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## York Museums Trust **Museum Development Yorkshire**

Latest news for week ending  
Friday 16 April 2021

In this Issue

Dear <<First Name>>

The Museum Development Yorkshire team are back in the distributed MDY towers refreshed from our Easter break. We have spent the time dodging snow and looking for the sun...the delights of a British spring. Some museums have opened their outside spaces and others are busy getting ready for opening after 17 May. As ever we are here to help with our reopening programme.

The team are gearing up for the latest round of museum support and cohorts, and it is looking like some of this can be in real life - fingers crossed.

In this issue we have information about the latest round of [Elevenses](#) which include two extended re-opening specials. Instead of our usual Visitor Experience Consortium, there is an opportunity of [free reviews of your website](#) if you will review some other sites in return. [AIM conference](#) is open for bookings and MDY will be sponsoring places again this year. Plus, there is news of Yorkshire success in the [Collections Trust awards](#).

Finally, Alan dug a new wildlife pond over Easter (*right*) but it is nothing compared to [the work of Mr Heang](#).



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## 16 - 18 June Early bird tickets now available

The theme for this year's Association of Independent Museums (AIM) Conference will be 'Supporting, Sharing, Strengthening: What hard lessons are we learning in the face of the pandemic? Have our reflections resulted in changes for good? What skills or new ways of working have we developed – and might they help us prepare for an uncertain future?'

**AIM Members Ticket – all 3 days of conference – Early Bird £45.00**

**AIM Non-Members Ticket – all 3 days of conference £90.00**

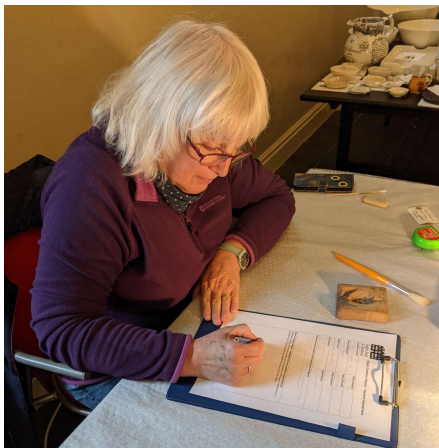
[aim-museums.co.uk/aim-national-conference-2021](http://aim-museums.co.uk/aim-national-conference-2021).

MDY are going to sponsor three places again this year including one place for someone working in a local authority museum. See next week's bulletin for information on how to apply.

## Good Showing for Yorkshire Museums at the Collections Trust Awards

Collections  
Trust

Yorkshire had two finalists in this year's Collection Trust Awards. The prize of £1,000 for collections management is awarded for collections projects that have happened during the last 12 months and the final five included: Barnsley Museums, who were Highly Commended for a project around the redisplay of Experience Barnsley; and Kiplin Hall, with the work that staff and volunteers had been doing to bring the Annie Marchant collection to the Hall and make it accessible to visitors both actual and virtual. Kiplin were announced as the winners at the event on Zoom.



*Left: Volunteer Mary Bell fills in a condition report for an object at Kiplin Hall (image courtesy of Alice Rose and Kiplin Hall and Gardens).*



*Right: Display representing Barnsley culture, including objects relating to poet Ian McMillan, Charlie Williams MBE, artist Abel Hold, the Kes collection, actress Kathrine Kelly and so on (image courtesy of Barnsley Museums).*

## Sign up by 9 May

The last year has changed much for museums and many have responded by giving renewed attention to their online presence.

Our new offer - The Virtual Visitor Experience programme - is a great chance to get some structured and considered feedback on your digital presence from your museum colleagues.

Open to all museums in the North of England, your staff or volunteers are asked to review three other museum websites over a 4 week period in May/June. You are asked to assess the website's visit information, online content and social media through an online survey. In return, your museum will receive three reports from people from other museums who have reviewed your website.

The programme has developed from the in-person Visitor Experience Consortium which has been running successfully for several years and we hope it will be carried out by front of house teams as a part of their development.

**There is no charge to take part, simply sign up by 9 May using the online form: [wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161847809969](http://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161847809969).**

**The reviews must be carried out by 21 June.**

**If you have any questions please contact Janet Thompson, the programme organiser on [jthompsonyork@outlook.com](mailto:jthompsonyork@outlook.com).**

## New Resources for Museums Working with Freelancers

South West Museum Development have worked in partnership with Museum Freelance to develop a set of Principles for commissioning and working with freelancers alongside a set of practical guides on:

- How to write an effective freelance brief
- How to commission freelancers in a fair, inclusive and transparent way
- Contracts, work plans and working effectively with freelancers.

Freelancers make a vital contribution to the museum and heritage sector. The principles and guidance were developed in recognition of the important role freelancers play. We encourage those currently working or planning to work with freelancers to read and follow them.

**Download the guidance documents at: [southwestmuseums.org.uk/resources/category/working-with-freelancers](http://southwestmuseums.org.uk/resources/category/working-with-freelancers).**

## #MyLocalMuseum Campaign Extended to 18 May

#MyLocalMuseum is a weekly campaign to help museums stay connected to local audiences during lockdown. Every Tuesday, museums share content related to a theme on their social media platforms and blogs. This may be objects and stories from

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Hairdos' and museums from across the UK got involved by sharing objects, photographs, art, and more.

You can browse the contributions by searching #MyLocalMuseum on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram - take a look a look at this Twitter feed for inspiration:

[#MyLocalMuseum](#).

The campaign started in February and has now been extended until the week museums reopen in England, 18 May.

**Read more details and find the full schedule at:**

[www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2021/04/12/mylocalmuseum-campaign-extended-2nd-february-to-18th-may-2021](http://www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2021/04/12/mylocalmuseum-campaign-extended-2nd-february-to-18th-may-2021).

## Volunteer Leader of the Year Award for 2021

### Nominations close 14 May

Heritage Volunteering Group are launching their Volunteer Leader of the Year Award for 2021 recognising and rewarding contribution to the world of heritage volunteering. 2020 has seen its own challenges and they are looking forward to reviewing nominations that demonstrate how these have been met for the benefit of our volunteers, audiences, and collections.

**Read the guidance and FAQs at:** [heritagevolunteeringgroup.org.uk](http://heritagevolunteeringgroup.org.uk).

**For more information or questions please email**

[heritagevolunteeringgroup@gmail.com](mailto:heritagevolunteeringgroup@gmail.com) entering the subject heading 'Volunteer Leader of the Year'. #HVGVolunteerLeader2021

## Call for papers: Museum Environments International Conference

**14-15 December 2021  
Cairo, Egypt**

The conference is organized by the Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, Egypt, and Smart Urban Futures (SURF) at the University of Salford, United Kingdom. The conference aims at presenting and sharing best practices in museology and mobile heritage conservation. In addition, it addresses some of the main challenges associated with meeting conflicting environmental requirements, demanding international standards, and the use of technology in assessing museum performance, digital twinning, and monitoring indoor conditions.

**The conference will be staged as a hybrid event, face-to-face as well as virtual attendance and participation. Find out about the four themes on the conference website:**

[eng.asu.edu.eg/research/projects/move/185521/574177/574182](http://eng.asu.edu.eg/research/projects/move/185521/574177/574182).

## Eleveneses with MDY - Spring is in the air!

After a refreshing Spring break, and a couple of bites of Easter chocolate, Eleveneses is back with some special content to support you at this busy time.

Following last year's popular sessions with Ben Melham, we are pleased to welcome Ben back for a couple of 90-minute Re-Opening Specials giving you chance to hear the latest updates and ask questions of an estates and visitor services expert. These sessions will support you whether you are re-opening once again, or for the first time since the start of Covid restrictions.

We're also gleaning some springtime collections housekeeping and care advice from the curators and conservators who always mastermind a major Spring clean – or are on the tracks of seasonal Spring pests.

**Spring has sprung ... don't miss out – see you at Eleveneses!**

### **Thursday 22 April \*\*11:00am - 12:30pm\*\* Re-Opening Special – Operations and Estates**

Join us for an extended Eleveneses Special with Ben Melham, our trainer from last summer's first re-opening. There'll be a focused update from Ben on new rules and up-to-date good practice, plus lots of opportunity to ask questions and join in discussion, including breakouts. This session will focus on operations and estates issues. (See 6 May for another Special on visitor-focused thinking).

**Check the full schedule and find joining links here:**

[www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/eleveneses-with-mdy](http://www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/eleveneses-with-mdy).

**If you have any questions about Eleveneses, please contact:**

[alice.macpherson@ymt.org.uk](mailto:alice.macpherson@ymt.org.uk).

**If you have any suggestions of topics you'd like to see covered or would like to speak about your current or emerging work, please let us know at:**

[joanne.bartholomew@ymt.org.uk](mailto:joanne.bartholomew@ymt.org.uk).

## **FED Training Event Critical Design and the Visitor Experience**

**Tuesday 20 April, 10.00am - 12 noon**

In this seminar Claire Boardman introduces Critical Design as a way to build social inclusion and innovation into cultural heritage experiences.

Tickets: 6 free tickets are available to YHFED members on a first come first served basis, otherwise they are £6.

**Find out more at:**

## Better Recruitment, Better Sector Fair Museum Jobs Event

**20 April, 3.30pm - 5.00pm**

In this interactive session, Louise and Tom from Fair Museum Jobs reflect on their 2020 Careers Summit, and explore some of the subtle - as well as not-so-subtle - issues in museum job recruitment which impact on the equitability of the sector.

In a series of mock scenarios, Louise and Tom will ask you to assess job descriptions, choose the best candidate for the job, review and discuss sector salaries, and write interview questions. The aims for the session are to leave you empowered, inspired and keen to contribute to sector change.

**Find out more and register at:**

[zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpce6opzpkEtTQEfCRLgZHhQE9vzkHHPe0](https://zoom.us/join/zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpce6opzpkEtTQEfCRLgZHhQE9vzkHHPe0).

## Dates for Your Diary

## Yorkshire Industrial Collections Network Brew Up!

**28 April, 3.00pm - 5.00pm**

MDY is delighted that Paul Jarman, Assistant Director of Beamish will be speaking on Beamish: Collections Lockdown challenges and opportunities at our next Brew up! meeting.

**To join us please book on Eventbrite:**

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/yorkshire-industrial-collections-network-brew-up-tickets-135660978639](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/yorkshire-industrial-collections-network-brew-up-tickets-135660978639).

## Elevenes with MDY - coming up

### Tuesday 27 April Collections Care - Spring Housekeeping

Hear from colleagues with extensive experience of a Spring re-opening, as we are joined by colleagues from Brontë Parsonage Museum, Harewood House and Burton Constable Hall. What is their approach to Spring housekeeping routines and a seasonal re-opening? Talk to the experts and think about your own needs for a Spring clean.

## Re-Opening Special – Visitors and Visitor Services

Join us for an extended Elevenses Special with Ben Melham, our trainer from last summer's first re-opening. There'll be a focused update from Ben on new rules and up-to-date good practice, plus lots of opportunity to ask questions and join in discussion, including breakouts. This session will focus on issues for visitors and visitor services.

## Wednesday 12 May Springwatch Special - Museum Insect Pests

Find out more about the less welcome springtime visitors to our museums – insect pests! Our guest, Helena Jaeschke, Conservation Development Officer from South West Museum Development, will share expert knowledge about managing your insect pests and answer your questions on what to watch out for and tackling problems.

**Check the full schedule and find joining links at:**

[www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/elevenses-with-mdy](http://www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/elevenses-with-mdy).

## #BeMoreDigital Marketing Day from Charity Digital

**Thurs 20 May, 9.00am - 1.00pm**

Charities need to market to all different types of audiences and demographics – one-off donors, core donors, legacy donors, as well as service users. COVID-19 moved people online and as we exit lockdown into a more digital world, we need to be mindful of meeting our audiences where they are.

Marketing is all about making connections. Our virtual conference will share key tips, tools, stories, and secrets about how your charity can use digital to bring you closer to your audiences.

[charitydigital.org.uk/events/bemoredigital-marketing-day](http://charitydigital.org.uk/events/bemoredigital-marketing-day).

## Cultural Enterprises Conference

**24 - 27 May**

- Practical learning, forward-thinking speakers
- Dynamic and intuitive digital platform
- Interactive Trade Show with latest products and services
- Real time networking with live chat and virtual events
- No travel costs, easily accessible from anywhere in the world!

The Association for Cultural Enterprise are offering **25 free bursary places** for the Conference, including full access to all conference sessions, networking events and the Trade Show. Bursaries are open to anyone in the cultural sector – including cultural

Find out more: [culturalenterprises.org.uk/conference](https://culturalenterprises.org.uk/conference).

## FED Training Events:

### People, Place & Power: Repatriation in Practice 28 May, 10.00am - 12 noon

In this workshop Stephen Welsh will draw on his professional experience of participating in several repatriations, including the recent unconditional return of 43 secret sacred and ceremonial objects to Australia's First Nations peoples from Manchester Museum, and consider what fundamental changes need to happen to support this vital work.

**Tickets: £10 for YHFED members**

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/people-place-power-repatriation-in-practice-tickets-138430085111](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/people-place-power-repatriation-in-practice-tickets-138430085111).

### Conservation Basics: Book, Paper, Archive Wednesday 15 September

West Yorkshire History Centre, WF1 1JG (subject to Covid guidance nearer the time)  
An introduction to basic book, paper and archive cleaning, handling and storage. More information to follow.

## Culture Geek Virtual Conference 2021 14 - 16 June

Culture Geek is an international conference looking at the digital transformation of the cultural sector – founded in 2012, the event has brought together those shaping digital practice across the arts annually since its inception.

This year we'll be hearing from museums, theatres, festivals, opera companies and those who work with them, to hear how they pivoted to digital over the past year and what lessons this has taught them.

Whether you're a digital novice learning new skills or a tech veteran, expect inspiration and actionable insight to help you navigate the digital world.

[culturegeek.com/events/culture-geek-conference](https://culturegeek.com/events/culture-geek-conference).

## Your Wellbeing



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## Tues 20 April, 7.00pm

How can we change our daily habits in ways that make us lastingly happier? Habits are the invisible architecture of daily life. We repeat about 40% of our behaviour almost daily, so if we change our habits, we change our lives. At this event, author and happiness researcher Gretchen Rubin will share how we can put new habits in place, using strategies that play to our natural strengths and leave us more brain space for decision making about the things that matter.

While acknowledging that there is no 'one size fits all' approach, Gretchen believes our responses to external and internal expectations define our 'Tendency'. Knowing our own Tendency, or that of others we live or work with can help us to embed or break habits, to lead healthier, happier, more productive lives, in ways that will last.

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/happier-than-before-with-gretchen-rubin-tickets-145099409239](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/happier-than-before-with-gretchen-rubin-tickets-145099409239).

## Job Opportunities and Volunteering

### Burton Constable Foundation Trustees

#### Are you looking for an opportunity to make a difference?

Burton Constable - an Elizabethan mansion house with collections, Georgian stables and Capability Brown parkland has over seven-hundred years of fascinating history and, more importantly, the Trustees have an exciting and inspiring vision for its long-term future.

Three new Trustees are being sought to strengthen the Board in the following areas:

- Fundraising and Development programmes
- Audience Development
- Managing and promoting the Country House as a visitor attraction.

We welcome candidates who think they have these skills and can offer a positive contribution as a Trustee. We would particularly like to encourage those from diverse ethnic backgrounds, people belonging to minority religions, LGBTQ+ people and people with disabilities and long-term conditions to apply, to bring fresh perspectives through their lived experience.

**For more details and a copy of the Information Pack visit:**

[www.burtonconstable.com/TrusteeRecruitment](http://www.burtonconstable.com/TrusteeRecruitment).

### University of Leeds Dialect and Heritage Project Project Assistant

## **Engagement Officers x 5**

### **Salary: £23,067 to £26,715 (pro rata)**

### **Part-time (0.5 FTE)**

The Dialect and Heritage Project is opening up the extensive Leeds Archive of Vernacular Culture (LAVC) to the public. The archive includes the ground-breaking work of the Survey of English Dialects. The survey will now be updated and made available online for the first time, with the help of volunteers recruited and trained as oral history and dialect fieldworkers and transcribers.

The Project Partnership is currently seeking a Project Assistant and five Engagement Officers to work with us and our partner museums – Dales Countryside Museum, Ryedale Folk Museum, Weald & Downland Living Museum, Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings and the Museum of East Anglian Life.

#### **Find out more:**

**Project Assistant:** [jobs.leeds.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx?ref=AHCEN1050](https://jobs.leeds.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx?ref=AHCEN1050).

**Engagement Officers:** [jobs.leeds.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx?ref=AHCEN1049](https://jobs.leeds.ac.uk/Vacancy.aspx?ref=AHCEN1049).

**Closing date: 20 April.**

## **Metheringham Airfield Visitor Centre (MAVC)**

### **Freelance Digital Engagement Officer**

**Budget: £6,500**

MAVC is a small, accredited, volunteer run museum in Lincolnshire. Our vision is to inspire everyone with the Story of Metheringham Airfield, the people who shaped it and its place in our lives.

With thanks to the Cultural Recovery Fund, we are looking to gain support from a digital learning and engagement specialist to create an engaging, sustainable and high-quality digital offer for our audiences.

[Download the full brief PDF to find out more.](#)

**Deadline: 20 April.**

## **Science and Industry Museum - Manchester**

### **Curator of Exhibitions**

**Salary: £28K + benefits**

The Science and Industry Museum is looking for a new Curator of Exhibitions to support its world-leading exhibition programme in Manchester and to work creatively across Science Museum Group sites in the UK. We are looking for someone with a passion for sharing big ideas with a broad range of museum audiences. The candidate

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Manchester, which has been created to support the ambitious exhibitions programme planned across SMG.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

**Deadline: 21 April.**

## **Ryedale Folk Museum Senior Visitor Services Assistant**

**Part-time (4 days pw) temporary (May-Nov)  
Pay: £9.50 ph**

Nestled in the beautiful village of Hutton-le-Hole, in the heart of the North York Moors National Park, Ryedale Folk Museum offers a unique glimpse of the past. For half a century we've conserved some of Ryedale's most magnificent heritage for future generations to enjoy. Our atmospheric buildings and collections, spread over six acres, tell a story about a rural way of life from the Iron Age to the 1950s.

The successful candidate will be employed to provide a welcoming experience for visitors through the efficient handling of admissions and shop sales and maintain our excellent standards of customer service. The postholder will undertake work which supports the running of the Museum's gift shop and basic administrative duties.

**Find out more:** [www.ryedalefolkmuseum.co.uk/get-involved](http://www.ryedalefolkmuseum.co.uk/get-involved).

**Deadline – 12 noon on Wednesday 21 April.**

## **Science Museum Group - Multiple Locations Group Head of Exhibition Services**

**Salary: up to £50K**

At Science Museum Group (SMG), we aim to inspire futures by creating informal learning environments which grow the 'science-capital' of our diverse audiences. One of the ways in which we do this is through our exhibitions programmes. SMG are now recruiting for a Group Head of Exhibition Services to lead a team delivering exhibitions globally. As a service provider to exhibitions teams across the Group and at Tour venues, you will ensure the design, production, logistics and project management of exhibitions that move between sites are managed to the highest standards, including responsibility for health and safety of these activities

[Click here to find out more.](#)

**Deadline: 22 April.**

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## Fee: £6K

Rotherham Museums, Arts & Heritage Service would like to engage an animation artist to deliver a series of co-produced animation films with Rotherham primary school children focused around our school handling and museum collections at Clifton Park Museum. This is part of the Blended Realities project – funded by an Art Fund Respond and Reimagine grant.

**For a copy of the brief, please contact:** [victoria.dawes@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.dawes@rotherham.gov.uk).

**Deadline: 12 noon on Sunday 25 April.**

## Turner Contemporary, Margate Trusts and Foundations Manager

### Salary: up to £32K pa

Turner Contemporary is look for a Trusts and Foundations Manager. Do you have experience in fundraising? Are you able to develop budgets? Don't miss this opportunity to work with a leading UK gallery.

**Find out more at:** [turnercontemporary.org/about/jobs-and-opportunities/trustsandfoundationsmanager](https://turnercontemporary.org/about/jobs-and-opportunities/trustsandfoundationsmanager).

**Deadline: midday on 26 April.**

## Thackray Museum of Medicine, Leeds Digital Lead

### Salary: £16,800 pro rata (22 hrs pw)

We need to find an imaginative and experienced problem-solver to lead on the coordination of the Museum's digital outputs across its public services, commercial activities and communications – helping to identify robust and feasible digital solutions for the museum and supporting the relevant teams to develop and roll out excellent digital content. The successful candidate will have demonstrated that they can combine solid technical understanding with an empathy for the museum's public and the wider team.

**Find out more:** [www.thackraymuseum.co.uk/about-us/work-for-us](https://www.thackraymuseum.co.uk/about-us/work-for-us).

**Deadline: Friday 30 April.**

## Salary: £50 - 56K

In 2025, the National Railway Museum (NRM) in York celebrates 50 years of being open to the public and this also coincides with the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. To commemorate these momentous occasions, the Vision 2025 Masterplan seeks to deliver a programme of upgrades to both the NRM and sister museum, Locomotion, at Shildon. We are seeking a Masterplan Project Director to work within the Masterplan team leading on the delivery of projects and contribute significantly to the transformation of the visitor experience at both NRM and Locomotion.

[Click here to find out more.](#)

**Deadline: 3 May.**

## North Craven Building Preservation Trust (NCBPT) Trustees and Youth Trustees (18-35)

NCBPT cares for the Zion Chapel and The Folly, an extraordinary 17th century building, home to the Museum of North Craven Life. The museum was founded on the enthusiasm of volunteers who transformed their vision into reality.

We are looking for Trustees and Youth Trustees with the same ambitious spirit who are prepared to work as part of a team to shape the future of The Folly and the Zion Chapel.

**Find out more:** [www.thefolly.org.uk/charitable-trust/trustees](http://www.thefolly.org.uk/charitable-trust/trustees).

**Deadline: 9 May.**

## Your Development

### Working in Sound Free online course

#### Starts 4 May

Are you interested in working in the screen industries? Working in Sound is a free, 8-week online course for women and people of marginalised genders, who want to explore music technology and the moving image for the first time.

During this course you will learn new technical skills such as using a digital audio workstation (DAW) and video editing software to introduce you to working with sound in the screen industries.

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**Applications close on Sunday 25 April.**

## Funding Opportunities

### **Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund From the Museums Association**

#### **Deadline for expressions of interest: 26 April**

The MA award the fund on behalf of the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to projects that demonstrate the significance, distinctiveness and power of collections to people. We're making changes to the Collections Fund in 2021 to support some of the varied and challenging situations of different museums across the UK, and to help museums think about recovering together with their communities through collections engagement.

This year we will offer two funding streams for collections engagement, both offering grants of up to £90,000 over around two years. Expression of interest deadlines are 26 April for grant awards in July and 13 September for awards in December, following a two-stage process. In total £1.3m will be awarded, anticipated to be across 7 to 10 projects in each funding round.

**Find out more:**

[www.museumsassociation.org/funding/esmee-fairbairn-collections-fund](http://www.museumsassociation.org/funding/esmee-fairbairn-collections-fund).

### **Covid Essentials Support Apply now to support reopening your museum!**

With 17 May on the horizon, when museums are allowed to reopen, do not forget that we have got our Covid Essentials Fund to support your reopening. Even if you are looking to open later in the year, we can support you. Previous projects have included: purchase and installation of screens; hand sanitising stations; contactless donation and payment points; and the purchase of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) but could support other things, such as an event for visitors or to recruit and train volunteers. We are looking for projects of up to £500 with no match funding. We try to turn the applications around in 7 days but there is a limited pot so get your applications in .

For speed and simplicity, we are using the existing small grant system.

**For the guidance notes and links to the online application form, visit:**

[bit.ly/MDY18SGApp](https://bit.ly/MDY18SGApp).

**And Relax...!**

...something to watch.

Need a spring project? Here is something to inspire and marvel at the fitness as well as the skill of Mr Heang as he builds an amazing underground pool.



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=NT0EmAgP-k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NT0EmAgP-k).

## Curatorial Curios by Dieter

### Livingstone Hearth Ornament

*Unfortunately I have received no responses to my earlier posting so here are some of my thoughts:*

As a former curator of social history I have always known these decorative items as dust or ash preventers for use with a solid fuel kitchen range or fire. In the Nineteenth Century these generally had a raised hearth to allow for good air flow to encourage combustion of the coal or other fuel and to allow the burned ash to fall to a recess or ash pan below. Coal was generally cheaply and frequently locally available especially in mining districts like Yorkshire.



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a tender. These were the domain of domestic staff in wealthier households who were responsible for keeping the household warm and tidy. The object bears no foundry or other marks to indicate where it or when it was made and it could have been produced at one or more of many local foundries which were in mid-Nineteenth Century Britain.

They are also known regionally as 'Tidy Bettys' I don't know the derivation of this or whether there are any other local or regional names. Generally made from cast-iron which could be cleaned with a brush or rubbed with a paste of ash mixed with water applied with a rag after which a regular coating of 'blacking' or 'black lead' graphite paste (Zebrite, Zebra or Zebo are common brands in social history collections) would be applied and buffed up to a sheen. Some had elaborate designs or brass decoration or were embellished with contemporary national heroes, as here with Livingstone. Other examples are known depict explorer and colonial administrator HM Stanley (1841 –1904) and prime minister and liberal politician WE Gladstone (1809 –1898) which must have been roughly contemporary with this one.

As the hearth was seen as the symbolic centre of the home, did these items represent political statements about the interests of the resident family? Or were they even possibly intended as instructional to the domestic staff as characters to be admired? Their political social and historical status might be seen very differently today. Although domestic open fires continued to be widely used until the 1960s, ranges were increasingly replaced by gas or electric ovens but it is likely that these 'political' objects became unfashionable and were consigned to the store long before that.

## 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:

- **Covid-19 MDY Updates - 10 March**  
[www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2021/03/10/covid-19-updates-10th-march-budget-2021-and-new-guidance-on-ventilation-of-indoor-spaces](http://www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2021/03/10/covid-19-updates-10th-march-budget-2021-and-new-guidance-on-ventilation-of-indoor-spaces).

### Covid-19 Response - Spring 2021

- **Prime Minister's roadmap out of the current lockdown for England:**  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021)
- **Further guidance published on 24 February:**  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/reopening-businesses-and-venues-in-england](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reopening-businesses-and-venues-in-england),



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- **Updated DCMS guidance on volunteering.**  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/enabling-safe-and-effective-volunteering-during-coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/enabling-safe-and-effective-volunteering-during-coronavirus-covid-19).
- **Working Safely During Coronavirus - Government Advice**  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/the-visitor-economy](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19/the-visitor-economy)
- **NMDC good practice guide on reopening Museums**  
[www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/coronavirus-update/nmdc-good-practice-guidelines-opening-museums](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/coronavirus-update/nmdc-good-practice-guidelines-opening-museums).
- **AIM and Museum Development Network 'Reopening Checklist'**  
[www.aim-museums.co.uk/museum-reopening-guidance-checklist](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk/museum-reopening-guidance-checklist).
- **EMBED – Reopening Recommendation Guidance focused on Accessibility**  
[embed.org.uk/covid-19-reopening](http://embed.org.uk/covid-19-reopening).
- **Space for Learning - New Guidance for Learning Services**  
[spaceforlearning.org.uk/covid-guidance](http://spaceforlearning.org.uk/covid-guidance).
- **Timed Ticketing - Quick Guide**  
[Download a PDF copy of the guide](#).

#### Other Previous Articles:

- **Advice on Holding Meetings Online or by Telephone**  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-the-charity-sector](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-the-charity-sector).
- **Digital Culture Network - Webinars and Advice Videos**  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UC-owfPGAfecnJyW74dD\\_Agw](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-owfPGAfecnJyW74dD_Agw).
- **Easy Read Marketing Guide**  
[weareunlimited.org.uk/accessible-marketing-guide](http://weareunlimited.org.uk/accessible-marketing-guide).
- **Financial Difficulties Toolkit**  
[www.artscouncil.org.uk/publication/managing-financial-difficulties-guide-and-toolkit](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/publication/managing-financial-difficulties-guide-and-toolkit).
- **Giving Days Calendar 2021**  
[hub.blackbaud.co.uk/npinsights/giving-days-calendar-2021](http://hub.blackbaud.co.uk/npinsights/giving-days-calendar-2021).
- **Guidance for Trustees from Charity Commission**  
[www.gov.uk/government/news/regulators-new-5-minute-guides-will-support-charity-trustees-to-meet-duties](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/regulators-new-5-minute-guides-will-support-charity-trustees-to-meet-duties).
- **Mental Health - Directory of Online Courses**  
[www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/support-mental-health-in-lockdown](http://www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/support-mental-health-in-lockdown)

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- **Museum Wellness Network: supporting staff wellbeing post-lockdown:**  
[www.museumsassociation.org/museum-practice/08062020-supporting-museum-workforce-wellbeing-post-lockdown](http://www.museumsassociation.org/museum-practice/08062020-supporting-museum-workforce-wellbeing-post-lockdown).
- **Online Abuse - A Toolkit for the Sector**  
[www.thespace.org/resource/online-abuse-toolkit-cultural-sector](http://www.thespace.org/resource/online-abuse-toolkit-cultural-sector).

## Contributions

**Please send items for the next MDY Bulletin**

**(on Friday 23 April) to: [mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk](mailto:mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk)**

**by 5.00pm on Wednesday 21 April.**

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