

21 July 2017

Discover Thomas Hope's Mausoleum on 10th September with Heritage Open Days in Dorking

Venture inside the peaceful interior of this magnificent mausoleum designed by Regency tastemaker and once enigmatic owner of The Deepdene Estate, Thomas Hope.

Part of a series of Deepdene events celebrating Heritage Open Days on 7th – 10th September, this special Open Day on Sunday 10th September from 10am – 3pm offers everyone an invitation to come down and experience the interior of this extraordinary structure.

A once 'buried treasure' of The Deepdene Trail, the mausoleum was literally dug out of the ground by local volunteers as part of the Heritage Lottery funded project which enabled the landscapes repair and The Trails' creation in September 2016. This unusual building is normally closed to the public without a booked guide.

On 10th September at 11am and 2pm Alexander Bagnall, Project Manager of The Deepdene Trail will describe the sad tale behind Thomas Hope's building of the mausoleum, how it fits into the Deepdene's rich history and how it piqued Alexander's interest, firing a desire to uncover the lost landscape which has become the Deepdene Trail.

Councillor Vivienne Michael, Leader of Mole Valley District Council, said: "10th September marks a year since The Deepdene Trail opened so it is fitting that we open the mausoleum for everyone to view. It is a place for quiet reflection where members of Thomas Hope's family remain interred and we expect fans of Thomas Hope's work will travel from some distance to enter this building, the last remaining standing structure he designed.

"We are offering refreshments outside the Mausoleum and encourage visitors to discover the rest of The Trail when they visit."

Other Heritage Open Days events on The Trail are:

Friday 8th September, 2.30pm

Dorking Museum's Deepdene Trail Walk, booking required via Dorking Museum

www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk/the-deepdene-trail/

Saturday 9th September, 10.30am

Dorking Museum's Deepdene Trail Walk, booking required via Dorking Museum

www.dorkingmuseum.org.uk/the-deepdene-trail/

Saturday 9th September, 2.30pm Deepdene and the Wartime Railway guided family walk, booking required via Gail Mackintosh, thedeepdenetrail@molevalley.gov.uk

For more information on The Trail see, www.deepdenetrail.co.uk.

No bookings are necessary for 10th September open day and refreshments will be offered on site (weather dependant). The Mausoleum is a 30 minute walk from the nearest car park in Dorking (behind Dorking Halls), postcode RH4 1SG. The ground on site includes grassy slopes and uneven ground. Sturdy shoes and a reasonable level of fitness are required to reach the Mausoleum.

-ENDS-

Notes

For additional information on parking and accessing The Trail please see www.deepdenetrail.co.uk.

Media contact for further information and images:

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