

Fountains Abbey & Saltaire Celebrate World Heritage Day

Yorkshire's two World Heritage Sites, Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal in Ripon and Saltaire in Bradford, are joining forces to celebrate International World Heritage Day with an exciting programme of events. An eclectic combination of Alpacas, stone-carving, eighteenth century costumes, canal boats, treasure hunts, actors and much more will provide a fun weekend of activities for all the family.

World Heritage Day, otherwise known as the 'International Day for Monuments and Sites' is celebrated on 18 April every year to raise awareness about the diversity of global cultural and natural heritage and the efforts that are required to protect and conserve it.

Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal will be bringing the eighteenth century water garden to life with their 'In the Frame' event on Saturday 16 April and Sunday 17 April. Visitors will be invited to follow a trail which leads between six empty frames in the designed landscape, each inset with a painting of the period which epitomises how the eighteenth century pleasure grounds would have been used in their heyday. Visitors will be invited to consider the creative genius of the designers, the Aislabies', in creating such a spectacular landscape and think about how the views have changed in the past two hundred years. Costumed actors will promenade around the grounds, never shy to impart their wisdom onto visitors and give their learned opinion on the artwork. There will be a children's trail around the grounds, with the opportunity to collect stickers to create their own designed landscape, as well as children's craft activities in Swanley Grange on the theme of wildflowers.

Sarah Parkinson, World Heritage Site Coordinator & Conservation Manager, says, 'Through bringing the eighteenth century pleasure grounds to life, we hope people will gain a greater understanding of the creative genius of John and William Aislabie and why we're a World Heritage Site.'

It's all go at Saltaire as well with the whole community coming together to create a varied programme of events from Friday 15 April to Monday 18 April with something for everyone to enjoy.

The purpose built 'model' Victorian industrial village, created by the entrepreneur and philanthropist Titus Salt in the nineteenth century, will play host to stone-carving demonstrations, talks by the Saltaire History Club about, 'The Changing Faces of Saltaire's Waterfronts', and a specially commissioned multimedia event called, 'What Did

Titus Do For Us'. A canal barge complete with exhibition will appear on the Leeds-Liverpool canal and the Hall Royd band will perform in the bandstand. A family treasure hunt will be running throughout the four days and on Monday 18 April in Victoria Hall between 10am and 4pm take in the 'Mighty Wurlitzer' experience, its music and its console rising majestically up to the stage. The weekend will culminate on Monday with a not to be missed Alpaca parade at 1.30pm. The Scouts, Woodcraft Folk, Vicars, Saltaire Festival, Friends of Roberts Park and Saltaire Village Society have all decorated an alpaca and are taking part in a parade from the canal to the Mill in the company of a real life alpaca from Greenside Alpacas. All this plus much more, for full event listings please visit the web address below.

Rob Martin, Chair of the Saltaire Village Society, says 'Saltaire is special, and the whole community have come together to celebrate what makes the village so unique. We're fantastically lucky in Yorkshire to have two World Heritage Sites, both dramatically different but each with an interesting story to tell and we hope the wider Yorkshire community will come and help us celebrate this important day'

Welcome to Yorkshire has lent a hand in promoting the event, creating a special page on their website with additional information and event timetables. To find out more about the event please visit www.yorkshire.com/worldheritage.

PRESS CONTACT

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: contact **Alexa Morton, Visitor Experience and Marketing Manager**, Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal, Estate Office, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 3DY. Tel 01765 643199 Fax 01765 601002 Email alexa.morton@nationaltrust.org.uk

Press visits

Please contact Alexa Morton (details above) if you would like a press visit to Fountains Abbey on the number above. If not available please contact Jennifer Taylor on 01765 643164 jennifer.taylor@nationaltrust.org.uk

Please contact Amy Bell if you would like a press visit to Saltaire on 0113 243 4713 or Amy@bandhcommunications.co.uk A key photo opportunity would be Monday with the Alpaca parade at 1.30pm on Monday 18 April.