

15 May 2014

**No.1 Royal Crescent, Bath, Highly Commended in the Best Permanent Exhibition category at the Museums and Heritage Awards for Excellence 2014 ceremony held in London last night**

**The Museum and Heritage Awards celebrate best practice within museums, galleries and heritage visitor attractions across the UK. Eleven awards are presented and No.1 Royal Crescent was Runner Up (‘highly commended’) amongst an impressive shortlist of competitors which included the new Mary Rose Museum (eventual winner), Historic Royal Palaces and the Birmingham Science Museum.**

The judges were looking for excellence in interpreting the story of a museum and the Trust’s entry for No 1 Royal Crescent described how the recent restoration project had transformed the portrayal of life as it was in the late 18th century in the historic Georgian townhouse.

Collecting the certificate at the glittering ceremony hosted by comedienne and broadcaster Sue Perkins and held in the Historic Staterooms of 8 Northumberland Avenue, in the heart of London – Caroline Kay said:

*“As Chief Executive of the Bath Preservation Trust, which runs No.1 Royal Crescent and three other fantastic museums in Bath, for the Trust even to be part of such a distinguised shortlist was a great reward. The commendation recognises the hard work – and imaginative ambitions – of a dedicated and excellent project team. Everybody involved thoroughly enjoyed working on the project and this is a fitting reward for what we achieved within the constraints of a Grade I listed building and tight budget! ”*

No.1 Royal Crescent underwent a £5m project to re-interpret, restore, refurbish and re-unify an exisiting historic house museum with its original servants’ wing next door. In addition the external appearance and approach to arguably Britain’s finest Georgian Crescent was significantly enhanced, as was access for disabled people, and hands-on activities for visitors. The museum now includes a large gallery for temporary exhibitions and a dedicated education and events centre. Major contributors were led by The Brownsword Charitable Foundation, who initally purchased the adjoining house on behalf of the Trust, and the subsequent project was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and other significant donors.

No. 1’s major new exhibition, ‘Portrait of a Lady? Ruin and Reputation in Georgian England’ opens today.

-Ends-

For further information please contact:

Janey Abbott, Communications Officer, Bath Preservation Trust

Telephone: 01225 338727 Email: [jabbott@bptrust.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bptrust.org.uk)

[www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk](http://www.no1royalcrescent.org.uk)

or Caroline Kay, BPT Chief Executive, [ckay@bprust.org.uk](mailto:ckay@bprust.org.uk) 07947 027 308

**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.

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)

**Shortlist overleaf**

**Museum and Heritage Awards 2014**

Shortlist for the Best Permanent Exhibition category:

* **Birmingham Museums Trust,** We Made It:  Nuts Bolts Gadgets and Gizmos at Think-tank, Birmingham Science Museum
* **Bath Preservation Trust,** No 1 Royal Crescent - The Whole Story
* **The Mary Rose Trust,** The New Mary Rose Museum
* **National Maritime Museum,** Nelson, Navy, Nation
* **Historic Royal Palaces and The Royal Mint Museum,** Coins and Kings: The Royal Mint at the Tower
* **Barnsley MBC Arts, Museums & Archives,** Experience Barnsley Museum & Discovery Centre

[Museums and Heritage Awards 2014](http://www.museumsandheritage.com/show/awards/awards-homepage)