

THE GREEK THOMSON SIXTY STEPS PRESERVATION TRUST

Newsletter No. 5

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Can you help with the Doors Open weekend?

This year, for the first time, the Sixty Steps structure is featuring in the Glasgow Doors Open weekend, which runs on **Saturday and Sunday 18 and 19 September**. Local residents will be on hand to meet and greet visitors between 10am and 4pm on both days, and volunteers are being sought to hand out information and collect the contact details of anyone who wants to keep in touch with the restoration appeal.

If you'd like to help by taking slot in the residents' rota, please contact Shona Quigley by emailing her at shona.quigley@ntlworld.com or calling her on 07771-837907.

Gordon Urquhart returns - by popular demand

The last time historian Gordon Urquhart gave a talk about the architect Alexander 'Greek' Thomson and his Sixty Steps it was heavily over-subscribed. There was not even standing room in the Botanics in June, and people had to be turned away, but there will be plenty of capacity at the Kelvin Stevenson Memorial Church when Gordon repeats his popular presentation on the evening of **Friday 17 September**.

Staged as part of the Glasgow Doors Open weekend, the talk will start at 7.30pm and will run for an hour. It is free and no booking is required, so please bring friends and family along to find out more about our West End gem. The Kelvin Stevenson Memorial Church is at 62 Belmont Street G20 6JR.

Fundraising given a welcome boost

It has been a good summer for the Sixty Steps fundraising appeal. £82 was donated to the Trust by those who attended the Botanics event in June, and special thanks for that go to Gordon Urquhart who gave the talk, to Roger Guthrie who conducted a special guided tour of the wall, and to Ann Laird of Friends of Glasgow West who helped to organise it all.

In addition, our Waitrose 'wee green token' appeal raised a magnificent £290. Shoppers at the Byres Road branch did us proud, and we thank them all for their generous support.

Awareness of the wall grows

Public awareness of the Sixty Steps has been significantly raised over recent months. As well as featuring in a number of events in the West End Festival, and in Waitrose, the local BBC website ran a special article that has helped to bring many more people to see the structure for themselves. Here's the rather cumbersome BBC website link if you'd like to have a look: http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/glasgowandwestscotland/hi/people_and_places/history/newsid_8758000/8758301.stm

As a result, we have been approached by architect firm Simpson and Brown of Miller Street, who have offered to help us plan the proposed restoration. Their support is warmly welcomed.