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# York Museums Trust Museum Development Yorkshire

# Latest news for week ending Friday 7 May 2021

#### Dear <<First Name>>

Whether you are busy making plans for reopening or still thinking through all the options, do make sure you look at the <u>New Covid Secure Reopening</u> <u>Advice</u> from MDY, which now includes some new (and very practical) <u>briefing sheets</u>. Now is also the time to check if you have had any special visitors during the lockdown, so don't forget that next week we're hosting a <u>Springwatch Special on Museum Insect Pests!</u>

We have been offering a lot of online training this year and one event proved so popular that we have decided to re run the <u>Supporting Return and Re-Entry for Volunteers</u> session. Places are strictly limited - book soon to avoid disappointment! If you have some volunteers who may not be ready to return on-site, but still want to support the museum, do also consider the <u>Virtual Visitor Experience programme</u> – but hurry as the deadline is the 14th!

For those who would like to look at their own professional development, consider the <u>AIM</u> <u>conference</u>. We have 3 FREE places – apply now! Finally – do make sure you read <u>Dieter's Curatorial Curios</u> for a fascinating reflection. He would be delighted to hear your thoughts - this is a call out to curators across the region to get in touch!

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## **New Covid Secure Reopening Advice from MDY**

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Have you had a chance to look at our new resources? They have been designed by people in the field and are packed full of practical advice and case studies. Since their launch we have had a lot of positive feedback – so if you haven't see them, take a look! We are delighted to announce that we have some additional resources, developed due to popular demand. The briefing sheets include advice on:

- Reopening Induction guidelines for Visitor Experience teams
- FAQs and Conflict Management
- Developing and Managing 3 Tours
- Greet and Meet sample questions and answers.

The links to the full document, the different sections and the four briefing sheets above can all be found at:

<u>www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/2021/04/22/new-mdy-covid-secure-reopening-guidance</u>.

# Mystery Shopping for your Website! Virtual Visitor Experience 2021

### \*\*Deadline extended to Friday 14 May\*\*

As this year's Virtual Visitor Experience programme is proving very popular, we are extending the application deadline for an extra week, to allow more of you the chance to get some structured and considered feedback on your digital presence from your museum colleagues.

To get three reviews of your museum website you just need to commit your staff or volunteers to review three other museum websites over a four-week period in May and June. The reviews 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. Training and support are available. The scheme is open to all museums in the North of England,

The programme has developed from the in-person Visitor Experience Consortium which has been running successfully for several years.

The reviews must be carried out by 21 June.

If you have any questions please contact Janet Thompson, the programme organiser on <u>jthompsonyork@outlook.com</u>.

# **Art Fund Museum of the Year 2021**

Art Fund\_

First prize: £100,000 Finalists: £15,000

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the sector.

As you begin to welcome back visitors, we want to help you celebrate your achievements, advocate for your work and share your story with everyone. We are keen to hear from all kinds of organisations, no matter the shape, size or location, whether you have a collection or not, or whether or not you opened your doors to the public in the last year.

Find out more and apply at: www.artfund.org/museum-of-the-year.

Deadline for applications: midday, 1 June 2021.

## MA Ethics Committee Statement on Methods of Sale of Deaccessioned Collection Items

The Museums Association has recently issued a clarification of its guidance on the method of sale of deaccessioned collection items following a number of queries on this topic and the expected launch of a new company providing services in this field.

The committee's update has been issued as organisations and private companies are beginning to look at new ways of disposing of deaccessioned material, including the forthcoming launch of Museum Depot Shop which plans to sell deaccessioned items of relatively low financial value via its website.

#### Find out more at:

www.museumsassociation.org/campaigns/ethics/ethics-committeestatement-on-methods-of-sale-of-deaccessioned-collection-items.

# FREE Sponsored Places at AIM National Conference 2021

Museum Development Yorkshire is pleased to announce that it is sponsoring three free places at this year's Association of Independent Museums Conference.

The 2021 National Conference will be held online over three days, 16 - 18 June, and brings together delegates from across the UK for engaging sessions led by practitioners, professionals, experts, and policymakers. The theme of the conference is 'Supporting. Sharing. Strengthening'.

#### Full programme now available at:

<u>aim-museums.co.uk/aim-national-conference-2021</u>.

The sponsored places are open to anyone working or volunteering in an Accredited or 'Working Towards' museum in Yorkshire and the Humber. We cannot support members of staff of National Portfolio Organisations or DCMS sponsored National Museums. We will prioritise museums that have 'Full' or 'Provisional' Accreditation. You need to commit to attending the whole conference and sharing your learning with regional colleagues.

To submit an expression of interest, please <u>complete the online form</u> before 10.00am on Monday 24 May.

Your Week Ahead

## **Elevenses with MDY - Spring is in the air!**

## 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 here:

 $\underline{www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/elevenses-with-\underline{mdy}.$ 



If you have any questions about Elevenses, please contact: <a href="mailto:alice.macpherson@ymt.org.uk">alice.macpherson@ymt.org.uk</a>.

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.

## **Supporting Return and Re-Entry for Volunteers**

## \*only 9 places left\*

Weds 12 May, 10.00am - 12.00pm (this a repeat of the session run on Weds 28 April)

As organisations that often rely on volunteers, it's important to check our responsibilities and opportunities to achieve best practice as we support volunteers returning from an extended absence from engagement with the museum, or absence from site. As a society, we are also all adjusting to a re-entry to more normal ways of life as we emerge from lockdown.

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- Understand your responsibilities to volunteers and opportunities for best practice
- Understand how to manage this process well and the benefits of that
- Understand the personal issues volunteers might face after a gap in engagement, including motivation and organisation
- Consider some options for "leaving well" for people who may prefer to leave the organisation
- Consider the wider context of adjusting to re-entry to society as we emerge from lockdown, and how we can support that as employers.

There are 18 FREE places available - priority will be given to organisations that did not attend on 28 April, to one person per organisation, and to non-NPO museums in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Find out more and book a place at: <a href="www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/supporting-return-and-re-entry-for-volunteers-tickets-152635531985">www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/supporting-return-and-re-entry-for-volunteers-tickets-152635531985</a>.

## **Dates for Your Diary**

## **Elevenses with MDY - coming up**

# Wed 19 May Tackling a Collections Store Project

Join us for conversation between a range of museums services in the region about how they are approaching plans for new and refurbished storage facilities. How to go about this in a sustainable way? And what issues or criteria do we consider?

# Wed 26 May \*\*11.00am - 12.30pm\*\* Lessons from Covid for Environmental Sustainability

Ben Melham, a specialist in estates and visitor services, joins us to reflect on what our response to Covid has shown us about doing things differently as we move forwards. What positive learning can we take from this experience? How can it help us to make our museums more resilient and sustainable?

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

 $\underline{www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk/event-category/elevenses-with-\underline{mdy}.$ 

# As If Trying Not to Own The Earth Museums Planning for Climate Change Adaptation

Tue 13, Wed 14 and Wed 21 July 10.00am - 12.00pm

- · Reflect on the expected impacts of climate change in your locality and beyond
- Consider the additional impact of Covid-19
- Explore your museum's role in a climate-changed world
- Discuss and apply a framework for strategic organisational adaptation to climate change.

All sessions will be delivered via Zoom in 3 x 2-hour sessions. Participants need to attend all sessions.

To gain the most benefit for your organisation, we encourage you to send 2-3 participants from your museum, who are able to influence changes to your strategic direction on sustainability and adaptation to the impacts of climate change.

#### Find out more and book a place at:

<u>www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/as-if-trying-not-to-own-the-earth-tickets-</u> 153616108917.

## **Your Wellbeing**

## **Resilience and Recovery with Sian Williams**

# How can we find our own path to recovery after traumatic events?

### Tues 11 May, 7.00pm

Renowned as a much-loved and highly respected journalist and broadcaster, Sian Williams has done extensive research into the science of resilience and growth after trauma.

Sian's research shows that although we often seem resilient in the middle of traumatic events, it's often the post-trauma recovery period where things get tough and people can really struggle. Sian will share how we can choose what to take forward from our experiences - in order to emerge feeling stronger, more resilient and more compassionate to ourselves and others.

#### Find out more and book at:

<u>www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/resilience-and-recovery-with-sian-williams-tickets-</u> 148914410009.

## **Job Opportunities and Volunteering**

# Hull Museums/Hull City Council Creative Project Coordinator, Guildhall Timeball

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Fee: up to £4,900

We are seeking an experienced, energetic and forward thinking heritage/cultural engagement professional to co-ordinate the delivery of 3 x creative projects for a National Lottery Heritage Funded (NLHF) project. This unique project explores the fascinating story of Hull's Guildhall Timeball.

Download the PDF brief to find out more.

Closing date: 13 May.

# National Coal Mining Museum Conservator

Salary: c.£25K

You will have an appropriate conservation qualification and a broad knowledge of conservation practice to be able to work with a multi-disciplinary collection of national significance with an emphasis on industrial heritage.

Your primary role will be the remedial and preventative conservation of the collections and project management of conservation projects, with the opportunity to improve access and understanding of our inspiring collections for our visitors.

Find out more at: <a href="https://www.ncm.org.uk/opportunities">www.ncm.org.uk/opportunities</a>.

Deadline: 16 May.

## Oakwell Hall, Batley Manager

Salary £34,728 - £36,922 pro rata (30 hrs pw)

An exciting opportunity has arisen to lead and develop a flagship heritage and natural environment site in the heart of West Yorkshire.

Kirklees Museums & Galleries are looking for a dynamic, committed and enthusiastic person to lead a multi-disciplinary team and oversee the management and development of an award winning site comprising Elizabethan manor house and country park in Birstall, Batley.

Find out more at: <a href="https://kirklees.tal.net/vx/appcentre-ext/brand-4/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/4/opp/2497-Oakwell-Hall-Manager/en-GB">kirklees.tal.net/vx/appcentre-ext/brand-4/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/4/opp/2497-Oakwell-Hall-Manager/en-GB</a>.

Closing date: 23 May.

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#### i rustee vacancies

## Could you be a trustee of the Brontë Society?

It is a pivotal time to be a trustee and board member as we emerge from the challenges of the pandemic and look to the future as a resilient, inclusive and modern charity. We are proud to be one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations for literature and are entering a period of development as we refine our strategic plans and key objectives in readiness to apply for the next four-year cycle of funding which will commence in April 2023.

We are keen to hear from people who have expertise in the following areas:

- Accountancy and finance (to be our Board Finance Lead and Chair of our Finance and Audit committee)
- · Business and e-commerce
- Legal and HR
- Digital development.

Find out more at: www.bronte.org.uk/vacancies.

Deadline for applications / expressions of interest: 30 June.

### **GEM Conference Consultant 2021**

Fee: £2,800 (8 days @£350) Timescale: May - June 2021

GEM is seeking a freelance consultant to help appraise options for the 2021 GEM Conference and support the GEM team to plan and programme conference. Expected outcomes include:

- Confirm and agree best option for GEM conference in liaison with the GEM Board and Team by the end of June 2021.
- Support GEM team with the theme, programming, marketing copy, pricing, call for contributions and confirmation of keynote speakers
- Arrange conference platform as needed and support the development of conference booking system options.

Find out more at: gem.org.uk/jobs/gem-conference-consultant-2021.

Deadline: 10 May at 12.00pm.

# Eyam Museum, Derbyshire Consultancy Opportunities

**Digital Development - Interpretation** 

Fee: £5K - £7K

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countryside. We envisage this to be a virtual village tour or similar system.

#### Download brief to find out more.

# Digital Development - Retail Fee: £3K - £5K

We are looking for a consultant to advise on our online retail offer, particularly in product development linked to our collection and marketing as a tool to grow online sales.

Download brief to find out more.

Deadline for both: 16 May.

# Rochdale Development Agency Stained Glass Trainee

Salary: from £20K 2 Years Fixed term (Sep 2021 – Sep 2023)

The restoration of Rochdale Town Hall provides a once in a generation opportunity for the project to recruit and train an individual in the specialist area of stained glass restoration work under the control of qualified and ICON accredited conservators. Trainees will not only learn from the most experienced conservation professionals but they will have the chance to be part of one of the most significant heritage conservation projects in the North West.

#### Find out more at:

www.greater.jobs/search-and-apply/job-details/RO-46283.

Closing date: midnight on Tuesday 15 June.

## Your Development

## Free online workshops

Outdoor learning for arts and heritage sites 27 May, 4.00pm - 5.30pm

What is good practice in outdoor learning and how can we best pivot our learning provision to outdoor delivery?

Going forward 24 June, 4.00pm - 5.30pm

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with a focus on responding to home nation government priorities.

#### Find out more and book at:

<u>www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/clore-duffield-foundation-in-partnership-with-engage-gem-and-the-tef-31209017511</u>.

Organised as part of the Space for Learning Covid guidance supported by the Clore Duffield Foundation in partnership with GEM, Engage and the TEF.







## **Funding Opportunities**

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

With 17 May fast approaching, 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.

### And Relax...!

### **Dieter's Curatorial Curios**

Livingstone Hearth Tidy Part 3
Disputed histories

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A prominent design feature of this object is the bust of David Livingstone who was a popular hero in Britain during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Celebrated in contemporary popular literature and prints his legacy is perhaps now more contested. How should we address this in any museum display today? In a sense it could be argued that Livingstone encapsulates the dilemmas at the heart of issues of liberal assessments of the development of Africa – for his qualities were tightly bound up with the very prejudices that made him into a Christian missionary and warrior for the British Empire. His humanity is merged with missionary fervour and his belief that colonialism was a way of tackling the local trafficking of human lives is impossible to separate from his respect for African people, cultures and languages. This was the enigma that was and is Livingstone's legacy.

Livingstone is also very much linked in the popular imagination with Sir H M Stanley (1841 –1904): "Dr Livingstone, I presume?" voiced when he encountered Livingstone near Lake Tanganyika in present-day Tanzania in 1871. Although Stanley is recognised in western society as an explorer (as the European discoverer and mapper of the African great lakes) many would argue his actions should be more critically appraised. Stanley had associations with some of the worst excesses of European colonialism in Africa in claiming territory for the Belgian King Leopold II whose colonial regime in the Belgian Congo became infamous for its exploitation and cruelty. Stanley was also closely linked to Tippu Tip, the most powerful of Zanzibar's dealers in human lives in the 19th century. Should Livingstone's contemporary reputation be sullied by the popular association with Stanley?

Hearth tidies incorporating a bust of Stanley were also produced in the nineteenth century possibly as a pair to this Livingstone example.

This object also becomes a challenging one for interpretation as the world moves into the vision of a post-carbon economy. In the week that the sale of domestic house coal was banned by the UK government, should it be relegated to the museum stores as a symbol of an economic and social life which was based on the mining and exploitation of fossil fuels which is now recognised as a key contributor to global warming? To do so would perhaps be to supress rich stories of an industrial past driven by coal and steam and in which coal was a reliable source of cheap fuel for domestic heating and cooking for much of the UK population from the eighteenth until the late twentieth centuries. For many it brought about improvements in living conditions. Also at its height, in the 1920s, the coal industry employed 1 in 20 of Britain's total working population and this proportion was higher in strong coal mining areas like Yorkshire. A collier's life was often hard and dangerous but the industry also sustained strong local communities and culture which have their own legacies and heritage today.

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## 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 Response - Spring 2021

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

### Other Reopening Resources and Guidance:

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

### **Other Previous Articles:**

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- Mental Health Directory of Online Courses
   <u>www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/support-mental-health-in-lockdown</u>
- Museum Wellness Network: supporting staff wellbeing post-lockdown: www.museumsassociation.org/museum-practice/08062020supporting-museum-workforce-wellbeing-post-lockdown.
- Online Abuse A Toolkit for the Sector <u>www.thespace.org/resource/online-abuse-toolkit-cultural-sector</u>.

## **Contributions**

### Please send items for the next MDY Bulletin

(on Friday 14 May) to: <a href="mailto:mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk">mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk</a>

by 5.00pm on Wednesday 12 May.

### **Contacts**

## **The Museum Development Yorkshire Team**

#### **Michael Turnpenny**

Head of Museum Development

Email: michael.turnpenny@ymt.org.uk

Tel: 07917 220227

#### **Alan Bentley**

Museum Development Officer (West Yorkshire, Harrogate and Craven)

Email: <u>alan.bentley@ymt.org.uk</u>

Tel: 07595 609782

#### **Liz Denton**

Museum Development Officer (East Riding of Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire)

Email: <u>liz.denton@ymt.org.uk</u>

Tel: 07785 458220

#### **Dieter Hopkin**

Museum Development Officer (Moors and Coast, Dales and York)

Email: dieter.hopkin@ymt.org.uk

Tel: 07970 977217

#### Joanne Bartholomew

Museum Development Officer

#### **Alice Macpherson**

Museum Development Yorkshire Intern Email: alice.macpherson@ymt.org.uk

#### **Ali Glew**

MDY Ebulletin Editor

Email: mdy-bulletin@ymt.org.uk

Tel: 0773 258 5959

#### **Kelly Chapman**

Regional Accreditation Advisor <a href="mailto:kelly.chapman@ymt.org.uk">kelly.chapman@ymt.org.uk</a>

Please note Kelly works on Monday only. If your enquiry is more urgent, please contact one of the MDY team.

If you're unsure which of our team to contact, please email <a href="mdyoffice@ymt.org.uk">mdyoffice@ymt.org.uk</a> and your message will be forwarded to the correct person.







### Spread the word

Encourage others in your organisation to receive the MDY Bulletin directly by **subscribing** here.

#### Find out more

Check out our website at: www.museumdevelopmentyorkshire.org.uk.

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