

THE GREEK THOMSON SIXTY STEPS PRESERVATION TRUST

Newsletter May 2011

Condition update

The owners of 45 individual properties at Nos. 5 to 9 Kelvinside Terrace West, 11 to 27 Kelvinside Terrace South, and Nos.1 to 5 Queen Margaret Road share ownership of (and responsibility for maintaining) the Sixty Steps structure, which includes the retaining wall.

The Trust has now been informed that significant repairs are required. As public bodies are not responsible for upkeep, or liable for any problems relating to the steps and wall, it is our duty to undertake necessary repairs.

Significant funding required

As a matter of urgency, the Trust is proceeding to appoint a conservation architect and a structural engineer to progress the repairs that are required. Meeting the associated costs will demand significant fundraising.

Listing review underway

At present the Sixty Steps structure holds a category 'B' listing with Historic Scotland. That body's description of the steps and retaining wall states that it is 'in the manner of Alexander Thomson'. The Trust has requested a change to category 'A' listing, and formal recognition that it is indeed the work of the renowned Victorian architect. This would give weight to funding applications, and recognise the structure's value to the city's built heritage.

West End Festival 2011 event

The Sixty Steps is once again featuring in the West End Festival programme. On Thursday 16 June at 7pm, Roger Guthrie of the Alexander Thomson Society will give a talk about the Sixty Steps from the foot of the steps on Queen Margaret Road. Look out for our listing in the WEF programme, and come along if you can.

Annual General Meeting

The Greek Thomson Sixty Steps Preservation Trust's next Annual General Meeting will be held on 20 June 2011 at the Kelvin Stevenson Memorial Church on Belmont Street, starting at 7.30pm.

The AGM is an opportunity to find out more about the work of the Trust, and to share any questions or comments.

We very much look forward to seeing you there!