



HERTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday 18th April 2017

Heritage Plaques Installed in County Town

Hertford Town Council, in partnership with Hertford Civic Society, will launch the Hertford Heritage Trail on Sunday 7th May. Blue plaques are being erected on buildings with historic importance around the County Town. A total of 41 locations are included within the Heritage Trail.

The trail includes the oldest purpose-built Quaker meeting house in the country, the Georgian Shire Hall overlooking Fore Street's rare parquetry and the site of the former Christ's Hospital School, where an ancient water pump still graces the courtyard.

The trail also features architecture at its finest, with Hertford East Station designed by W.N. Ashbee, and the Old Cross Library was designed by prolific British architect, Reginald Blomfield.

Buildings where famous individuals used to reside, including W.E Johns the author of 'Biggles Books', the first Hertford home of novelist Annie S. Swan and husband Dr. Burnett Smith, local GB and WWI hero are also included in the trail. Samuel Stone the founder of Hartford Connecticut, Stephen Austin, founder of the Hertfordshire Mercury and John Briant, bell founder and clock maker are also commemorated within the trail.

The launch of the blue plaque scheme will take place on Sunday 7th May. Hertford Castle will be open from 12noon to 4pm, where visitors are welcome to explore the castle and grounds free of charge.

Chairman of the Hertford Civic Society, Terry Betts, said:

"The Heritage Trail provides a useful introduction to the history of Hertford, to both residents and visitor. "

Chairman of the Town Council's Development and Leisure Committee, Cllr Jane Sartin, said: "This project is the result of a huge amount of work by Hertford Town Council and Hertford Civic Society, and it is wonderful to see the plaques appearing across the town. The Heritage Trail should appeal to visitors to Hertford, as well as to residents who are interested in the town's rich history."

Note to Editors

For further comments, please contact Cllr Jane Sartin on 07970 743304

For further information, please contact Melissa Reynolds on 01992 552885