

# Heritage Link Update 115

*Heritage Link Update is sent to members and supporters of Heritage Link as a way of sharing information of relevance to the historic environment sector. Please feel free to circulate copies within your organisation and to forward copies to anyone else who might be interested.*

8<sup>th</sup> June 2007

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## EVENTS

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## Heritage Link and Heritage of London Trust host 2012 networking 19<sup>th</sup> June

Heritage Link and Heritage of London Trust (HOLT) hold a joint networking event on 19<sup>th</sup> June at Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, Aldgate East, London E1 6LS. The event, to explore how heritage can contribute and benefit from the London Olympics 2012, not only in London but across the UK, is open to all.

Keynote speaker will be Bill Morris, Director of Culture Ceremonies and Education for LOCOG (the London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games). He will look at how the heritage community can harness this 'once in a lifetime' opportunity for the benefit of areas in East London and across the whole of the UK. Malcolm Crowder Project Organiser for HOLT, the only Building Preservation Trust to cover the whole of the Greater London area, will consider the achievements of recent projects and the coming challenges for London's historic environment. Ian Lush, Chief Executive of the Architectural Heritage Fund and Trustee of Heritage Link will chair the day.

Programme (1.00-4.30pm) and registration forms can be found via the link on the homepage [www.heritagelink.org.uk](http://www.heritagelink.org.uk) There is no charge but please register by 12<sup>th</sup> June. Come and join us! [Back](#)

### Cathedral Communications sponsors London networking event

We are delighted that Cathedral Communications Limited is sponsoring the London event on 19<sup>th</sup> June. The well known publishing house publishes *The Building Conservation Directory* and other useful publications on the historic built environment and archaeology. For further information visit [www.buildingconservation.com](http://www.buildingconservation.com) or email [bcd@buildingconservation.com](mailto:bcd@buildingconservation.com) [Back](#)

### Westminster Hall debate: Diversion of Lottery Funds

On 6<sup>th</sup> June Paul Holmes, Lib Dem Spokesman for Art and Culture made an impressive and comprehensive assessment of the impact the diversion would make and these figures are now recorded in Hansard. He called for the diversion to be debated in full by the House of Commons.

On the value of arts and heritage, he said 'They are a central part of community life, not an optional extra. They define and bind communities and they provide an understanding of the world and of what makes us human.' Under heritage he charted the decline in mainstream funding, to show how dependent the sector is on the HLF. He also contrasted the UK with other host countries that had put money into the Cultural Olympiad not taken it out

The debate was remarkable for airing a range of alternatives. Labour backbencher Derek Wyatt considered the diversion 'bad politics' in the run up to the election and incredibly embarrassing for the Government but, as the increased budget had to be funded from somewhere, suggested drawing on the analogue spectrum sale in 2012 (estimated in excess of £5bn) or the Unclaimed Assets Fund (possibly between £5bn and £8bn). An all party committee should make representations to the Treasury. Further alternatives recommended by Don Foster, Lib Dem Shadow Secretary for Culture Media and Sport were a change in tax regime on gross tax profits for Camelot, a clamp down on Lottery related games and to disband the Olympics Lottery distributor. Conservative Shadow Minister for the Arts Ed Vaizey, asked for more detail on the idea hinted at in the House of Lords debate on 17<sup>th</sup> May that the Lottery might be recompensed through the contingency fund.

The full text can be found at

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmhansrd/cm070606/halltext/70606h0005.htm#07060673000004> [Back](#)

### Heritage White Paper: 40 members support Heritage Link response

Months of hard work by numerous voluntary bodies, national, regional, local and of all descriptions, culminated in a flurry of responses to the Heritage White Paper.

Heritage Link's response, drawn up through a special members' seminar in April and supported by 40 members large and small expresses the voluntary sector's shared views, and together with individual responses demonstrate what a committed and expert resource the Government has called on. Heritage Link supported the Heritage White Paper process and welcomed the opportunities for wider public engagement seeing this as means for the voluntary heritage sector to make a significant contribution. But members found the White Paper disappointingly brief on the value of heritage particularly in successful development and regeneration. And in common with many others, stronger evidence of support from The Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) and other Government Departments was needed.

Above all and again reflected in individual responses, Heritage Link called for resources - investment, training, guidance and strong partnerships - to ensure effective delivery.

On the three specific consultation responses, Heritage Link members agreed that merging conservation area consent with planning permission would be acceptable but only if statutory guidance made it clear that conservation professionals would be involved in those planning applications and in any pre-application discussions. There was serious concern that this procedure might downgrade the status of conservation areas. Pre application discussion was welcomed but the involvement of voluntary heritage bodies, both local and national would need clarifying. Thirdly members recommended that the process for Certificates of Immunity from listing, hitherto a fairly rare option should, if extended, carry the same advertisement and consultation conditions as designation procedures, and should be time-limited in order to discourage speculative applications.

Heritage Link's response can be read at

<http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/docs/HL%20response%20to%20HWP%2031%205%2007.pdf> [Back](#)

### Planning White Paper and comment

Next the Planning White Paper consultation! Heritage Link is inviting all its members to join the special meeting of the Planning Working Group at 11am on 12<sup>th</sup> July to share information and opinion and to start up the Heritage Link response. Members have been emailed but if it hasn't reached you or as a local/regional representative, you would like an additional place, please get in touch with Kathryn Schofield, Information and Events Co-ordinator at [Kathryn.schofield@heritagelink.org.uk](mailto:Kathryn.schofield@heritagelink.org.uk)

Heritage organisations continue to comment on the Planning White Paper:

**English Historic Towns Forum** welcomes the Paper's support for tackling climate change and the emphasis on the role of local authorities and planning in place shaping. The Forum strongly supported the unified approach to the historic environment set out in the Heritage White Paper and a more streamlined approach to preparing Local Development Frameworks. But on the other hand, it has reservations or feels that a better understanding is needed in some areas. Top of that list of concerns is the strong emphasis given to economic drivers and competitiveness; the replacement of the needs test for retail development with an impact assessment; extending permitted development rights for micro generation and a more relaxed regime for householder applications both of which have implications for sensitive buildings and areas. Lastly EHTF was concerned about the removal of the requirement under Best Value to prepare Conservation Area Management Plans.

**Planning Disaster Coalition:** this is a major alliance of 13 environmental and social organisations, including Friends of the Earth and Transport 2000 as well as Heritage Link members, The Civic Trust, Ramblers Association, CPRE, and the Woodland Trust. Other organisations are welcome to join. For further information contact Hannah Mummery at the Civic Trust at [hmummery@civictrust.org.uk](mailto:hmummery@civictrust.org.uk)

The Coalition has produced a shared vision *Making Planning Better* see <http://www.planningdisaster.co.uk/>. It believes that the White Paper, based as it is on the Barker and Eddington Reports, which both focussed on economic competitiveness and 'ignored social and environmental considerations', would cut local communities out of planning decision and spell disaster for valuable habitats and landscapes. The Coalition is deeply concerned that the proposals in the Planning White Paper may undermine effective action on climate change and sustainable development as well as seriously weaken public consultation on major planning issues. [Back](#)

### Gift Aid: experience of the new regime

Tourism South East's national survey of how well charities have adapted to the new Gift Aid regime (see Update 109) will be published shortly.

Some of the evidence suggests different approaches in the application of the new regulations by HMRC for example on what wordage or signage is acceptable. To find out how widespread this is and to calm some nervous charities about to have a Gift Aid audit, it would help to have information on issues being questioned by HMRC or hard evidence of inconsistency by inspectors either from different offices or over similar cases. If you can help please contact Ken Robinson, Chair of Attractions Gift Aid Liaison Group, on [Krobinsonlrt@aol.com](mailto:Krobinsonlrt@aol.com) [Back](#)

### Quirk review: 20 pilot transfers

Up to 40 disused public buildings will be transferred from local authorities to community organisations, as part of the *Opening the Transfer Window* implementation plan announced by local government minister Phil Woolas as the government's response to the Quirk Review of community management and ownership of public assets (Update 114). Twenty councils will be chosen to take part in a pilot for transferring such assets, with the results monitored by Barry Quirk.

The plans will promote members of the public's right to request buildings be devolved by their council, a development that Woolas believes will enhance the individual's stake in the quality of life of their area. He added: 'Our plan will get demonstration projects up and running and provide councils with the tools and training they need so that they can give every community the opportunity to tackle their local priorities, whether those are about enhancing the local environment, alleviating poverty or raising people's aspirations.'

Support will be provided to community organisations in the owning and running of the buildings, with a £30 million Cabinet Office Community Assets fund offering grants for refurbishment. There will also be training programmes to provide community organisations with the management skills necessary for such work, such the Development Trust Association's Community Asset Programme, which has received a grant of £80,000 from Capacitybuilders.

*Opening the Transfer Window* can be found at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1510746> [Back](#)

## A lasting legacy for London?

With the Heritage Link London event coming up, it is interesting to compare how other host cities and countries have benefited from an Olympic Games. Commissioned by the London Assembly and undertaken by the London East Research Institute of the University of East London, *A Lasting Legacy for London? Assessing the legacy of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games* examining the impact of previous Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in a number of areas - economic, social, cultural and environmental.

Under social, cultural and lifestyle, it looks at the regeneration momentum in Montreal, Barcelona and Sydney noting 'white elephants' are the most common characterisation of infrastructure with Montreal cited as the worst case scenario. However it also notes typical hard legacy gains: infrastructure, the reorientation of city spaces, improved amenity, new types of land use and economic activity.

Soft gains are classified as social capital and evolving and engaged governance structures, networking capacities, co-operative entrepreneurship; community buy in, openness; strong communications links, civic confidence, alertness to 'the next project' and 'buzz'.

For confidence, buzz, reputation, national and international status, both tourist driven and commercially driven, memory and 'pride of place', Barcelona is the acknowledged success story here but positive socio-cultural legacy momentum emerges when these factors are sufficiently evident in the host city and beyond. These soft legacy factors sustain co-ordination, communication and consensus, before, during and after the Games.

For the full report, click on <http://www.london.gov.uk/assembly/reports/econsd/lasting-legacy-uel-research.pdf>  
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## Framework for evaluating cultural policy investment

This report to the Department of Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) from Frontier Economics examines the economic impact of public investment and intervention in culture. The research has developed a framework for assessing the impact of cultural interventions, whether these are financial assistance, providing specialist advice or developing regulatory frameworks. It identifies the potential market failures which require government intervention through seven different types of investment.

Frontier proposes that most of the cultural policies DCMS and its family are responsible for can be categorised into 5 or 6 broad economic outcomes. For each category it is then possible to assess the contribution policies make to strategic objectives, the economic rationale for interventions and the expected economic benefits these interventions deliver. The research also reviews and critiques some of the existing research on the economic impact of sectors, and sets out a view on how research could be improved.

The research report, executive summary and a non technical summary are available via [http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference\\_library/Research/research\\_by\\_dcms/framework\\_ecpi.html](http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Research/research_by_dcms/framework_ecpi.html) [Back](#)

## Prime Minister responds to Lottery petition

An e-petition asking the Prime Minister to 'Defend funding for local voluntary and community organisations' has now closed with 8336 signatures and prompted a detailed response.

After explaining the Big Lottery Fund's ring fencing of voluntary and community sector funding, the Government continues 'The remaining £250 million will come from the other Lottery distributors, with the exception of UK Sport, between 2009 and 2012. The other distributors have said that this need not impact on any existing commitments.'

However, the response adds interestingly that 'The impact on future commitments will be assessed in due course', before confirming that 'The Government has also announced that the Lottery distributors will also have a call on the income generated when the Olympic site and assets are sold'.

The full response is at <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Defend-funding/> [Back](#)

## Advisory Board on Redundant Churches faces parliamentary scrutiny

'The draft Dioceses, Pastoral and Mission Measure', writes David Baker, Chair of ARBC, 'includes provision for abolishing the existing independent Advisory Board on Redundant Churches and replacing it with a 'Statutory Advisory (sub) Committee' of a new central church body, the Church Buildings Council, itself replacing the existing Council for the Care of Churches. The draft Measure, approved by the Church of England, has been submitted to Parliament for scrutiny by its Ecclesiastical Committee at the end of June.'

'The Advisory Board has maintained its opposition to abolition, reported earlier in Heritage Link no 89, and has sent papers setting out its objections to the members of the Ecclesiastical Committee. These papers can be seen on the Advisory Board's web-site at <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/abrc/index.html>

'The Advisory Board argues that the new arrangements will intensify already significant conflicts of interest between the Church's roles as user, conservator and developer of closing churches. Conflicts of interest also arise for the Churches Conservation Trust which is to be given a role as development adviser to the Church Commissioners in relation to closing churches of vestable quality. The Board objects in principle to the loss of independent advice and transparency of process. It expresses its serious concern about reductions in expertise which will affect the capability for delivering impartial and practical advice about the difficult issues surrounding closing historic churches.

'However, DCMS has expressed itself content with a power for itself to nominate four members of the new Statutory Advisory Committee; English Heritage considers that independent advice is no longer needed, the real issue being to get more involvement from local authorities.

'The Advisory Board's objections have been supported by the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies, and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation has expressed concern about questions unanswered by the proposed arrangements in the draft Measure.' [Back](#)

### [Simon Thurley reviews his five years at English Heritage](#)

It is five years since Simon Thurley took over as Chief Executive of English Heritage and in a wide-ranging interview for *Cornerstone* the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings' quarterly magazine, he charts achievements, changes and concerns for the future. 'We have been treading a very difficult path over the past five years, trying to balance the absolute necessity to protect and preserve and conserve with the absolute necessity to convince people that that activity is not an activity that is holding the country back in some way'.

In reply to What does EH need in the next few years, he doesn't beat about the bush 'There's one absolutely crucial thing we need.... and that is money for the implementation of the heritage protection review.... We've made it 100 per cent clear that we can't take on the extra responsibilities, to help train local authorities unless we get the resources'. He also wants Government to support places of worship through the *Inspired!* Campaign and 'other than that, we would just like to be given an inflationary increase. We'd like to see our grants inflated by 3% a year'.

For the full interview see <http://www.spab.org.uk/html/media-centre/press-releases> [Back](#)

### [The Beauty of Holiness and its perils: Sir Roy Strong on the churches crisis](#)

Former Director of the V&A Sir Roy Strong at Gresham College on 30<sup>th</sup> May speculated why, of the three seminal exhibitions held under his Directorship, *The Future of our Churches* exhibition didn't trigger a response comparable to that of the *Destruction the Country House* or the *Gardens* exhibition.

He looks back, prompted by a sense of urgency: 'Just as the twentieth century was about saving the country house, the twenty first century will be about saving our great historic churches', and in particular the 10,000 or so churches scattered through the countryside. He suggests that the cause lies in a massive failure of public relations, political correctness and our multicultural era. He contrasts the academic Pevsner with the nostalgia of Betjeman and the secularism of Simon Jenkins but bemoans the absence of a contemporary guide to present churches as the hub of the community 'peopled and bustling with life'.

One of the reasons he puts forward is the multitude of church bodies, an eclectic list including Heritage Link. He calls for 'one organisation only with a new name, a revised series of community based objectives in tune with where we are now and a radical recruiting drive for members with keen thoughts as to what can be offered'. The full transcript can be found at <http://www.gresham.ac.uk/event.asp?PageId=45&EventId=604> [Back](#)

### [Over 1000 historic buildings lost in Moscow](#)

More than a thousand buildings, hundreds of them of historic and architectural importance, have been destroyed in the last five years, approximately 200 of them with monument status. A new report from SAVE Europe's Heritage and the Moscow Architecture Preservation Society (MAPS), with contributions from an international panel of experts, condemns the rapid losses while illustrating the astonishing range of historic buildings from 17<sup>th</sup> century palaces to 1920s Avant-Garde bus garages - all threatened by the furious pace of redevelopment in the city.

The first international survey of its kind, *Moscow Heritage at Crisis Point* includes a survey of threatened and lost buildings and practical recommendations on how to save what remains of Moscow's architectural heritage, including suggested changes to Russian law.

The report free to download from [http://www.maps-moscow.com/index.php?chapter\\_id=232](http://www.maps-moscow.com/index.php?chapter_id=232) was supported by Paulsen Editions (Moscow/Paris), The Matthew Bown Gallery UK, The World Monuments Fund UK, and SAVE Europe's Heritage. Hard copies available on request from SAVE at [info@savebritheritage.plus.com](mailto:info@savebritheritage.plus.com)

MAPS was formed in May 2004 by a group of international journalists and architects. It works in close cooperation with preservationists, historians and architects within Russia and abroad to raise awareness about the present destruction of the city's historical buildings. For further information visit [www.maps-moscow.com](http://www.maps-moscow.com) [Back](#)

### No 10 petition on Conservation Areas and locally Listed Buildings

Heritage of London Trust has had its petition approved by the No 10 webteam. It reads:

'We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to not downgrade Conservation Areas and locally listed buildings in the Heritage White Paper. If Conservation areas and locally listed buildings are not protected by Act of Parliament they are very vulnerable. The Heritage of London Trust is trying to save the memorial clock to Minnie Lansbury in the Bow Road, and were very upset that Clifton Lodge, 44 Clarence Avenue in Clapham could not have been saved from the bulldozers when the land was developed. Both these structures are locally listed, but not nationally listed. There are many thousands of locally listed structures all across the Country - they often encapsulate a particularly poignant or important part of the local heritage, and they are quite unprotected.

We strongly urge that locally listed buildings and monuments are protected in the same way that nationally listed buildings are protected. Please can they be given the same status as nationally listed buildings in the Heritage White Paper.'

To sign up go to <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Listedbuildings/> and remember to reply to the confirmation email. [Back](#)

### New BBC Series: How We Built Britain

The Radio Times remarks that Sunday night is becoming seriously patriotic, with Alan Titchmarsh on villages, a repeat of the *Coast* series and now David Dimbleby on *How We Built Britain*, the BBC has correctly identified the public appetite for the historic environment and its connection with national identity.

In a six part journey around Britain, David Dimbleby gives insight into the British character through the extraordinary landscape of Britain's buildings. He argues that one particular period of architecture gave each region its unique character. He explores the buildings that define a nation, which grew out of the experiences and beliefs of the British people - from the half-timbered villages of Shakespeare's England to the dramatic mills and mansions of the Victorian North, and the cathedrals and manor houses of medieval East Anglia. 'These buildings tell us who we are'.

*How We Built Britain* follows the success of last year's BBC One series *A Picture of Britain*. On 3<sup>rd</sup> June he visited the East of England. Next is the Heart of England, followed by Scotland, The West, The North, and last The South. *How We Built Britain* is accompanied by a book and a DVD of the series will be available later in the year.

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### Spin offs from How We Built Britain: photo competition and local debate

Accompanying the BBC One series, BBC Four through *Britain in Pictures* invites some of Britain's most distinguished and renowned photographers to visit areas of Britain that have a special meaning for them and to capture there some of the most interesting public, industrial and domestic architecture. Viewers are invited via the website at [www.bbc.co.uk/britain](http://www.bbc.co.uk/britain) to upload their photographs of British buildings. It will also be possible to go on a virtual tour of some of the featured buildings in the series at [www.bbc.co.uk/britain](http://www.bbc.co.uk/britain)

Also on BBC One, *Building Britain* will take a view on how we are changing the British landscape with modern architecture and new developments. Presenters including Germaine Greer, Peter Ackroyd and Lloyd Grossman will look at the changes taking place in their region and ask provocative questions about the future face of their cities and towns. The films will lead into a series of local debates around the country, organised in partnership with RIBA and broadcast by BBC local radio. [Back](#)

### Visit the regions of Britain in just three minutes

VisitBritain, the national tourism agency, is helping international visitors to discover the regions of Britain in three minutes as it launches its new online brand film. The new video takes visitors on a virtual journey reflecting the dynamism of Britain - and twelve 'vid-casts' of selected cities, history, museums and shopping.

The film features on VisitBritain's relaunched website [www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com) which currently attracts over 13 million visits per year and showcases a huge range of up-to-the-minute features. Building on the brand values of Depth, Heart and Vitality, the film features locations spanning the whole of Britain and follows the travels of its central character Ruth. From punting on the River Cam to sailing on Lake Windermere, shopping at the Bullring in Birmingham to surfing at Rhosilli Beach in Wales and camping at Glencoe to horse riding in the New Forest - the film draws attention to what Britain can offer the international tourist.

In 2006, provisional data indicates that there were 32.2 million visits to Britain, 7% up on 2005. They spent £15.4 billion in the UK: an 8% increase on 2005. [Back](#)

### Heritage Link's next Diversity seminar in Leicester 29<sup>th</sup> June

This is a day designed for voluntary heritage sector groups and organisations, including local history groups, Civic Societies, historic houses and buildings, small museums, archaeology groups, and many others, together with representatives of community groups who are interested in putting forward ideas for realistic and fundable projects that reach out to and engage new and diverse groups in their heritage. Heritage Link's definition of Diversity includes youth and elders, people with disabilities, different faith groups, people from different cultural and ethnic groups, carers and those on low incomes.

We offer practical activities, networking opportunities, and inspirational guest speakers, including James Friel of The Black Environment Network, Dominique Tessier: a freelance project co-ordinator using Local History Archives to develop multicultural projects, Bettina Harden Founder and Chairman of The Gateway Gardens Trust, and artist Joseph Silcott.

The first Embracing Difference workshop events in Birmingham and Hartlepool have had fantastic success in helping people gain confidence in putting together their own project proposals. For further information contact Angela Dove, Heritage Link Diversity Programme Co-ordinator at [angela.dove@heritagelink.org.uk](mailto:angela.dove@heritagelink.org.uk) For further information on the project, diversity tools and reports on the Birmingham and Hartlepool events see <http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/diversity> [Back](#)

### Access to and Interpretation of historic buildings for disabled audiences: research

Victoria Weaver a student at York University MA in Archaeology of Buildings is looking for projects currently being undertaken in the area of access to and interpretation of historic buildings for disabled audiences, particularly those with a sensory impairment, as the basis for academic research. Victoria has a background in archaeology, a BA in archaeology from Reading University and an MA in the archaeology of buildings from York University, completed last September.

She has a good reading knowledge of current disability studies literature as well as a reading knowledge of research into disability in the past and the archaeological and historical evidence for this and she feels that in this particular area of research her own mild visual impairment allows her to gain a deeper understanding of certain issues and to identify problems that others may not have considered leading to original solutions to these problems.

If you have or know of heritage projects or initiatives that could benefit from Vicky's research skills, enthusiasm and particular experience please get in touch with her at [Victoria.weaver@ntlworld.com](mailto:Victoria.weaver@ntlworld.com) [Back](#)

### East Midlands Rural Culture website

Culture East Midlands, the Regional Cultural Consortia for the East Midlands has recently launched a new website supporting rural arts and culture in the East Midlands. The website is now live to the public.

It aims to support the work of people developing cultural activity in rural areas and to showcase projects from across the region. The site provides clear information on training and funding opportunities, news and events and signposts organisations that support cultural activity. Detailed case studies from some successful and pioneering projects across the East Midlands are available to download to inform and hopefully inspire more cultural projects in rural areas.

Isolation is a common aspect of rural life and this site aims to overcome some of those communication barriers by providing an appropriate and accessible service to those working in culture in the rural East Midlands. See [www.ruralculture-em.org](http://www.ruralculture-em.org) [Back](#)

### Getting into the Past for disadvantaged young people

*Getting into the Past* is a new partnership between the National Trust and The Prince's Trust supported by £1.2m grant from the Big Lottery Fund.

In early June, the first Prince's Trust Team carried out conservation work on the National Trust's Wallington estate in Northumberland. This community project is part of their 12 week personal development course. As well as carrying out the work themselves the team will be involving a small group of people, of all ages, from the local care village. The youngsters stayed at the base camp at Wallington.

The whole project will run until 2010 and involve nearly 700 disadvantaged young people across England who will be able to learn new skills such as conservation and customer services at heritage sites. Participants can return to the National Trust property after their 12-week development course to take part in a two-week taster/training placement in a wide variety of jobs, known as a *Get Into*. Eleven National Trust properties across England will be taking part in the first year of the project.

There will also be long term placements on offer at National Trust properties for 6-9 months for a variety of roles within National Trust's estates – ranging from positions within the historic houses, tea-rooms and shops, gardens and countryside. Skills learned will incorporate heritage, conservation and working with the public, such as stonemasonry, nature conservation, visitor services and collections management.

Further details at

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/webpack/bin/webpack.exe/livebase?object=LiveBase1&itemurn=2154&mode=wbFullItem Back>

### The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The winners have been announced for The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2007 and nominations have also opened for 2008.

Four of the 71 winners have environmental aspects: the Blakeney Neighbourhood Housing Society which helps preserve one of the most beautiful villages in North Norfolk by converting old cottages to provide affordable housing for local families; the Tilbury Riverside Project promotes and encourage awareness and pride amongst the residents and community of Tilbury, especially through the regeneration and use of the common land riverfront and the historical features in the town; Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade, as well as saving lives on the local coastline, maintains and repairs the Tynemouth Volunteer Life Brigade headquarters and looks after its museum; and Waveney Stardust which benefits disabled people of all ages to access local waterways with a purpose built day cruiser. For all winners see <http://www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk/winners/winners.html>

Nominations for 2008 also opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> June. For details of how to nominate a voluntary organisation for 2008 awards - for outstanding achievement by groups (2 or more people) of volunteers who: meet a particular need - see <http://www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk/nominate.html> The deadline for nominations is 30<sup>th</sup> September. [Back](#)

### Pallant House Gallery wins Gulbenkian Prize

Pallant House Gallery was the winner of the £100,000 Gulbenkian Prize for museums and galleries, announced on 24<sup>th</sup> May for its £8.6 million modern gallery extension, designed by Long and Kentish in association with the late Professor Sir Colin St John Wilson.

The £8.6 million building project was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, individual donors, trusts and foundations, Chichester District Council, Arts Council England and the Friends of Pallant House. A £1.5m donation for an endowment fund was secured to contribute to future running costs of the gallery. The Pallant House Gallery trustees plan to put the prize money into their endowment fund which they are aiming to grow to the stage where they will have sufficient core funding to offer free entry to the Gallery.

Pallant House Gallery was in competition for the Prize with Kew Palace in London, Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow and Weston Park Museum in Sheffield. Full details of all shortlisted candidates are at [www.thegulbenkianprize.org.uk](http://www.thegulbenkianprize.org.uk) [Back](#)

### Open Spaces Society Guide to saving spaces

The Open Spaces Society has published a simple new guide to saving spaces, *Getting Greens Registered*. 'Few people realise that if they register a local space as a town or village green, it is protected from development. The land must have been used by local people, as of right, for recreation for 20 years', says Kate Ashbrook, the Society's general secretary.

The new guide gives step-by-step guidance on how to determine whether the land is eligible for registration and, if it is, on how to apply, to the county or unitary council, to have it registered. The aim is to identify land which local people have enjoyed for informal recreation, so that they can apply to register it before it is threatened with development. Since registration can take many months, it's as well to safeguard it now. Once a planning application has been submitted, it may be too late.

*Getting Greens Registered*, covering England and with a supplement on Wales, is available from the Open Spaces Society for £17 including post and packing (£10 to OSS members) [Back](#)

### Postcards from the Park competition

Postcards from the Park is a chance to celebrate the parks of the UK through images that reflect their role in our every day lives. Open to anyone, the competition is being organised by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), BIG and GreenSpace.

The top prize is a photography workshop session with the celebrated photographer Mike McCartney. There will also be a total of 24 regional winners and two categories, one for under 16-year olds and one for over 16-year olds. Winners will have their photographs exhibited at London's Mile End Park Arts Pavilion in September.

The regional winning photos will also be turned into postcards which will be distributed at Lottery-funded venues across the UK. Go to <http://www.loveparkweek.org.uk/> to take part. The competition closes on 1<sup>st</sup> August. [Back](#)

### Charities Act 2006 What do Trustees need to know?

The Charities Act 2006 aims to provide trustees with more flexibility and less bureaucracy - particularly smaller charities. It offers new easier ways for charities to make changes to their purposes, structures and administration. There are new provisions for transferring assets, winding up, changing objects and merging. It also establishes the new legal structure Charitable Incorporated Organisations. This new guide explains the changes and provides the information trustees need to identify the opportunities available now and in the future.

Further information can be found

[http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third\\_sector/news/news\\_releases/070516\\_concise\\_guide.asp](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_releases/070516_concise_guide.asp) with links to the text in various formats. Hard copies (free) can be ordered from 0845 0150010 quoting reference URN/07Z2. [Back](#)

## PEOPLE

### Home Countries ministerial appointments

Linda Fabiani MSP has been appointed Minister for Europe, External Affairs and Culture in the new Scottish government. In this cabinet role, she is responsible for Europe, external affairs, culture and the arts, architecture, built heritage, Historic Scotland and lottery funding, major events strategy and Gaelic. See [www.scottishexecutive.gov.uk/About/Scottish-Cabinet](http://www.scottishexecutive.gov.uk/About/Scottish-Cabinet)

Carwyn Jones has been appointed to the Cabinet post of Minister for Education, Culture and the Welsh Language in the new Welsh Assembly Government. He will be responsible for: education (from early years to further and higher education); skills; Welsh Language, sport and the arts. He was Environment, Countryside and Planning Minister. See [new.wales.gov.uk/news/presreleasearchive/1477807/?lang=en](http://new.wales.gov.uk/news/presreleasearchive/1477807/?lang=en)

Edwin Poots has been appointed Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure in the Northern Ireland Executive. He was Chairman of the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee of the Centre which oversaw the workings of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and a member of the Assembly's Environment Committee in the 1998/2003 Assembly. See [www.dcalni.gov.uk/news\\_details.htm?newsRef=467](http://www.dcalni.gov.uk/news_details.htm?newsRef=467) [Back](#)

### London 2012 appoints Head of Culture

Keith Khan was announced as the new Head of Culture for the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games at the end of April. He will be responsible for the four year UK-wide Cultural Olympiad that starts after the Closing Ceremony of the Beijing 2008 Games. Keith Khan's previous experience includes roles as Director of Design Ceremonies at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester and Artistic Director for the Queen's Golden Jubilee Commonwealth celebrations. He will take up the position in June, from his role as Chief Executive of Rich Mix, East London's cultural and heritage centre. [Back](#)

### New Conservation Adviser for Victorian Society

The Victorian Society welcomes Heloise Brown, who will be responsible for advising on planning applications affecting Victorian and Edwardian buildings of quality in the south of England and Wales.

After a degree in art history specialising in architectural history at the Courtauld Institute, Heloise went on to study for an MSc in the conservation of historic buildings at the University of Bath. Whilst studying, she volunteered for a conservation architect as a researcher, a role which required close engagement with the challenges of working with historic buildings. She takes over from Dr Kathryn Ferry, who leaves to pursue a career writing and lecturing on architectural history. [Back](#)

## EVENTS

### Westminster Exhibition: The British Slave Trade

The bicentenary of British Parliamentary abolition of the slave trade is to be marked by Parliament with an exhibition in Westminster Hall (with its magnificent hammer beam roof). The exhibition will be open to the public, free of charge until 23<sup>rd</sup> September. *The British Slave Trade: Abolition, Parliament and People* tells the story of the pressures and events both at home and abroad which influenced Parliament and led to the passing of the Act to abolish Britain's slave trade in 1807. Linked to the exhibition, you can download map and/or audioguide *The Road to Abolition* from <http://www3.westminster.gov.uk/abolition/> and take a walk around Westminster buildings connected with events and individuals involved in the campaign to abolish the British slave trade. For details of opening hours and security visit [http://www.parliament.uk/what\\_s\\_on/exhibitions/slavetrade.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/what_s_on/exhibitions/slavetrade.cfm) [Back](#)

### Sites of Memory: Slavery and Justice 24<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> September

English Heritage's major exhibition at Kenwood House explores the building's connections with the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade through Lord Mansfield, the former owner of the house. Visitors will also find out more about Dido Belle, Mansfield's great niece, the daughter of an enslaved African woman raised by him at Kenwood. Guided tours daily at 2pm. For further information visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk/abolition](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/abolition) or call 020 8348 1286.

This is just one of the fascinating bicentenary connections between the slave trade and places at English Heritage Sites of Memory webpage <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.17483> listed under *The Slave Trade and Plantation Wealth, Black Slaves and Abolitionists*. [Back](#)

### Refugee Week at 19 Princelet Street: 17<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> June

To mark Refugee Week in London, 19 Princelet Street in London's Spitalfields will open free every day from 17<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> June from 12-5pm. The house is an international historic site of civic engagement, the only one of its kind in Europe.

Founded by refugees, the charity is run by volunteers of all ages, cultures, religions and backgrounds working together to preserve this special kind of museum, exploring issues of immigration, inclusion and identity and raising a target of £3 million to open the house to everyone on a regular basis in future. To find out more see [www.19princeletstreet.org.uk](http://www.19princeletstreet.org.uk). [Back](#)

### Loire Valley Wines Open Garden Squares weekend: 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> June

The London Parks and Gardens Trust is opening over 160 of London's 'secret' gardens to the public with the help of volunteers on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June. One ticket gives access to all the participating garden spaces and there will be opportunities to sample a range of Loire Valley wines at selected gardens. Tickets can be purchased for £6.50 at the gardens and squares listed on [www.opensquares-loirevalleywines.org](http://www.opensquares-loirevalleywines.org) [Back](#)

### Opening Doors, Opening Minds: Oxford, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June

*Opening Doors, Opening Minds* is organised by Oxford Preservation Trust in partnership with Oxford University and supported by the HLF. Part of the Oxfordshire 2007 millennium celebrations, the weekend celebrates the city's built heritage with over 25 sites and buildings opening their doors with special events and activities. At Oxford Castle a mediaeval fayre will take the site back to an earlier age and drama workshops will run in the Castle gardens. On Sunday the Castleyard will be the starting point for a series of walks around the city exploring themes from architecture and literature. Young musicians from the County Music Service will give a concert in the amphitheatre of the Said Business School on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Tickets are free and can be booked on 01865 280533. For further information on the weekend's events visit [www.openingdoorsopeningminds.org.uk](http://www.openingdoorsopeningminds.org.uk) [Back](#)

### DOCOMOMO-UK: Prefabricated Houses: 26<sup>th</sup> June,

Professor Colin Davies of London Metropolitan University will talk about the Modern Movement aspiration to prefabrication of the home as seen in the work of Le Corbusier, Jean Prouve, Konrad Wachsmann, Albert Frey - and Buckminster Fuller. His book *The Prefabricated Home* was published in 2005.

At the Gallery, 70 Cowcross St, EC1, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. Admission £5.00, members and students £3.50. Email bookings to [dsharp@sharparchitects.co.uk](mailto:dsharp@sharparchitects.co.uk) or call Philip Boyle on 020 7253 6624. [Back](#)

### Asmara - Africa's Secret Modernist City

The rich, modernist heritage of the Eritrean capital Asmara is introduced in an exhibition which explores its historical social context, its architecture and special culture, and the problems and challenges resulting from the city's function as a capital and the ever increasing pressure to expand. Sponsored in part by the World Monuments Fund in Britain.

Please note that this exhibition will run from 3<sup>rd</sup> July - 18<sup>th</sup> August, a correction from Update 114. Open Monday to Friday 10am-6pm & Saturday 10am-5pm at Gallery One, RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London, W1B 1AD. Admission free. [Back](#)

### SITUATIONS VACANT

#### Yorkshire Wildlife Trust: Senior Conservation Officer (Planning)

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust seeks to appoint a Senior Conservation Officer. Conservation policy experience and planning expertise will be central to the role, and applicants able to demonstrate how their experience could protect and enhance a diverse range of habitats, from inner city urban greenspace to open moorland, coastland, rivers and wetlands.

Salary £20,500 plus pension. Contact YWT for an application pack on 01904 659570, email [info@ywt.org.uk](mailto:info@ywt.org.uk) or see [www.ywt.org.uk](http://www.ywt.org.uk) Closing date 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Interviews on 11<sup>th</sup> July.

#### Stone Masonry Trainee: Traditional Building Skills Bursary Scheme

A bursary of up to £15,000 is available for a 52-week long training placement to develop masonry conservation skills, focusing on sandstone masonry, fixing and repair and working within Historic Property Restoration Ltd based at various sites throughout the North of England.

Candidates should illustrate in their applications the will and ability to work toward gaining an NVQ Level 3 Heritage Skills in stone masonry. Similar experience in a building craft and proven ability to work to required standards, outside and at heights will be of great benefit to the application. Download the full description and application pack from [http://www.buildingbursaries.org.uk/applications\\_pack.html](http://www.buildingbursaries.org.uk/applications_pack.html)

Return completed forms to Clara Willett, Bursary Scheme Manager, Traditional Building Skills Bursary Scheme, PO Box 1179, Tring, HP23 6WR. E-mail [clara@buildingbursaries.org.uk](mailto:clara@buildingbursaries.org.uk) by 6<sup>th</sup> July.

#### IFA Workplace Learning Bursary: based at the National Monuments Record, Swindon

Applications are invited for an HLF-funded IFA Workplace Learning Bursary with English Heritage based at the National Monuments Record. The post offers training in project-related work and key skills relevant to working in professional archaeology at local and national level. The projects will include a high profile partnership web project, the Heritage Gateway, and research and enhancement of monument records.

Candidates should hold a relevant honours degree or equivalent experience, and have some experience of working within the heritage sector. Good communication and IT skills, ideally including some GIS experience, are sought. There may also be an opportunity to apply the experience from this placement towards a vocational Qualification in Archaeological Practice.

Salary: £14,270 (pro rata). Starting August 2007, 6 months fixed term. To apply contact [recruit.swindon@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:recruit.swindon@english-heritage.org.uk) quoting reference J/026/07. Closing date 15<sup>th</sup> June with interviews 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### LB Richmond: Arcadia Project Officer

London's Arcadia is the largest open space of its kind in London covering the stretch of the Thames running from Teddington beneath Richmond Hill to Kew. Following a successful bid to HLF an opportunity has arisen to take forward a plan implementing 122 projects inspired by the Thames Landscape Strategy, valued over £3.0m. For this post, management and communication skills are essential as well as the practical skills necessary to ensure sensitive implementation of landscaping schemes. The post holder will support the Project Manager in all aspects and specifically take forward the project's volunteer elements. Although located within the Council the post will report to an Executive Committee including partner organisations. The post is fixed-term to December 2008.

Salary: £27,084-£28,578. To apply download an application form at [www.richmond.gov.uk](http://www.richmond.gov.uk) or contact HR Recruitment, Tel 0208 891 7884 Email [recruitment@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment@richmond.gov.uk) Closing date 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

### The British Library: Oral History Archive Assistant, London

A part time vacancy is available for an archive assistant to support the National Life Stories Administrator in this British Library section's key oral history archive collection.

Duties will include processing incoming oral history interviews, handling digital recordings and paper documentation. This may include records administration, correction of transcripts and creation of concise catalogue entries, as well as maintenance of computerised records for the online catalogue CADENSA (Sirsi-Unicorn). Appropriate training will be provided. Further administration, meetings, conferences and training courses will also be part of the post.

Salary £20,800 per annum pro rata (£80 per day of 7.5 hrs). Send a CV and letter of application to Mary Stewart, National Life Stories, The British Library Sound Archive, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB. Email [mary.stewart@bl.uk](mailto:mary.stewart@bl.uk) Closing date 8<sup>th</sup> June.

### Geffrye Museum: Assistant Education Officer

Energetic, enthusiastic educators are invited to apply for this post which will deliver teaching sessions mostly to primary and secondary school groups and support the museum's public programme. The museum specialises in the history of English, middleclass domestic interiors. Excellent computer, communication and organisational skills, a good degree and a PGCE or teaching experience are essential. Experience of working in a museum or gallery is highly desirable. Occasional weekend working will be required.

Post initially to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 with the possibility of extension. Salary: £18,600 pa.

To apply download the full information pack at <http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/aboutus/jobvacancies/> Closing date 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

### Think Place: Student Placement in urban design

Think Place is an urban design practice currently working on projects in the UK, Ireland, Romania and India. A placement is available for a highly motivated Urban Design or Architecture Part I or Part II Student who wants to work in a small team. Good AutoCAD and communication skills are essential.

The placement will offer involvement in projects of different sizes ranging from small masterplans to concepts for entire villages and cities. For further information contact Thomas Karcher on 020 7613 4647 or email your CV to [thomas.karcher@think-place.co.uk](mailto:thomas.karcher@think-place.co.uk)

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