

THE COCKBURN ASSOCIATION THE EDINBURGH CIVIC TRUST

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30 March 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Set to Open Doors Again After New Partner Steps In

After months of uncertainty, Edinburgh Doors Open Day, one of the most popular events in the capital's cultural calendar, has secured last minute support to enable the event to go ahead in 2009.

The Cockburn Association (The Edinburgh Civic Trust) announced today that Edinburgh Trams have stepped in as partners for Doors Open Day 2009.

In addition to allowing Edinburgh Doors Open Day to go ahead this year, the support of Edinburgh Trams has provided a welcome boost to the event. Edinburgh Doors Open Day will this year take place over two days for the very first time - on Saturday 26th and Sunday the 27th September. Edinburgh residents and visitors to the capital will now have a whole weekend in which to enjoy free access to a wide range of buildings and activities throughout the city.

Edinburgh Doors Open 2009 is also being supported by the City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh World Heritage, Lorn Macneal Architects, Simpson and Brown Architects, the Dunard Fund and the Cruden Foundation.

Maggie Spalding, Edinburgh Doors Open Day Co-ordinator, says:

"Edinburgh Doors Open Day is one of the few events that is organised primarily for Edinburgh residents. It offers a unique opportunity to explore buildings old and new and to take a peek behind closed doors to uncover the diverse history and life of the capital. Despite its popularity, obtaining support each year is a challenge. I am therefore delighted that Edinburgh Trams have stepped forward to partner this year's event."

David Mackay Chairman of the limited said:

"On behalf of the Edinburgh Tram Project I'm pleased that we have been able to support this important heritage event for The Cockburn Association. I am very pleased to give the project's support to such an event which is concerned with the promotion of a sense of pride and responsibility in the diversity of experience which Scotland's capital city offers. In a similar vein I'm convinced that when the Edinburgh Trams are up and running I know that this will add to the City's civic status."

Moira Tasker, Director of the Cockburn Association said:

“The partnership of Edinburgh Trams alongside support from the City of Edinburgh Council, Edinburgh World Heritage, Simpson and Brown Architects and Lorn Macneal Architects means that this much loved event can take place in 2009, offering residents and visitors alike a chance to explore buildings not usually open to the public and to access the world renowned heritage and culture on our doorstep.”

About the Cockburn Association and Edinburgh Doors Open Day

- The Cockburn Association (Edinburgh’s Civic Trust) is an independent charity, established in 1875 to protect and enhance the amenity of Edinburgh and its neighbourhoods.
- Edinburgh Doors Open Day was first organised in 1991 by the Cockburn Association (The Edinburgh’s Civic Trust) and has grown to become one of the most popular free days out in the capital. In 2008 the day attracted c. 80,000 visitors to over 75 buildings throughout the city.
- Doors Open Day provides the public with the unique opportunity to explore some of Edinburgh most architecturally, culturally and socially significant buildings – both old and new – all for free.
- All venues also feature a wide range of free activities, including guided tours, exhibitions, recitals and talks, designed to bring the history and current use of the building to life.
- Doors Open Day is part of European Heritage Days, co-ordinated in Scotland by the Scottish Civic Trust.
- More information on this year’s event can be found on the Cockburn Association’s website at: **www.cockburnassociation.org.uk/doorsopenday**

Further information

For more information please contact:

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