

Historical blue plaque marks 21 years in business

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The 21st business anniversary of Weetwood Hall Conference Centre and Hotel in Leeds has been marked this week by a historical Blue Plaque unveiling and a celebratory dinner for key clients and partners.

The University of Leeds bought the estate in 1919 with the house becoming a hall of residence up until the 1990s when it was reinvented as a hotel and conference centre.

Sheila Griffiths, former halls of residence warden during the 1960s and 70s, unveiled the plaque with the help of Leeds Civic Trust and reflected on her time at Weetwood Hall.

Martin Hicks, Managing Director at Weetwood Hall, said: "We are proud to have celebrated 21 years in business and to have that marked by a very significant plaque that acknowledges the history contained within the walls of Weetwood Hall. Thank you to all of those that have played a part in the success of the business and helped us to provide outstanding service for all of these years."

Dr Kevin Grady, Director of Leeds Civic Trust, said: "Weetwood Hall and its owners and residents have played a significant role in the history of Leeds since the 17th century. The Trust is very pleased to be able to celebrate its very varied and interesting history with a blue plaque. For many former students of the University of Leeds, such as myself, it is very well remembered as a small but characterful women's hall of residence."

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For further press information, please contact: Jessica Bennett, P: 01423 538 497, E: Jessica@rawcreativeltd.com<mailto:Jessica@rawcreativeltd.com>.

Notes to editors:

* Weetwood Hall was rebuilt by Daniel Foxcroft in 1625, and over the centuries its tenants have included members of well-to-do Leeds families including the Denisons, Oates and Marshalls, and self-made Leeds printer Alf Cooke.

* For further information on Weetwood Hall's history, please visit: <http://bit.ly/Qrbcos>

* For further information on historic Blue Plaques, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1l6WqkX>

* Weetwood Hall sensitively combines the original features of the 17th Century Manor House, with the contemporary facilities of the hotel and conference centre. Set within nine acres of woodland and gardens on the outskirts of Leeds it is a fine example of stately architecture, owned by the University of Leeds. For further information please visit: www.weetwood.co.uk.