

13 September 2014

**A Charity can be a great Business, too!**

**No.1 Royal Crescent won the Leisure and Tourism Business of the Year award at the Bath Chronicle Business Awards (11 September), proving that you don’t have to be a corporate business to be competitive. In this popular category were businesses of all sizes including hotels and festival events, but No. 1 demonstrated the best overall prowess with evidence of growth, investment and innovation. In particular, this grand Georgian townhouse museum showed the value it adds to Bath as a visitor destination – for both residents and tourists – and that it is a caring and responsible employer.**

Collecting the award, Caroline Kay, Chief Executive of Bath Preservation Trust which owns and operates No.1, said:

*“We re-opened a year ago after a £5m restoration and expansion project and it is testament to the dedication of the project team, staff, guides and volunteers that we were able to complete ahead of schedule and below budget. With a much improved visitor experience our customer satisfaction ratings have increased dramatically, our staff and volunteers are better trained and we estimate that in the first six months of opening we brought £300,000 income into the local economy.*

*Winning this award means a great deal to us, coming as it does so soon after winning national awards for our permanent collection, the quality of our historical education programme, and the gold award for best tourist attraction at Bath’s inaugural BEHTAs. Our thanks go to the judges and to sponsors Thrings and The Francis Hotel.*

- Ends -

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**Notes for editors**

**No.1 Royal Crescent** enables people to explore the recreated historic interiors of a late 18th century Bath Town House of distinction. Built on the realistic presentation of authentic historic objects in period room settings, No.1 deploys a wide range of interpretation to bring the house to life for all visitors.

Following a major redevelopment, the museum re-opened in June 2013 and now has twice as many historic rooms as well as a dedicated exhibition gallery – the Brownsword Gallery. The museum receives approximately 60,000 visitors per year and is currently ranked by Trip Advisor as the second museum in Bath, behind the Roman Baths. VisitEngland has praised its improved accessibility.

A dedicated education and events centre enables an extensive programme of learning and outreach activities, with opportunities to dress up, handle objects and learn 18th century skills such as writing with a quill and cooking.

No. 1 Royal Crescent is open 10.30am-5.30pm every day, except Mondays, when open 12noon – 5.30pm. Adult tickets cost £8.50, children £3.50 and family and concession tickets are available. [www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk](http://www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk)

No. 1’s major exhibition ‘Portrait of a Lady? Ruin and Reputation in Georgian England’ is currently on display in the Brownsword Gallery.