

Optional Quotes & Background Information:

OPTIONAL: We encourage organisers to use these quote from our patron, Loyd Grossman and also our funders, People's Postcode Lottery which can be inserted at any point in the release. **DO NOT EDIT OR CHANGE THE QUOTES IN ANY WAY.**

Loyd Grossman, Patron of Heritage Open Days, said: "At a time when many of our heritage sites, museums and buildings of cultural interest are under increasing economic pressure it's heart-warming to see the number of Heritage Open Days events continue to grow. Our army of volunteers play an important role in championing our wonderfully diverse local heritage, opening up doors and keeping access free for these very special four days every year. We are keen to encourage people to stand up for the places that are important to them by bringing to life their stories for everyone to enjoy."

Clara Clavier, Head of Charities at People's Postcode Lottery, said: "This is the second year that we have supported Heritage Open Days, which continues to grow, not only in the number of events, but the diversity and quality of activities right across England. We look forward to seeing thousands of people sharing the hidden histories on their doorstep and making a difference to their communities this September."

OPTIONAL: Factual Information about Heritage Open Days & People's Postcode Lottery to incorporate into your release.

Heritage Open Days is the largest heritage festival in the country; in 2015, over 4,800 events welcomed around three million visitors across England. Heritage Open Days operates as part of the National Trust with funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery. Every single Heritage Open Days event is free, including access to many sites that usually charge for admission. For details and opening times, visit www.heritageopendays.org.uk .