

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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200th birthday party set to be a 'classic'

Visitors are getting ready for the birthday party of the last two centuries at the National Trust for Scotland's Holmwood House on Sunday 9 April, as its renowned architect Alexander Thomson turns 200.

Dubbed Alexander 'Greek' Thomson in recognition of his appreciation of the ancient civilisation's architecture, the party features a few classical touches, as well as games, dressing up and cake.

Property Manager Julie Gilliland is looking forward to welcoming guests. She said: "It's not often that you get to celebrate a 200th birthday, so we are hoping families from all around Glasgow will join the party and celebrate this superstar architect who has given so much to the city."

Julie is also on the lookout for families to help with trialling a new family trail at the house. Volunteers will be entered into a prize draw for a 'Golden Ticket' that will provide free entry to the site's events throughout 2017 (terms and conditions apply).

Holmwood has been in the care of the charity that conserves and promotes Scotland's heritage since 1994.

2017 marks the bicentenary of the birth of architect Thomson, one of the two great architects of international stature produced by Victorian Glasgow. He was born in Balfron, Stirlingshire on 9 April 1817 and died in Glasgow on 22 March 1875 at his home at 1 Moray Place in the terrace he had himself designed.

Thomson designed Holmwood for paper magnate James Couper and his wife in 1857-8 and it is widely regarded as this Scottish architect's finest domestic creation. His stunning design legacy impresses at every turn.

Happy Birthday Alexander is the first in a programme of events at Holmwood in this bicentenary year. Tickets available:

<https://nts.cloudvenue.co.uk/happybirthdayalexander>

twitter.com/HolmwoodGlasgow

facebook.com/HolmwoodHouse

Holmwood is open from 1 April to 22 October, Friday – Monday, 12pm – 5pm. For further information please visit www.nts.org.uk or call 0141 571 0184.

Holmwood is a family home like no other in Glasgow. Located in the Southside of the city, it is masterfully designed but surprisingly cosy; there is grand imagination behind it.

Thomson's penchant for Grecian styling and symmetry is evidenced throughout Holmwood, where the bold opulent decoration echoes the colours found in ancient Greek temples.

The house is part of an ongoing conservation project and there is always something new for visitors to see.

- ENDS -

For further information please contact, Julie Gilliland, Property Manager, Holmwood, 0141 571 0184.

Editor's Notes:

Images:

The National Trust for Scotland is the charity that celebrates and protects Scotland's heritage. It relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work of caring for the natural and built heritage of Scotland for everyone to enjoy.

You can join the National Trust for Scotland for as little as £7.50 per month for a family. To become a member, visit <http://www.nts.org.uk/Join/Benefits/>.

You can make a difference and help protect everything in our care. Donate online at <https://www.nts.org.uk/Donations/>

