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York Museums Trust Museum Development Yorkshire

**Latest news for week ending
Friday 29 May 2020**

In this Issue

Dear <<First Name>>

****Submissions for next week's bulletin
should be sent to mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk
by 5pm on Wed 3 June****

In this week's bulletin we are looking to the future. Whether or not you are hoping to reopen during the summer, if the government gives the go ahead, or working through a range of plans extending well beyond that time - there is still much to do. To help museums last week we launched our Escaping Lockdown Fund and NLHF have also introduced their second round of crisis response funding. We focus on support to address immediate issues and look at how museums can begin the difficult task of restarting. We know there has never been a more important time to advocate for the sector – so don't forget to get involved with the Celebrating Museums event!

During this unprecedented time, do let us know about your successes and problems - either directly by phone or email or shared at Elevenses. If you're not sure who to email, why not try mdy-office@ymt.org.uk. Please also copy to: gillian.greaves@artscouncil.org.uk and Coronavirus-queries@artscouncil.org.uk.

This will help us continue to advocate for you and, along with feedback on our work, to reshape our support in these changing times.

Please check our website regularly for further information and don't forget to follow us on

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this bulletin.

News and Notices

Heritage Emergency Fund

Grants of £50,000 to £250,000



The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) recently announced that they have created a new level of emergency funding grant as part of their existing 'Heritage Emergency Fund'. The NLHF is now accepting applications to this stream, offering grants of £50,000 - £250,000. Detailed information for the stream can be found via the link below, including information on who and what they will fund.

The applications for this new level of funding opened on Thursday 21 May with a closing date on 30 June.

Find out more at:

www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/heritage-emergency-fund/50-250k.

FAQs about the fund are being updated continually, see:

www.heritagefund.org.uk/news/heritage-emergency-fund-faqs.

Coming Soon: Good Practice Guidance on Museum Reopening

The National Museums Directors' Council (NMDC) are leading a cross-sectoral working group which is currently developing good practice guidance on museum reopening with DCMS' support.

The approach is guided by the safety of visitors and staff, and financial sustainability. The guidance acknowledges the complexity of the sector, where each museum will be working within a unique set of circumstances and responding to local contexts.

It is hoped that the guidance will be ready to share in early June.

Celebrating Museums in Yorkshire and the Humber Online Broadcast

23 June, 10.00am - 12.00pm

Join MDY and ACE to celebrate and reflect on the projects delivered by Yorkshire's museums during the Covid-19 lockdown.

We will be showcasing case studies in the form of 5 minute videos, Q&As and a panel

Executive of Arts Council England will be taking part alongside colleagues from around the region, and throughout the day, MDY and ACE will be promoting the innovative and inspirational work of regional museums.

To receive a link to the broadcast, please complete the booking form at:
www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celebrating-museums-2020-tickets-105942659346.

If you have a project or activity that you would like to showcase in a 5 minute film, [let us know by filling out the online form](#).

We look forward to seeing you on the 23rd of June!

Your Week Ahead

Share Your Lockdown Experience and Learn from Others at Elevenses with MDY

Come along to the MDY virtual Elevenses. Every Monday and Thursday for a cuppa and a chat – you will have to bring your own drink! These are an informal opportunity to share experiences and thinking (and enjoy some different company). We will have two different types of Elevenses, one themed around the three Accreditation strands and the other open to talk about anything and everything.

Win a Yorkshire Cuppa!

As we can't get you a coffee or tea in these informal virtual meetings we have decided to hold a **prize draw for Yorkshire branded tea or coffee**. Each participant will be entered in the monthly draw and we will contact winners to get prizes across during the lock-down or shortly afterwards.

We will now be using Microsoft Teams. Please contact Lily.Wilks@ymt.org.uk if you have any technical questions.

- **Monday 1 June**
Dieter and Michael look at Organisational Health (with no agenda):
www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event/elevenses-monday-1st-june.
- **Thursday 4 June**
Liz and Jo will host an informal get-together:
www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event/elevenses-4th-june.

If you have any questions to be discussed please send them to Lily:
Lily.Wilks@ymt.org.uk. Please also email Lily if you experience any trouble connecting and we will attempt to solve the issue.

The full Elevenses Schedule can be viewed at:
www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/elevenses-with-mdy.



West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire Museums Forum Online

West Yorks: Wed 3 June, 3.00pm - 5.00pm

North Yorks: Thur 4 June, 3.00pm - 5.00pm

Our theme is Attracting Audiences and will be viewed from the perspective of our current situation.

We will be using Microsoft Teams and will send you the joining link to use on the day at 3.00pm - 5.00pm. Please contact Lily.Wilks@ymt.org.uk if you have any technical questions.

Register for the West Yorkshire forum on 3 June at:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rescheduled-online-west-yorkshire-museums-forum-tickets-104632171642.

Register for the North Yorkshire forum on 4 June at:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-north-yorkshire-museums-forum-tickets-89035572795.

Collections Trust Coffee Time

Wed 3 June, 11.00am

Last week's theme of online collections was so popular they're rolling it into this week to carry on the conversation. How does your museum get its collections online? Is this something you're working on at the moment? Have you seen some good examples?

The get-together is hosted via an online platform that should work with any browser without the need to install anything else. Using a webcam is optional and people can also dial in by phone if they prefer.

For Your Diary

Regional Forum Meetings Online

Join us online for your regional forum meetings! Booking is now open – please use the links below.

Starting at 3.00pm on the scheduled date, online forum meetings* will offer a couple of hours to:

- connect with your colleagues around the region
- hear brief presentations from a couple of speakers and ask them questions
- hear news and updates from your MDO
- share your own updates.

All of the planned themes will be viewed from the perspective of our current situation.

We will be using Microsoft Teams and will send you the joining link to use on the day at 3.00pm - 5.00pm. Please contact Lily.Wilks@ymt.org.uk if you have any technical questions.

*Bring your own cup of tea and a biscuit, comfort break at 4.00pm!

- [Wednesday 10 June – East Riding & North Lincs – Attracting Audiences](#)
- [Thursday 25 June – South Yorkshire – Delivering for Children & Young People](#)
- [Wednesday 8 July – West Yorkshire – Delivering Digital Capability](#)

**** 6 places left!****

Digital Leadership with Culture24

**Tuesday 16 June and Thursday 18 June
via Zoom at 2.15pm - 4.15pm**

This online workshop is aimed at museum leaders with responsibilities across the museum's strategy and operations, and at the end of the course participants will have:

- Improved your own digital literacy and understanding
- Fuller understanding of the opportunities around digital culture for your organisation
- A range of inspirational yet pragmatic and relatable case studies
- Practical next steps to implement in your organisation
- A new network of peers all tackling similar issues

Register online, priority will be given to non-NPO Accredited museums:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-digital-leadership-with-culture24-tickets105360971502.

****only 1 place left!****

Digital Storytelling with Culture24

**Tuesday 7 July and Thursday 9 July
via Zoom at 2.15pm - 4.15pm**

This online workshop is aimed at museum workers who are tasked with creating content for online platforms but who are not digital content specialists.

In the workshop you will explore both the practicalities and strategic considerations of digital storytelling with collections content, looking at content on website and social channels. This workshop will explore the specific tensions and challenges that digital storytelling can pose and focus on the many advantages that museums and collections offer in this space.

Register online: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-digital-storytelling-with-culture24-tickets-105361922346.

Your Lockdown Initiatives

Adapting to New Ways of Working

We would really like to hear how other museums are evolving during the current crisis, for instance the National Railway Museum are showing their support for the nation's keyworkers, whilst giving people something to look forward to once the lockdown is lifted - see below.

Your projects will provide ideas and inspiration to everyone! Send your features to: lily.wilks@ymt.org.uk.

Don't See England by Rail!

York's National Railway Museum (NRM) has published a set of 10 redesigned images covering scenic locations (such as Cornwall, the Norfolk Broads and the Yorkshire coast) to encourage tourists to delay visits to holiday destinations. The NRM has a collection of 10,700 posters and other railway artwork dating from 1804 to the present day.

The posters were originally used by railway companies to entice passengers to travel to beauty spots by train. But they have been redesigned with slogans such as 'no swimming today', 'visit when this is all over' and 'one day soon, but not today'.

www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/18437139.national-railway-museum-redesigns-vintage-posters-lockdown.



Your Wellbeing

Share Your Resources!

During this time it is more important than ever that you focus on your own wellbeing! Each week we will look at ways to support you.

If you come across resources that help you and would like to share with others, please send them to Liz Denton liz.denton@ymt.org.uk.

Be Kind to Your Mind

from Future Learn:

In times of crisis, it's never been more important to take care of our mental wellbeing and look out for others. To help, we now have brand new courses available to join free, made by experts at top universities and institutions to help you:

- Understand the [Psychological impact of lockdown on our Wellbeing and Mental Health](#) on Maudsley Learning and Tavistock & Portman NHS Foundation Trust's course (the UK's premier mental health training organisation)
- [Help Young People Manage Low Mood and Depression](#) with the University of Reading

On our blog, we've gathered some ideas on how to [Stay Healthy During Lockdown](#) and be kind to your mind during times of upheaval.

For more resources to help, head to our collection of courses to [Support Your Mental Health In Lockdown](#).

Funding Opportunities

Escaping Lockdown Grants Grants assessed weekly - apply now

MDY Small Development Grants 2018-22

In response to the current crisis we are launching a grant fund to help you better survive now and prepare to reopen and relaunch your museum.

We are encouraging projects of £500 to £1000, with NO match funding. We do require a clear project plan that addresses either:

- A key immediate issue that has resulted from the current lockdown
- Helps you connect with audiences while you are closed
- Helps you engage with volunteers and staff while your museum is closed
- The reopening and relaunching of your museum including measures to make your visitors and your staff and volunteers feel safer while on site

We require a clear action plan that relates to your museum's key purpose and, if possible, a timetable. We recognise that we are still in uncertain times so if the plan or timetable needs to change, we are prepared to be flexible as the situation develops.

The fund is now live and available on an open application basis, with assessments carried out weekly. All monies must be spent and claimed by the end of the financial year. We strongly advise you to speak to your Museum Development Officer before submitting your application.

For speed and simplicity, we are using the existing small grant system. (the small grants do remain open for larger projects). For the guidance notes and links to the online application form, visit: bit.ly/MDY18SGApp.

REMEMBER: If you need any further advice please contact your local Museum Development Officer who will be pleased to comment on potential projects for funding and assist with any queries on the paperwork.

MDY Bid Writing Support for Non-NPO Museums

BOOK NOW

Support to enable you to take advantage of Covid-19 funding

mean you will not be in your usual work environment and may not be experienced in bid writing, especially at relatively short notice.

[MDY Funding Round-up - download our up to date round-up of available funding and what is needed to apply.](#)

You will need to provide details of:

- Which funder will you be applying to
- Which deadline you are aiming to submit your application
- How you want to be contacted (phone / video conference)
- Contact name, email, phone number (and video conference username if appropriate) Skype username if you want to use that; email alone is fine for Zoom or Google Meet)
- If you have drafted an application, a copy of that text.

We have 4 appointments left to be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis - [please sign up via an expression of interest form.](#)

Your Development

Michael Recommends...

When we think about work, we often navigate to familiar ideas and topics. Working in museums, we often visit museums, read reviews or trade press. If we want to think differently then we might need to look beyond museums.

For the past year, I've been listening to the Harvard Business Review IdeaCast which is free of charge. Recent articles have included marketing for social change, staying agile after a crisis and digital transformation, all of which have been relevant to working or volunteering in museums. Most episodes are less than 30 minutes.

Why not have a look at hbr.org/2018/01/podcast-ideacast/

And Relax...!

We all need an opportunity to smile, at this time, or a chance to share great ideas to help us ...relax!

Lily is encouraging you all to send her any great resources or tips that are helping you, email: lily.wilks@ymt.org.uk.

Lily Recommends...

Shockingly my top picks this week are animal related:

[vh=e&d=n.](#)

- **Tucker Budzyn gets some new friends in this hilarious and adorable video:** www.facebook.com/tuckerbudzyn/videos/146182113459144.

Dieter's Nature Notes

There is a very fine horse-chestnut tree (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) in an adjoining field.

It has a good display of the conical flower spikes which usually appear by mid-May to early June, when horse-chestnut trees are normally in full flower. It is a spectacular sight with many thousands of flowers in large pyramidal inflorescences; often known as 'candles' or 'candelabra'.

The common name 'horse-chestnut' (often unhyphenated) is reported as having originated from the erroneous belief that the tree was a kind of chestnut (though in fact only distantly related), together with the alleged observation that the fruit or seeds could help panting or coughing horses.



In Britain and Ireland, the seeds are used for the popular children's game conkers. During the First World War, there was a campaign to ask for everyone (including children) to collect horse-chestnuts and donate them to the government. The conkers were used as a source of starch for fermentation using the *Clostridium acetobutylicum* method devised by Chaim Weizmann to produce acetone for use as a solvent for the production of cordite, which was then used in military armaments. Weizmann's process could use any source of starch, but the government chose to ask for conkers to avoid causing starvation by depleting food sources. But conkers were found to be a poor source, and the factory only produced acetone for three months; however, they were collected again in the Second World War for the same reason.

Previously...

In case you missed it...

Just in case you missed them first time round, we're listing below snippets of some of the articles published in previous ebulletins that we think you might still find useful:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIM COVID-19 Action Checklist www.aim-museums.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Covid19ActionChecklist.pdf. AMA Digital Heritage Lab - Free digital skills support www.a-m-a.co.uk/digital-heritage-lab. Business Planning In A Crisis - Training Video mdem.org.uk/business-planning-in-a-crisis-mdem-online-resources. Business Support and Skills Online Training www.york.ac.uk/business/cpd/online-training. Caring for Collections in Lockdown www.aim-museums.co.uk/conservation-care-collections. Charity Digital Events and Podcasts charitydigital.org.uk/events. Coronavirus and Artswork Training Courses artswork.org.uk/training-events. Coronavirus Business Support Finder Tool www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder. CreativeNetwork from Voluntary Arts www.voluntaryarts.org/creativenetwork. Financial Difficulties Toolkit www.artscouncil.org.uk/publication/managing-financial-difficulties-guide-and-toolkit. Freelands Foundation Emergency Fund for Artists and Freelancers www.a-n.co.uk/news/freelands-foundation-emergency-fund. Governance for Charities in Times of Crisis - a Guide for Trustees southwestmuseums.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/A-Guide-for-Trustees-in-Times-of-Crisis-COVID-19.pdf. Government Guidance on Mental Health and Wellbeing During COVID-19 Crisis www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing. Homeworking Health Check Advice Sheets Dealing with eye strain and headaches whilst working from home during self-isolation. Helping you prevent aches and pains when working from home IPR and Volunteers - NEW MDY Advice Sheets Published www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2020/05/14/new-ipr- 	

- **Let's Talk Loneliness Campaign**
letstalkloneliness.co.uk.
- **Museum Security**
collectionstrust.org.uk/collections-in-lockdown.
and
[Museum Security Checklist](#) PDF.
- **Museums+Heritage Show - 2020 Vision - FREE talks online**
show.museumsandheritage.com/talks-2020/
- **NCVO Free Online Learning**
knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/studyzone.
- **NEMO Map of Museums in Europe during COVID-19 crisis**
www.google.com/maps.
- **YouGov International COVID-19 Tracker**
yougov.co.uk/topics/international/articles-reports/2020/03/17/YouGov-international-COVID-19-tracker.

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If you have any comments about this e-bulletin or would like to contribute a news item, event or job vacancy, please email: mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk.

Visit the MDY website at: www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk



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