

# newsletter

Issue 60

September 2006

Welcome to this month's NMDC newsletter which contains an update on our activities and the latest news from the museum sector in the UK and beyond. [www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

## NMDC News

### **New NMDC Chairman**

Mark Jones, director of the V&A, will be the next Chairman of the National Museum Directors' Conference. He will take over from Robert Crawford at the end of the year.

### **Air Cargo Security Changes**

In June, the Department for Transport announced changes to arrangements for air cargo security relating to valuable cargo, including museum objects. These changes were due to come into effect on 4 September 2006, but following efforts by DCMS and NMDC, this has now been postponed until 6 November to give museums extra time to prepare.

The changes will remove of the exemption for high value cargo from the security regulations introduced for other air cargo in 2003. This means that all museum air cargo must be either 'Known Cargo' - accompanied by a Consignment Security Certificate signed by a 'Known Consignor' (the institution or a Regulated Agent) - or 'Unknown Cargo', in which case it must be screened at the airport (X-ray, decompression chamber or sniffer dog) or hand searched.

Museums wishing to send objects as 'Known Cargo' must therefore either become a Known Consignor or arrange to have air cargo/crates inspected at the time of packing by a Regulated Agent (eg one of the fine-art shippers) who would then declare them 'Known Cargo' on the Consignment Security Certificate.

To become a 'Known Consignor', museums need to apply for validation from the Department for Transport, for which there an annual fee of £400. Museums that have already achieved validation have reported that with a few adjustments their existing security arrangements were satisfactory.

The Department for Transport wrote to all airlines and all Regulated Agents on 31 August notifying them that the withdrawal of the exemption for valuable cargo will be delayed until 6 November.

For further details: [www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft\\_transsec/documents/page/dft\\_transsec\\_023330.hcsp](http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_transsec/documents/page/dft_transsec_023330.hcsp)

### **Spoilation Database to Transfer to Collections Link**

The Spoilation Database currently hosted by the National Museum Directors Conference is to be incorporated into Cultural Property Advice, a new service for heritage professionals and the art and antiquities trade. The new system will in future allow museums to update their entries on the Spoilation Database.

Cultural Property Advice will be available as part of the range of services provided through Collections Link and will be launched towards the end of 2006. It will be maintained jointly by MDA and the Acquisitions, Export and Loans Unit at MLA. [www.collectionslink.org.uk](http://www.collectionslink.org.uk)

## Members' News

### **V&A Receives £9.7m Heritage Lottery Fund Grant**

The Victoria and Albert Museum is to receive a £9.75m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to help refurbish its Medieval and Renaissance Galleries. The £31.75 million project will transform the galleries to enable visitors to gain a deeper appreciation of the art and design of the period. The galleries are due to open in 2009. The grant is part of the latest round of HLF heritage grants totalling £76.5million. [www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/An+amazing+array.htm](http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/An+amazing+array.htm)

### Grants for NMDC Members

NMDC members are among 43 museums and galleries in England to receive grants from the DCMS/Wolfson Foundation Museums & Galleries Improvement Fund, totalling almost £4 million. The grants will help improve the quality of museum displays, public spaces, disabled access and environmental controls. The following NMDC projects have been awarded grants:

- *British Museum*: £100,000 to improve Galleries 49-53; Prehistory and Europe and the Ancient Near East
- *Museum of London*: £85,000 for the Capital City Project - Zone 1 Area 1660-1850
- *National Gallery*: £120,000 to renovate the 19th Century Galleries
- *National Maritime Museum*: £135,000 for Britain's Maritime Worlds: The Atlantic Gallery
- *National Museums Liverpool*: £300,000 to refurbish the Egyptian Gallery at Liverpool World Museum
- *National Railway Museum (NMSI)*: £110,000 for Hands on History - Access to the Hidden Collections
- *Natural History Museum*: £150,000 to renovate and improve access to the permanent Mineral Gallery
- *Sir John Soane's Museum*: £100,000 to reopen the Tivoli recess galleries
- *Wallace Collection*: £150,000 for Grand Redesigns - restoring the first floor state rooms Phase 1

A full list of the projects awarded grants can be found at:

[www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/B23D229C-9FB5-435C-844A-5747D97CB945/0/111\\_table.pdf](http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/B23D229C-9FB5-435C-844A-5747D97CB945/0/111_table.pdf)

### NMSI Collections Centre Short Listed for Big Lottery Fund Competition

The National Museum of Science & Industry (NMSI) Collections Centre in Wroughton is one of six community projects short listed for the second stage of the Big Lottery Fund's *Living Landmarks: The People's Millions* initiative. The projects are competing for a single grant of between £25 million and £50 million, which will be decided by a televised public vote.

The NMSI proposes to develop the Wroughton site, a disused airfield near Swindon, to create a National Collections Centre: an innovative science education centre with state-of-the-art exhibition and storage spaces, where the reserve collection will be open to the public.

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr\\_080806\\_ll\\_sw\\_nmsi\\_collections\\_centre?regioncode=-uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr_080806_ll_sw_nmsi_collections_centre?regioncode=-uk)

### Report on Development Opportunities for Teachers and Youth Workers

The National Foundation for Educational Research has published its evaluation of *Image & Identity*, a collaborative education initiative led by the V&A, involving five regional museums and NCH, the children's charity, funded by the DCMS/DfES Strategic Commissioning programme.

The study focused on the experience of teachers, youth workers and care workers participating in the project. The report concludes that "While professional development did not feature strongly in the aims of most *Image & Identity* projects, very clear outcomes for participating professionals were reported. These are likely to lead to 'repeat business' and even more effective projects in the future. Thus, professional development may deserve a higher profile in project promotion and planning, given that the evidence suggests that projects can influence teacher and youth worker motivation, enjoyment, classroom practice and future partnership working, as well as benefiting museum and gallery worker development". The report can be read at:

[www.nfer.ac.uk/research-areas/pims-data/summaries/broadening-the-spectrum.cfm](http://www.nfer.ac.uk/research-areas/pims-data/summaries/broadening-the-spectrum.cfm)

*Image and Identity*: [www.vam.ac.uk/school\\_students/schools\\_teach/programmes/image\\_identity/index.html](http://www.vam.ac.uk/school_students/schools_teach/programmes/image_identity/index.html)

### Search Domesday Book Online

Visitors to the National Archives' website can now search Domesday Book, the oldest surviving public record, for places and people by name. Recent improvements to the website also allow visitors to purchase a copy of the original page featuring the place name and a translation of the entry into modern English, for a small fee. Domesday Book was voted the nation's finest treasure in 2005, yet a recent survey revealed that less than 1% of the population have seen the original in The National Archives' museum. [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/domesday/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/domesday/)

### National Portrait Gallery Discovers Contemporary Portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots

A portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots, which has not been on display for years because it was thought to be an 18<sup>th</sup> century copy, has been revealed to be an image painted within her lifetime or shortly after her death. Recent dendrochronology of the panel on which the portrait was painted has established that it was felled in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and the work can now be dated to the period 1560-1592.

The discovery is significant because the majority of painted portraits of Mary, Queen of Scots that survive were painted in the Jacobean period or later. The newly conserved portrait is on display in the Tudor Galleries at the National Portrait Gallery. [www.npg.org.uk/live/prelmary.asp](http://www.npg.org.uk/live/prelmary.asp)

### **Scottish National Digital Project Announced**

Funding of up to £1.8 million has been allocated by the Scottish Executive for a two-year project by the National Library of Scotland, to establish a Trusted Digital Repository (TDR) for Scotland. The repository will be a system for storing and preserving a wide range of digital material, including websites, and will be capable of making such resources publicly available for many years to come, regardless of changes in technology.

As well as preserving Scotland's digital culture, the repository will make it possible to store legal deposit material in digital format. The Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 extended legal deposit to include non-print publications. Secondary legislation will allow the Library to start collecting this material within the next few years. [www.nls.uk/news/](http://www.nls.uk/news/)

### **Coleridge Family Papers Acquired by British Library**

The British Library has acquired the archive of the extended family of the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge, dating from the mid 18th to the early 20th centuries, with the aid of grants from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, Friends of the National Libraries, Friends of the British Library and trusts and foundations.

Highlights of the archive include an unknown autograph verse manuscript of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, copies of his verse, papers of other family members, including three generations of judges, and correspondence from eminent Victorians. The archive will be catalogued to make it fully accessible for research. [www.bl.uk/news/2006/pressrelease20060821.html](http://www.bl.uk/news/2006/pressrelease20060821.html)

### **New Director of Operations and Services at British Library**

Phil Spence will join the British Library on 23 October 2006 as Director of Operations & Services. Currently Director of Public Sector Management Group at DAI Europe Ltd, Phil was previously Director of Operations at the Scottish Ambulance Service. Phil takes over from William Burton, who has been interim Director. [www.bl.uk/about/governance/corporate.html](http://www.bl.uk/about/governance/corporate.html)

### **New Trustees for Royal Marines Museum**

The Royal Marines Museum has appointed four new trustees: Lt Col Ian Grant RM (Corps Secretary) joins the Board as a Trustee nominated by the Corps alongside three Co-opted Trustees: Mr Geoffrey Salvetti, a Portsmouth-based solicitor; Mrs Dianne Smith, who works for the Training Development Agency Directorate and Dr Jeffrey Lock, who owns a dental practice in Gosport. In addition to the four new Trustees, Mrs Sandi Rhys Jones OBE of Rhys Jones Consultants was re-appointed to the Board for a second 4-year term. The new appointees replace Trustees who have retired.

## **Current Issues**

### **Consultation on Proposals to Boost the Creative Economy**

The Government are inviting people working in creative industries to comment on new proposals to help the UK's creative industries prosper. Following consultation with the industry, experts identified barriers that prevent small and medium sized businesses growing. Their recommendations for breaking down these barriers include:

- a re-assessment of business education in the creative sector and cash incentives for investment in management development;
- a network of UK Creative Ambassadors to promote small and medium sized companies abroad;
- a creative business "health check" service to ensure businesses are getting quality business advice;
- "Creativity Towers" - new models for establishing concentrations of specialist creative work and activity space in new developments, to provide flexible, affordable homes for creative businesses;
- a creative industries 'dating agency' to broker and co-ordinate new relationships and partnerships.

The consultation documents are at [Creative Economy Programme website](http://www.creative-economy.gov.uk/).

The consultation ends on **20 September 2006**.

### **Consultation on Role of the Third Sector in Social and Economic Regeneration**

HM Treasury are inviting contributions to their Review of the Future Role of the Third Sector in Social and Economic Regeneration. The deadline for responses is **30 September 2006**. More information at: [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/documents/public\\_spending\\_and\\_services/third\\_sector/pss\\_thirdsector\\_consultations.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/documents/public_spending_and_services/third_sector/pss_thirdsector_consultations.cfm)

There is a regional event on 18 September in London, which will offer an opportunity to comment on the ten year strategy and how Government can help. Contact [vcs.rsvp@hm-treasury.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:vcs.rsvp@hm-treasury.gsi.gov.uk) to attend.

## Children and Young People's Review

HM Treasury and the Department for Education and Skills are undertaking a joint policy review of children and young people to inform the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR).

Building on the report, *Support for parents: the best start for children*, the policy review will consider how services for children and young people and their families can build on three principles: rights and responsibilities; progressive universalism and prevention to improve outcomes for children and young people. The review will focus on:

- how services can provide greater support to families with disabled children to improve their life chances;
- what strategy should be adopted over the next ten years to deliver a step change in youth services and support for young people. This will cover:
  - positive activities to engage young people and also places for young people to go;
  - opportunities for active citizenship such as mentoring or volunteering;
  - young people's access to youth activities and places;
- the role and practice of the youth worker and the support and advice they provide as part of youth activities.
- how services for families and children at risk of becoming locked in a cycle of low achievement, high harm and high cost can be reformed to deliver better outcomes.

The call for evidence is at: [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/?asset=News&id=43562](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/?asset=News&id=43562)

Submissions from interested organisations and members of the public can be sent to: [cypreview@hm-treasury.gov.uk](mailto:cypreview@hm-treasury.gov.uk). Responses should be submitted by **15 September 2006**.

## Scottish Executive Consults on Young People and Youth Organisations

The Scottish Executive has launched a consultation *Youth Work - Opportunities for All* on plans to get more young people involved in activities and youth organisations. The consultation paper states that "While youth work is a recognised discipline in itself, it has clear links with schools and other services for young people...There have been successful examples of youth workers working in schools and of beneficial links with organisations engaged in sport, music, the arts, environmental issues and community and charity work. We are keen to encourage positive links which lead to better facilities, better services and more opportunities for young people".

The consultation paper is at: [www.scotland.gov.uk/youthworkstrategy](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/youthworkstrategy) Consultation ends on **1 November 2006**.

## Children's Play: Report and Funding Opportunities

A new report, *Time for Play*, sets out what the Government is doing to support greater opportunities for children's play and includes reference to the role of museums and galleries. The report can be read at: [www.culture.gov.uk/Reference\\_library/Press\\_notices/archive\\_2006/dcms122\\_06.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Press_notices/archive_2006/dcms122_06.htm)

The £155m Big Lottery Fund programme for children's play initiatives may be of interest to organisations that are planning to enhance services in this area, working in partnership with local authorities. [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_childrens\\_play?assocorg=false&regioncode=&progStatus=open&status=theProg](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_childrens_play?assocorg=false&regioncode=&progStatus=open&status=theProg) There are also opportunities to access funding and strengthen partnership working through Sure Start and with Extended Schools. [www.surestart.gov.uk](http://www.surestart.gov.uk)

## Changes at DCMS

There will be several changes of deputy directors (formerly heads of divisions) at DCMS from early October. Paul Kirkman will be moving from Museums & Cultural Property Division to become head of Arts Division. DCMS will recruit for the post of head of Museums and Cultural Property Division.

Other changes: Phil Clapp moves from Arts Division to become head of Creative Industries Division; Mark Ferrero moves from Creative Industries to become head of Finance and Planning; Keith Smith moves from Finance and Planning to Director of Digital Switchover; Local, Regional and International Division and Lottery Distribution and Communities Division will be brought together under Simon Broadley.

## Capability Review for DCMS

DCMS will be one of the next five Government departments to undertake a Capability Review, as part of the process to improve the capability of the Civil Service to meet today's delivery challenges and to be ready for those of the future. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Ministry of Defence, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development will be assessed on their capability to meet current and future delivery challenges. [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news\\_releases/2006/060803\\_capability.asp](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news_releases/2006/060803_capability.asp)

### **International Council of Museums**

ICOM UK has relaunched its newsletter following a rebranding exercise. Whilst still reporting on international issues as they affect museums, its new focus will be to encourage UK museum professionals to get involved in ICOM's international networks especially its committees. ICOM UK will continue its grant giving programmes for members, to encourage participation in the next ICOM Triennial, in Vienna in August 2007.

Jack Lohman, Chairman of ICOM UK, is leading a new international committee to review ICOM's Strategic Plan. Committee members include directors of national museums from Mexico, Nigeria and Korea. The Committee will report next August with a set of recommendations to inform ICOM's forward strategy.

For more information contact Lucy Watts, ICOM UK Executive, Tel: 020 7814 5501 [lwatts@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:lwatts@museumoflondon.org.uk)

### **Targeting North America's Special Interest Travel Sector**

In the U.S. non-profit organisations such as art galleries, museums and alumni associations provide travel programmes for their members and donors. These "affinity" programmes have a strong educational focus relating to special interests such as art, history, gardening, theatre music etc. The number of people travelling on such programmes is estimated at 170,000 (Menlo Research) and the market has sales of approximately of £300m (Universities 70%, Museums, 20% and special interest 10%).

The Educational Travel Conference (ETC) is an annual event in the U.S. which provides an opportunity to build relationships with leading tour operators of non-profit group travel and planners from major U.S. institutions. The ETC usually attracts over 150 tour operators and 300 planners/buyers. VisitBritain will have a substantial presence at the conference in February 2007, with a co-coordinated British 'experience' which will heighten British visibility. VisitBritain will also coordinate pre & post event marketing activity.

For further information please contact David Childs-Clarke on T: 020 8563 3235  
or at [david.childs-clarke@visitbritain.org](mailto:david.childs-clarke@visitbritain.org) [www.visitbritain.com/americas](http://www.visitbritain.com/americas)

### **Museums to be Included in Local Authority Comprehensive Performance Assessment**

The Audit Commission has changed the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) of local authority services in England to include museums. Museums accredited by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) that are run by a local authority, or receive more than 20 per cent of their revenue from a local authority, will be included in the culture service assessment.

Museum Accreditation, formerly Registration, had been used as a best value performance indicator in the past, but was dropped for the past four years. Its adoption as a CPA indicator should help put museums on the agenda, at a time when museums are sometimes low in local authority priorities.

[www.mla.gov.uk/resources/assets/C/cpa\\_accreditation\\_10095.doc](http://www.mla.gov.uk/resources/assets/C/cpa_accreditation_10095.doc)

### **Renaissance Audience Data Collection Grants**

The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council is awarding more than £380,000 in grants to museums across England to be used to collect key audience data in a consistent way. 26 museums that have Designated collections have been awarded grants of around £15,000 each.

This work is funded through MLA's Renaissance programme to transform England's regional museums. Participating museums will be able to measure visitors on the same basis as Hub museums. The resulting data will provide a better understanding of audiences to inform improvements in service and create a more robust basis for measuring visitor numbers. [www.mla.gov.uk](http://www.mla.gov.uk)

### **Call for Applications for 2007 Gulbenkian Prize**

Entries are invited for the £100,000 Gulbenkian Prize 2007. The prize will be awarded to a museum or gallery project that:

- demonstrates originality, imagination and excellence through work mainly undertaken during the previous calendar year;
- has the capacity to promote wider public appreciation of the role of museums and galleries;
- has clearly won the support and enthusiasm of its visitors and users.

The judges will be interested in how the project relates to the museum or gallery's work as a whole and its longer-term impact. The deadline for applications is **Friday 3 November 2006**.

Further information at: [www.thegulbenkianprize.org.uk](http://www.thegulbenkianprize.org.uk)

### **Call for entries for The Conservation Awards 2007**

The Conservation Awards 2007, sponsored by the MLA, will be launched this autumn. The awards recognise excellence in conservation, collections care, conservation research and digital preservation, rewarding and celebrating the skills of those who care for our cultural heritage. The entry deadline is **31 March 2007**. Further details at: [www.conservationawards.org.uk](http://www.conservationawards.org.uk)

### **Robert Logan Award 2007**

The Robert Logan Award, which recognises young people working in the heritage sector, will be presented at the British Association of Friends of Museum (BAFM) Conference in Liverpool 2007 by Loyd Grossman. The winner will present a paper on a heritage-related subject at the conference. The award is sponsored by the Association of Independent Museums.

Closing date for entries is **1 April 2007**. Details at: [www.bafm.org.uk/pages/bafm-logan-award.htm](http://www.bafm.org.uk/pages/bafm-logan-award.htm)

### **Conference on Safeguarding of Works of Art on Loan**

This conference will look at anti-seizure laws already in place and the standards that new anti-seizure laws will have to satisfy in order to be effective and ethically acceptable.

The first day will include presentations from the US, Italy, Australia, France and Germany and the second will feature workshops on anti-seizure and human rights, state immunity and the liabilities covered by anti-seizure legislation.

**4-6 October 2006**, Budapest, Hungary. Further information at: [www.ial.uk.com/seminars.php](http://www.ial.uk.com/seminars.php)

### **Dispute Resolution Methods for Holocaust Looted Art Claims**

Methods of dispute resolution in Holocaust-related claims, such as government advisory panels, independent private committees of inquiry, private mediation and other non-forensic modes of resolution, will be the focus of this conference. It aims to produce a wider understanding of the scale of the problem, the challenges for conscientious art institutions and the preferred means of settling claims.

**18 October** at the Institute of Art and Law, London. Further information at: [www.ial.uk.com/seminars.php](http://www.ial.uk.com/seminars.php)

### **Collect: The Collections Management Exhibition**

Collect is a national trade fair highlighting the best in current practice, services and technologies for collections management. It offers an opportunity to meet leading suppliers and fellow museum, library and archive professionals and discuss current issues.

Collect is taking place under the banner of Collections Link, the new national advisory service for collections management. Attendance at Collect is free of charge.

**21 September 2006**, Cambridge To reserve a place, please visit: [www.collectionslink.org.uk/collect](http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/collect)

### **Evaluation Research in Free-Learning Environments**

The Visitor Studies Group's (VSG) 2006 Visitor Research Summer School will explore different approaches to studying the learning experience. Speakers include leading consultants and professionals from academic institutions, and national and international museums and attractions. The programme will include case studies and debate based on issues and topics raised during the day.

**21-22 September 2006**, At-Bristol Science Centre. Information at: [www.visitors.org.uk/events/summerschool.shtml](http://www.visitors.org.uk/events/summerschool.shtml)

### **TEG Marketplace 2006**

The Touring Exhibitions Group's 11th annual Marketplace provides an opportunity to promote exhibitions, view exhibitions available for hire and attend a rolling seminar programme. Topics include partnership working, redevelopment, developing exhibitions for audiences with impaired vision and the potential of touring exhibitions for audience development.

The Touring Exhibitions Group (TEG) is a network of galleries, museums, libraries, art and science centres committed to exchanging exhibitions in order to extend public awareness, knowledge and enjoyment of historical and contemporary culture.

**2 October 2006**, Rugby Art Gallery and Museum. Further information: [www.teg.org.uk/index.php?id=3.5](http://www.teg.org.uk/index.php?id=3.5)

### **Conference: Connecting Culture and Commerce: Getting the Right Balance**

This conference, jointly organised by Kings College London and the Museum Copyright Group, will provide a forum for expert speakers and international representatives from the cultural, media, education, and other interested sectors to debate the balance between cultural and commercial interests. The challenges of opening wider public access whilst protecting rights will be set against emerging business and licensing models, technological change, the legislative framework and the demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Alan Yentob, BBC's Creative Director; Sandy Nairne, Director of the National Portrait Gallery; Jon Snow, Channel Four News presenter and Professor Charles Oppenheim, Head of Information Science, Loughborough University will be among the speakers.

**26 January 2007** at the National Gallery, London. Information and registration at: [www.kdcs.kcl.ac.uk/mcg2007/](http://www.kdcs.kcl.ac.uk/mcg2007/)

### **Ideas Sought for Museum on Northern Ireland Conflict**

Healing Through Remembering (HTR) is inviting ideas for what form a Living Memorial Museum to the conflict in Northern Ireland should take. They are looking for a range of imaginative ideas and want to hear from adults, children and organisations.

A series of public art-based workshops will take place across Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain to help people create their vision of the museum. A selection of the submissions received will be chosen to form an exhibition in late 2006 / early 2007. The closing date for receipt of submissions is **30 September 2006**. [www.healingthroughremembering.org/](http://www.healingthroughremembering.org/)

### **Consultation on Disposal**

The Museums Association is updating its ethical advice on museum disposal. As part of this process, the MA has published a consultation and is inviting comments from interested members. The consultation runs till the end of October. [www.museumsassociation.org/disposal&IXPOS=manews1.4](http://www.museumsassociation.org/disposal&IXPOS=manews1.4)

### **National Offender Management Service (NOMS) Grants 2007-08**

The National Offender Management Service has established a grants scheme to support projects by voluntary and community organisations working with offenders and their families. £500,000 a year is available, with most awards expected to be between £15K and £60K per year. Voluntary or community groups may apply for up to 50 per cent of the costs of the full project for up to three years.

Outline applications must be received by **15 September 2006**. Funds will be available from April 2007. Further information at: [www.noms.homeoffice.gov.uk/downloads/noms-grants-programme-2007-08.pdf](http://www.noms.homeoffice.gov.uk/downloads/noms-grants-programme-2007-08.pdf)

### **Report on Economic Impact of Arts in the City**

This report provides an economic impact analysis of arts attractions within the City of London and its immediate surroundings. The research shows that festivals and arts institutions in the City contribute an estimated £325 million a year to UK GDP and support almost 7,900 jobs across the UK, as well as generating further value as a result of purchases of goods and services and as those employed in the arts spend their income. The City gave £62 million to arts and festivals based in the City cluster in 2004/05. [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/business\\_city/research\\_statistics/research\\_publications.htm](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/business_city/research_statistics/research_publications.htm)

A study by MOMA New York states that the museum will have a \$2 billion impact on the City from mid 2004 to mid 2007. [www.moma.org/about\\_moma/press/2006/EconImpactReleaseMainSite.pdf](http://www.moma.org/about_moma/press/2006/EconImpactReleaseMainSite.pdf)

The study has been analysed in an article by two economists in the Wall Street Journal [www.opinionjournal.com/la/?id=110008871](http://www.opinionjournal.com/la/?id=110008871)

### **New MLA Organisation in Place**

The Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) has undergone an organisational restructure to ensure that it is well placed to support the sector and the MLA partnership. The new Deputy Chief Executive, Jane Harwood, who was Director of Corporate Development at the Central Police Training and Development Authority, will take up her post on 2 October.

Each domain now has a head of policy as its 'champion', to ensure its needs are met in terms of policy development and advocacy and that strong, informed voices are speaking for the sector:

- The Head of Library Policy is John Dolan
- Head of Archive Development is Justin Cavernelis-Frost and
- Head of Museums Policy is in the process of being filled.

[www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=82&Section@stateId\\_eq\\_left\\_hand\\_root/@id=4289&Document/@id=25952](http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=82&Section@stateId_eq_left_hand_root/@id=4289&Document/@id=25952)

### **Diversify Management-level Traineeships**

The Museums Association, supported by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, is offering management-level traineeships for individuals of African, African-Caribbean, Asian or Chinese descent at Birmingham Museums Service and Leicester City Museums Service, as part of its Diversify scheme.

The two traineeships are designed to attract individuals who already have significant experience in another sector and wish to move into museum work. Trainees will gain management-level work experience in a museum full-time for 18 months and will also undertake tailored museum-studies and management training. The closing date for applications is **2 October 2006**. Further information at: [www.museumsassociation.org/12805&\\_IXSESSION=OwqhUZVjp5p&\\_IXPOS=manews1.2](http://www.museumsassociation.org/12805&_IXSESSION=OwqhUZVjp5p&_IXPOS=manews1.2)

### **Nominations for Queen's Birthday Honours 2007**

Nominations are invited for the 2007 Queens Birthday Honours list. Nomination forms and guidance can be found at [www.honours.gov.uk/nominate/forms.aspx](http://www.honours.gov.uk/nominate/forms.aspx). The deadline is **18 September 2006**.

### **New Agency to Support Public Art in London**

Arts Council England, London has appointed Open House, an architecture education organisation, to host a new agency to promote and advise on art in the public realm in the capital. The new agency, funded by the Arts Council and supported by Open House for a two-year pilot period, aims to encourage high quality new art commissions that will shape and animate the city. It will support individuals and organisations working in the commissioning and production of public art in London and will offer an advocacy, advisory and information service, an archive and research base and professional development opportunities. [www.artscouncil.org.uk/pressnews/press\\_detail.php?browse=recent&id=701](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/pressnews/press_detail.php?browse=recent&id=701)

### **New Trustees for HLF and NHMF**

*Kathy Gee*, formerly Chief Executive of MLA West Midlands, *Doug Hulyer*, Adviser on Communications and Learning for the Environment, and *Christopher Woodward*, who is about to take up the post of Director of the Museum of Garden History, have been appointed Trustees of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF).

[www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/New+trustees.htm](http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/New+trustees.htm)

### **Executive Director, Partnerships and Strategy for Creative and Cultural Skills**

Creative & Cultural Skills (CCSkills), the Sector Skills Council for Cultural Heritage, has appointed Victoria Pirie to the new post of Executive Director, Partnerships and Strategy, responsible for the organisation's activities in the UK nations and regions. She was previously Industry Skills Director for Cultural Heritage.

CCSkills current key projects include the DCMS funded Cultural leadership Programme, a Welsh Assembly backed leadership skills analysis led by NMGW and the development of Creative Apprenticeships for the sector.

The move provides a new opportunity for an experienced Cultural Heritage manager to assist employers in developing new and better skills and training opportunities. Details of the post of Industry Skills Director for Cultural Heritage at: [www.ccskills.org.uk/workforus](http://www.ccskills.org.uk/workforus)

### **Art Thief Caught After Pub Boast**

A thief who stole a painting from the Castle Museum and Art Gallery in Norwich was caught after being overheard in a pub. The painting, *Brighton*, by an unknown artist, was stolen from storage in 1999, during redevelopment of the museum. The thief was heard discussing how he could get rid of the piece and reported to the police. He was charged, but died before being tried.

The work was returned to the gallery three years after it went missing. Details of the theft emerged after a Freedom of Information Act request to the museum. [arts.guardian.co.uk/news/story/0,,1856036,00.html](http://arts.guardian.co.uk/news/story/0,,1856036,00.html)

### **Artefacts Needed for Conservation**

The University of Lincoln Conservation Programme, which specialises in the conservation of ethnographic and social history materials, is looking for artefacts in need of conservation to give students hands on experience. Organisations with artefacts to conserve and museums wishing to undertake surveys, storage audits or carry out conservation in situ, should get in touch with John Greenwood [jgreenwood@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:jgreenwood@lincoln.ac.uk). [www.lincoln.ac.uk](http://www.lincoln.ac.uk)



# Parliamentary Report

## Debate on Special Acquisition Funds for Museums and Galleries

There will be an adjournment debate, introduced by Sir Patrick Cormack, in the House on Wednesday, 11 October, on special acquisition funds for museums and galleries.

## Consultation on London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The Culture, Media and Sport Committee will take further oral evidence in the autumn as part of its long-term inquiry into preparations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Written submissions are invited from any interested organisation or individual. Submissions should address:

- The costs of staging the Games and the methods by which the Games are being funded, including the mechanism for supplementing the existing package as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government and the Mayor of London;
- Ways of maximising the value of the Olympic legacy both within London and across the UK;
- How the nations and regions of the UK might derive lasting benefit from the staging of the Games, in particular through encouraging participation in sport and increasing tourism

The deadline for submissions is **Thursday 5th October**.

[www.parliament.uk/parliamentary\\_committees/culture\\_media\\_and\\_sport/cms060727.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/culture_media_and_sport/cms060727.cfm)

## Reminder: Culture, Media and Sport Committee Caring for our Collections Consultation

The deadline for written submissions to the Culture, Media and Sport Committee inquiry into museums and galleries, cultural property and archives, *Caring for our Collections*, is **28 September 2006**. For more information, see [www.parliament.uk/parliamentary\\_committees/culture\\_media\\_and\\_sport/cms060725.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/culture_media_and_sport/cms060725.cfm)

# International Issues

## Netherlands Announce Deadline for End of Liberalised Restitution Policy

Claimants seeking the return of works of art looted by the Nazis that are in the possession of the Dutch state need to submit claims to the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Science by 4 April 2007 in order for the claim to be considered under less stringent rules for evidence of ownership introduced in 2001.

Claims submitted after this date will be considered under the civil code, making the burden of proof more demanding. [www.minocw.nl/english/doc/2006/20060804\\_applicationsforrestitution.pdf](http://www.minocw.nl/english/doc/2006/20060804_applicationsforrestitution.pdf)

## Controversy over Return of Spoliated Painting

Deutsche Welle reports that the recent restitution of a 1913 painting, *Berlin Street Scene* by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, to a descendant of the Jewish family who owned it before World War II, has provoked criticism in Germany. The painting was returned in July to the heirs of Alfred Hess, following nearly two years of secret negotiations with the regional government of Berlin, during which the parties failed to agree a price. Shortly afterwards, Christie's announced that the painting would be sold in New York, where it is estimated that it may fetch \$18-\$25 million.

Bloomberg reports that during a Berlin regional parliamentary hearing, opposition politicians criticized the state senate for handing the work back too readily and for failing to inform either parliament or the public about negotiations to return the painting.

The Ernst Ludwig Kirchner Archive, the Brücke Museum, which had held the painting since 1980, and the Berlin auction house Villa Grisebach, issued a joint statement protesting the return of the painting, claiming that it had been legally purchased. [www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2140203,00.html](http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2140203,00.html)  
[www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=awtLFu6rriK4&refer=muse](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601088&sid=awtLFu6rriK4&refer=muse)

## Stolen Munch Paintings Found

Two paintings by Edvard Munch that were stolen from the Munch Museum in Oslo in August 2004 have been recovered by police. Three men were found guilty of charges relating to the theft in May.

The paintings have been returned to the Museum, where curators will carry out a thorough examination of the works to verify that they are the originals and assess any damage the paintings have suffered. The Museum hopes to put the paintings back on display at the earliest possible opportunity. [www.munch.museum.no/?id=&mid=&lang=en](http://www.munch.museum.no/?id=&mid=&lang=en)

## Missing Works at Russian Museums

A state commission set up to conduct a nationwide inventory of cultural treasures in Russia was due to be in place 1 September, following the discovery of the theft of 221 items worth \$5m (£2.7m) from the stores at the Hermitage Museum during a routine audit.

Police have detained three suspects in connection with the theft, including the son and husband of a late Hermitage curator who was in charge of the collection where the theft occurred. Some of the stolen artefacts have been recovered by the police.

The theft of drawings from the Russian State Archive of Literature and Art came to light when nine of the drawings were sold at auction by Christie's in London. A subsequent inventory at the Archive revealed that many more works were missing. Christie's subsequently cancelled the sales.

[www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,3-2304553.html](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,3-2304553.html)

[news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/5302094.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/5302094.stm)

[www.hermitagemuseum.org/html/En/11/hm11\\_0.html#general](http://www.hermitagemuseum.org/html/En/11/hm11_0.html#general)

## Centre Pompidou Investigation into Destruction of Works of Art

The Art Newspaper reports that the Centre Pompidou in Paris has completed an internal investigation into the accidental destruction of two works of art lent to the exhibition *Los Angeles 1955-85*. The study found that one of the works, *Untitled* (1971) by Peter Alexander, an 8ft black resin bar, fell off the wall after a repair was not given time to set properly, as a result of poor communication between a restorer and the installer

The investigation did not determine what caused Craig Kauffman's *Untitled Wall Relief* (1967), to fall. The convex bubble of acrylic-painted Plexiglas fell off the wall after 130 days.

The lenders of both works are being compensated and the Centre Pompidou has offered to fund the re-fabrication of both lost works. [www.theartnewspaper.com/article01.asp?id=425](http://www.theartnewspaper.com/article01.asp?id=425)

## Public Consultation on Making Europe's Online Content Market More Competitive

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on ways to stimulate the growth of a single EU market for online digital content, such as films, music and games. The Commission aims to encourage the development of innovative business models and to promote the cross-border delivery of online content services. It is also keen to ascertain how European technologies can succeed in the creative online content markets and to evaluate whether regulatory measures at EU level are needed. Online content accounts for 8% of EU GDP today, and Western European online content-sharing frameworks and markets are expected to triple by 2008. The deadline for responses is **13 October 2006**.

Further information at: [ec.europa.eu/comm/avpolicy/other\\_actions/content\\_online/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/avpolicy/other_actions/content_online/index_en.htm)

## Guggenheim Museum Studies Impact of Arts Education on Problem Solving

The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum has been awarded a \$1 million grant by the U.S. Department of Education to evaluate the impact of its arts education programme on students' problem-solving skills. An earlier study showed that the programme had a demonstrable impact on students' literacy and critical thinking. The new enquiry will study 18 classes of fifth grade students, half of whom are in the *Learning Through Art* programme and half of whom are not, to determine the impact of *Learning Through Art* on students' problem-solving skills. [www.guggenheim.org/press\\_office.html](http://www.guggenheim.org/press_office.html)

## Forthcoming Meetings

### HR Forum

Friday 8 September, 10.30am, Tower of London

### Learning & Access Committee

Wednesday 11 October, 3.30pm, National Portrait Gallery

### PR Group

Thursday 9 November, 11am, British Library

### Operations Committee

Monday 2 October, 2pm, Science Museum

### Marketing Group

Friday 27 October, 2.30pm, National Gallery

### NMDC meeting

Friday 1 December, 11am, Imperial War Museum

If you have any comments on the NMDC Newsletter or would like to contribute to a future edition, please email Zoë Nasatyr at [nmdcnews@iwm.org.uk](mailto:nmdcnews@iwm.org.uk)

**[www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)**

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