



Media Release

Stirling's hidden gems open their doors to visitors this week

Stirling Council is thrilled that some of the area's historic hidden treasures can welcome back visitors in person this week for Doors Open Days 2021.

Last year's event was fully virtual due to the pandemic but a hybrid programme has been organised by the Council this year, with some buildings reopening their doors to the public and other events held online.

Starting on [Thursday, 16 September](#), architectural gems, historic sites and other fascinating stories of the area will be brought to life for free through expert tours, guided walks, exhibitions and virtual activities.

Some of the sites taking part in 2021 include Bannockburn House, the Old Municipal Buildings, the carefully refurbished Cowane's Hospital, The Engine Shed and the Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church and for the first time Cambusbarron Community Development Trust.

Among the online talks is a presentation by the Council's Archives Service on Stirling's shop fronts and the changing nature of the high street, based on historic plans and photographs.

Convener of Stirling Council's Environment and Housing Committee, Cllr Jim Thomson said: "Open Doors Days is a rare opportunity to showcase some of the interesting places and stories that have shaped the Stirling area.

"I am delighted that people will be able to discover these hidden gems and amazing buildings in person again, while a range of fascinating online events will also be on offer, so please check out our [packed programme](#)."

Vice Convener, Cllr Danny Gibson said: "Doors Open Days are a fantastic way to celebrate and bring to life Stirling's rich history, culture and heritage and to reconnect with our past.

"I would encourage as many people to grasp this free opportunity to be handed the key to some incredible buildings and local landmarks that are usually closed to the public, and find out more about Stirling's fascinating history."

Doors Open Days is a festival that sees organisations and volunteers offer free access to sites and events across Scotland every September. It aims to ensure that Scotland's built and cultural heritage is made accessible to everyone living in and visiting the country.

Find out more about the Stirling's exciting Doors Open Days 2021 programme [here](#) or by visiting www.doorsopendays.org.uk.

Please note that Doors Open Days only encourages people to attend in-person events in accordance with the latest Scottish Government COVID-19 guidance. The events and buildings

that will be open for physical visits in September will ensure safe access according to the most current guidelines.