

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NICK HURD PAYS FIRST VISIT TO THE NEW HEATH ROBINSON MUSEUM

“An asset not just for Pinner but for the country”

On Friday 28th October Nick Hurd , MP for Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner and Minister of State at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, paid a flying visit to the new Heath Robinson Museum in Pinner Memorial Park. Nick is a patron of the Museum and from the start has shown a great deal of interest in its development.

The Museum having opened on 15th October, he was shown around the Museum by trustees Cynthia Wells, acting Chair of the West House and Heath Robinson Museum trust and Veronica Chamberlain, Marketing Manager.

Veronica, Nick and Cynthia outside the Museum with Diwali pictures in the background.



The site itself pleased him “You cannot think of a nicer site, and it blends in so well”.

He was enthusiastic when he first entered the Museum and took it all in

“What a proud moment this is. Congratulations to all. Amazing”.

Nick showed particular interest in the Activity Room, still decorated with the Diwali artwork completed at the workshop the previous week and where the Heath Robinson style “contraption” engineered by girls from St. Helens School, Northwood is still displayed.



When spending time in the further two galleries, the permanent exhibition gallery and the gallery devoted to the current special exhibition, “Heath Robinson at War”, Nick was especially pleased to see so many examples of the artist’s work on display:

“After all this time, how extraordinary it is to have brought all this together in one place, it’s been quite a journey”.

On looking round the building, there was praise for the architect (ZMMA) and for the way the collection has been curated:

“Beautifully executed. It’s an asset not just for Pinner but for the country. I am full of admiration”. The shop too was complimented:

“It’s an intelligent shop delivering interesting and attractive things”.

In all, it was a good visit, the Museum volunteers were proud to be able to show our local MP who has been so supportive around the Museum and to share the excitement with him.



Nick Hurd on the left holding the Heath Robinson book he bought, with Margaret Seaman, Front of House Coordinator.



Nick Hurd with the Heath Robinson Museum bag in the shop of the new Museum

Notes to Editors

heathrobinsonmuseum.org

The first purpose-built museum in Greater London for over 40 years, dedicated to showcasing the work of the world-renowned artist, illustrator, humorist and social commentator William Heath Robinson (1872-1944), was declared officially open on 15 October 2016 at a ceremony attended by hundreds of people in Pinner Memorial Park, north-west London.

Heath Robinson lived in Pinner from 1908-18, some of the most productive years of his life.

The West House and Heath Robinson Museum Trust is a registered charity which restored West House in Pinner Memorial Park for community use. The Trust is a partnership between local Pinner people and the William Heath Robinson Trust, custodians of the artist's work.

To develop the new Museum, Trustees received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £1.3m.

A significant addition to the national arts, educational and cultural landscape, this project is delivering:

- A permanent home for the Heath Robinson collection of original artwork and other artefacts
- The only museum dedicated to Heath Robinson, hosting the largest collection of his original works
- In addition to the permanent exhibition, a rolling programme of special themed exhibitions, starting with Heath Robinson at War from October 2016 to January 2017
- For schools, colleges and people of all ages, a comprehensive programme of formal and informal learning: thought-provoking and entertaining, reflecting the style of the man himself.

Donations are welcome on

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/heathrobinsonmuseum>

Background to the William Heath Robinson Trust

When Heath Robinson's daughter Joan died, her husband wanted her collection of her father's work to be kept in public ownership. As a result the William Heath Robinson Trust was formed in 1992.

The original collection included about 500 pieces of original art work together with an archive of letters, association copies and special editions of the books that he illustrated, proof prints, advertising booklets and ephemera.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund and the Art Fund grant-aided the William Heath Robinson Trust in 2015 to purchase some 400 additional important works for the Museum, bringing the collection to nearly 1,000. It is the only substantial collection of the artist's work in public ownership.

Use of icons and images

A range of authorised Heath Robinson images are available in jpg format. Please talk to any of our media team below about your requirements.