

Bath's Amazing Architecture and Exceptional Engineering Celebrated on World Heritage Day



Around 700 visitors enjoyed activities themed around Bath's buildings and structures at Green Park Station on Thursday 18 April - International World Heritage Day.

The annual event has been held in Bath since 2009, at various venues in the city. Organised by Bath & North East Somerset Council in association with local heritage partners, the day promotes Bath's UNESCO 'World Heritage Site' status and enables people to explore and enjoy Bath's heritage and history.

This year visitors had the opportunity to find out about Bath's architecture from Roman times right through to the 21st century through talks, walks, displays, crafts and hands-on activities.



They were joined by characters influential in shaping Bath – Georgian architect John Wood accompanied by one of his builders, and Major Charles Davis, Bath Corporation's Surveyor and Architect from 1863 to 1902, who initiated the building of the Empire Hotel and the excavation of the Roman Baths.

The Mayor's Honorary Guides led guided tours for visitors to discover more about the history of the Green Park and Avon Street area and its residents. Conservation specialists from Bath Preservation Trust took walking groups out along the riverside to look at recent and planned developments.



The subjects for the themed talks spanned 2000 years of Bath's architectural and engineering past, from Roman innovations to 21st century trends.

There was a unique opportunity to watch stone masons at work using traditional skills and techniques, as well as have a go at carving guided by expert masons and apprentices.

There was plenty to see and do with themed displays and activities provided by Bath Preservation Trust, the Roman Baths, the National Trust, Nicholas Pearson Associates, BuroHappold Engineering, Bath Record Office, Historic England, Bath Abbey Footprint, the Archway



project, the Victorian Spa Quarter team and the World Heritage Site Enhancement Fund.



Visitors of all ages enjoyed building arches, working an aqueduct, designing a temple, drawing houses for a giant map of Bath,



exploring Prior Park's lakes using Virtual Reality and Bath Abbey's plans using Augmented Reality, solving engineering challenges with Plasticine and Lego, researching their homes and streets, replicating the repair of Bath Abbey's stone floor with biscuits and icing and going round the site on a stamp trail.



The Victorian Grade II Listed Green Park Station was the perfect setting for a day celebrating Bath's engineering and buildings through the ages. World Heritage Day 2019, once again, proved to be a real attraction for local people and visitors to the city.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event.

