

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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It's all Greek for Holmwood celebrations

Celebrations marking the 200th birthday of Glasgow superstar architect, Alexander 'Greek' Thomson continue at one of his best buildings on 20 and 21 May.

The National Trust for Scotland care for Holmwood house which is widely regarded as the 19th century architect's best domestic design. Born in April 1817, Thomson's contribution to Glasgow's architecture is being recognised with a series of special events at the Cathcart villa this summer.

Property Manager Julie Gilliland said:

"We can't wait for families to try our brilliant new trail that shares and celebrates the heritage of Holmwood and Alexander Thomson."

Families will don their togas and 'Get Your Greek On', trying out the brand new family trail and getting to grips with some Greek mythology on 20 and 21 May. The tea room will be ready with delicious treats to keep the energy levels up all afternoon. Part of the Festival of Museums, the family-friendly event is £3 for kids. Standard admission applies for adults.

Julie continues:

"Now that the dining room is looking as Thomson had intended, we are moving on to the next phase of the restoration and work starts soon on the hallway. Visitors will be blown away by the beauty of the decoration. Come and see the work in progress."

Following on from the completion of the dining room restoration, our experts will start focusing on the intricate stencilling work in the hallway. Over the next six weeks a specialist team led by Ian Howie will be recreating the stunning original wall designs, restoring the 'wow-factor' of the house's Grand Entrance. This work will take place while the house is open to visitors, giving them the chance to see the experts at work, and ask questions about the tools, techniques and designs.

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.

