

FRIDAY 11 JUNE 2010

The Heritage Alliance is the largest alliance of heritage interests in the UK, representing 79 member organisations, with the aim of promoting the central role of the non-Government movement in the heritage sector. Heritage Update is our voice; to, and for, the sector. It is estimated that Update reaches approximately 12,000 mailboxes in the UK and internationally; with readers as far afield as Abu Dhabi, Antarctica, Istanbul and California. For more information visit www.theheritagealliance.org.uk

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HEADLINES

The Alliance urges cross-departmental push for heritage in the Star Chamber

The framework for the autumn spending review published by the Government on Tuesday (8 June) aims to provide a new Whitehall system for making spending cuts as fair as possible. A new star chamber, chaired by the Chancellor, will scrutinise every department's budget plans. A Spending Review Challenge Group made up of experts from both within and outside Government will also vet departments' plans and subsequently the public will be engaged through the series of consultations and websites.

The Alliance expects Secretary of State Jeremy Hunt to make the case for public funding on heritage, alongside the other areas of his portfolio. And in addition, we expect him to liaise with the other two Departments, CLG and DEFRA, over the economic and social benefits the heritage brings. This will be a test of his offer when Shadow Secretary, to establish regular departmental meetings with his ministerial colleagues.

All three ministers can show that the non Government heritage bodies are already actively creating [The Big Society](#); community asset ownership, planning reform, neighbourhood organisers, philanthropy, volunteering and citizenship - in addition to the essential role of heritage in the tourism industry. We can do it cost effectively with a sense of community; but we need a positive legislative, policy and fiscal framework to make the most of our historic assets. And all three Departments need to have sufficient resources to put this in place. [Back](#)

Update on new Ministerial roles

In the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) the new Small Businesses Minister, chartered surveyor Mark Prisk, will take responsibility for the construction industry. He is MP for Hertford and Stortford.

Nick Hurd is Minister for Civil Society within the newly named Office for Civil Society – formerly the Office of the Third Sector. The Government has appointed Greg Clark to the position of Minister of State for Decentralisation - a new role within the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG). Clark is Conservative MP for Tunbridge Wells and author of the book Total Politics, which was critical of the alleged over-centralisation of power by the previous Labour Government.

Baroness Hanham, a Conservative peer and President of Volunteering England, has been appointed Parliamentary Secretary of State in CLG. Lib Dem MP Andrew Stunell, a former architect, is CLG Minister responsible for the Big Society and community cohesion. [Back](#)

Queen's Speech: Two of the 23 Bills proposed will impact on heritage

Public Bodies (Reform) Bill

The Public Bodies (Reform) Bill will ensure that there is a greater degree of transparency and accountability for all public bodies. The role of social enterprises, charities and co-operatives in public services will be enhanced. Under the legislation, Ministers will be provided with the powers to abolish, merge or transfer functions. As at 31 March 2009, there were 766 non-departmental public bodies, which spend over £46 billion a year and employ over 110,000 people. The Bill paves the way to both cut the overall number of public bodies and make year-on-year savings of £1 billion by reducing the cost of bureaucracy.

Non-departmental public body and registered charity Becta - formerly known as the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency - is to close as part of the first round of spending cuts, and other Department for Education quangos will follow. The Bill would also introduce a review of the functions of all public bodies every three years, as opposed to the current practice of every five years. The review will comprise a test: "Is the function technical; does it need to be politically impartial; and do facts need to be determined transparently". [Back](#)

Localism Bill

A Bill that would shift power from the state to local communities and empower local people, formed a key part of the Queen's Speech; alongside a CLG Bill to revoke the previous Government's plans to create unitary councils in Exeter, Norwich and Suffolk.

The Devolution and Localism Bill would set the foundations for the Conservatives' vision of the Big Society by shifting power from the central state back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils. Secretary of State for CLG, Eric Pickles, said: "It will free local Government from central and regional control so that they can ensure services are delivered according to local needs".

Some of the Coalition Agreement commitments would be legislated through the Localism Bill, including: returning

decision-making powers on housing and planning to local councils by abolishing Regional Spatial Strategies; new powers for communities to help save local facilities and services threatened with closure, and the right to bid to take over local state-run services; giving councils a general power of competence; giving residents the power to instigate local referendums on any local issue and the power to veto excessive council tax increases; greater financial autonomy to local government and community groups; outright abolition of Home Improvement Packs; and create Local Enterprise Partnerships. The Alliance will be considering the implications of these measures, but first and foremost exploring whether the key elements of the draft Heritage Bill could be added to the proposed legislation. [Back](#)

English Heritage 'savings': update

Speaking at a reception to mark the completion of the repair and conservation of the exterior of Westminster Abbey's Chapter House on 26 May, English Heritage (EH) Chief Executive Simon Thurley commented on this year's spending cuts: "Of course English Heritage, together with the rest of the public sector, is now making its contribution to cutting the £156 billion public debt. Our share is just over £4 million - a figure that we had successfully guessed some months ago and for which we have carefully laid plans. No one likes to be cut, but English Heritage is no stranger to efficiency measures and we will deal with this quickly and continue to provide a first class expert service to all those who we deal with."

"We also know" he added "that the new Government has placed heritage and tourism together in a single ministerial portfolio. This is good news, emphasising the absolutely central role that heritage plays in the tourist economy of Britain."

Further details of the efficiency savings have since emerged; EH will absorb £4.2 million 'savings' in this financial year by an immediate recruitment freeze, from yet unallocated money, and by bringing forward efficiency plans set for future years. No impact on grants is expected and as little as possible on front-line services - except where this results from lower staffing levels. Sadly, however, this affects the Historic Environment Trainees (HETS) programme. A new intake of students is unlikely this year.

See <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/news/eh-chief-executive-welcomes-chapter-house-conservation/> [Back](#)

Heritage Lottery Fund: £17 million boost for Skills for the Future

On Tuesday (8 June), the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) announced it will be investing £17 million in 54 projects under its *Skills for the Future* programme. Launched in July 2009, *Skills for the Future* supports organisations across the UK to create new training places within the sector. Grants range from £100,000 to £1million for a number of traineeships over a period of up to five years, with an emphasis on high-quality work-based training. The Alliance is delighted that four of its members have received funding for their projects - the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) has £604,000 towards its [Community Archaeology Bursary Project](#); The Waterways Trust and its partners have received £110,000 towards [traditional boat building training](#); the North of England Civic Trust and its partner have received £490,100 for [heritage engineering skills training](#); and The National Trust has received £529,100 towards its [Heritage Skills Passport](#) technical skills training scheme.

The £17m announced on Tuesday will deliver 808 placements, and adds-up to 780 years' worth of paid training opportunities for people seeking a career in heritage. The funding will not only support traditional conservation training, but also a wide variety of more contemporary skills; such as managing volunteers and using social media to engage new audiences with heritage. Newly appointed Heritage Minister John Penrose, who attended the launch at the British Museum on Tuesday morning, said: "This investment is a great way of giving people access to practical on-the-job training, at a time when we need to do all we can to give people a helping hand to follow their careers. Making sure we have a skilled workforce for the future will also help to protect the very best heritage from our past."

Dame Jenny Abramsky, Chair of the HLF, said: "When the recession kicked-in last year we thought very hard about how the Heritage Lottery Fund could make a difference to people's lives at a time of real need. The answer was an innovative and ambitious programme focusing on equipping people with practical skills to help them secure future employment. We have been astounded by the response, which clearly shows a great hunger for skills training within our sector."

For a full list of the 54 projects, contact the HLF press office team on 0207 591 6036 / 6032. Those who may be interested in applying for a placement with one of the 54 projects can find out more by visiting www.hlf.org.uk/skills. Placements will commence towards the end of 2010/beginning of 2011. For the full press release visit <http://www.hlf.org.uk/news/Pages/news.aspx> [Back](#)

World Heritage Site Expert Panel: be a part of it

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will be convening a panel of experts to consider applications for

inclusion on a new Tentative List of sites for potential nomination to UNESCO for World Heritage status, and to make recommendations to Ministers by the end of 2010. Expressions of interest are now being invited from “qualified individuals with knowledge of cultural and natural heritage”, to sit on the panel, which is likely to constitute seven to 10 members. DCMS states “this will be an important and high-profile contribution to the UK’s cultural and natural heritage, and prospective panel members should have suitable qualifications in relevant fields.”

Expressions of interest should be emailed to UKTL.Application@culture.gsi.gov.uk no later than 5.00pm on 18 June, entitled ‘Expert Panel’. Emails should include a CV and contact details. For full details, visit <http://www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/6740.aspx#eoi> [Back](#)

Baroness Andrews speaks up in the House of Lords

Baroness Andrews, Chair of English Heritage, noted the Alliance when she spoke for the first time in the new parliamentary session on 3 June. Speaking from the backbenches in the House of Lords in the debate on the Queen’s Speech, she referred to “the historic environment and the buildings and places which frame our lives, experiences and memories. It makes us feel better; it creates jobs and skills, and nurtures experience; and it opens doors to our history. At a time when we face one of the greatest tests as a country - to rebuild our economy and protect our communities - we must realise”, Baroness Andrews continued, “that we must exploit all our resources: our knowledge, our skills and our wealth. In adversity nothing could serve us better than to make more of our historic assets”. She quoted employment and tourism figures, as providing “what could become part of the national recovery programme”.

“There is nothing more potent, more local and more important to people than the place where they live... Nothing is more evident than this in the big society. Organisations such as the Heritage Alliance and the new Civic Voice will give every encouragement to that.”

Cataloguing increasing risks, she warned “this country leads the world in the care and protection we give the historic environment... If we do not send the signal that this matters to us, we will lose not only culturally, but economically. We will also lose our leadership, which is so important to the rest of the world... Failure will carry an extremely high price.”

Well done Baroness Andrews! What an excellent ambassador we have in the House of Lords.

For the full text, visit Hansard <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201011/ldhansrd/text/100603-0007.htm#10060340000745> [Back](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY: CONSULTATION ROUND UP

June

[New policy document for planning obligations](#). A CLG consultation: deadline 21 June.

[HMS Victory 1744: Options for the Management of the Wreck Site](#). A DCMS consultation: deadline 30 June

[The National Heritage Protection Plan \(NHPP\)](#). An English Heritage consultation: deadline 30 June.

July

[Reform of the Coroner System](#). A Ministry of Justice consultation: deadline 1 July

[Green Paper: Unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries](#). A European Commission consultation to gather views on various issues impacting the cultural and creative industries in Europe, to ensure its policies and programmes are fit for purpose: deadline 30 July.

August

[Consultation on the National Lottery Shares](#). A DCMS consultation: deadline 21 August.

NEWS

RTPI HE Network becomes latest member of The Heritage Alliance

The Alliance was delighted to welcome the Royal Town Planning Institute’s Historic Environment Network as its newest member this week. For more information about the RTPI HE Network, visit <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/cgi-bin/item.cgi?ap=1&id=1850>

For more information on becoming a member of The Heritage Alliance visit www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/become-a-

[member](#) [Back](#)

Charities beware: bogus phone scam alert

The Charity Commission has warned the third sector this week of a scam involving charities being telephoned by individuals claiming to represent the Commission. In the phone calls, these individuals claim to be from the 'debt collection department' of the Commission and they demand payments for various services and advertisements. Some of the bogus calls have demanded payments of thousands of pounds for various services and advertisements. The Commission has already reported this matter to the police, but would like to warn the sector to look out for this scam, and be clear that: any call from someone claiming to work with or on behalf of the Charity Commission, and claiming any payment in a threatening way, is clearly bogus; the Charity Commission does not charge for any of its services to charities; it does not get involved in debt collection either directly or through contracting third parties to do so, and nor does it collect debt on behalf of charities.

Organisations that find themselves on the receiving end of this scam should immediately report it to the police, and the Charity Commission would also like to be informed. The Commission can be contacted on 0845 300 0218. For more information on the scam, visit

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Our_regulatory_activity/Compliance_reports/Alerts/Bogus_calls.aspx [Back](#)

It's all change at the Department for Education

On Monday (7 June) the Department for Education announced a series of structural changes to education provision. Schools Minister Nick Gibb announced that development of the new Diplomas in science, humanities and languages – which were due to be introduced from September 2011 - will cease immediately. It was also announced that all schools will now be allowed to offer the International GCSEs (iGCSEs) from September - putting them on a level playing field with independent schools, who have offered them for some time. Ministers also confirmed that they will not proceed with the last Government's proposed new primary curriculum, which was based on a review led by Sir Jim Rose – the Rose Report - due to be taught in schools from September 2011. For more information visit

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/press-notice-new-nationalcurriculum> [Back](#)

The Big Arts Give: stimulating individual philanthropy for culture

On 26 May, Arts & Business launched a new pilot challenge fund that aims to raise £3 million in private investment for the arts and culture by the end of 2010. In partnership with UK philanthropist Alec Reed and his Big Give website, Arts & Business has designed *The Big Arts Give* to aim to dramatically reanimate individual cultural philanthropy. Part of the Arts and Business Private Sector Policy for the arts, charities will be encouraged to set a matching funding goal, raising the same target in public donations by 6 December. They will then be able to compete to have further public donations doubled by The Arts and Business Challenge Fund. For more information visit click [here](#). Culture Minister Ed Vaizey launched the new scheme. Speaking at the event, he talked about the Government's plans to simplify Gift Aid, and said that he is keen to work with the Charities Commission to enable small arts charities to merge to create more sustainable organisations. Watch Ed Vaizey's speech [here](#). [Back](#)

Alliance members and the British Property Federation come together to debate PPS5

On 27 May over 100 professionals joined The Heritage Alliance, the British Property Federation and DPP LLP (planning consultancy) to discuss the implications that the recently published *PPS5: Planning for the historic environment* will have for the property industry. The event, held at the Building Centre in London, was a joint initiative run by the BPF and supported by The Heritage Alliance, in the spirit of forging stronger links with the property industry. BPF CEO Liz Peace chaired the seminar, which included speakers from English Heritage, the IHBC, DPP LLP and Gerald Eve. The presentations, (links provided below), provided in-depth insight into the new policy and guidance and offered a range of perspectives, which sparked an illuminating Q&A session.

A key outcome of the debate was recognition of the vital role that amenity and voluntary heritage sector groups can play in providing specialist advice to developers on applications involving heritage assets; particularly in the face of cuts to local authority conservation services. The Heritage Alliance looks forward to working with the BPF and its members on further initiatives in the near future. To download the speakers' presentations visit

<http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/heritage-protection-reform-news/> [Back](#)

PPS on Planning for a Low Carbon Future: The Alliance response

On 1 June The Heritage Alliance responded to the consultation for *Planning Policy Statement: Planning for a Low Carbon Future in a Changing Climate* March 2010. The new draft policy in the PPS sets out a planning framework for securing progress against the UK's targets to cut greenhouse emissions and use more renewable and low carbon energy, and to mitigate against climate change. The draft PPS combines and updates existing planning policy statements on climate change (PPS1 supplement) and renewable energy (PPS22).

In responding to the consultation, The Heritage Alliance emphasised heritage sector support for Government aims and initiatives to reduce harmful carbon emissions, and also stressed the historic environment's potential contribution to these aims. On a less positive note, The Alliance outlined concerns about the draft PPS not reflecting the policy principles of PPS5 and overlooking opportunities to utilise heritage assets as part of a flexible, mixed approach to achieving a low carbon future.

For the full response, visit <http://www.theheritagealliance.org.uk/2010/06/07/pps-on-planning-for-a-low-carbon-future-the-alliance-responds> [Back](#)

Mayor calls for London organisations to register 2012 events to The Culture Diary

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has called on organisations that are planning a cultural event in 2012 to register with the online calendar The Culture Diary, which is being created to showcase every cultural event taking place across London in the Olympic year– from large scale spectaculars to community based activities.

With fewer than 600 days until 2012 begins, organisations across the capital are already planning a vast array of events for a momentous year. The Mayor has created The Culture Diary in conjunction with Visit London to capture as much information as possible about what will be happening in the capital from 1 January to 31 December 2012. Any organisation or individual planning a cultural event or programme in London during the year can upload their details at no cost. The Culture Diary will go live in the run up to 1 January 2012. Organisations can upload details of planned events already at www.theculturediary.com. The closing date for entries is the end of this year, 31 December 2010.

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Windows into the past on-line: www.HistoryPin.com is now live

Last week (3 June) saw the launch of Historypin - a web-based image / story gathering site created by social development organisation [We Are What We Do](#), in partnership with Google.

Historypin aims to provide “a digital time machine that allows people to view and share history in a totally new way” by allowing the public to upload historical images, paintings, drawings etc to the website, overlaying modern Google maps. This means that when users search a particular location, postcode, town, or category such as ‘schools’, they will be able to engage with the heritage of that area / category through the images and stories posted for that criteria on Historypin. An example: when the Heritage Update editor searched ‘Liverpool’ between 1840 and 2010, a range of photographs and stories came up including the following - The Look out on the Titanic, Mr Reginald Robinson Lee leaving the Celtic at Liverpool in 1912, Bomb Damage at Liverpool Docks in 1941, A Couple’s Farewell at the Docks on their Wedding Night in 1949, Liverpool Lime Street Station in 1953 and the St Andrew’s Gardens Housing complex in 1954.

The developers of Historypin hope the site will become the “Facebook of place-making”; encouraging inter-generational engagement with heritage and initiating the sharing of stories between young and old. At the launch, Historypin said of the site: “Using Google Maps and Street View technology, Historypin aims to become the largest user-generated archive of the world's historical images and stories. Historypin invites the public to dig out, upload and pin their own old photos, as well as the stories behind them, onto the Historypin map. Uniquely, Historypin allows users to layer their old images onto modern Street View scenes, revealing a series of windows into the past.”

Why not spend your lunch break today searching your postcode and seeing what comes out? Visit www.historypin.com. For a short video clip introducing Historypin, visit <http://www.youtube.com/user/Historypin#p/u/0/FdT3eKdto4w> *And don't forget to add your photos, stories, drawings, paintings etc to Historypin to promote the work of your site or organisation; you just need a Google account (which is free) to enable you to upload images and stories; see <http://www.historypin.com/user> for details.* [Back](#)

BEN's Rainbow Project: Help BME communities engage with heritage

The Black Environment Network (BEN – a member of The Alliance) has developed its Rainbow Project to provide representatives from BME communities across England with the skills and knowledge to access the environmental sector. The project will train up Community Environmental Advocates within the BME community, to: understand the range of heritage and environmental organisations and what they offer; use the opportunities to meet their social, cultural and environmental needs; negotiate with professionals and organise activities safely; influence policy and represent issues and the wishes of ethnic minority communities; and take action to protect and improve the local natural and historic environment.

In parallel, the project will train staff and volunteers from heritage and environmental organisations to work effectively with ethnic minorities; acquiring insight, knowledge and skills to understand the context of working with diversity, market

the opportunities they offer effectively to ethnic minorities, and work effectively with ethnic minorities to confidently meet the social, cultural and environmental needs of BME communities. The training is free of charge, limited to a maximum of two staff members per organisation. If you are interested in becoming involved please get in touch see www.ben-network.org.uk or email james@ben-network.org.uk The project, which runs until March 2011, is funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) through its Tackling Racial Inequalities Fund (TRIF). [Back](#)

Resilient Places: character and community in everyday heritage

A new report from think tank Demos, *Resilient Places*, proposes that organisations that own or are responsible for heritage network infrastructure should come together to develop an urban right to roam - with a common set of objectives and standards for opening up access and creating links with local communities: "The networks of the past comprise a visible and everyday heritage that people can adapt, and to which they can respond. Railways, canals, sewers and industrial routeways can be reappraised, repurposed and reused to meet emerging and future needs."

Sam Jones, DCMS Research Fellow, argues that resilience of place is a better gauge than quality of place, because it recognises that places change. Quality of place suggests "a fixed idea of what places should be like, and once a place has ticked all boxes, the job is simply to make sure the boxes stay ticked". Resilience of place suggests that places are not static, but dynamic and change over time. The report explores the potential for heritage infrastructure – railways, waterways, routeways and sewers, too often dismissed as outdated, to contribute as part of the public realm to the resilience of places. *Resilient Places* can be downloaded free of charge from <http://www.demos.co.uk/publications/resilientplaces> [Back](#)

Volunteering England: new central support resource for volunteer management

During June Volunteering England will launch its new 'Volunteer Management Portal'. The portal has been developed as part of the Volunteer Management Programme, funded by [Capacitybuilders](#), and is one of the outcomes of a wider campaign to increase support for, recognition of, and investment in, volunteer management.

The Portal aims to act as a central gateway to the world of volunteer management, providing a co-ordinated source of information on support, training and development opportunities for people managing volunteers. It's primarily a signposting tool, providing links to training providers, consultants, publications and networks as well as links to organisations that provide information on volunteer management. The resources signposted on the portal were sourced through a comprehensive national mapping exercise undertaken by Volunteering England and the nine regional England Volunteering Development Councils.

Organisations that would like to add their resources to the portal can contact Alison Hammock at Volunteering England by emailing alison.hammock@volunteeringengland.org To find out more about the Volunteer Management Portal and the wider campaign, visit <http://www.volunteering.org.uk:81/WhatWeDo/Projects+and+initiatives/About+the+Volunteer+Management+Programme> [Back](#)

Access to Volunteering: apply now for grants to help disabled people volunteer

A lack of specialist equipment, inappropriate premises, the extra cost of travel and a lack of understanding about how to support them means that disabled people are 9 per cent less likely to volunteer than the rest of the population. Access to Volunteering, the pilot fund scheme to help disabled people volunteer, is now in its last two rounds of grant-giving. To date, 95 organisations have received Access to Volunteering grants of between £250 and £5,000, in the three test regions of Greater London, West Midlands and the North West.

The remaining deadlines for applications are 28 June and 6 September. In particular, the Fund is interested in projects that help overcome the attitudinal barriers that sometimes prevent disabled people from volunteering. To find out how to apply visit www.accesstovolunteering.org or ring the helpline on 03000 123 346. [Back](#)

ALSO THIS FORTNIGHT...

SAVE's Live or Let Die: Buildings at Risk 2010-11 catalogue launches

Every year SAVE Britain's Heritage (a member of The Heritage Alliance) sets out to find a selection of architectural 'sleeping beauties' across England and Wales, to feature in its annual catalogue of Buildings At Risk. This register is the only national source of information on Grade II listed and unlisted buildings at risk from all around England and Wales. *Live or Let Die* was launched last week (2 June) at a gathering in London, attended by a wide range of professionals from across the sector. Access to the online register (featuring over 1,000 properties) costs £25 for a year's subscription as a Friend. To become a Friend of SAVE or to order a hard copy of *Live or Let Die*, contact the SAVE office directly on 020 7253 3500 or email Rhiannon.tracy@savebritainsheritage.org For more information visit <http://www.savebritainsheritage.org/news/article.php?id=138> [Back](#)

2010 Georgian Group Architectural Awards: entries invited

The Georgian Group (a member of The Heritage Alliance) is now inviting entries for its 2010 Architectural Awards, sponsored by Savills. The awards cover the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, recognising excellence in the restoration of Georgian buildings. Awards are also given to the best new Classical building and to the best new building in a Georgian setting. The categories for the 2010 Awards are: Restoration of a Georgian country house; Restoration of a Georgian building in an urban setting; Reuse of a Georgian building; Restoration of a Georgian Church; Restoration of a Georgian garden or landscape (including garden buildings such as monuments and follies); New building in the Classical tradition; and The Giles Worsley award for a new building in a Georgian context.

The deadline for entries is 30 July, with the Awards being presented at Christie's, London, in November. Entry forms are available from the Georgian Group, 6 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5DX or can be downloaded from <http://www.georgiangroup.org.uk> [Back](#)

Suffolk record office picks up archives award

The Archives & Records Association (ARA) this fortnight announced Suffolk Record Office as the winner of its first Archive Volunteering of the Year Project Award; a national award that highlights volunteering opportunities, the important role volunteers play in their local community and the way archives work with volunteers. Suffolk County Council's *Making a Difference Volunteer Cataloguing Backlog Project* involved 69 volunteers helping to catalogue 33 collections. The project's success meant the backlog of cataloguing was reduced, the collections were more accessible for learning and leisure, public access was increased and volunteers developed key skills as well as improving their knowledge of their local area. For more information visit

http://www.mla.gov.uk/news_and_views/news/2010/June/award_winning_suffolk_record_office [Back](#)

Slavery and the British country house: new microsite launched

As part of the legacy following 2007's bicentenary commemorations of the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, English Heritage, The National Trust and the University of the West of England hosted a conference in November 2009 focusing on the connections between slavery and the British country house. The conference aimed to promote wider public understanding of the many different ways in which the fortunes of the landed elite and their country houses were intertwined with slavery, the slave trade and its abolition. *Our Place*, English Heritage's networking website for those who work in broadening access to heritage, has developed a new [microsite from the conference](#); with vox pops from experts exploring their views on what the next steps are to identify and explain links between slavery and British country houses. What do you think? Log in or register with *Our Place* to have your say www.ourplacenetwork.org.uk/login [Back](#)

Learning outside the classroom: keeping children safe

In order to help providers put the right safeguards in place when offering learning outside the classroom activities, the child protection charity SAFEchild has put together a list of useful questions for organisations to consider. For the full document, visit <http://www.lotc.org.uk/News-and-events/Newsletters/Newsletter-Articles-May-2010/Keeping-Children-Safe> [Back](#)

Jodi Awards 2010: open for nominations

The Jodi Awards are for the best use of digital technology to widen access to information, collections, learning and creativity for disabled people. Nominations are now being sought for the 2010 awards from heritage sites, museums, libraries and archives in the UK and overseas. The deadline for nominations is 13 September. For more information visit <http://www.jodiawards.org.uk> [Back](#)

From Pulp, to Powis Castle: Jarvis Cocker works with The National Trust on new album

Jarvis Cocker, best known as the former front-man of the band Pulp, has been working with The National Trust (a member of The Alliance) to produce an album of sounds entitled *National Trust: Time to Think*. The album, which is available to download free-of-charge from The Trust's website, comprises a collection of natural sounds from Trust locations; including birdsong, crashing waves and wind breezing through a country garden. Eleven Trust properties from across England, Northern Ireland and Wales feature on the album. Have a listen, here <http://www.uniquefacilities.com/files/nationaltrust.htm> Find out more, here <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-vh/w-visits/w-events-sounds> [Back](#)

Cherishing Churchyards Week: 18 - 27 June

Caring for God's Acre, a conservation charity for churchyards and burial grounds, is putting on a series of events for Cherishing Churchyards Week; a special week to celebrate churchyards and burial grounds and to raise awareness of the natural, built and social heritage they contain. There will be conservation workshops, volunteer activities and a series of family

events. For more information, or to register your event to be a part of the week, visit <http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/events.aspx?c=A2yhHh3dorY=&s> [Back](#)

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Placido takes Presidency of Europa Nostra

The world renowned tenor and conductor, Placido Domingo, is to lead Europa Nostra - The Alliance's counterpart in Europe. Elected on Wednesday (9 June) at Europa Nostra's annual congress in Istanbul, he praised the role of architects, craftsmen, volunteers and schools in the protection of Europe's cultural heritage and landscape. He has sung in the world's most important opera houses and at many outstanding cultural sites, such as Chichen Itza and the pyramids in Luxor. Executive President Denis de Kergolay said: "He knows what cultural heritage really means, he lives it, he sings it, he enjoys it." Executive Vice President, John Sell, also Chairman of the Joint Committee of National Amenity Societies and of The Alliance's Funding Advocacy Group, was also delighted: "He is a natural communicator and his passion for our cultural heritage is very real". [Back](#)

EVENTS

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The British Library: Free preservation advice events, June / July, national

The British Library's Preservation Advisory Centre is holding a number of free events at locations in Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland on the theme of Advocacy, Evidence and Support for the preservation of library and archive collections. The events explore how to make the case for preservation in terms of the outcomes it achieves and value to the organisation. The events are aimed at librarians, archivists and collection care professionals. Each event showcases local examples of collaborative work, networks or support available for preservation and conservation activities. They seek to strengthen the community of practice that is necessary for sharing of expertise and support. Events are taking place on: 15 June, The John Rylands Library, University of Manchester; 6 July, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth; 13 July, National Library of Ireland, Dublin; and 21 July, The British Library, London. Each event is free but places are limited. For individual programme details and to book a place visit www.bl.uk/blpac/events.html

SAVE Britain's Heritage: Conservation and Heritage Book Fair, 22 June, London

Leading heritage organisations and publishers will be gathering together to sell their publications (many at special discounted rates, up to 25 per cent) at SAVE's Book Fair. The event will be supplemented by short talks and book signings by prominent architectural authors including Dan Cruickshank, Marcus Binney and Jeremy Musson (times to be confirmed). The Book Fair will take place between midday and 8.00pm at The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ. Admission is free, but contributions will be gratefully received. For further details visit <http://www.savebritainsheritage.org/news/event.php?id=107>

EMCBE: Growth Funding Breakfast Seminar, 22 June, Leicester

Join East Midlands Centre for Constructing the Built Environment for a free breakfast seminar focusing on the range of funding opportunities available for getting higher level skills and innovation into your organisation. EMCBE will provide clear, useable information about funding that will help you make effective business growth decisions, by identifying simple steps to give you support and grow your business in the right direction. To book visit <http://www.emcbe.com/Default.aspx?LocID-07x00h001.Lang-EN.emID-744.cal-yes.EventID-16922.htm> or email Louise.Saxton@emcbe.com

SAVE Annual Lecture: Sleeping Beauty - Historic Buildings, the Public, and the Art of Slow Conservation, 24 June, London

Christopher Woodward - museum director, architectural historian and author of *In Ruins* - will be looking at the future of conserving and presenting historic buildings. In a world pre-occupied with interpretation and access, he will argue that we are in danger of forgetting how to let historic buildings speak for themselves - and that funding bodies constantly underestimate the intelligence of the public to react imaginatively to design and space. The event will take place at the Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment, 19-22 Charlotte Road, London EC2A 3SG. 6.15pm for a 7pm start. Price: £12 (£10 for Friends of SAVE). To book tickets ring SAVE on 020 7253 3500 or email office@savebritainsheritage.org. For further details visit <http://www.savebritainsheritage.org/news/event.php?id=130>

FAME open meeting: 2020 Vision: a new era in British archaeology? 2 July, York

The open meeting of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME) will consider the future of British archaeology, following the publication of PPS5 and similar planned reforms across the UK. Held in association with the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO), it will include views from both organisations, together with those of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).

Speakers will include Dave Barrett, Stewart Bryant, Mike Heyworth, Peter Hinton, Alan Leslie and Adrian Tindall. The meeting will take place on Friday 2 July at Merchant Taylors Hall, York. Admission is free to FAME and ALGAO members and £40 to non-members; including lunch, morning coffee and afternoon tea. Advance booking is essential – for a booking form contact Hilda Young on 01722 343444 or email h.young@wessexarch.co.uk

National Heritage Ironwork Group: Heritage Ironwork Forum, 10 July, Surrey

Everyone who is interested in, or working on, heritage ironwork is invited to come along, get involved and have a say at the Heritage Ironwork Forum. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and clarify practical responsibilities, conservation standards and principles, as already used and established by other professions - the outcome of which the National Heritage Ironwork Group will develop into a conservation policy suitable for use by custodians, specifiers & practitioners alike. The event will take place between 10am and 4pm at 'The Quinnell School of Blacksmithing' at Rowhurst Forge, Oxshott Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 0EN. There is no set charge but places do need to be booked in advance by contacting Bethan Griffiths, NHIG Secretary on info@nhig.org.uk or 01483 20 20 27 / 07941 127 024.

Historic Towns Forum: Connecting people with place, 15 July, Lincoln

Successful places improve quality of life, provide a sense of local distinctiveness and identity for residents and visitors, and attract investment. Whilst the heritage and planning sectors continue to develop the tools to understand and characterise our settlements and landscapes, we are only beginning to take the information out, going beyond dissemination, to actively connect people with places. As well as engaging with people about what we know, part of the process is looking at the interactive ways in which we can understand how people perceive places themselves. This conference will help to deliver the objectives of Local Authority officers, elected members and other professionals concerned with tourism, planning, conservation, economic development, regeneration and heritage; and of urban designers, archaeologists, developers and community leaders. For more information and to book visit <http://www.historictownsforum.org/Lincoln10>

York Minster: Stone Carving Festival 2010, 14 - 15 August

Masons, carvers, sculptors and stonework apprentices from the UK and abroad are invited to visit York Minster for a weekend of celebrating the craft of stonecarving. All Stones will be auctioned by Stephenson's Auctioneers on the Sunday afternoon; proceeds to cover the cost of the festival. A prize will be presented for the best stone, judged by all the participants. Any profit will be split between York Minster Development Fund and York Against Cancer. £40 per person, open to all skill levels. The price includes a tee-shirt, a BBQ on evening of Friday 13 August and food during the weekend as outlined in the itinerary. Places are limited to 80 bankers so please register early to avoid disappointment. The closing date for applications is 9 July. For more information on the programme or to book visit <http://www.yorkminster.org/learning/york-minster-works-department/stone-carving-festival> or email rebeccat@yorkminster.org

University of York: conservation master classes throughout the summer

The following courses will be taking place in York over the summer:

The Conservation of Historic Interiors: 25 June, 5, 6 July and 24 or 26 June, reduced cost £142.54; and The Conservation of Architectural Glazing 19 & 20 August and 21 or 27 August, reduced cost £142.54. Dates are yet to be confirmed for The Conservation of Churches; The Conservation of Architectural Ironwork; Conservation Philosophy and Principles; Writing Specifications for Conservation Projects; and Conservation of Archaeology in Buildings. To book or for more information visit www.york.ac.uk/archaeology/research/current-projects/nhta/short-courses or ring 01904 433950.

Cultural Trends: A "Golden Age"? Reflections on New Labour's Cultural Policy and its Post-Recession Legacy, 12 November, London

This conference provides an opportunity for researchers to consider whether what Tony Blair described as a Golden Age in a 2007 speech at the Tate, actually existed. The day will provide an occasion for cultural commentators, policy analysts and historians to review the evidence for cultural achievements since 1997 and consider the relationship between culture and recessions since the 1970s, to bring together ideas for the longer term impacts of what we observe, and to develop hypotheses about cultural policy and activity in the future. Papers will be presented in three sessions: New Labour, new policy? Case studies of new practices, and Following the money: arts funding and investment under New Labour. The conference will include keynote presentations and a practitioner panel.

For more information and to reserve a place visit: <http://bit.ly/adCYqF> or email Eleanor Craven: Eleanor.Craven@tandf.co.uk Please note that space is limited at this event, early reservation is recommended.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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HONORARY / VOLUNTARY POSITIONS

Cowdray Heritage Trust: Trustees required

Following a major repair programme costing over £4m, the ruins of this Tudor nobleman's palace were reopened to the public in 2007 in the care of the independent Cowdray Heritage Trust. This Midhurst-based Trust now wishes to recruit up to five new Trustees - including a Chairman-designate - with skills and experience in one or more of financial management, business planning, marketing, tourism management, heritage education, heritage management, media and public relations. Further information is available at <http://www.cowdray.org.uk>. The closing date for applications is Friday 2 July 2010.

DCMS: English Heritage Commissioners required x 2

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is seeking to appoint two individuals with expertise in i) Education/Community Engagement, and ii) Local Authority Representation, as Commissioners of English Heritage. The Commission is the governing body of English Heritage and comprises the Chair and up to 16 Commissioners. For this post, applications are invited from people with an understanding of English Heritage's work and of the wider environment in which English Heritage operates, along with a commitment to its aims and objectives supported by an ability to think strategically and exercise sound judgment. Application deadline is 6 July, with interviews on 26 July. For more information and / or an application form, contact Mark Greenwood on 020 7211 2311 or email mark.greenwood@culture.qsi.gov.uk

SALARIED POSITIONS

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The Church in Wales: Church Heritage Officer

The Church in Wales is embarking on an exciting project, supported by Cadw and the Heritage Lottery Fund, to help communities care for historic church buildings. An enthusiastic professional is required to develop and coordinate this project within the Church in Wales's Property Services Department. This is a new position, initially for three years, and is a unique opportunity for the postholder to personally develop new initiatives to help care for the heritage of Wales, whilst supporting the mission of the Church in Wales. The successful candidate will be experienced in: Conservation of the historic environment; Project management; Developing guidance and delivering training and professional development; and working collaboratively with communities and stakeholders.

The closing date is 21 June, with interviews to be held on 13 July. The salary is circa £29,000 and the post is fixed term for three years. Those who think they have the experience, talent, initiative and imagination for taking forward our church heritage can obtain an application pack from Claire Doonan on 029 2034 821 or clairedoonan@churchinwales.org.uk

The Institute of Conservation (Icon): Chief Executive

An opportunity to grow and shape the membership charity for those engaged in conservation of cultural heritage in the UK. The Institute of Conservation (Icon) is a membership charity committed to promoting the public's understanding of, and access to, all the diverse elements of our cultural heritage. The position would suit someone with strong financial, business planning, leadership and general management skills. Experience may have been built up in the private, public or voluntary sectors, but suitable candidates will be able to adapt those skills to a small organisation capable of punching well above its size. The CEO will lead Icon through the major changes anticipated within the sector. This is an exciting time to join an organisation that is a leader in its field.

Closing date 25 June. Salary £50,000 plus benefits. Based in London. For further information please contact recruitment advisers PrimeTimers by emailing recruitment@primetimers.org.uk quoting reference Icon08.

University of Plymouth (Faculty of Arts, School of Architecture, Design and Environment): Lecturer in Architecture (Conservation)

The successful candidate will join the Architecture team in Plymouth to contribute as a champion for architectural conservation and collaborate with and inspire colleagues to improve further this crucial area of activity and study, giving it both a national and international dimension. Architectural or related design background, with teaching experience in Architecture required. Clear research potential in the area of architectural conservation, with an already accomplished research track-record will clearly be an advantage. The ideal candidate will be already engaged with conservation organisations such as English Heritage, IHBC, ICOMOS, DoCoMoMo, etc. Salary £30,747 to £43,840 pa. To apply, please visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/vacancies Email: jobs@plymouth.ac.uk Tel: 01752 588199 (24 hour answerphone). Quote Ref: A1723. Closing date: 12 noon, Friday 2 July 2010.

Historic Towns Forum (HTF): Director

An opportunity to contribute skills and experience of the heritage sector to help take forward this influential national organisation. Based at the UWE, Bristol, and working throughout the UK and Ireland, the postholder will lead a well established team and others passionate about the historic environment to promote good practice in all aspects of the management of historic towns and contribute to policy decision making. Closing date 5 July. Salary £29-35k. For applications visit www.historictownsforum.org/job

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Got some news? If you would like to propose an item for inclusion in Update, please email details to the Editor [Emma Robinson](#) no later than midday on the Tuesday prior to publication (Update is published on alternate Fridays).

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