

Heritage Link Update 134

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.

28th March 2008

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Heritage Link's *Access All Areas* now a Cultural Olympiad Major Project

At a cross-sector meeting on 3rd March Ian Lush, Deputy Chair of Heritage Link, was able to confirm that *Access All Areas*, the project which Heritage Link has been developing on behalf of the whole sector over the last nine months, has been accepted on to the list of Major Projects in development for the Cultural Olympiad.

This is a highly significant development, placing heritage and the built environment firmly alongside the performing and visual arts, museums, film and other cultural projects in the four-year celebration of the UK's culture leading up to the London 2012 Olympics. Bill Morris and Fran Hegyi from the London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) spoke at the meeting and endorsed the collaborative approach of Heritage Link, and its plans for UK-wide activity. The ideas will now be developed in partnership with LOCOG and sector partners, and a Project Co-ordinator is also being appointed - see below for more details.

Organisations interested in taking part in *Access All Areas* who were not able to attend the meeting on 3rd March and have not already been in touch should, in the first instance, email Ian Lush:

ian.lush@ahfund.org.uk

LOCOG has also announced that it is now accepting proposals for exceptional one-off projects to use the newly-launched *Inspired By* mark as part of the Cultural Olympiad: for more details, see the London 2012 website www.london2012.com [Back](#)

VAT: European Commission consultation to 12th May

The European Commission has just launched an online consultation on the review of the existing legislation on VAT reduced rates, based on the study commissioned from Copenhagen Economics (see Heritage Link Update 133). Heritage Link will be responding through its Funding Working Group.

The consultation includes the question of whether the temporary provision of reduced rates of VAT should be made permanent or should be abolished altogether after a long period of repeated extensions. Another important point for the heritage sector is whether the possibility for Member States to apply reduced rates should be extended to similar services not currently included in the present provision, with specific reference to the repair, restoration and maintenance of cultural heritage and historical monuments (see pages 5, 7, 11 and 12 of the consultation document).

The deadline for responding to this consultation is 12th May. For further information and how to respond visit http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/consultations/tax/article_4850_en.htm [Back](#)

The future of Building Control: CLG consultation to 10th June

Prompted by the challenges of climate change and the proposed number of new homes, the building control system needs to work more effectively. This CLG consultation seeks views on proposals to change the building control system in England and Wales.

Government aims to promote a shared vision for building control that is understood by all participants. This vision needs to meet realistic customer expectations for the service, meet the construction industry's needs and ensure high levels of compliance and low levels of burden. The proposed changes will address weaknesses in the current system, as identified by users of the system and the building control industry.

These proposals fall into the following five areas: developing a vision for building control; establishing a better approach to the way regulations and guidance are delivered; modernising inspection and enforcement; providing alternative routes to compliance; and enabling improved performance and capacity.

Responses to this consultation must be received by 10th June. CLG is also seeking views on the Consultation Impact Assessments, particularly to help gather the evidence needed to underpin the proposals. For further information and how to respond see

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/futurebuildingcontrol> [Back](#)

Scotland: consultation on marine historic environment to 30th May

A draft Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) paper invites views on Scottish Ministers' policies for the marine historic environment. It also sets out for consultation proposals for new legislation to protect the marine historic environment in Scotland, following publication by DCMS's White Paper Heritage Protection for the 21st Century.

The consultation paper can be found at http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep_marine-3.pdf

Responses should be returned by 30th May to hs.shep@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or SHEP on the Marine Historic Environment, Historic Scotland, Room 2.9, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH or by fax to 0131 668 8987. [Back](#)

Scotland: Scheduled Monument Consent policy launched

Following consultation in 2007, policy on the consent process for Scotland's 8,000 Scheduled Monuments was launched by Scottish Ministers on 17th March. The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) sets out government policies on works affecting scheduled monuments - archaeological sites, buildings and structures of national importance.

Malcolm Cooper, Chief Inspector at Historic Scotland, said 'The policy document sets out the principles that underpin the consent process. There are many misconceptions about scheduled monuments and, particularly about the way that change to the monuments is managed. The aim of the SHEPs is to deliver policy in a transparent way, so that people can understand what we do, and why we do it. These monuments are of great cultural and historical importance and Historic Scotland's remit is to ensure that

they receive the most appropriate treatment. The Consent process is flexible and produces long-term sustainable solutions for individual and unique sites and places.'

Further details and links at <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/news-full-article.htm?articleid=28168> [Back](#)

Budget 2008: Gift Aid

In his Budget statement on 12th March the Chancellor announced a series of measures to drive up levels of giving through Gift Aid. The most important is the transitional tax relief worth around £300 million to the sector over three years to help mitigate losses from the reduction in the basic rate of income tax, announced last year and due to come into force next month. From 6th April, Gift Aid claims will be paid at a transitional rate of 22% in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11. Gift Aid remains at 28 pence for every £1 donated through Gift Aid. There is an HM Treasury background note defining this change at <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/budget2008/bn52.pdf>

This year's Budget also announced measures on; auditing and record keeping; guidance and awareness; and support for small charities. Reforms to the auditing process set a *de minimis* error level of 4% below which charities with claims of less than £2500 each year (2/3 of claimants) will not be penalised for errors in record keeping. Charities will be allowed to repair errors at audit before the error rate is extrapolated across the Gift Aid claims. Changes to the record-keeping and claims process will allow charities to aggregate donations under £10 in claims up to a total of £500. HMRC will also develop a framework setting out the option to destroy enduring Gift Aid declarations after 6 years.

The Government will also continue to work with donors and charities to develop understanding of donor behaviour and use that to inform further thinking about Gift Aid.

For further information and links see

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080312_budget.aspx [Back](#)

Gift Aid: support for small charities

A new Gift Aid web information service will be made available through www.direct.gov.uk/giftaid together with the development of a Gift Aid toolkit containing tools and guidance to run a successful Gift Aid scheme. The Office of the Third Sector (OTS) is supporting HM Treasury on work to increase levels of Gift Aid, with a particular focus on supporting smaller charities to access the scheme.

In response to calls for targeted guidance and support, OTS is providing new funding to the Institute of Fundraising over the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review years to extend the tax effective giving initiative. This funding will support the development of a training programme marketed to and focused on charities with less than £1 million turnover and a new online Gift Aid Mentoring Forum, giving organisations access to a network of experienced professional fundraisers and practitioners.

As part of the wider package to improve guidance on Gift Aid and to encourage the use of Gift Aid by smaller organisations, OTS is also publishing new guidance on a scheme whereby local infrastructure organisations may be able to act as umbrella charities, channelling donations and claiming Gift Aid on behalf of a number of local organisations.

Further details on these measures are at http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/giving.aspx [Back](#)

New Tricks with Old Bricks: cut VAT to tackle climate change

Reusing and refurbishing old buildings could save more carbon dioxide emissions than building environmentally friendly new ones over the short term, according to research. A report by the Empty Homes Agency (EHA) has called for measures including a lower rate of VAT to facilitate the reuse of empty buildings in a bid to tackle climate change.

The report compared three newly built with three refurbished homes, calculating for each the 'embodied' CO₂ given off during the building process and the 'operational' carbon dioxide given off through day-to-day energy consumption. The research found that reusing empty homes could make an initial saving of 35 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per property by removing the need for the energy locked into new build materials and construction. Over a 50-year period, this means there is almost no difference in the average emissions of new compared with refurbished housing.

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from new homes fall into two distinct sources: 'embodied' CO₂ given off during the house building process, and 'operational' CO₂ given off from normal energy use in the house

once it is occupied. The new homes each gave off 50 tonnes of embodied CO2. The refurbished homes each gave off 15 tonnes. Well-insulated new homes eventually make up for their high embodied energy costs through lower operational CO2 but it takes several decades - in most cases more than 50 years.

Empty homes in England provide an opportunity to create 150,000 new sustainable homes. If the rate of VAT on repairs and renovation had been 5% instead of 17.5%, it would have cut the average cost of refurbishment by approximately £10,000 for each house. Many house builders claim that new homes are four times more efficient than older houses. This study shows that refurbished houses can be just as efficient as new homes.

The British Property Federation (BPF) has backed the EHA's call for the 17½% rate of VAT on repairs and renovation to existing buildings and to align this with new build (which is currently exempt). The BPF also supports calls for councils to be incentivised to bring empty homes back into use through planning and delivery grants.

The report can be found at

<http://www.emptyhomes.com/documents/publications/reports/New%20Tricks%20With%20Old%20Bricks%20-%20final%2012-03-081.pdf> [Back](#)

Developers should face land banking tax says RTPI

Developers that are slow to build homes and shops on land for which they have already gained planning permission should be taxed to discourage them from manipulating the property market, according to the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

A report by the RTPI revealed that house builders have banks of land with planning permission of close to 14,000 acres, enough for 225,000 new homes. However, despite having this resource at their disposal, in January the number of homes being started by developers fell by 39 percent year-on-year. The RTPI believes the Government must step in to reverse the slide or face the prospect of failing to meet its housing targets. RTPI is calling on Chancellor Alistair Darling to introduce a Land Banking Levy to act as a new weapon with which to discourage developers from deliberately putting off construction for their own financial benefit.

For further information see <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/1547/23/5/3> [Back](#)

New Government Funding for Planning Aid

Planning Aid funding will be almost doubled to £3.2m this year, allowing it to increase the service it provides. Planning Aid, which provided planning advice and support to more than 38,000 individuals and groups last year, was created specifically to help those on benefits, pensioners, low income households, small charities, voluntary and community groups and some types of tenants' organisations with planning issues.

Planning Aid complements the work of local authorities but is wholly independent of them. London and each English region has its own Planning Aid service, sponsored by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and coordinated by Planning Aid England and Planning Aid for London. Each year support is provided nationally to over 745 organisations and support has been provided to almost 38,000 individuals. The service is supported nationally by over 600 professionally qualified volunteers.

For further information see <http://www.planningaid.rtpi.org.uk/> [Back](#)

IPPR: *Britishness, Heritage and the Arts*

The think tank, Institute of Public Policy Research (ippr), hosted a debate on *Britishness, heritage and the arts* on 4th March.

The event explored the role of the arts and heritage sectors in addressing these issues. It asked whether local and national cultural institutions such as museums and galleries have a responsibility to promote social cohesion; if there is a trade off between promoting shared national identities and embracing cultural diversity, or whether the two go hand in hand; and what the practical implications of this agenda are for those working in the arts and heritage sectors and those responsible for delivering community cohesion on the ground.

Speaking at the event, Margaret Hodge MP, Minister for Culture, said 'cultural sectors offer the chance to create the kinds of safe public spaces where we can explore difference, ask the awkward questions, test

the boundaries or simply satisfy that healthy curiosity about those who don't look like us. And Government's role is to provide those places, to ensure that people have access to them and to defend them when they are under threat or when they take risks.' She also said she wanted to see cultural institutions as venues for citizenship ceremonies, enabling people to associate their new citizenship with key cultural icons. Her keynote speech was followed by a panel discussion with contributions from actor and playwright Kwame Kwei-Armah, Chief Executive of English Heritage Simon Thurley, and Sandy Nairne, Director of the National Portrait Gallery.

For the text of the Minister's speech see <http://www.ippr.org/events/?id=3008> [Back](#)

DCMS and LGA set out improvement strategy for culture and sport

A Passion for Excellence jointly published by DCMS and Local Government Association is about supporting local government as 'leaders of place', working with their local partners to deliver better outcomes, to improve the quality of life locally and to improve the delivery of cultural and sport services to local people.

It sets a framework for improvement in the culture and sport sector and includes the mechanisms and tools to support self-improvement. It also clarifies the respective roles and responsibilities in delivering the strategy of all the major stakeholders in the culture and sport sector, in line with the National Performance Framework and the National Improvement and Efficiency Strategy.

A Passion for Excellence can be downloaded from <http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/CBDCC1D5-8984-41A1-AFD8-C6ECD15C21BF/0/apassionforexcellence.pdf> [Back](#)

Unlocking Local Treasure: LGA and Museums Association

Museums and galleries are so much more than tourist attractions and have an important role to play in supporting the work of local authorities. This publication, produced by the Local Government Association in partnership with the Museums Association, is aimed at helping elected members and non-specialist staff in local authorities to make the most of the very valuable assets they already own.

It explores the benefits that a well-managed museum or gallery collection brings to a local authority and local people. Museum collections have important roles to play in supporting the work of local authorities. They are places of public education, both formal and informal, school age as well as lifelong learning. They can also provide a powerful means for local authorities to connect with new and diverse communities whose stories are often untold or overlooked, unappreciated and unexplored.

Museums and galleries can make a significant contribution to the creative industries, providing opportunities for artists through employment and exhibitions, and delivering education programmes, as well as providing inspirational source material for their own work.

The leaflet can be downloaded from <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/aio/337576> [Back](#)

Museums' Association: Disposal Guidelines Published

The Museums Association has reviewed its ethical advice for museums on the disposal of items from their collections. Changes to the guiding principles on disposal in the MA's Code of Ethics were agreed at the MA's Annual General Meeting on the 22nd October 200. The changes that have been made reflect the need for museums to ensure their collections are well managed, actively used and sustainable but inevitably it has prompted fears that local authority museum artefacts may be sold to meet budget gaps.

The new ethical advice on disposal allows for and encourages museums to take a more active approach to appropriate disposal, whilst ensuring safeguards are in place to protect collections and public trust in museums. The changes have now come into effect and a new printed version of the Code is now available at <http://www.museumsassociation.org/ma/10934>

A disposal toolkit has also been produced as part of the Effective Collections programme to provide detailed advice and guidance for museums on how to undertake responsible disposal. This can be downloaded from http://www.museumsassociation.org/asset_arena/text/it/disposal_toolkit.pdf [Back](#)

Beyond the Pillars: environment ngos propose CAP reform

A coalition of environmental groups has set out radical proposals for the transformation of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). In *Beyond the Pillars*, Wildlife and Countryside Link, Heritage Link's

counterpart for the environment, envisages a revolutionary shift of purpose for the CAP budget. Link proposes replacing the CAP with a single European Sustainable Land Management Policy. Existing farm support payments would be phased out and replaced with support for positive land management. Refocusing support on environmental objectives could help underpin profitable farm businesses and prosperous rural communities.

The Common Agricultural Policy is divided into two pillars. These are effectively two different funding streams. The first pillar is made up of direct payments to farmers, which in the UK is known as the Single Payment. Farmers who receive the Single Payment must ensure they adhere to a set of EU Directives and other legislation and environmental management requirements known as cross compliance. The second pillar is made up of funding for rural development measures, known in England as the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). It includes green farming schemes and funding for economic and social measures that contribute to rural development objectives. As well as the RDPE having some core funding, money is also transferred, or in technical terms 'modulated,' from Pillar I of the CAP to Pillar II for rural development measures. The amount of money transferred is set by the EU at a certain percentage. The UK Government voluntarily transfers extra funding from Pillar I to Pillar II to fund rural development measures including important green farming schemes.

Link fears that unless the CAP is transformed, money for farmers and land managers to enhance landscapes, wildlife, woodlands and historic environment will dry up. Despite a shift away from supporting 'production at any cost', farmers who want to look after wildlife and the environment are not given sufficient financial incentives. Link seeks a radical re-orientation of European land management away from the previous confusing concept of financial support for different purposes to a unified approach that will protect and restore wildlife and habitats; protect and enhance historic environment, landscapes and woodlands; ensure the sustainable use of limited water and soil resources; help mitigate and adapt to the challenges arising from climate change; and ensure the secure and sustainable production of animal welfare friendly food and other commodities.

Beyond the Pillars can be found at

http://www.wcl.org.uk/downloads/2008/Link_Beyond_the_Pillars_11Mar08.pdf [Back](#)

National Trust: land management and climate change

A new report published by the National Trust *Nature's Capital* urges the public and private sector to invest new money in helping to deliver major public benefits from land, including reduced risk of flooding and tackling climate change.

Recommendations in the report are based on the Trust's own practical experience as the largest non-governmental landowner in the UK, managing over 250,000 hectares. The report contains four key recommendations for action. The water industry should invest in land management to improve the quality of drinking water at source rather than continue energy intensive treatment processes to make drinking water quality acceptable for consumers. More of the Government's £800m flood risk budget should be spent on managing land in a way that makes space for water rather than just spending the money on hard engineering and flood defence. The use of 'carbon markets' should be extended to provide financial incentives for investment in land based carbon, such as peat bogs, to reduce losses of carbon from soil. Finally more NHS and Primary Care Trust funding should be allocated for green exercise prescriptions in the outdoors.

To download *Nature's Capital* go to http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-natures_capital.pdf [Back](#)

EH Guidance: *Protected Wreck Sites at Risk*

This Risk Management Handbook describes a draft methodology to be adopted by English Heritage, contract archaeologists, Licensees and others engaged in the risk assessment and risk management of England's Protected Wreck Sites. The methodology is developed from the Scheduled Monuments at Risk pilot project undertaken in the East Midlands during 2001-2. The revised Handbook is designed to help users achieve a consistent approach to the risk assessment of wreck-based archaeological sites, whether designated or not.

Protected Wreck Sites at Risk can be found at <http://www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/Wreck-Sites.pdf> Further information on Protected Wreck Sites is available from www.english-heritage.org.uk/maritime [Back](#)

HLF grant to Thames foreshore

Thames Estuary Partnership have been awarded full funding by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) with £421,500 for the Thames Discovery Programme (TDP), a three year project to investigate the longest archaeological site in London before it is washed away by the tide.

The Thames Discovery Programme is a collaborative project run by the Thames Estuary Partnership and the Thames Explorer Trust, with support from the Museum of London, English Heritage and the University College London. The Thames Estuary Partnership and the Thames Explorer Trust will direct volunteers to conduct an archaeological survey of the river foreshore, monitor 20 sites of particular interest, set up a website and blog, run community events and hold an annual forum to discuss and disseminate each year's findings.

The work will provide opportunities for up to 75 volunteers, work placements and school visits. A travelling exhibition show communities how the project works and display some of the artefacts uncovered. The public will also be able to get involved directly in the work of monitoring specific sites by joining the Foreshore Recording Observation Group, or FROG. Their ongoing discoveries will be posted on the specially created website in the so-called FROG blog.

For more information see http://www.thamesweb.com/news_story.php?news_id=201 [Back](#)

£6million for volunteering

Phil Hope, Minister for the Third Sector, on 7th March published the Government's response to the Commission on the Future of Volunteering report, *Manifesto for Change*. In it the Government accepts the majority of the Commission's recommendations and backs this up with £6million new investment. The Minister commented 'The Government is committed to opening up volunteering opportunities for people in all parts of society because it gives so much to the community and so much to the volunteer'

A £6million package of investment will pay for training for volunteers and volunteer management as well as a £2m volunteering fund for disabled people. The measures are in line with recommendations put forward by the Commission on the Future of volunteering. The government has also agreed to produce guidance to help avoid unnecessary criminal records checks being carried out, to improve coordination of volunteering by civil servants, and to support existing events to promote volunteering. But it rejected the Commission's idea of a cabinet minister for volunteering and said there was no need to invest further in local volunteering infrastructure because it already has a programme in place.

The Government's response can be seen at http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/upload/assets/www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/government_volunteering_response_final.pdf The Commission on the Future of Volunteering is an independent body established by the England Volunteering Development Council to develop a long-term vision for volunteering in England as a legacy of the Year of the Volunteer 2005. For further information see: <http://www.volcomm.org.uk/> [Back](#)

Charity Commission's revised guidance on campaigning

The Charity Commission has published revised guidance on campaigning. Although there has been no change in the law, the revised guidance now gives charities that want to campaign greater confidence and clearer advice on the law. Particularly, the guidance clarifies that campaigning and political activity are entirely legitimate activities for charities; that political activity is allowed, provided it is not the sole activity of a charity indefinitely, but party political activity is not permissible; and charities should recognise the importance of their independence when working with politicians and political parties.

For the guidance go to <http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/publications/cc9.asp> [Back](#)

Call for Entries for the Channel 4 Awards 2008

Entries are now being sought for the Channel 4 Awards 2008, part of the British Archaeological Awards www.britarch.ac.uk/awards/, which are made every two years for various achievements in the field of archaeology. There are two categories of Channel 4 Award: Broadcast programmes (including radio for the first time this year as well as television) and ICT projects (websites, technology-based site or museum displays, online publications/services, CD-ROM or multimedia packages, etc).

Entries may deal with any aspect of archaeology, including industrial archaeology. To be eligible, entries must be British-produced and have been completed or broadcast between 1st June 2006 and 31st May

2008. Entries should be submitted as early as possible and by 31st May 2008 at the latest. The winners will be announced at a presentation ceremony to be held at the British Museum on 10th November.

Members of the archaeological community are invited to vote by e-mail for one radio and one television programme from the list of titles on the BAA website, or suggest additional programmes using the nomination form. Website/multimedia developers and radio/television producers can use a separate form to enter their own works direct.

Further details and guidelines for submission are available on the British Archaeological Awards website <http://www.britarch.ac.uk/awards/> and the BUFVC website <http://www.bufvc.ac.uk/c4awards/>. In case of queries, contact Sarah Howell on 01992 554962, e-mail: robertkilntrust@btconnect.com or Cathy Grant on 020 7393 1507, e-mail: cathy@bufvc.ac.uk [Back](#)

Trainee administrator internship at Lamport Hall

The Trustees of Lamport Hall created this internship in 2007. Their intention is to give the intern a broad overview of the management and organisation of an historic house on a country estate. The internship would be particularly useful for those with an interest in the history of the country house or art history and wishing to pursue a career in the wider heritage sector. Applicants will probably be in possession of a heritage related postgraduate qualification.

The intern is involved with all aspects of opening the Hall and grounds to the public including events, weddings, lectures, etc as well as marketing and general administration during the closed season. The Intern is expected to enter fully into life at Lamport Hall and to work with the Executive Director and his staff at all levels. Computer literacy is essential. The intern will also spend occasional days at other properties, where this can be arranged.

On site accommodation is available in addition to an educational grant of £500. The internship is for one year only commencing Summer/Autumn 2008. For further information see <http://www.lamporthall.co.uk/internship.pdf> To apply send a full C.V. with covering letter to The Executive Director, Lamport Hall, Lamport, Northampton, NN6 9HD or email admin@lamporthall.co.uk [Back](#)

Two new members for Heritage Link

Heritage Link welcomes two very different heritage organisations this week. The Vintage Motorcycle Club aims to encourage the ownership and preservation of historic motorcycles and other similar vehicles and to foster and encourage the preservation of related records.

B'nai B'rith, the UK arm of the European Jewish cultural heritage organisation has also joined Heritage Link. Taking an active role in Heritage Open Days and the European Day of Jewish Culture and Heritage, it offers opportunities to explore Anglo-Jewish history through opening up synagogues, trails and guided walks, exhibitions, lectures and other events. [Back](#)

PEOPLE

New Year Honours 2009

DCMS requests help in identifying potential candidates for the 2009 New Year Honours. Secretary of State Andy Burnham says 'it is important to recognise those people who work behind the scenes who have given up huge amounts of time and energy over many years and whose help and dedication is crucial to the success of our sectors'.

He is keen that recognition should also be given to underrepresented groups, women and ethnic minority groups, so that the honours list is an accurate reflection of UK society.

If you have queries or would be interested in meeting members of the Honours team to discuss nominations, contact the Honours Secretary Pat Le-Bruin on 020 7211 2313 or Stephanie Legg on 020 7211 2314. Completed nomination forms (available from pat.le-bruin@culture.gso.gov.uk) should be returned by 30th April. [Back](#)

New Director of Culture at DCMS

Mick Elliott, currently Chief Executive of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, has been appointed as the new Director of Culture at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. Formerly Chief Executive of the Heart of England Tourist Board and Chief Executive of West Midlands Arts, Mr Elliott, who is also

Associate Cultural Director of Liverpool Capital of Culture, will take up his post in June. He takes over from Alan Davey who is now Chief Executive of the Arts Council. [Back](#)

Trustees for new interpretation centres for Jurassic Coast WHS

Two new interpretation centres are to be established in Exmouth and Smeaton to promote knowledge and understanding of the Jurassic Coast and the wider environment to local communities and visitors with a key educational role.

Trustees are sought with knowledge of the local area, conservation and heritage but also legal, financial, marketing and management expertise.

For an information and application pack contact or leave a message for Tracey Guiry at tguary@eastdevon.gov.uk or 01395 516551. Deadline 4th April. [Back](#)

EVENTS

London Parks & Gardens Trust Winter Lectures 2007-8

On 7th April, Mireille Galinou will lecture on *The Making of St John's Wood: Living the Garden Dream* at the Museum of Garden History Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7LB. 7-8 pm (6.30 for a glass of wine)

Tickets: LPGT members and Museum Friends £6.00 (season tickets £36.00), others £7.00 (season tickets £42.00) from the London Parks and Gardens Trust, c/o The Store Yard, St James's Park, London SW1A 2JB (telephone 0207 839 3969) or at the door. [Back](#)

Energy Efficiency in Historic Buildings 24th and 30th April

The Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation is holding two one-day conferences, one in Plymouth and one in Bristol to demonstrate ways of improving the energy efficiency of old buildings, making them warm, dry and comfortable inside without harming their character or creating problems for the future.

After a reminder of basic building physics and the performance of traditionally constructed buildings, English Heritage will present the findings of recent research into improving the energy efficiency of historic buildings. Other speakers will provide practical advice about the methods, materials and systems suitable for insulating historic buildings and for improving the thermal performance of historic windows.

Conference dates and venues are 24th April at The Sherwell Centre, Plymouth University and 30th April at St Georges, Bristol. Cost will be £95 for members (£85 for early booking) and £130 for non-members (£120 for early booking). For further details see www.ihbc.org.uk/events.htm [Back](#)

Catholic Bishops' Conference: Looking to the Future 24th April

This year's Historic Churches Committees Conference takes place on 24th April at the Wheeler Hall, St Anne's Street, Leeds LS2 8BE.

Speakers include John Minnis, whose new book, *Religion and Place in Leeds*, has just been published. Sarah Brown will outline English Heritage's emerging policy for churches in the wake of last year's Inspired! Campaign which led directly to an increase in funding for the churches' sector and Andrew Derrick will report on the progress of the *Taking Stock* projects which are being jointly funded by English Heritage. Andrew will focus on the review of churches in the Diocese of Middlesbrough. In the afternoon, the focus is on Leeds Cathedral itself with a guided tour.

For further details and bookings email Tricia Brooking at triciabrooking@dsl.pipex.com [Back](#)

The Association of Gardens Trust Conference: 25th April

The recently ratified European Landscape Convention is now an important and integral management tool for the planning, conservation and evolution of the urban, periurban and rural landscapes of the United Kingdom. The Convention, its structure, strategies and implementation, is under discussion at this AGT conference *Crossing Boundaries* on 25th April 10.00 am – 4.30 pm at the Geological Society Lecture Theatre Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. The Keynote speaker will be Lucinda Lambton.

For bookings visit www.gardenstrusts.org.uk [Back](#)

Bulgarian Archaeological Association (BAA) tours and summer school

The Bulgarian Archaeological Association, dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and to the protection of the archaeological resources, organises tours with a strong archaeological, historical, and cultural emphasis as an introduction to a variety of Bulgaria's most important sites. A Roman fieldwork project this summer will incorporate a research excavation for young people at three different archaeological sites (Roman fortress, roman villa and the biggest roman town in the region). For further details about BAA Tours and summer school visit <http://www.baa-tours.archbg.net>
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International Building Conservation Conference: the repair of old buildings 21st May

This full day event, which RICS are supporting, will take place on 21st May at the University of Dundee and will focus on the use and repair of stone, lime, brick, the structural repair of timber, paint and lead. There will be case studies looking at how specialist techniques are put into practice in standard building contracts, as well as the opportunity to share knowledge with colleagues from both home and abroad.

The full delegate fee for the event is £98.00 plus VAT with a special rate of £34.00 plus VAT available for students and concessions. Full details about the programme and speakers on the day, as well as information about how to book, is available at www.rics.org/conservationconference [Back](#)

The Architecture of Death: 22nd May

Dan Cruickshank will give a talk for the Mausolea and Monument Trust on 22nd May at the Art Workers Guild, Queen Square, London WC1N 3AR, (talk starts 7.15, doors open 7pm) on *The Architecture of Death - from Ancient Egypt to 19th Century Italy*. His new series for BBC2 is a history of architecture, with a story divided into themes. One is Death - the architecture and rituals of death - Hatshepsut's Mortuary Temple in Egypt, Maya at Yaxa and Day of the Dead in Guatemala, the cremation ghats and temples at Varanasi, an ossuary and chapel at Selec in the Czech Republic and the Staglieno Cemetery in Genoa.

Tickets are very limited and are on a first come first served basis - at £15 including a glass of wine - please contact Leanne Targett-Parker parkerls@yahoo.co.uk [Back](#)

North East Heritage Skills Fair: 11-13th July

This fair, the biggest heritage skills event of its kind in the region, will include an array of exhibitors, demonstrators, talks and presentations. The event is being marketed to a wide range of key groups including contractors, industry professionals, period homeowners and the local public.

Exhibitors are invited to display across the entire weekend (Friday/Saturday/ Sunday 10am until 4pm) for £150 if you register before Wednesday 30th April. Bookings after this date will be charged the full rate of £250.

If you are interested in demonstrating your trade to the public, you could hold a stall for the entire weekend for free. Preference will be given to those who will allow visitors to have a go.

For more information or to register to be an exhibitor or demonstrator contact stephanie.celino@nect.org.uk or andie.harris@nect.org.uk or call 0191 232 9279. [Back](#)

The Oxford Conference 2008: 50 Years On - Resetting the Agenda for Architectural Education

In 1958 the first Oxford Conference set an agenda for architectural education that has been followed for 50 years. *50 years on, The Oxford Conference 2008* aims to reset that agenda and develop a routemap for architectural education for a new and radically different century.

It brings together the major stakeholders for a series of forums and workshops on the following issues: Buildings and the Environment; Sustaining Studio Education in a Climate of Change; Human Habitat and Social Responsibility; Refurbishment and Evidence Based Education; Research into Teaching Courses; Urban Design and Sustainable Cities; Schools and Professional Views; Materials and Renewable Energy; Virtual Building and Generative Design; Design Research; and Courses and Curricula.

The Oxford Conference 2008 will take place 22 – 23rd July at the Examination Schools, University of Oxford. For more information and bookings see www.oxfordconference2008.co.uk A reduced fee is available to delegates registering before 30th April. [Back](#)

Open House weekend: 20-21st September

London's biggest architectural festival provides an opportunity to experience buildings firsthand, to understand architecture and the urban fabric. This year over 600 architectural activities are already planned.

Ideas are invited regarding the programme of participating buildings or suggestions for buildings that might be included. Contact Jeni Hoskin on 020 7383 2131 or email hsasaki@openhouse.org.uk The Buildings Guide for 2008 will be available from mid August through www.openhouse.org.uk [Back](#)

SITUATIONS VACANT

Heritage Link: Cultural Olympiad Project Co-ordinator part time

A project co-ordinator is wanted for Heritage Link's Access All Areas Cultural Olympiad project, see [above](#).

Applications are invited to be the Project Co-ordinator of Access All Areas, the major heritage and built environment project for the Cultural Olympiad. The post is for three years initially, but may be extended for a further term through to the end of 2012; for 2008-09 it will be for two days a week, rising to three days from April 2009 and full time from April 2010. Reporting to Heritage Link's Deputy Chair, Ian Lush, the position will be based in Heritage Link's office in Vauxhall, although consideration will be given to candidates who wish to spend some time working from home. Some travel in the UK will be expected.

Candidates should be educated to degree level, with excellent office skills, experience of project work in the cultural sector and ideally a good knowledge of the heritage and built environment sector. Salary £25,000 pro rata in years one and two. Further information and job description available from Kate Pugh kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk To apply, please send a cv. and covering letter (no longer than two A4 pages) to Kate Pugh by email, or by post to Heritage Link, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP; closing date Friday 11th April.

English Heritage: Head of Social and Economic Research

Based in the policy team, the post holder will take charge of preparing Heritage Counts www.heritagecounts.org.uk the annual report on the state of the historic environment in England and deliver a range of other research and advocacy projects aimed at demonstrating the wider benefits that the historic environment brings to everyone.

Salary c£40,000- £42,000pa inc London weighting. For a fuller job description and to apply visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs Closing date 13th April. Interviews 25th April.

English Heritage: Historic Environment Advisor

The regional team based in Guildford is committed to ensuring that the historic environment is high on the regional agenda. A vacancy has arisen for a motivated professional who can help promote the role of the historic environment in the life of the South East.

A knowledgeable and dedicated professional is required to help secure the conservation of heritage through casework and promote historic environment initiatives in the South East Region.

The postholder will provide specialist advice to local planning authorities, developers and others on the historic built environment, conservation-led regeneration projects and planning policies applied to the historic environment. A detailed knowledge of the historic environment and the planning policies applied to it, combined with excellent communication, negotiation and influencing skills are essential.

Salary c. £35,000 per annum, based in Guildford. Three year fixed-term contract. For more information and to apply, visit www.englishheritage.org.uk/jobs CVs not accepted. Ref 198. Closing date 9th April 2008. Interview dates: 23rd & 24th April.

The Landmark Trust: Education Officer, part time

The Education Officer will manage all Landmark's learning and access initiatives, encompassing developing educational programmes, recruiting schools and colleges to participate in programmes and promoting audience development from all areas of the community. The successful candidate will need a related degree and at least one comparable role working in a relevant field such as educational provision, teaching, museums, historic visitor attraction.

1 year contract, part time (3-4 days per week). Salary £20,000 - £22,000 per annum pro rata. Closing date 14th April. For a full job description and to apply complete the application form at www.landmarktrust.org.uk

Southwark Cathedral: Cathedral Archaeologist

The Cathedral Chapter wishes to appoint a Cathedral Archaeologist as its professional adviser on all matters for which it has archaeological responsibility as required by The Care of Cathedrals Measure 1990.

Applicants should hold graduate or post-graduate qualifications in archaeology or a related subject; have proven experience in the study and understanding of historic buildings, in particular with regard to church archaeology; be able to organise and carry out small-scale programmes of archaeological recording and excavation; and be conversant with legislation which impinges on archaeological work. The post-holder will be required to attend meetings of the Fabric Advisory Committee which take place four times a year, usually in the afternoons.

For further details and application form call 020 7367 6726 or email matthew.knight@southwark.anglican.org Closing date for applications 25th April. Interviews 20th May.

Council for British Archaeology: Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) Communications Officer (Fixed Term - Maternity Cover)

The Council for British Archaeology (CBA), based in central York, is seeking to appoint a keen and enthusiastic person to provide a minimum 10 months maternity cover for the YAC Communications Officer. The main task of the Officer will be to produce regular issues of the Young Archaeologist magazine, but there will also be work on developing the Club website. Candidates should ideally have experience of writing for children. A proven interest or background in heritage would be desirable.

Salary c£20k pa (pro rata) plus pension contribution. Applications should be sent to Don Henson, Head of Education & Outreach, CBA, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York YO30 7BZ. Tel 01904 671417, fax 01904 671384, email donhenson@britarch.ac.uk Closing date 14th April. Interviews 21st April in York.

National Museum Directors' Conference: Administrative Assistant

An opportunity has arisen for an administrative assistant to work within the Secretariat of the National Museum Directors' Conference. The postholder will gain understanding of the UK's national museums and galleries and will be working at the most senior level.

The NMDC Secretariat office (currently based at the Victoria & Albert Museum) handles the day to day business of the conference and provides effective administrative support in managing NMDC projects, committees and campaigns, which will involve being in regular contact with staff from across the UK's national museums and related organisations.

Demonstrable experience in a similar administrative role is a must including organising meetings and events and managing electronic diaries and contact databases. Knowledge of and an interest in museum and cultural sector issues would be an advantage. For further details go to

<http://www.nationalmuseumjobs.org.uk/job/163/>

HLF Grants Assistant (2 Maternity Cover posts)

HLF is looking to recruit two maternity cover post holders providing administrative support for the processing of grant assessments, post project monitoring and grant payments. These posts will be for an initial six month period with the possibility of an extension up to twelve months in total.

Salary £13,800 - £18,440 based in the Manchester Office. To apply on line please visit our website www.hlf.org.uk or telephone 020 7649 6037 for an application pack. Closing date for applications is 7th April and interviews will be held on 15th April only.

Heritage Link: part time book keeper

Heritage Link seeks a one day a week bookkeeper to maintain and prepare accounting records for management information and to support the Treasurer and Secretary to the charity.

Candidates should have proven experience of bookkeeping and be familiar with computerised accounts and payroll. Experience of Simply Books accounting software desirable but not essential.

£10ph, one day a week based in Heritage Link's office near Vauxhall Station, London SE1. To apply, please send your cv, outlining experience to date, to Kate Pugh, The Secretary, Heritage Link, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP or by email to kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk Closing date 14th April. Interviews w/b 21st April.

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1. We are grateful to Chris Blandford Associates for sponsorship of Update. Chris Blandford Associates (www.cba.uk.net) is a multi-disciplinary consultancy specialising in the sustainable planning, design and management of the historic and natural environment.

2. It is estimated that Heritage Link Update reaches about 9000 mailboxes in the UK and beyond.

3. If you would like to be included in the circulation list for Heritage Link Update or if you would prefer to receive Update as an attachment which means that the internal links will work whatever your settings, please email mail@heritagelink.org.uk

4. If you wish to use or quote from items in Heritage Link Update, you should always check the accuracy and current position with the source. Heritage Link cannot guarantee the accuracy of, or accept any responsibility for, the contents of Update.

5. Subscription policy:

Update is sent to anyone on request and is then forwarded extensively through email networks. By popular request from individuals, agencies and commercial companies who cannot formally join Heritage Link as members but wish to support Heritage Link and its work, the following subscription rates are recommended:

Individual subscription: £25.00pa (cheques preferred, payable to Heritage Link; for address see 6 below).

Corporate subscription:

- For forwarding to less than 50 mailboxes £150.00pa
- For forwarding to more than 50 mailboxes £500.00pa
- For forwarding to more than 1000 mailboxes £1000pa

The subscription for formal membership for voluntary bodies concerned with the historic environment is £100.00pa. For enquiries, please contact the Secretary at Heritage Link.

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