Discover Grimsby’s hidden history at the Weelsby Hall Heritage Open Day

Wednesday 26 June, 2024

Weelsby Hall, a symbol of Grimsby's rich heritage, will open its doors to the public for a rare glimpse into its history as part of the Heritage Open Days Festival, on Sunday 15th September 2024. Owned by Linkage Community Trust, this heritage site is not usually accessible to the public, making this an exclusive opportunity for history enthusiasts and the local community.

This special free event is part of the Heritage Open Days Festival, England’s largest festival of history and culture. Since first opening its doors to the public in 2020, the event has returned annually due to its popularity, attracting visitors eager to delve into the history of one of North East Lincolnshire's grandest Victorian buildings.

Built in the late 1890s for George Sleight, the first Baronet of Weelsby, the hall stands as a testament to Grimsby's illustrious fishing heritage. Acquired by the Linkage Community Trust in 1982, Weelsby Hall has since served the local and national needs of people with learning disabilities. This open day allows visitors to explore the heritage of this grand building through a self-guided tour around the grounds and downstairs rooms, plus short, guided tours of a select number of rooms on the first floor.

David, a local historian, and project volunteer, says

> "Visitors will be able to discover a part of the area’s history that is often overlooked, predominantly because many are not aware of its existence. Most of the large and fascinating homes in Grimsby have either been demolished or converted, with no public access. Although Weelsby Hall is no longer a family home, much of the home remains and it is a pleasure to be able to share its splendour with the community."

In addition to exploring the estate’s historical significance, attendees will learn about the ongoing efforts to preserve Weelsby Hall. With support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund Linkage is building an inclusive and sustainable future for generations to come and ensuring that the hall remains a vital part of Grimsby's cultural landscape.

Booking is essential to join Linkage for this day of historical exploration and community celebration at Weelsby Hall. Don’t miss this unique chance to step back in time and appreciate a key piece of Grimsby heritage during Heritage Open Day’s festival of history and culture.

To find out more about the Weelsby Hall Heritage Open Day visit: Linkage.org.uk/heritage-open-day/

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