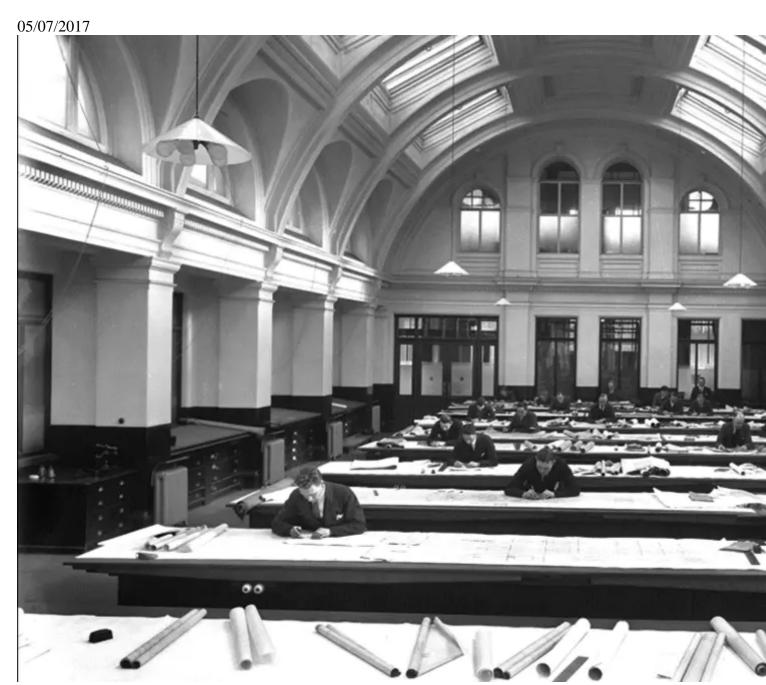
Titanic Hotel Belfast on course to open September 2017



The Drawing Offices in use

The official opening of Belfast's Titanic Hotel is on schedule for just 10 weeks' time.

Situated in the former Harland and Wolff headquarters and historic Drawing Offices, HLF has invested £5million in the restoration project which has brought employment opportunities, apprenticeships and additional investment to the area.

Restoring the Drawing Offices

The investment from HLF has supported the expert conservation and interpretation of the Drawing Offices and heritage features of the building, ensuring an important level of public access to these areas for years to come.

When open, Titanic Hotel Belfast will host public-access tours of the main Drawing Offices, starting with a six-week free exhibition that will tell the story of the building. Key heritage rooms within the hotel will be open for public tours, displaying artefacts and details of the restoration works.

Ensuring a long-term future

[quote= Paul Mullan, Head of HLF Northern Ireland] "It is thanks to National Lottery players and the £5m raised by them that this hugely important building has been restored..."[/quote]

Paul Mullan, Head of HLF Northern Ireland, added: "It is thanks to National Lottery players and the £5m raised by them that this hugely important building has been restored and returned to sustainable use.

"The Heritage Enterprise programme has been specifically designed to support ambitious projects, such as this, where the costs of restoration would be so high that it would not be commercially viable. So it is wonderful to see the final elements coming together on what will undoubtedly be another world-class maritime and industrial heritage attraction for visitors to Belfast's Titanic Quarter."

Titanic Hotel Belfast will open to the public on 10 September 2017, and more information can be found about the hotel and its heritage from the <u>Titanic Hotel Belfast website</u>.



The Harland and Wolff drawing offices in Belfast



The Mew Island lighthouse

Belfast's maritime heritage is backbone of the city's regeneration and tourism