western Riverside Alison Brooks scheme (courtesy of Crest Nicholson)



Street Lighting

B&NES Councillor Roger Symonds has announced that the replacement of street lighting in the City Centre is on hold while further consideration is given to the appropriateness of the LED lighting and the lanterns and lampstands in the Bath Conservation Area. BPT welcomes this moratorium on the grounds that a coherent lighting strategy for the Bath Conservation Area is long overdue. It was promised in the Streetscape Manual (2005) and on several occasions BPT has requested, pleaded or cajoled Councillors and officers to have such a lighting strategy which fully respected the character of the Conservation Area.

We believe that it is entirely possible to achieve energy savings by using modern technology in historically styled lamps, and only regret that B&NES failed to address this issue before it started spending public money on a roll-out of an inappropriate scheme. We have received public assurances that we will be consulted on the scheme during this pause.

Fuller’s Earth Public Inquiry

The first stage of the public inquiry into the appeal against enforcement on the Former Fuller’s Earth Works was held in January. The Inspector found against the appellant (Gazelle Properties) after the first stage on the specific matters he was considering. This means that the Inspector agreed with us that industrial use was only agreed on the area where the buildings and hard-standing were. Gazelle is attempting to review this decision in the High Court. In a further twist Gazelle have now withdrawn their appeals, trying to prove the Council has under enforced in their appeal notices. It is unclear whether there will now be a next stage in the appeal process. BPT continues to argue strongly that the Enforcement notices should be upheld in full.

Bath Preservation Trust



Royal Crescent, Bath, J & J Dutton c.1860-67

Bath Preservation Trust Archives

Work on cataloguing the archive has been progressing rapidly thanks to the tireless input of a dedicated team of volunteers. Alongside the sorting, re-storing in conservation quality storage and cataloguing of the holdings we already have in the archive, we are also making the occasional acquisition to the archive collection. In particular in March we purchased a small early photograph of the Royal Crescent that can be dated to pre-1867

due to the fact that St Andrew’s Church cannot be seen rising above the Crescent curve. What made the purchase of the photograph so important was the fact that No.1a Royal Crescent can be seen in the image, adding another resource of information to our understanding of the changes the building underwent in the 19th Century.

Bath Preservation Trust Social Media

As a Member you show your support for the Trust but you can do even more by following us on Facebook and Twitter!

We are running a fun - and enlightening - campaign on Facebook and Twitter to promote *The Whole Story* Project and support the build-up towards the grand opening of No.1 on 21 June. By following and ‘liking’ us you help widen the circulation of our updates. We’re already reaching new audiences amongst Bath’s tourists and younger residents, which is very exciting.

www.facebook.com/No1RoyalCrescent
(We also promote events at our other museums here)

For those interested in following our campaign work and/or want general conservation news please visit:

www.facebook.com/Bath-Preservation-Trust

We have two Twitter accounts:

@No1Museum (promotes No.1 activities)
@BathPresTrust (concentrates on our architectural and conservation expertise)

Please ‘like’ and recommend to your friends! We welcome any suggestions you may have.

If you have not already visited our new websites then do browse them for latest news and information. They have been rebranded and the feedback to date has been very positive indeed.

www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk
www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk
www.buildingofbathcollection.org.uk
www.beckfordstower.org.uk
www.herschelmuseum.org.uk

The Whole Story Project update

The Heritage Lottery Funded works in No.1 are progressing well with Ken Biggs Contractors releasing areas of the building as their works are completed for the Trust to dress (interpreted rooms) and fit out (office and volunteer spaces). Many of the rooms are nearing completion and the top two floors have already been handed over to the Trust. The main rooms on the ground and first floors are also nearing completion with all the services works complete and decoration works well underway. The basement will be the last to be completed and handed back but in the meantime staff are working hard planning the return of all the collection items as well as the final procurement of carpets and curtains, etc., where needed. The BPT HQ offices also need to return No.1 from their temporary location so there is still much to be done. However, all spaces in No.1 and in No.1a, the former service wing, are on schedule to be completed by early June when a series of events will be held in the finished museum for funders and donors, stakeholders, focus groups and others prior to the official media opening event on Friday 21 June.

In advance of this, parts of No.1 have been temporarily opened up to the public. Visitors have until Sunday 28 April to visit the Georgian styled shop, see the *Home Truths: Georgian Living Unlocked* exhibition and update themselves on the restoration project's progress.



The new Georgian-styled shop



Exhibition in the Andrew Brownsword Gallery

The museum will be completely closed – to allow final preparations to be made prior to the grand opening on 21 June – from Sunday 28 April.

Opening details post 21 June:

Opening hours Tue-Sun 10:30AM-5:30PM, Mon 12:00-5:30PM

Admission prices (FREE ENTRY for members)	No.1 Royal Crescent	Joint ticket discount with Building of Bath Collection (includes £1 off at Beckford's Tower and at the Herschel Museum)
Adult	£8.50	£10.50
Seniors	£6.50	£9.00
Children	£3.50	£3.50
Family	£17.00	£21.00
Groups	£5.00	—
Students	£4.00	—

Discovery Card Holders: 30% off admission to No.1
Free access during Heritage Open Week
Free access on Family Fridays if bringing children to the workshops
50p off at BOBC

Home Truths: Georgian Living Unlocked - Exhibition Review

On Saturday 9 February No.1 Royal Crescent opened the new Andrew Brownsword Gallery to the public, showcasing its debut exhibition entitled, *Home Truths: Georgian Living Unlocked*. The gallery is named after Bath businessman and philanthropist Andrew Brownsword, whose extraordinary generosity has made the restoration and reconnection to this wing possible.

The exhibition has received excellent feedback from visitors who have very much enjoyed discovering more about life in the 18th Century and have praised our informative guides who have been back to volunteer in the gallery. The exhibition has also featured in a number of publications including the *Daily Telegraph*, *Bath Life* and the *Bath Chronicle*. *Home Truths* will be on display at No.1 Royal Crescent until Sunday 28 April.

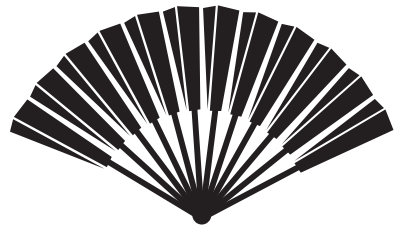


Volunteering at No.1 Royal Crescent

The last few months have been an exciting time for volunteering at No.1 Royal Crescent. With double the number of rooms in the new No.1, museum staff realised that they would need if not exactly double the number of guides, then very close to it. Thanks to the work of volunteer recruitment officer Anna White, we are delighted that nearly one hundred new volunteers have now joined the ranks of our exceptional museum guides and have attended welcome mornings at the Building of Bath Collection to meet their peers and learn about *The Whole Story* project. The museum team are now working on a detailed training programme which will include disability awareness training for all guides and a preview of the new rooms and museum collection. For more information about becoming a guide at No.1 contact Louisa Hall at lhall@bptrust.org.uk.

No.1 Royal Crescent

No.1 Fan Club



THE No.1 FAN CLUB

You, your family and friends can take part in an exciting new venture, just launched by the Trust. It's called the *No.1 Fan Club* and is an easy way to make your own contribution to the Trust's £5 million *The Whole Story* project.

"We have designed the *No.1 Fan Club* to give individuals who want to contribute to the project a convenient way to do so," says Trust Chair Edward Bayntun-Coward. "*No.1 Fan Club* members pay a minimum of £50 per month over two years. With gift aid, this can amount to £62.50 per month."

Club members' benefits include:

- an annual Champagne reception
- advance view and tour of renovated No.1 prior to the reopening
- Bath Preservation Trust membership (individual or joint), including free entrance to No.1 Royal Crescent and other Trust museums.

For further benefits and information, please see: www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk/the-whole-story-project/no-1-fan-club, or the leaflet enclosed.



Fundraising is On-going

We are tremendously grateful to everyone who has supported *The Whole Story* project so far. Through your on-going commitment and generosity we are moving ever closer to raising our target of £5 million.

It has been another busy few months for the Fundraising Team. Throughout February and March we held a number of private events and tours of No.1a allowing donors and members to have a sneak preview of the newly refurbished Servants' Wing, including the kitchen which is under wraps until we officially open on 21 June! Visitors were also able to enjoy *Home Truths: Georgian Living Unlocked* - the first exhibition in the new Andrew Brownsword Gallery - and browse gifts in the new Georgian shop. We are delighted to let you know that preview tours will continue throughout April and we will also hold a number of exclusive visits in early June.

With just over £500,000 left to raise, we still need your help to complete the restoration and refurbishment of the historic building at No.1. We do hope that you will support this exciting project. We are very grateful for all donations, large or small, and your gift will play a vital part in helping us restore this wonderful heritage museum.

You can also donate to the project through our new website. Simply go to www.bath-preservation-trust.org.uk and click on the donate button on the home page. If you have any questions or any ideas or would like to see how the project is progressing, please contact Claire Owen on 01225 338727 or cowen@bptrust.org.uk

Education and Partnerships

The learning partnerships have gone from strength to strength including a major project with Twerton Infant's School in collaboration with 5x5x5=creativity. This has seen the 6 and 7-year-old students use the Building of Bath Collection as their weekly base for art and craft activities inspired by the large 3D map in the museum.

Outreach education activities have continued in a number of schools. At St. Andrew's Primary School, Year 4 students made a seed cake based on a Georgian recipe, while Years 1 and 2 made their own toys inspired by 18th Century whirligigs.

Newbridge Primary School explored Beckford's Tower and designed their own treasure cabinets, while Weston All Saints Primary will also be visiting the Tower soon as well as trying on Georgian costumes and handling artefacts.

Joinery students at the City of Bath College are hard at work on building a sedan chair to be used as signage and placed outside the front door of No.1.

Students from Bath Spa University's Heritage course are creating a smartphone app for a virtual cabinet of curiosities inspired by the real one we will be installing in the No.1 museum. These and other activities will continue after the museum is reopened as will work to catalogue and re-box the archives before they are moved to their new secure store in No.1. The aim of this work is to ensure that the archives have been properly and appropriately stored to ensure they do not deteriorate over time and to make them more accessible to those who would like to view them or use them for research.

Summer Events

It is an exciting year for the events programme at No.1 Royal Crescent. Once the newly refurbished museum opens (21 June) there will be plenty of opportunities for us to tell new stories. The new Servants' Hall will be a multi-functional space allowing us to host a wide variety of workshops and activities for all ages to enjoy. Look out for more information on our opening events in the coming months. We will be welcoming back our wonderful Georgian Cook, Annie, to bring our new kitchen and scullery to life.

Our popular *Family Friday* workshops will return this July, providing the opportunity for families to take part in three craft sessions inspired by new items found in the collection:

Friday 2 August, 11AM-1PM

Treasure Boxes - What Do You Treasure?

Henry was No.1 Royal Crescent's first resident. He had a cabinet of curiosities where he kept his treasure. Come and make your own treasure box and have a look at Henry's cabinet to inspire you.

Friday 16 August, 11AM-1PM

Japanning with Glitter and Gold

Japanning is a lacquering technique which copies the lacquer traditionally produced in Japan and other Asian countries. The pieces of Japanned furniture were decorated in gold leaf or paint. Now it's your turn to have a go at creating a black and gold Japanese style picture.

No.1 Royal Crescent

Friday 30 August, 11AM-1PM

Georgian Portraits

Put yourself in the picture by creating your own 18th Century portrait. Colour in a costume and have your photograph taken to stick behind it. You can even design a picture frame to match!

Exhibition: Life in the Crescent: Residents and Restorations

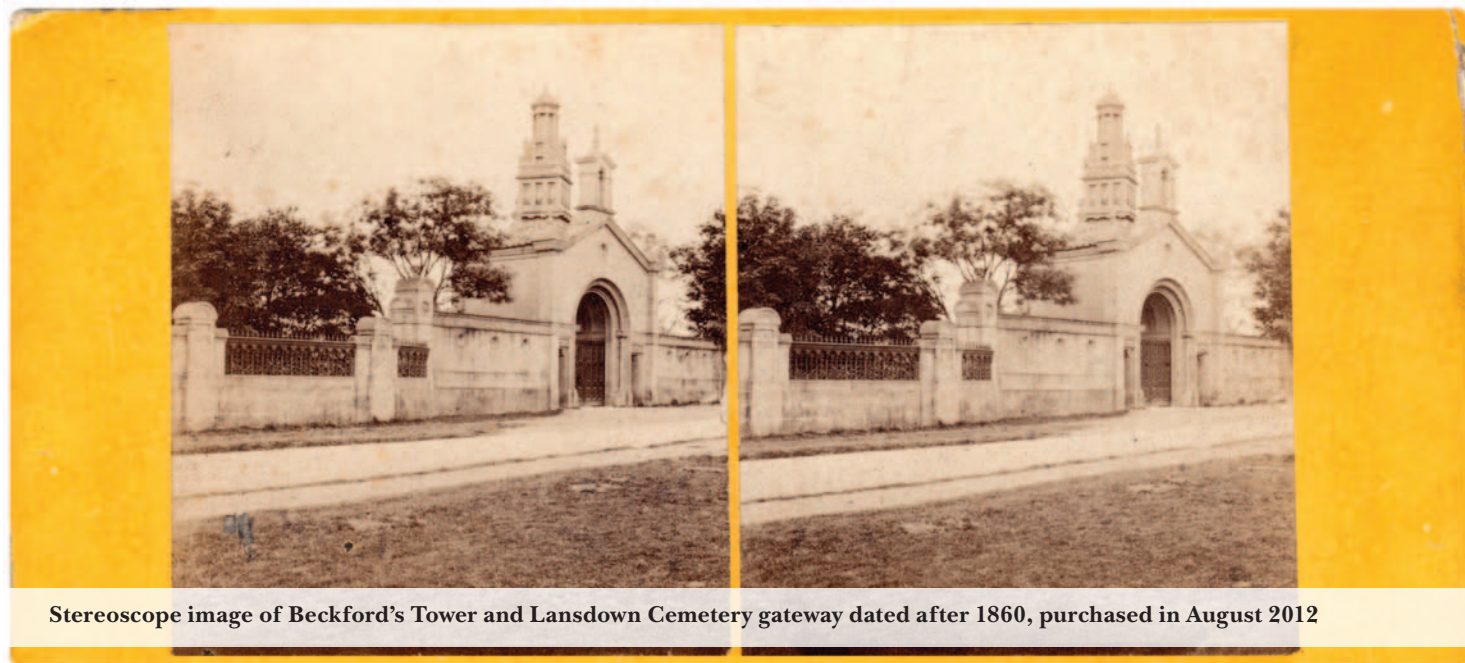
On opening, a new exhibition entitled *Life in the Crescent: Residents and Restorations* will tell the story of No.1 Royal Crescent from its construction in the 18th Century up to the present day. Spanning four centuries this exhibition will focus on key residents who lived at No.1, including famous wine critic and historian George Saintsbury, and will highlight No.1's significant restorations during the 1960s and in 2010. Members have free access to this exhibition, so why not come along from 21 June to see a snapshot of how life in one of the most celebrated Georgian townhouses has changed over the years. Exhibition will close 8 December.



Family Fridays

Beckford's Tower

Exhibition: Recent Acquisitions at Beckford's Tower



Stereoscope image of Beckford's Tower and Lansdown Cemetery gateway dated after 1860, purchased in August 2012

Over the last ten years Beckford's Tower and Museum has purchased a variety of large pieces of furniture or paintings that have required major fundraising in order to acquire. These items have been of great significance and have attracted national recognition in the press. During this time, however, we have also been slowly adding to the collection in far less high profile ways. Small purchases, sometimes for less than £20, have brought into the collection old postcards, stereoscope images and even amateur watercolours of the Tower. All these images, although not extremely rare or of high financial value, are of great

importance to the museum because they all add to our knowledge of the building and its history. Some fill known gaps in our ideas about the changes to the building since Beckford's death, while others offer an insight into the Victorian cemetery when it was still in regular use. These images, alongside gifts donated to the Tower over the last ten years and a selection of objects on revolving loan from private collections, can be seen in our opening exhibition this spring, *Recent Acquisitions at Beckford's Tower*, which runs until 26 May.

Exhibition: Views of Fonthill Abbey

The summer exhibition at Beckford's Tower will include a small, but perfectly formed, selection of views of Fonthill Abbey all on loan to the Tower from private collections and on display together for the first time. Beckford frequently invited artists to the Abbey and one in particular, John Warwick Smith, became a regular visitor. His watercolour views reveal scenes of the Abbey within its sweeping landscape that provide a vivid image of a building that is now lost. The exhibition *Views of Fonthill Abbey* will open on 1 June and will include works by John Warwick Smith and Francis Danby. The Tower Curator will be giving two lectures to accompany the exhibition at the Tower: *Views of Fonthill Abbey* on 12 June and *Souvenirs of Fonthill Abbey* on 10 July, both at 6pm. For more information visit the Tower website www.beckfordstower.org.uk.

Fonthill Abbey from the South West, Francis Danby, c.1813
On loan from private collection



Building of Bath Collection

Exhibition: Brutal Bath



Snow Hill constructed 1952–61, photographed in 1984 by Lesley Green-Armytage

Image: Bath In Time/
Bath Preservation Trust

Following on from the success of *Repairing War Torn Bath* in 2012, this year will see another exhibition looking at the 20th Century history of Bath at the Building of Bath Collection. The exhibition *Brutal Bath* is part of our *Building Post-War Bath* project, which will centre on the development of Bath following the Second World War. Thanks to the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund, the project will look in particular at the establishment and growth of social housing and how this went hand in hand with the introduction of Modernism and New Brutalism in the historic city.

Alongside the exhibition, which will explore the stylistic ideals behind post-war architecture, a partner exhibition will be held at the Museum of Bath at Work exploring the development of social housing in the city. Using exhibitions, as well as lectures and trails, we hope to encourage local residents in Bath to think

differently about the buildings in the city that were constructed during the 1950-1970s, a period of building that is particularly disliked in a city rich in historic architecture. The project will aim to help people consider the possibilities that these modern developments represented after the damage caused by years of war. By explaining the social and stylistic ideals behind buildings and housing developments that are today at best ignored, at worst hated, and almost always misunderstood, the project will reveal a side of Bath's built heritage that is hugely undervalued.

Brutal Bath will be at the Building of Bath Collection from 11 May until 24 November 2013. A series of associated walks, talk and lectures will run alongside it, details of which will be available when the exhibition opens.



Herschel Museum of Astronomy

Member's Page

Drop-in Summer Workshops



**Thursday 8 August
10-11:30AM
Making Candles**
Come and make beeswax candles, the luxury lighting of C18th Britain. £2 per head, suitable for 5-10 year-olds, children must be accompanied.

**Thursday 29 August
10-11:30AM
Reflected Glory**
Find out how the Georgians dressed for candlelight evenings: jewels that glittered, fabric that gleamed and mirrors reflecting every sparkle. £2 per head, suitable for 5-10 year-olds, children must be accompanied.

Exhibition: Making Light of it: the Art and Science of Light in the 18th Century

The summer exhibition will be open between 3 June and 16 December. From humble rush lights and tallow to ruinously expensive beeswax candles, light was increasingly important in the Georgian home. Above stairs gleaming mirrors reflected the light, it rainbowed off crystal chandeliers and danced on the burnished gilt picture frames.

At 19 New King Street William Herschel was frantically busy in his workshop polishing mirrors for his reflecting telescopes, but it was sunlight playing on a prism that led him to the discovery of infra-red.

Linked to the exhibition will be a range of activities including a new family trail, schools workshops and an outreach programme.

Summer Solstice Solar Viewing

Join Bath astronomers for a chance to view the sun safely, on Friday 21 June between 11AM and 2PM, on Kingston Parade at the side of the Abbey. (Please note that the viewing will be dependent upon suitable weather conditions).

Summer Walks Programme 2013

Organised by: Alan Williams | Secretary: Peta Hall

As usual the Walks will start at 6:30PM (except for the September walks which will start at 6:00PM) and last for approximately one and a half hours. Please note each individual starting point as they will vary depending on the walk.

Bath in Stone by Elizabeth Devon

Wednesday 19 June and Thursday 27 June at 6:30PM
Start at the Obelisk in Queen Square

Bath is renowned for its buildings in local Bath stone, but there is far more to it than that. Elizabeth Devon of the Bath Geological Society will open your eyes to the wide variety of materials used and introduce all sorts of interesting subjects during the walk, from sub-tropical seas to volcanic eruptions. For this walk a hand lens or magnifying glass would help, but is not essential.



St Mary's Churchyard and St Swithin's Church (a joint walk)

Wednesday 10 July and Thursday 18 July at 6:30PM
Start at St Mary's Churchyard on the corner of Bathwick Street and Henrietta Road. Please be prompt because of timing two visits!

St Mary's led by Alastair Cowan and Sheila Edwards. In recent years St Mary's Churchyard has had a considerable amount of time and effort put into it by the Friends. The renovation has revealed some interesting historical burial sites including that of Bath architect John Pinch and his family. Alastair and Sheila will take a guided tour and reveal some surprises. A 10 minute walk will then take us to the Church of St Swithin and a talk given by Fay Ollis.

St Swithin is now the only remaining 18th Century church within the city. It became the parish church of Georgian Bath and is the third church on the site, the first dating back to AD 971. Not only has it fascinating connections with figures of the past including William Wilberforce, George Austen and Fanny Burney, but in recent years it has been the subject of an extensive renovation programme including the development of the crypt as a restaurant. The "new" interior is worth the visit in itself.

The Work of the World Heritage Site Enhancement Fund

Wednesday 7 August and Thursday 15 August at 6:30PM
Start outside No.1 Royal Crescent

Led by David Beeton (Trustee). The Fund, established in 2009, has made considerable progress in the city. Its work and influence has ranged over watchman's boxes, street lettering, horse troughs, canal bridges and the production of maps and leaflets to name but a few. David will guide us on a fascinating walk around some of the areas and objects which have been improved/renovated as part of Bath's heritage.



World Heritage Site Enhancement Fund

The Fund, supported by grants from B&NES Council, from Bath Preservation Trust, and from the Fund's Chairman David Beeton, continues to initiate and facilitate projects which directly benefit Bath's World Heritage Site status. In the last year, some fifteen projects have been put in hand or completed. These include:

- A commemorative bronze plaque to be attached to the door of the Norfolk Crescent Watchman's Box
- The restoration of a rare survivor in Portland Place of a Chairman's Ramp, constructed to avoid steps for the Georgian Sedan chair carriers
- The replacement and painting of a missing section of the ornate railings in George Street
- Restoration of the second of the Corridor statues (pictured with Bath College tutor Nigel Bryant). Both will be returned to the Corridor balcony
- Cleaning and repairing the Rebecca Fountain
- The conservation of fourteen historic street signs, including the quaintly spelt Kinston Bildinz in Abbey Churchyard, once home to Isaac Pitman's Phonetic Institute

More projects will be listed in this year's Annual Review. Ideas for new projects are always welcome; please contact the Fund Administrator, Ainslie Ensom on whsef@bptrust.org.uk.



Inventors, Scientists and Explorers

Wednesday 4 September and Thursday 12 September at 6:00PM
(note earlier start)
Start at front door of Bath Abbey

Led by Alan Williams and Audrey Woods (both Mayor's Guides and Trust Volunteers). Bath has been well blessed by men and women who have contributed much to the field of discovery and learning. Some are well-known but others may surprise walkers. A short walk around the city will view their places of residence, but also what they did. Included will be revelations on modern lamps, mail coaches, biscuits, cars and plasticine. Those appearing will be Thomas Malthus, Adelard the Monk, Gustav Horstmann, a mysterious John Carr and a remarkable Reverend Jenyns!

Member's Page

Trust Tours 2013

Membership Secretary: **Peta Hall**

For the first time since I have been organising the Trust Tours Programme, we are in a situation where all three tours promoted under the Priority Booking Scheme (sent out with the Spring What's On) have virtually sold out. This is great news for us, but not so good for those booking for the first time now. We are, as always, most grateful for your support, which enables us to continue to offer a programme of outings each year.

Booking: This year, the tour to Minterne House sold out in a few weeks, but there are still just a few places left for Dorney/Cliveden, and West Wycombe. Please email petahall@bptrust.org.uk, or telephone 01225 338727 if you would like a place on either of these two tours. The remaining places will be allocated on a first-come-first served basis, and if successful I will then ask you to confirm your booking and send payment.

Amy Frost's tour to Strawberry Hill was not on the Priority Booking list, so this is open for booking for the first time now. Please send the Booking Form, together with your payment by cheque, to me at Bath Preservation Trust, 1 Royal Crescent, Bath BA1 2LR. Any queries, please call me on 01225 338727. Thank you.

Catering: Apart from Strawberry Hill, where catering has to be included as part of the visit, meals are not generally included in the ticket price, in order to keep prices down. Where applicable, we advise whether packed lunches can be taken, or where to buy light refreshments.

Coaches: leave from Avon Street coach park

Minterne House, Dorset

Thursday 30 May 2013 (Full day)

Minterne has been the home of the Churchill and Digby families for the last 350 years and is now the seat of the 12th Lord Digby. Rebuilt in 1905 by Leonard Stokes after being destroyed by dry rot. Minterne nestles in 1300 acres of beautiful Dorset countryside. The result as you see it now is the south front, Elizabethan manor house with leaded panes and gables, the north front has classical windows, and the rooms inside are classical Georgian. The house contains many great paintings, mementoes of its past residents, antique furniture and the Churchill tapestries in the dining room. Simon Jenkins describes Minterne in his book *England's 1,000 Best*

Houses as a "corner of paradise". The day will be hosted by Lord Digby and his son the Hon. Henry Digby.

Sorry – FULLY BOOKED

Include coach, private guided tour of the house and grounds conducted by Lord Digby.

Refreshments: included - sandwich lunch with Dorset apple cake, fresh fruit platter, coffee, tea and soft drinks.

Booking and Terms & Conditions



Please send your completed booking form, cheque and stamped addressed envelope to Bath Preservation Trust, c/o Peta Hall at No.1 Royal Crescent, Bath BA1 2LR. Enquiries to Peta Hall, Membership Secretary
Tel: 01225 338727 (Tuesday and Thursday) or email petahall@bptrust.org.uk.
All bookings to be made by post with a cheque payment please.
I regret we cannot take credit card payments for tours - sorry.

All Tours start from Avon Street Coach Park and ticket prices include: coach travel, driver's tip, admission fees and guided tours where applicable. In order to keep ticket prices down, refreshments are not included unless specifically stated.
Trust Tours telephone number: 01225 338727
The Bath Preservation Trust Limited
Registered Office: 1 Royal Crescent, Bath, BA1 2LR
Registered in England No: 294789 Reg. Charity No:203048
1. All bookings must be made in writing and will only be confirmed on receipt of the full fare.
2. Cancellations are not normally accepted; however, if there is a waiting list, your seat will be re-sold.
3. In the unlikely event of insufficient bookings for any tour, it may be withdrawn - in which case the full fare will be refunded.
4. Trust Tours reserves the right to change itineraries or venues due to unforeseen circumstances.
5. All reasonable steps are taken to ensure that independent suppliers of services (coach operators, restaurants and the owners of properties visited - who may limit their liabilities) maintain the highest possible standards regarding safety, security and hygiene. However, neither Trust Tours nor the Bath Preservation Trust can take responsibility for personal accident, loss or damage during any of these tours.
6. Both smoking and pets are prohibited on the coach.

Member's Page

Dorney Court, Windsor, and Cliveden, Bucks

Thursday 20 June 2013 (Full day)

In the morning we will have a private visit to Dorney Court, an early Tudor manor house dating from around 1440. It is owned and lived in by the Palmer family, whose ancestor Sir William Garrard acquired it in 1542. The medieval exterior has undergone some remodelling at the end of the 19th Century, but the interior is little changed from 1500. There is a panelled parlour and great hall, containing very fine examples of antique furniture and family portraits. The tour also includes the Church of St James the Less. After Dorney we will travel the short distance to Cliveden, home of Nancy and Waldorf Astor in the early 20th Century, and setting for the notorious "Profumo Affair" in 1963. Here you can eat your picnic or buy some lunch before seeing the grounds at your leisure and then taking a guided tour of the five main rooms of this magnificent house.

Cost: £43 National Trust members / £53 non-NT to include coach, private tour of Dorney Court, guided tour of Cliveden House / entrance fees to House and Grounds at Cliveden for non-NT members.

Refreshments: Not included. Please either bring a picnic or buy some lunch at Cliveden. There will be a brief opportunity to buy coffees/teas/snacks at the Dorney House Garden Centre on arrival.



Please send no money but email/telephone for one of the last places.

West Wycombe Park, Bucks (with coffee stop in Henley-on-Thames)

Tuesday 2 July 2013 (Full day)

Described as "one of the most theatrical and Italianate mid-18th Century buildings in England", this Grade I listed Palladian gem has been home to the Dashwood family for over 300 years, and was given to the National Trust in 1943 by Sir John Dashwood. Originally created by the infamous Sir Francis Dashwood of the Dilettanti Society and Hellfire Club, the villa is set in 45 acres of landscaped park and has featured in productions such as *Cranford*, *Little Dorrit*, *Foyle's War* and *Downton Abbey*. The park is unique in its consistent use of Classical architecture from both Greece and Italy. Today, while the structure of the house is owned by the National Trust, the present head of the Dashwood family, Sir Edward Dashwood (b.1964), lives here with his wife and three children. Although not included in the ticket price, you may, if you wish, visit the Hellfire Caves - which are privately owned. Cost approx. £5 for adults/£4 senior citizens.

Cost: £38 for National Trust members / £45 for non-NT to include coach, driver's tip, morning coffee and biscuits/pastries en route, and entry to West Wycombe Park for non-NT members. Admission to the Hellfire Caves is optional and the cost is not included in the ticket price.

Refreshments: Included - morning coffee and biscuits/pastries in Henley-on-Thames. Lunch is not included. There are no facilities at West Wycombe Park, but we shall stop in the village before entering the property, where there are cafés/pubs and a Garden Centre serving food. If you have brought a packed lunch, you will have an opportunity to eat this too.



Please send no money but email/telephone for one of the last places.

Strawberry Hill, London Led by Dr Amy Frost

Date: Tuesday 24 September 2013 (Full day)

We visited Strawberry Hill in September 2010, just as it reopened to visitors after a major programme of restoration. Now, we are returning to see the finished product and also to give those of you who were unable to join us the first time an opportunity to see this magnificent building. Arguably Britain's finest example of Georgian Gothic architecture - the house began life in 1698 as a modest house, built by the coachman of the Earl of Bradford. It was transformed by Horace Walpole, doubling its size and adding towers and battlements. Members will have a personal guided tour and will also see a permanent museum room and interpretation centre, showing the layers of the house. After lunch, Amy will show you St Mary's Chapel and the Walpole Garden Building, and you will have a chance to wander at leisure.

Cost: £55 per head to include coach, guided tour and refreshments.

Refreshments: Included. The Strawberry Hill caterers will provide coffee/tea/shortbread on arrival. After the tour you will be seated and served with a sandwich lunch. Drinks with lunch are not included (except for jugs of water).

Lecture: Amy Frost will be presenting a lecture about Walpole, Strawberry Hill and the Gothic Revival at the Building of Bath Collection on Wednesday 18 September 2013 at 6:30pm before this visit. Tickets £5 on the door.

We always need new members

One of the best ways to recruit new members is by word of mouth from our current supporters. So, any help you can give to encourage friends and family to join the Trust would be greatly appreciated. We need the support of our members more than ever at this time of expansion and development.

Have you considered making a legacy to Bath Preservation Trust in your will?

When Bernard Cayzer left No.1 Royal Crescent to the Trust, he gave us a marvellous asset which allowed us to develop a renowned museum. But he also gave us financial independence. Legacy gifts to the Trust do not need to be as magnificent as No.1 to continue this valuable role. The Trust will be very grateful for any contribution that you are able to make through a legacy.

Bath's 'World Heritage' status means that our campaigning work continues to be an essential part of Bath's development, and our education and interpretation work ensures that the widest possible audience understands our purpose 'to encourage and support the conservation, evolution and enhancement of Bath and its environs within a framework appropriate both to its historic setting and its sustainable future, and to provide educational resources that focus on the architectural and historic importance of the city'.

The Trust's influence and independent voice is needed as much in the 21st Century as it was in the 20th. But our ability to fulfil this role is directly in proportion to our resources.

If your estate is liable to Inheritance Tax, you could reduce the amount due by choosing to give the money to charity. If you leave a gift to a charity in your will, its value will not be included when valuing your estate (your money, possessions and property) for Inheritance Tax purposes. Gifts made to a charity in the seven years before your death are exempt from Inheritance Tax.

Leaving a gift in your will, whatever size, can make a real difference to Bath Preservation Trust and will ensure that future generations will understand and enjoy our wonderful Georgian heritage.

For a confidential discussion regarding leaving a legacy to Bath Preservation Trust, or if you would like further details, please contact Claire Owen on 01225 338727 or email cowen@bptrust.org.uk.



**BATH
PRESERVATION
TRUST**

We are a membership organisation and a registered charity.
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