



NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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Burns birthplace ready for birthday celebrations

The only supper to take place in the very building where Burns was born is the centrepiece of celebrations marking the bard's birthday at the National Trust for Scotland's Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Alloway this January.

The full traditional Burns Supper will be served up in the cottage where Burns was born on 25 January 1759, on 25 January 2017. A very limited number of tickets were available for the event, which has sold out.

Event manager Claire Grant said:

“There are a huge number of Burns Suppers taking place all over the globe, but only one happens in the cottage where Burns was born. It's a very special experience, in a unique setting.”

There's a less formal take on the Burns Supper experience planned too. The Haggis Hooley on Friday 20 January merges the best bits of a traditional supper, with ceilidh dancing, courtesy of the Borland Ceilidh Band.

On the bard's birthday (25 January), there will be a series of readings at the cottage. Visitors are invited to select their favourite Burns' works and get involved.

Alloway and its landmarks will be transformed on Saturday 28 January for **Burns Alicht**, a beautiful series of illuminations, music and performance which bring the story of Robert Burns and his works to life.

Then on Sunday 29 January, it's the Big Birthday Bash when the doors of Burns Cottage will be thrown open for the first time in more than 100 years, to welcome revellers looking to mark Burns' birthday, Alloway-style. Amongst the highlights are the 2017 Haggis Hurling Championships, and lots of live music too.

For more information and tickets to all these events, visit www.burnsmuseum.org.uk.

Since opening to the public in December 2010, the museum has welcomed more than a million visitors and has won a series of accolades including being selected as a finalist for the prestigious Art Fund prize, securing a five star rating from VisitScotland and being named as Horace Broom's 'favourite place in Scotland'. The project was generously supported by the Scottish Government and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

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A selection of images are available for download at:
<https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/s8E236>

