

Heritage Link Update 143

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.

1 August 2008

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Please note the next issue of Heritage Link Update will appear on 22 August.

Select Committee Report blasts government over Draft Heritage Protection Bill

The Culture, Media and Sport Committee published its Report *Draft Heritage Protection Bill* on 30 July drawing on more than seventy submissions and two oral evidence sessions in its Inquiry.

Although the Committee confirms the heritage sector's in-principle support, it starts with a telling summary of reservations. Severe criticism of the Government over the incomplete nature of the legislation despite seven years of preparation; over the assessment of resources to implement the Bill in both the short and longer terms; about specific reforms notably provision for Heritage Partnership Agreements; and over the lack of any review of enforcement measures.

The Committee has listened carefully to the sector to bring out a series of 11 tough recommendations. First of all, the Government must maintain its commitment that CLG will be an active participant in the passage of the new legislation. It criticises the delay in revising Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs 15 and 16). The sector, it says, should also have the opportunity to comment on the complete package of reforms – so as well as prioritising the revision of planning policy guidance, the Government should set out a complete schedule of the remaining legislation. All major concerns voiced by Heritage Link and others.

Much of the report examines the resources issue. The Committee rejects the Minister's 'cost neutral' verdict. 'Given the volume of evidence the Committee received questioning the accuracy of the current quoted cost of £1.72m', it welcomes the review of cost implications being carried out by Local Government Association, DCMS, CLG and others which was expected to report at the end of July. 'We strongly recommend that the Government ensures that the revised impact assessment gives a more realistic estimate of cost' and 'The Government must heed the warnings from the sector that an inadequately resourced Bill could be a backwards step for heritage protection'.

The Report can be found at <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmcmds.htm> *Heritage Link Update* will publish a round-up of reactions from the sector on 22 August, so let us have your opinion/press releases by email to mail@heritagelink.org.uk by 18 August. [Back](#)

Select Committee calls for a clearer context for the voluntary heritage sector

The Committee uses the Report to identify shortfalls in the Bill. It draws welcome attention to the need for clauses to foster preventative maintenance and on local designation. There are areas to improve and clarify, for example the clauses relating to Class Consents and over statutory definitions such as 'national importance', 'fixtures and fittings', and 'special interest'.

And most welcome is the call for greater involvement of the voluntary heritage sector. The Committee recommends a clearer context for the involvement of the voluntary sector (including local civic and amenity societies, historical and archaeological groups) and museums 'by incorporating the word 'organisations' as well as individuals into the category of those with special knowledge or interest to assist heritage authorities'. This specific amendment was put forward by Heritage Link.

The Report goes on to recommend a review of the role of National Amenity Societies to ensure they continue to be notified of applications to demolish heritage structures not only of cases of new designations and their role in Heritage Partnership Agreements. A review of the role of DCMS Historic Ships Unit is called for as well as a review of appropriate buffer zones for World Heritage sites where Conservation Area designation is not appropriate. [Back](#)

CMS Committee finds DCMS and English Heritage comments 'astonishing'

Well aware from its 2006 Inquiry that over 90% of the task of managing the UK's built and archaeological heritage is borne by local authorities, the Committee took deep interest in the evidence on the present and future provision of Conservation Officers. Given conflicting evidence from the Local Government Association and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation on one side and DCMS and English Heritage on the other, the Committee doubted the Minister's assertion that 'it looks as if we will be alright for 20 years on the age profile we have got'.

The Committee concludes 'We find the comments by DCMS and English Heritage that there is unlikely to be a shortage of conservation officers in local government astonishing'. The Committee urges the Government and English Heritage to reconsider their approach to this matter, confirming that Conservation Officers in sufficient numbers and with adequate training will be critical to the successful implementation of the Bill 'We recommend that the Government sets out a strategy for maintaining sufficient numbers of Conservation Officers with the necessary skills'.

The Committee is also to be commended in recognising that training needs extend well beyond the legislative reforms themselves, to councillors, planning officers, administrators and other specialist professionals. It recommends that the Impact Assessment should be revised to provide greater clarity on who will receive training as part of the reforms to be introduced in the Bill. [Back](#)

Draft Heritage Bill: what next?

The Government is expected to respond within 60 days from the date of publication unless there is an agreement with the Committee that it can have longer, so the Government's response should be out by the end of September/beginning of October.

Before then the Government is expected to report on its 'rapid review of the cost implications' in mid August; The National Trust is also convening a round table discussion to examine the evidence on skills and resources in early September. DCMS and English Heritage are working on the review of Planning Policy Guidance with input from the sector. EH is also working on the Implementation Programme which is expected to be published in September.

Heritage Link is now looking into funding a Heritage Bill post 2008-9 to create sufficient capacity to monitor the Bill and amendments as it passes through Parliament, to brief Parliamentarians and, drawing on the expertise in the Heritage Link membership to keep them and others fully informed.

And at last, now their Report has been published, the evidence to Select Committee is in the public domain. Heritage Link's response can be found at <http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/2008/07/31/heritage-links-response-on-the-draft-heritage-protection-bill/> and others will be posting theirs on their websites. Those who submitted evidence are listed at the end of the Committee's Report.

Finally, a reminder that the deadline for responses on the Conservation Areas Clauses is 1 August (to andrew.lewis@culture.gsi.gov.uk). Heritage Link's response, drawn up through the Planning Working Group and welcoming the proposed framework for more positive management of Conservation Areas can be found at <http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/2008/07/31/heritage-links-response-on-conservation-areas/> [Back](#)

Commons Debate raises economic regeneration as criteria for listing

While the Select Committee's report was in preparation, a House of Commons debate on 15 July revealed rank and file MPs' attitudes to heritage protection. Ann Coffey MP for Stockport, speaking first welcomed the Heritage Protection Bill but warned 'We must not let our desire to cherish and protect the past jeopardize building for future generations'. This and subsequent contributions are all the more alarming in that they underline how much work will be needed to help parliamentarians understand the purpose of designation in advance of the major debates on the Heritage Protection Bill next year.

Continuing this theme and in line with the Minister for Culture's own views, Mrs Coffey would like in addition to architectural or historic value of the building, 'other subsidiary criteria such as economic regeneration plans debated and taken into consideration before a recommendation is made to the Department... for a building to be designated or listed'. Her argument based on redevelopment plans for Stockport College confirms however that what is needed is better list descriptions to identify what is of special interest on a mixed site. Andrew Dismore MP for Hendon concurred with an example in his constituency 'When a building is listed, all the attendant hassle can be counterproductive in preventing us from preserving our wonderful heritage.'

Fraser Kemp for Houghton and Washington East proved an unexpected champion. 'In what is a fast moving world, particularly for young people, listing and our industrial heritage provide a compass point'. 'The pit heaps and other traces of our industrial past may have gone, he continued ' but what lives on through communities is the sense of comradeship and belonging, and the values that were strong in years gone by'.

Minister for Culture Margaret Hodge made an agreeable statement about the value of heritage in building identity, cohesion, a sense of community and strong communities but then she made a thinly veiled criticism of English Heritage. 'I have felt ...that all too often those who are immersed in the world of heritage protection have a distinct view that does not relate to the views of many other people with other interests in society'. She also raised another of her own issues: the listing of buildings 'of relatively recent construction'.

The Hansard text is at

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm080715/debtext/80715-0015.htm#0807163000004> [Back](#)

CLG Report on Planning Services ignores conservation skills

The Commons Communities and Local Government Committee published a report on labour shortages and skills gaps in the planning sector. It warns that there is a significant risk that that government targets for house-building and regeneration will be missed because the local government planning system is unable to manage the volume or variety of tasks required between now and 2020. For the report visit <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmcomloc/517/51702.htm>

These findings add to woes over staffing and training for heritage protection services. The Institute of Building Conservation lamented the failure of the CLG committee inquiry on planning skills to recognise conservation needs. Dr O'Reilly, IHBC Director said 'Whilst we welcome the committee's focus on planning skills, the absence of any mention of conservation skills – essential for delivering 'heritage at

the heart of planning' – is scandalous. It flies in the face of the high profile historic buildings and places now have in planning at both national and local level. The IHBC's own research has shown that 1 in 5 planning authorities don't have their own skilled specialist conservation staff. Skills challenges for conservation professionals in all specialisms, including planning, have never been higher.'

'Research from ConstructionSkills, the sector skills council for the construction industry, has reported that over a third of specialist practices report difficulties in recruiting professionals. Salaries are falling in real terms, even before the credit crunch, adding further pressure on an already over-stretched sector. At the same time DCMS wants to devolve to our planning authorities more direct management of our valued places. If these are not skills issues for planning, I don't know what are. And if it still doesn't register on the committee's radar, then maybe we should have a new committee'.

For the IHBC's press release visit: www.ihbc.org.uk [Back](#)

Proposed Changes to PPS 6: Planning for Town Centres consultation, deadline 3 October

This consultation on revisions to Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 6 follows the commitment in the Planning White Paper *Planning for a Sustainable Future* to review the current approach in PPS6 to assessing the impact of proposals outside town centres, in a way which maintains a strong focus on Town Centre First policy, and which promotes competition and improves consumer choice.

It suggests replacing the current needs test for shops with an impact test, though it is unclear whether it will introduce a competition test to prevent stores from opening in towns where they already have a high share of the market. An appeal with the Competition Appeal Tribunal against a competition test has been launched by Tesco.

To view consultation documents visit

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/pp6consultation> [Back](#)

SAVE publishes new register of Buildings at Risk

SAVE Britain's Heritage has published its latest register of Buildings at Risk in England and Wales. *Cherish or Perish?* is SAVE's 19th annual report within a series which has inspired many individuals and heritage organisations over the years. This year's publication features more photographs than ever before and the hand book size format makes it genuinely portable.

Over 160 new buildings (mostly Grade II and unlisted) are featured, all of which are vacant and in urgent need of a new use or a new owner. Candidates for rescue include sixteenth century farmhouses, Victorian warehouses, towers, stables and even a public convenience!

The publication is available for £12 (incl. p&p) from SAVE Britain's Heritage, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ or call 020 7253 3500 for further information. [Back](#)

Report reveals increasing inequality in rural areas – *State of the Countryside 2008*

The Commission for Rural Communities (CRC) has published the *State of the Countryside 2008 report*, the tenth report in the series providing the definitive picture of rural England. Whilst there are many advantages to living and working in rural England, there remain some significant challenges. The quality of life may often be better in rural areas but this is not the case everywhere and for everyone. The latest report highlights a rise in households living in poverty in rural England and a growing inequality between remote rural areas and other parts of the countryside.

Dr. Stuart Burgess, Chairman of the CRC said 'The series of State of the Countryside reports provides a unique opportunity to reflect on the changes taking place in rural England, look forward to what the future might hold for rural communities, and to reflect on what aspects have remained important since the report was first published in 1999.'

For more information and to visit visit to:

<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/projects/stateofthecountryside2008/overview>. To take part in the surrounding discussion visit <http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/discussion/showPosts/intItemId/3289> [Back](#)

EFRA Select Committee publish Draft Marine Bill: Coastal Access Provisions

The Government must put in place 'concrete safeguards' to protect landowners from right-to-roam plans for the coastline, MPs have said. The draft Marine Bill includes proposals to improve routes for walkers around England's coast and would add around 1,400 miles of new or improved coastal paths. In the report the Commons Environment, Food and Rural Affairs committee called for safeguards for businesses, farmers and coastal landowners.

It described as a 'fundamental weakness' the lack of an independent appeals process for landowners objecting to the route. And while it acknowledged the economic, health and social benefits of increased coastal visits, it claimed that the Bill did not balance the rights of public and private landowners.

The Historic Houses Association has welcomed the report of the House of Commons' Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee which has agreed with the HHA's demands that further safeguards are needed for coastal landowners and businesses before a coastal path can be created.

HHA Assistant Director, Frances Garnham, said 'The HHA urges the Government to implement in full the recommendations of the Committee to ensure that the draft Marine Bill recognises and respects the rights and responsibilities of land and property owners. Whilst we agree that access to Britain's coast is a highly valued public asset, solutions must not threaten the livelihood of coastal businesses or the rights and responsibilities of land managers and private dwellers on whom the long-term future of this environment depends'.

To view report visit <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmenvfru.htm> [Back](#)

Green spaces lead the way in heritage and conservation

Seven hundred and forty three green spaces across the country, all accessible to the public, have received a Green Flag Award - the national standard for quality parks and green spaces. Of those, 42 have also received Green Heritage Site Accreditation, which is sponsored by English Heritage to promote best practice in the understanding, care, upkeep and promotion of green spaces that are of heritage interest in England.

John Watkins, Head of Gardens and Landscapes at English Heritage, said 'Green Heritage Site Accreditation shows that a park's history has been understood and is considered in the way that the park is used by the local community. Historic open spaces provide a link with the past, a resource for learning, a space for community events, and help to create a sense of pride in our shared heritage. Receiving Green Heritage Site status is an excellent way to create community interest in a site's local heritage, to draw attention to the importance of that heritage and to show that it has a long-term future.'

Winners can be viewed at <http://www.greenflagaward.org.uk/> [Back](#)

The Charity Commission consider new public benefit statement competition

The Charity Commission is considering introducing a competition for the best public benefit statement on charities' annual returns after a suggestion made at its open board meeting last week. A provision of the Charities Act 2006, requiring charities to report on how their activities have contributed to public benefit, comes into effect at the end of the current financial year.

The Charity Commission board also discussed plans to introduce examples of public benefit reporting into its example accounts and reports. Board member Andrew Purkis suggested the examples should be formulaic and address each point of the commission's public benefit guidance.

The updated example accounts will be published by the end of the year.

For more information visit <http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/channels/Policy/Article/834491/Charity-Commission-discusses-public-benefit-competition/> [Back](#)

Birmingham University to lead new Third Sector Research Centre

Birmingham University will lead a new Third Sector Research Centre dedicated to analysing the impact of the sector's activities. Working in partnership with the University of Southampton, the centre aims to bring about a step change in the quality and quantity of hard evidence available to support the work of third sector organisations.

It is to be funded by the Office of the Third Sector (OTS), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Barrow Cadbury Trust. The Centre will receive an investment of £10.25 million to create research capacity for charities, social enterprises and small community organisations. It will lead research and analysis into the effectiveness and impact of third sector organisations; strengthen the evidence base on the entire sector and enhance our understanding of the sector's size and dynamics.

Supporting the work of the Third Sector Research Centre will be two capacity building clusters (CBCs), based at the University of Middlesex and the University of Lincoln, with the CBC in Middlesex focusing specifically on social enterprises. The CBCs will provide both the next generation of high quality researchers and will be a resource for the sector. They will develop activities such as studentships, Knowledge Transfer Partnerships, Third Sector placements and an innovative voucher scheme designed to allow Third Sector organisations to 'buy in' academic expertise.

For full statement visit

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080709_birmingham.aspx [Back](#)

Institute for Volunteering Research Publish New Research Bulletins

The Institute for Volunteering Research have published a number of research bulletins: Volunteering to Lead: a Study of Leadership in Small, Volunteer-led Groups; Working in Volunteer Management and the Impact of Public Policy on Volunteering in Community - based Organisations.

The first study Volunteering to Lead: a Study of Leadership in Small aimed to explore issues of leadership within small, volunteer-led groups and the challenges associated with their growth and development. It researched six volunteer-led groups in two geographical locations in England. The groups were drawn from the environmental and conservation, cultural and heritage, and sports fields.

The study found that these groups function, and are led, in ways that can be very different to those found within larger volunteer-involving organisations with paid staff. It also found that while such groups can be highly effective at what they do, they can experience numerous challenges, including the need to guard against becoming exclusive.

To view all three research bulletins visit <http://www.ivr.org.uk/whats-new.htm> [Back](#)

Call for heritage education providers to nominate

This Engaging Places Schools Codevelopment Network Project together with the QCA is a key component of the Engaging Places strategy and aims to bring around 20 schools and learning providers together, through a series of workshops, to think about how we maximise the opportunities new curriculum approaches offer to help young people learn using the built environment.

The QCA are looking to identify a wide range of schools (primary, secondary, special) and a variety of learning providers (heritage organisations, architecture centres, museums/galleries, arts organisations) to build a national network of schools who can become centres of excellence for built environment education.

The project is calling for suggestions of 1 or 2 schools, that individuals will be working with in the Autumn and Spring terms, which would be strong candidates to take part and could generate case studies of heritage and built environment education 'next practice' to be disseminated nationally.

The project will involve a series of 3 workshops over the Autumn and Spring Terms.

The first event is expected to be held the first week after the autumn break in November 2008. The final network participants and the schedule and content of workshops are expected by 26 September. For more information about the project and signal your interest contact Louis Moreno, lmoreno@cabe.org.uk [Back](#)

New IFA membership application procedure and updated Applicants' Handbook

The IFA has revised the Applicants' Handbook and related documents to make the process more straightforward and transparent, and to ensure that all professionals within the historic environment feel able to apply. The new process concentrates on competence rather than experience.

Applicants with an NVQ in Archaeological Practice will be able to 'fast-track' their application, as holding the NVQ already proves technical competence. It is hoped that this changed emphasis and revised handbook will make the process of joining the IFA easier for all historic environment professionals.

For more information or an application pack telephone 0118 378 6446 or email admin@archaeologist.net or visit <http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=31>
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Young Archaeologist of the Year Award 2008 Judges Announced

September 1 is the deadline for this year's Young Archaeologist of the Year Award 2008 entries. This competition is organised by the Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) and is open to young people in the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man between the ages of 8 and 16 years old (there are three categories; 8-11, 12-16, and groups). Every year the challenge has a different theme, this year's being archaeological illustration.

The individual category (both age groups) will be judged by Time Team illustrator Victor Ambrus. The group category will be judged by Roger Bland, Head of Portable Antiquities and Treasure at the British Museum.

The winners of the Individual categories will be given their awards at the British Archaeological Award ceremony on the 10th November which is being held at the British Museum. For more information visit http://www.britarch.ac.uk/yac/yac_awards.html [Back](#)

New Heritage Partnership manage the Sandford Award

The Heritage Education Trust in a new partnership with Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln will be managing the judging and awarding of the prestigious kite-mark for quality in heritage education, the Sandford Award.

Bishop Grosseteste University College has a well regarded BA degree programme in Heritage Studies and a new Masters degree in Heritage Education. Both programmes have a strong vocational flavour with live projects and placements that give graduates a head start in their heritage careers. They also run an International Archaeological Field School each summer. Head of Department Jean MacIntyre said 'The Sandford Award have helped to reward excellence and raise standards nationally so we are thrilled to be a part of their future. Our expertise in the field of heritage, education and training should help us to extend both the scope and scale of the Awards in the years to come.'

For more information about the Sandford Awards contact Gareth Fitzpatrick on 01536 515731 or e-mail: het@boughtonhouse.org.uk. For more information about the courses at Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln e-mail j.c.macintyre@bishopg.ac.uk [Back](#)

The Penicuik House Project – traditional construction skills

Penicuik House is situated on the western outskirts of the town of Penicuik, about 10km to the south of Edinburgh. Penicuik House has stood as a ruin for over 100 years. The Penicuik House Preservation Trust, in partnership with the Scottish Lime Centre Trust, plans to consolidate and preserve this important historical structure, making the building and certain surrounding areas and landscape features available for the public to enjoy.

A major aspect of the project is the range of training opportunities in traditional skills that will be available which has attracted funding from a wide range of sources including Historic Scotland, the Heritage Lottery Fund, and the Architectural Heritage Fund. The programme of events, courses and demonstrations will include practical courses for building contractors, seminars, lectures and CPD training for building professionals. Opportunities will also exist for volunteers, schools, community groups and other interested parties.

For further information about the Penicuik House Project and the heritage training opportunities available visit www.penicuikhouse.co.uk [Back](#)

The Civic Trust for Wales calls for entries for the Welsh Local Design Awards

The Welsh Local Design Awards celebrate good design in a local context. The awards are organised by the Civic Trust for Wales in partnership with the Institute of Historic Building Conservation, Disability Wales and Cadw, the historic environment service of the Welsh Assembly Government.

Nominations may come from civic societies, local disability groups, amenity societies, similar organisations or professionals from across the built environment working in their local communities.

Further details can be found at the following link:

www.civictrustwales.org/local_awards/awards08/index.html [Back](#)

Perth College MSc in Interpretation: Management and Practice

A collaboration between senior interpretive practitioners and academics, the MSc Interpretation: Management and Practice course at Perth College provides relevant postgraduate study opportunities for those working in the natural, heritage and museum sectors.

Delivered online, the programme offers students the flexibility to study at home or at work, with the option to take individual modules as CPD or follow an individual programme of study to achieve postgraduate certificate (PgCert), postgraduate diploma (PgDip) or master's degree (MSc) awards.

The programme includes a range of modules: Interpretation planning; Interpretation processes; Interpretive Media and Sustainable Tourism and Interpretation.

For further more information telephone visit www.interpretation.uhi.ac.uk/index.php [Back](#)

PEOPLE

Heritage Lottery Fund: East Midlands Committee Member

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) East Midlands Committee currently makes decisions on grants between £50,000 and £2 million and also provides a crucial regional perspective on larger grants of £2 million and above and on the funding priorities for the East Midlands. Members may also make on-site visits, meet people involved in 'making heritage happen' and represent HLF at a range of project openings and events.

HLF are now seeking to appoint one Member and welcome interest from people with diverse backgrounds and experiences who can demonstrate they can apply their skills to and have enthusiasm for the position. Applications are particularly welcome from individuals with knowledge and experience of the region's culturally diverse heritage or the region's significantly important industrial heritage, as both areas are currently under-represented within the Committee. Knowledge of Northamptonshire and/or Lincolnshire would also be advantageous.

The closing date for applications is 18 August 2008 with the appointment starting 1 November 2008. For more information visit www.hlf.org.uk or telephone 020 7591 6014. [Back](#)

Third Sector Advisory Body members appointed

Phil Hope, Minister for the Third Sector, has appointed the panel of the new Third Sector Advisory Body (TSAB). The new panel members bring experience from the third sector and beyond. TSAB has been set up to provide ministers with clear and authoritative advice on policy regarding the third sector, including charities, voluntary groups and social enterprises. The TSAB panel also includes Lynne Berry OBE, Chief Executive, WRVS, Stephen Dunmore, Consultant & former CEO, Big Lottery Fund and Michael Kelly, Europe Head Corporate Social Responsibility, KPMG.

Phil Hope, Minister for the Third Sector, said 'The advisory body has a hugely important role in helping the Government make the right choices for a thriving third sector. I am confident their expertise experience and authority will prove invaluable in our drive to support the third sector and the increasingly important part it plays in society.' The Third Sector Advisory Body was a commitment of the Third Sector Review published in 2007. The appointments will be until March 2011.

For full press release visit

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/080701_advisory.aspx [Back](#)

New Welsh Heritage Minister Appointed

Alun Ffred Jones has been appointed the new Welsh Heritage Minister following the resignation of Rhodri Glyn Thomas. Jones was a Television director and producer for Ffilmiau'r Nant and, prior to that, he was a Welsh teacher and Head of Department and a journalist with HTV.

Alun Ffred Jones is the former Leader of Gwynedd County Council. He lists his main political interests as broadcasting, community development and the economy.

For more information visit <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/7520023.stm> [Back](#)

EVENTS

Welsh Heritage Fair, 1-5 September

The Welsh Heritage Fair organised by The Georgian Group is designed to complement their annual House Repair and Maintenance Summer School. The week-long event will include an exhibition and book launch. Experienced practitioners will provide illustrated talks and practical demonstrations on subjects such as: Building Historic Towns, Brickwork, Stonework, Plasterwork, Paint colours and Sash Windows.

On the opening night *The Forgotten Houses of Wales* will be launched: a new compendium of 'buildings at risk' by Michael Tree. A selection from The Georgian Group's collection of images of Welsh Country Houses, along with additional material from the Royal Commission will be on display.

The event will be held in the Bellevue Royal Hotel in Aberystwyth. The exhibition is free of charge. For further information contact Michael Bidnell on 0207 529 8928. [Back](#)

Dame Liz Forgan DBE/RSA Britishness Lecture, 9 September

In one of the forthcoming lectures planned by the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA), Dame Liz Forgan will address the identity issue.

Liz Forgan, Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund will argue that not only is a purely values-based concept of national identity too narrow to succeed, but that heritage has enormous power to bring communities together around disparate yet powerful ethnic links, provide a route into civic participation and foster a strong, inclusive national identity.

For more information and to book a place at this event visit <http://www.thersa.org/events/our-events/britishness-a-values-based-approach-is-not-enough> [Back](#)

IIC Congress 2008: Conservation and Access, 15 – 19 September

International Institute for Conservation (IIC) is holding its first event in London for over 40 years at the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, Westminster.

The Congress aims to enable people to see and enjoy art and heritage. The programme will examine the central role of conservation in the presentation and protection of the world's cultural heritage. It will explore the many ways that heritage professionals engage in this sharing worldwide, whether that involves people going to see that heritage or the heritage itself travelling the globe.

For more information and for booking visit <http://www.iiconservation.org/congress/> [Back](#)

Skeletons, London's Buried Bones, 23 July – 28 September

Twenty-six skeletons from the Museum of London's Centre for Human Bioarchaeology will go on display at Wellcome Collection, as part of a new exhibition that reveals what lies just metres beneath our feet. *Skeletons: London's buried bones* features a broad range of telling examples from a collection of 17 000 skeletons that have been archived and examined at the Centre over the last 30 years.

Each has its own tale to tell, and collectively they uncover 2000 years of history, increasing our understanding of how Londoners once lived, and providing insights into the health, diet, diseases and lifestyle of the deceased.

Tickets are free but must be booked in advance. For more information visit <http://www.wellcomecollection.org/press/2008/WTX048921.htm> [Back](#)

Townscape in Focus: challenges & opportunities, 8-10 October

In light of new legislation to manage the historic built environment, this conference organised by the English Historic Towns Forum aims to examine the agendas and the skills and tools which are essential to build heritage assets for a sustainable future.

The implications of the Heritage Protection Bill and the skills and sustainable agenda will be explored by a range of speakers including Harry Reeves, Deputy Director for Culture, DCMS and Steven Bee, Director of Planning and Development, English Heritage.

For more information visit http://83.170.75.16/event_pages/Lichfield_event.htm [Back](#)

CSV Make a Difference Day, 25 October

CSV Make a Difference Day is the UK's biggest day of direct volunteering for which around 125,000 volunteers get involved in activities ranging from transforming wasteland into community gardens to teaching IT skills. The campaign is about giving time instead of money to improve the lives of others.

Volunteers have the option of either setting up their own activities or searching for registered activities in their local area to get involved with using CSV Activity Locator.

To register either visit the website at www.csv.org.uk/difference or call freephone 0800 284533. [Back](#)

Churches Tourism Association 2008 Convention, 24-26 November

The Churches Tourism Association (CTA) Convention is inviting representatives of places of worship from all faiths to find out more about how they can encourage and welcome visitors. The Convention which is to be held at The Hayes Centre in Swanwick, also intends to be relevant to a wide range of tourism and heritage professionals, preservation trusts and local authorities, as well as existing faith tourism initiatives.

Confirmed Convention speakers include the Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport, Sir Roy Strong, Loyd Grossman, Chair: Churches Conservation Trust and Sophie Andrae, Patrimony Committee: Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales. Workshops will include How to raise funds by telling the building's story, How to get your place of worship known and Interfaith working in the North West.

Heritage Link Update readers quoting 'CTA/HL142' on their booking forms will be eligible for discounted rates on residential bookings for a special extended period until 1 September. For further details visit <http://www.churchestourismassociation.info> [Back](#)

SITUATIONS VACANT

We expect all organisations whose posts are advertised below to offer equal opportunity to all and to welcome applications from all sections of the community. [Back](#)

Placesofworship@heritagelink: Development Officer

Places of Worship the new forum for heritage organisations, based within the Heritage Link is looking for a dynamic individual to be the forum's first member of staff. The post holder will develop membership, communication and financial arrangement; support group meetings and respond to relevant policy issues and work with the All Party Parliamentary Group on Historic Churches and Chapels.

The successful candidate will be a self-starter with initiative, excellent interpersonal skills and strong administrative and ICT skills. Candidates could be from any sector with a keen interest in historic places of worship and their contribution to wider community goals.

The appointment is for two days a week with a fixed term contract of twelve months. The salary for this position is £10,000. Based in central London this position will have flexible working arrangements including both home working and attendance at the Heritage Link office. The deadline for applications is 11 August. For a full job description and application form email placesofworship@heritagelink.org.uk [Back](#)

The Ragged School Museum: Director

Known for delivering educational programmes about the life of the Victorian Poor, the Museum is about to embark on a programme of development and growth which will transform our potential to deliver living history to the community. The Trustees are seeking an enthusiastic and imaginative Director to guide this programme through to completion and beyond and to build on the Museum's already excellent reputation.

The successful applicant will have proven management and administrative skills, marketing and fundraising experience but most importantly will be able to motivate and retain staff and volunteers during a particularly demanding period.

This is a full time permanent position beginning 6 October, based on site at the Museum in Mile End, East London. The salary for this role is £27,500-£30,000 pa depending on experience. The deadline for applications is 22 August. For further information visit

<http://www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk/nextgen/about/jobs.shtml> [Back](#)

The Georgian Group: Caseworker

The Georgian Group is seeking to appoint a caseworker to join the team assessing development proposals affecting the Georgian heritage. The successful candidate will cover South-West and Central Southern England. They will be proactive, self-motivated and self-reliant and have a demonstrable knowledge of Georgian architecture. Strong analytical, written and oral communication skills are necessary. With the advent of e-planning, the Georgian Group are increasingly consulted electronically, so computer literacy and an ability to deal with online planning applications are also essential.

The job will require the development of strong contacts with local planning officers and heritage bodies and may involve contact with the press or appearance at public inquiries. Familiarity with the listed building control system would be an advantage. Site visits are an integral part of the job and a clean driving licence is required.

The deadline for applications is 1 September. The salary for this role is £21,000 (full-time, based in London). For more information visit www.georgiangroup.org.uk [Back](#)

English Heritage: Architectural Investigator

English Heritage seeks an Architectural Investigator. The post holder will play a key role in a small, busy team, researching and analysing historic buildings and areas. They will provide authoritative professional and specialist advice in the fields of architectural history and building and areas analysis. Although primarily based in our Cambridge office, they will be required to travel widely, which will include staying overnight.

Candidates should have a good degree or post-graduate qualification (or equivalent) in history, architectural history, buildings archaeology or a related discipline, and ideally some experience of academic publication. They will have a broad knowledge of architectural history with a special interest in one or more areas, as well as being accomplished in analysing buildings and areas and in undertaking primary research. Good team working and communication skills are essential.

The salary for this role is £24,652 pa. This is a temporary role for 12 months. The closing date for applications is 17 August. To find out more visit <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.18150> [Back](#)

English Heritage: Assistant Historic Buildings and Areas Adviser (East Midlands)

This is a rare opportunity to work with a wide range of respected historic environment specialists in this 'apprenticeship' position. The post holder will play an integral role in developing conservation policy and practice in the region, and in supporting the delivery of a broad range of statutory and grants casework. They will be supported by professional colleagues and will also be given the opportunity to attend relevant training events.

Candidates will already possess a degree and have specialist knowledge in Architectural History/Urban Design or a related subject, and will be visually aware with an aptitude for assessing the significance of heritage assets and developing solutions for heritage at risk. Naturally, they will have a solid background in the historic environment sector, and the ability to present the conservation case to professionals and the public. Although the post holder will be based in Northampton, they will spend the majority of your time on site around the region; therefore the ability to travel independently will be essential.

The salary for this role is c. £25,000 pa (three year fixed-term contract). The closing date for applications is 15 September. For more information visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs [Back](#)

National Trust: Regional Conservation Manager (North West)

The National Trust is seeking a natural leader to bring vision and influence to conservation in the North West. The successful candidate will take responsibility for every aspect of the Trust's conservation projects; from prioritisation and planning, right through to successful delivery. And as well as championing conservation within the Trust, they'll promote creative conservation to engage properties and supporters alike.

The post holder will operate at a strategic level to see that the best conservation disciplines are implemented across a range of projects and properties. A conservation management background will prove vital to success, as will first-class negotiation skills.

The closing date for applications is 22 August. The salary range for this role is £45,548 - £50,890 pa. For more information visit www.ntjobs.org.uk [Back](#)

National Trust: Greys Court Project Conservator

The National Trust is seeking a conservator for the Greys Court Project. The post holder will focus on Greys Courts collections and historic interiors, taking preventive and remedial action, offering specialist conservation advice and planning.

A relevant degree or equivalent would be ideal, although it's essential that candidates have experience as a conservator or in preventive conservation and collections care plus deep knowledge of their specialist subject. A professional accreditation as a specialist or preventive conservator is desirable.

The salary for this role is £25,037 - £27,510 pa (fixed-term until 31 March 2009). The closing date for applications is 31 March. For more information visit www.ntjobs.org.uk [Back](#)

Historic Scotland: Grants and Finance Officer

Historic Scotland seeks a Grants and Finance Officer. The post will be based in the Investment and Projects Team of Policy Group within Historic Scotland's Headquarters based at Longmore House, Edinburgh. The position will be split between: providing the Budget Liaison Officer role for the whole of Policy Group; and a public facing monitoring and assessment role for the grant aid given by the Investment and Projects Team to Local Authorities, the Voluntary Sector and individual homeowners. Finally there will be an external liaison role with local authorities and members of the voluntary sector in order to build relationships and maximise the impact of Historic Scotland's funding.

Excellent written and communication skills are essential as well as a sound analytical ability. The successful candidate will be experienced in budget management and accounting procedures as well as having an awareness of Government financial procedures.

The salary for this role is £16,126 - £18,126 pa. This post is a full-time, permanent position. The deadline for applications is 15 August. For further details email hs.recruit@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 0131 668 8641. [Back](#)

Church of England: Cathedrals Assistant

Supporting the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England (CFCE), the successful candidate will help it discharge its statutory duties relating to the care, conservation and development of cathedrals. They will also provide administrative support to the CFCE as well as advising cathedral authorities on procedural and technical matters.

Educated to degree level or equivalent in a relevant field, they will have knowledge and some experience of historical buildings conservation. Good communication skills are essential, and a post-graduate qualification in history of art and architecture, archaeology, conservation or heritage management would be desirable.

The salary range for this role is £28,480 - £32,270 pa (fixed term contract). The deadline for applications is 15 August. For further information visit www.prospect-us.co.uk/jobs [Back](#)

Notes and subscription [Back](#)

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 kate.jones@heritagelink.org.uk

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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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