

Heritage Link Update 150

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.

14 November 2008

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Diary Date: Heritage Link's Heritage Day – 3 December

Heritage Link's Heritage Day is now one of the biggest events in the heritage year. This year we are delighted that Jenny Abramsky, new Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund will give the keynote speech 'Our Heritage, Our Future'.

The day, at Hampstead Town Hall, starts with the AGM for Heritage Link members. This is followed by the networking lunch and the afternoon Heritage Debate which can be attended by all, including those from the voluntary sector, local and regional authorities, government agencies, elected members, professionals, site managers and students. A registration form is shortly be available on our website (www.heritagelink.org.uk). The deadline for registration is 26 November. [Back](#)

Minister's coded signals on Heritage Protection Bill

At the launch of Heritage Counts 2008 on 30 November, Andy Burnham made by far the strongest commitment to heritage heard from a Culture Secretary of State for some time. He talked of the historic environment as a vital expression of local identity; he understood the challenges facing places of worship and recognised the leading role heritage has played in social and economic regeneration over the last decade. He encouraged us to challenge those who believe that conservation is in conflict with modernisation. His speech is at

http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/minister_speeches/5603.aspx.

But optimism that the Minister was well able and personally committed to championing the Heritage Protection Bill was dashed by question marks over whether or not the Bill would appear in the Queen's Speech. He 'couldn't pre-empt the Queen's Speech' when 'new priorities have emerged with the turbulence in the financial markets', but he would continue to make sure the momentum for reform was sustained whether or not the Bill is included. Alarm bells rang.

The Minister confirmed that work on Planning Policy Statement 15 would continue and that DCMS was working with CLG and DEFRA on a 'clear vision for the historic environment' that would 'put heritage at the heart of the planning system'.

English Heritage was quick to brief its own staff: 'We believe that many of the objectives set out in the Heritage Protection White Paper could be taken forward by other means if a Bill were not to be introduced in the next session. A revised Planning Policy Statement, together with the continuation of the reform programme already underway, would achieve the key changes necessary for a more streamlined, simple and transparent heritage protection system'. [Back](#)

Heritage Protection Bill: what next?

Given the huge investment the sector has made in the Bill, this uncertainty is discouraging but not disastrous. Even if it is not named in the Queen's Speech or background information, it could appear under the catch-all phrase 'and any other measure that may be laid before you'. Postponement to the 2010-11 session would mean that further work could be reported on the impact assessment, heritage partnership agreement pilots studies. Cross party support means it could also go through under a change of government. There are many measures in the Heritage White Paper that do not require primary legislation and without legislation other means such as performance indicators could still be used to achieve objectives.

Heritage Link's Heritage Day on 3 December coincides with the Queen's Speech. By the afternoon when Jenny Abramsky, Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund, will be speaking, the outcome will be known. Heritage Link has offered DCMS the opportunity to address the audience and bring us up to date. [Back](#)

Planning Bill amendment to have special regard to heritage rejected

As the Planning Bill moves through Parliament, the Lords Report stage debate on 10 November raised yet more concern whether heritage was adequately protected.

Lord Howarth of Newport moved an amendment (64) to include a special regard for protected heritage assets in the proposed National Policy Statements. Having taken advice from Heritage Link, the National Trust and Historic Houses Association, and with the support of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Arts and Heritage, he felt that the Bill as it was, despite assurances from Baroness Andrews, failed to provide sufficiently robust protection for the heritage 'Regulations do not offer the same solidarity of protection as statute. They can all too easily be altered by government or discarded'. 'There can be enormous pressure', he continued 'to sweep aside anything as inconvenient as heritage when it stands in the path of proposed development, backed by powerful economic interests and other government departments that are not squeamish about heritage'. He called for more consistency between the Planning Bill and the Heritage Protection Bill.

Although his amendment was supported in speeches by ten peers, Baroness Andrews was adamant. 'Let me try again to reassure all noble Lords who rightly want to be absolutely sure that the Bill does not deliberately or inadvertently reduce the protection available to our precious heritage and, in doing so, also to reassure the voluntary heritage organisations that have joined the debate.' She claimed that the single consent regime for nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIP) would not entail a reduction in heritage protection'.

For her full response see <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200708/ldhansrd/text/81110-0007.htm> [Back](#)

VAT in Europe

At the ECOFIN council meeting on 4 November, Finance Ministers discussed the proposed amendment to VAT directive 2006/112/EC which would provide member states with the flexibility to apply reduced VAT for some labour intensive services on a permanent basis. This would allow for a possible reduction in VAT in the UK from 17.5% to 5% for services such as the renovation, repair, transformation, maintenance and cleaning of places of worship, cultural heritage and historic monuments and for the renovation, repair, transformation, maintenance and cleaning of housing (see Update 149).

Whilst the European Commission proposal is very welcome, it is only permissive and that there will be no requirement on any member state to introduce new lower rates if they choose not to do so. The permissive nature of the proposal follows the EU principle of subsidiarity and is based on the findings of a study carried out by Copenhagen Economics on behalf of the European Commission which showed that the proposed lower rates of VAT would have no significant effect on cross-border trade or the proper functioning of the Internal Market. The proposal also aims to stimulate small and medium sized enterprises as SMEs dominate the sectors concerned.

The UK government's support for the proposal is very welcome but Germany and five other Member States, Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania and Slovakia are still opposed to changes. The French presidency suggested that Member States wishing to apply reduced rates for the first time should carry out impact studies before seeking any agreement by the Commission. The upshot is that the Council working group will continue working on the issue with further discussion at the next ECOFIN meeting on 2 December. Meanwhile European heritage organisations are lobbying the six member states to recognise the permissive nature of the amendment. [Back](#)

PQ notes Heritage Link initiative in the 2012 Olympics Legacy

Jeremy Hunt Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport tabled a Parliamentary Question on 29 October asking the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport what role heritage would play in his Department's plans for an Olympic legacy.

Barbara Follett, Minister for Culture, replied 'Heritage plays a significant role in plans for the Olympic and Paralympic games and the Olympic legacy. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment, English Heritage has had a direct involvement in the Olympics construction programme through its statutory responsibilities in planning and archaeology. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE), the Government's statutory adviser on architecture and the built environment, is also a key player in the promotion of well designed, sustainable facilities that make best use of existing built assets where appropriate.

'As part of the build process for the Olympic Park, the waterways adjacent to and through it are being repaired and renovated. River walls are being repaired and soft river edges, reseeded with indigenous plants, are being re-established.

'All archaeological finds have been recorded and the artefacts are being held by the Museum of London for public viewing. The Olympic Programme is also financing two architectural reports on the history of the Olympic Park which will cover a thousand years of its history, as well as giving a more recent picture of how it has changed in modern times.

'The Cultural Olympiad provides an opportunity for all sorts of cultural organisations to engage in Olympic legacy. The heritage sector has already chosen to become involved, and many organisations took part in the Olympic Handover Celebrations in August and the Open Weekend in September which celebrated the launch of the Cultural Olympiad. Organisations from the heritage sector are also involved in the development of the major Cultural Olympiad project, Discovering Places. This programme introduces a new generation to the hidden places and spaces of the UK.

There are also opportunities for interested heritage organisations to get involved in the UK wide festival, part of the Cultural Olympiad.' See

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm081029/text/81029w0023.htm#08102962000072> [Back](#)

Draft Planning Policy Statement: Eco-towns consultation, deadline 19 February

The draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) on eco-towns precisely defines: what constitutes an eco-town, what environmental, social, and economic standards these developments should achieve and how eco-towns relate to the planning system. Eco-towns will be developments of a minimum of 5,000 homes - linked to, but distinct from, existing settlements - that aim to achieve the highest standards of environmental sustainability. This includes: employing renewable energy technologies exceptionally high quality of environmental building design and excellent public transport. Eco-towns will be significant considerations on a regional scale and one of a range of options local planning authorities should consider when determining how to meet their housing targets.

The department for Communities and Local Government are seeking views directly on the draft PPS via a set of questions in the Eco Towns Consultation. For more information about this consultation visit <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/ppsecotowns> [Back](#)

Public Accounts Committee on grant giving in the cultural sector

The Public Accounts Committee has published a report on efficient grant making in the cultural sector. The report claims that organisations handing out money to arts, heritage, voluntary and sports groups are spending far too much on administration costs. Research for the Public Accounts Committee shows the nine main grant-givers sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) gave £1.8bn in 2006-07. A further £200m was spent administering the grants.

Edward Leigh, the Public Accounts Committee Chairman, described the amount spent on administration as 'very hefty'. He added 'Any organisation awarding grants should know the cost of administering each of its individual grant programmes and how that cost compares with others.' He said the DCMS had done little to encourage the bodies to compare costs. 'This makes it all the harder to identify inefficient and wasteful practices.' Leigh added: 'There are substantial differences across the sector in the cost of grant-making, even though administrative processes tend to be similar. This shows that grant-makers must do a lot more to share information and learn from each other, so that administrative costs can be driven down.'

To view the report in full visit

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmselect/cmpubacc/641/641.pdf> [Back](#)

Changes at DCMS, DCLG and DCSF

Andrew Vaughan has been appointed the new Head of Museums at DCMS, following the departure of Ben Cowell. Andrew is currently Head of Housing Market Renewal and Housing Growth Programmes at DCLG, prior to which he was Private Secretary to Peter Housden, Permanent Secretary at DCLG, and will take up post on 18 November.

Stephen Carter, the Prime Minister's former Chief of Strategy, and previous Chief Executive of OfCom, has been appointed as Minister for Communications, Technology and Broadcasting, working jointly for DCMS and the Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform. Jane Cooper has been appointed Director of Communications at DCMS. Jane was previously leading communications at DCSF as interim Director of Communications since January 2008. She moved to DCSF from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and has previously held senior communications positions in both the private and third sectors.

For more information visit http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/media_releases/5580.aspx [Back](#)

Joint Heritage Link & Europa Nostra meeting: report

Europa Nostra UK and Heritage Link members met on 5 November to discuss what issues are better dealt with at a European rather than a UK level and what issues have a European dimension which Europa Nostra can help with.

Sneska Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic the Secretary General of Europa Nostra, was present to hear the UK view. A number of topics were discussed including: the impact of the economic downturn; the effect of EU renewable targets on the historic environment; the Common Agricultural Policy and the historic environment and the unforeseen impact of EU directives on the historic environment

The meeting was followed by an event in the House of Lords where John Sell, Vice-President of Europa Nostra gave a speech emphasizing the importance of heritage and its place in the political agenda.

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Historic Houses Association AGM 2008

At the Historic Houses Association AGM on 11 November, Dame Liz Forgan who has been Chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the National Heritage Memorial Fund since 2001 gave the Association's guest speech.

Edward Harley, owner of Brampton Bryan Hall in Herefordshire, was also elected as the new President of the Historic Houses Association, succeeding James Hervey-Bathurst, who was standing down after a five year term.

In his acceptance speech, Mr Harley said:

'The economic recession will bring difficulties for all owners and managers of historic houses... The HHA's priority will be to ensure that the Government and its agencies recognise these pressures and appreciate that a unique cultural heritage is at stake. Historic houses are not only beautiful buildings; they are also stewards of a great deal of Britain's art, antique ceramics and furniture. They also generate jobs and incomes in the tourism economy, provide educational facilities and are places where people can go to escape the routine of their daily lives and refresh their spirits. In an economic downturn these benefits are especially valuable and there is no doubt about the affection that the public have for these beautiful places.' For more information visit www.hha.org.uk [Back](#)

Arts Council Creates new independent organisation

Creative Partnerships - Arts Council England's successful creativity programme for schools - is set to become an independent organisation. The programme, which develops young people's creativity, has been developed and managed by Arts Council England since it began in 2002. Due to the huge success of Creative Partnerships the Arts Council has decided that its future is best delivered through a new independent organisation - Creativity, Culture and Education (CCE).

Creative Partnerships has already worked with more than 750,000 young people and works intensively with 2,000 schools across England. Independent studies show that schools that work with Creative Partnerships improve their GCSE results faster, and that the scheme engages parents in their children's learning. CCE will receive more than £75 million from Arts Council England between April 2009 - March 2011, the largest single grant in that two year period. The new organisation will have its headquarters in Newcastle, where the cultural renaissance of the North East - led by such organisations as The Sage Gateshead, Customs House, Tyne and Wear Museums, Live Theatre, BALTIC and MIMA has created the perfect environment for the new national agency to grow. For more information visit <http://www.creativitycultureeducation.org/> [Back](#)

INTO Launch: 'Heritage in Trust: conservation in a changing world'

Australian environmental lawyer and Chairman of the International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) Simon Molesworth gave a speech to celebrate the launch of INTO stressing that National Trusts across the world are well placed to deal with economic, environmental and social change in the 21st century.

Simon Molesworth, Chairman of INTO said: 'Many people think that National Trusts are primarily concerned with the past. In fact we have to understand the world around us today and although we can't predict the future, we can explore the forces shaping change. This helps us to identify potential future unique opportunities for the National Trust movement'

The event at Canada House, celebrated the opening of the INTO Secretariat in London. This new organisation brings together a wealth of national and international expertise, experience and information, responds to the needs of heritage conservation organisations seeking to build capacity and facilitates joint ventures. Influencing policy development is increasingly dependent on working in partnership and INTO promotes a collective approach to advocacy. Across the world National Trusts are leading the way in adapting to and mitigating against climate change – as well as political, social, cultural, scientific and economic change.

For more information about into visit [www.http://www.internationaltrusts.org/](http://www.internationaltrusts.org/) [Back](#)

MLA invites new grant applications for Their Past Your Future

The final phase of Their Past Your Future was launched on 3 November. The Big Lottery funded programme is open to all museums, libraries and archives in England. The project explores the ongoing legacy of 20th and 21st century conflict on people and places. The grants are designed to inspire inter-generational activities between younger and older people under the themes of remembrance and commemoration; identity; reconciliation; citizenship; diversity; asylum; conflict resolution and peacekeeping.

Grants between £500 and £10,000 are available for venues to develop programmes, workshops, exhibitions and events. The deadline for applications is the 16 January 2009. To apply and for further information contact Eve Pattinson, MLA TYPF2 Programme Manager Tel: +44 (0) 7780725615 or email: eve.pattinson@mla.gov.uk [Back](#)

A collective vision for rural Britain in 2020

What will rural Britain look like in 2020? Simon Berry, Chief Executive of ruralnet|uk wants to know and is taking an innovative approach to find out by asking people to contribute their thoughts and ideas online at a new website.

Kicking off the process at the joint ruralnet|uk and Action for Market Towns conference in early October, Berry collected 'personal visions' from over 200 delegates and is now actively encouraging more people to contribute to this 'collective vision for rural Britain'. To find out more about this experiment in more detail or read through the visions to date, please visit <http://2020vision.ruralnet.org.uk/> [Back](#)

Open Spaces Society Pioneers Plan to Save Commons

Hampshire County Council, Hart District Council, Natural England (the government's wildlife and access agency), the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and the Open Spaces Society(1) (Britain's oldest national amenity society) have launched plans to update the role of the remaining common land for wildlife, public access and recreation. The groups have produced a DVD called Common Vision which focuses on lowland commons and why they are important.

Kate Ashbrook, general secretary of the Open Spaces Society said 'Four hundred years ago, half of England was common land, available for the benefit and pleasure of all. Today greed, intensive agriculture and development have reduced the commons to a mere three per cent. But concentrated into these remaining 1,544 square miles are vital reserves of land for wildlife and public access...The video encourages communities to understand their commons and to care about them. Only by involving local people in their management can we hope to save them.' For more information visit <http://www.oss.org.uk/> [Back](#)

The Building Conservation Directory: new edition released

Now in its 16th annual edition, The Building Conservation Directory provides specifiers of works to historic buildings, their contents and surroundings a starting point in the search for appropriate products and services and expert advice. Around 1000 different companies and organisations are represented in this latest edition.

In the articles, Chris Wood of English Heritage considers the thermal performance of historic windows, TRADA's Peter Cazmar looks at microporous paint systems, and other leading specialists provide practical advice on subjects ranging from damp and decay to photogrammetry. Other reference information provided points the way on current legislation, continuing education and sources for further information and advice.

The Directory is supported on-line by its website www.buildingconservation.com. The Building Conservation Directory is published by Cathedral Communications, a sponsor of recent Heritage Link Networking events. [Back](#)

Historic Churches: the history and conservation of ecclesiastical buildings, new publication

Each year Historic Churches provides articles by conservation specialists exploring the wealth of the UK's ecclesiastical heritage and providing essential guidance on some of the most pressing issues. This edition kicks off with an interview with The Churches Conservation Trust's new chairman, Loyd Grossman.

Aspects of history are explored in articles on mausolea (Roger Bowdler), the strange round towered churches of East Anglia (Stephen Hart), rare examples of surviving organs at home and abroad (Dominic Gwynne), and the vibrant stained glass windows of An Túr Gloine (Nicola Gordon Bowe). Practical conservation issues are summarised in articles on developing tourism (Sarah Arthur), the protection from vandalism (David Parkinson) stonework repairs at Rochester (Ian Stewart), changes in legislation (Jonathan Taylor), and restoring hatchments (Francis Downing). The magazine will be of interest to all who care for historic churches, chapels and other places of worship – clergy, laymen and conservation professionals alike.

The new edition is to be released on 8 December. Historic Churches is supported on-line by the Building Conservation website www.buildingconservation.com. [Back](#)

Community Archaeology Forum wins British Archaeological Award

The Community Archaeology Forum (CAF) has been awarded the British Archaeological Award. CAF was set up two years ago as a resource for anyone working in community archaeology: The site

contains advice and guidance covering such subjects as where to get funding from, how to record and archive archaeological information, and how to identify finds. There is also a set of useful web links to other archaeological resources.

There are today almost 40 projects involved in CAF from all over the UK, and this number is rising all the time. Some, like the Cawood Castle Garth project in North Yorkshire and the Fortress Scotland group, have created a series of pages announcing their work and giving details of forthcoming research. Others, like the Kingsbury High School in London have posted a podcast, while the Caerleon Legionary Fortress group maintain a blog on CAF – keeping us all informed of their work as it unfolds with amusing anecdotes and classical quotations.

The Community Archaeology Forum will soon enter its second phase thanks to some funding from the Headley Trust and the appointment of a new Community Archaeology Support Officer within the CBA. For more information visit

<http://www.britarch.ac.uk/communityarchaeology/wikka.php?wakka=HomePage> [Back](#)

Country Life: The Village Church for Village Life Award

Following an extremely successful campaign in 2008, Country Life magazine is supporting a second competition - the Village Church for Village Life Award 2009 - worth £10,000. The award seeks to discover the finest example of a historic, rural parish church that has successfully engaged the wider community to create a focus for village life in the 21st century.

Those who nominate churches will be asked to demonstrate that the whole community – worshippers and non-worshippers alike - has played an active role in the relevant project. In addition, this year the award is being expanded to include projects that make use of 'God's own acre' (the churchyard), and to recognise those that have attempted to make their churches environmentally sustainable.

The Mercers' Company have generously agreed to support the award for another year, donating prizes of £10,000 for the winner, and £5,000 for the runner-up. Entrants from last year are encouraged to take part in this year's competition.

An article by Sir Roy Strong, together with an entry form and the full criteria for nominations, will be published in the 17 December issue of Country Life to launch the award. An online version of the article and entry form, together with details of last year's award, will be available at

www.countrylife.co.uk/villagechurch. For more information, please contact Susannah Glynn at susannah_glynn@freelance.ipcmedia.com [Back](#)

English Heritage Website consultation

English Heritage is running a consultation to find out how well the current website (www.english-heritage.org.uk) meets users' requirements and identify which new services and improvements should be a priority for development. This stage in the consultation is a short, anonymous, online questionnaire.

To take part in this survey visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/websurvey [Back](#)

Heritage Link seeks more office space

Heritage Link has regrettably outgrown its shared office with Wildlife and Countryside Link. It is looking for about 425sqft (39.5 sqm) room for about 5 or 6 people from April 2009 in central London with good transport links and access to meeting space.

Sponsorship of Heritage Link through free or discounted premises costs could perhaps be acknowledged in a way similar to sponsorship of Heritage Link Update.

If you can offer Heritage Link space or know of modestly priced office accommodation please contact Kate Pugh at kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk [Back](#)

PEOPLE

Queens Award for Voluntary Service committees recruiting members and Chairs

The Office of the Third Sector is recruiting chairs and members for two new Committees that will uphold the prestige of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and will play central roles in recommending groups to The Queen. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service recognises groups of individuals who volunteer their time for the benefit of others. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon groups of this kind and is equivalent in status to a national honour. Approximately 600 Awards have been made throughout the UK since it was established in 2002.

The two new committees are the Specialist Assessment Committee and the Main Award Committee. Chairs and members of both committees will have experience of serving on boards and committees at a national level, an understanding of volunteering and the voluntary sector and the ability to analyse information and make sound judgements. These are unpaid positions, although reasonable expenses will be reimbursed. Membership is for three years and members will be expected to read preparatory paperwork before meetings. The deadline for applications should be received by 24 November. For further information and an application form visit www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk or telephone the Queens Award team, in the Cabinet Office, on 020 7276 6087. [Back](#)

EVENTS

[The Churches Tourism Association 2008 Convention, 24 - 26 November](#)

The Churches Tourism Association annual convention is aimed at those involved in making churches more accessible.

There will be case studies, workshops and keynote speakers all aimed at highlighting best practice, ideas and the latest research. The CTA welcomes Loyd Grossman OBE, the Trust's chairman, as one of its keynote speakers, along with Roy Strong and the Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

This year's event will be held in the Hayes Centre in Swanwick, Derbyshire. For more information, a full programme and booking visit www.churchestourism.info [Back](#)

[Annual Harold Plenderleith Memorial Lecture, 27 November](#)

The 11th Annual Harold Plenderleith Memorial Lecture will be given by Adam Wilkinson, Director of Edinburgh World Heritage. Edinburgh, entitled 'Useful or beautiful: places and things'. The Plenderleith Lecture is organised by Icon - the Institute of Conservation (Scotland Group). Doors will open at 6.00pm. Lecture at 6.30, refreshments served. All are welcome.

Tickets must be booked and paid for in advance. For more information visit <http://www.icon.org.uk/images/stories/regplenderleith08.doc> [Back](#)

[Launch of Report on Conservation Challenges and Opportunities, 28 November](#)

The Textile Conservation Centre's staff and its supporting Trust the TCC Foundation wanted to use the University of Southampton's decision to close the TCC to prompt debate around the challenges and opportunities that face the conservation sector. The TCC Foundation therefore commissioned Demos, one of the UK's independent think tanks, to consider how conservation and conservation education relate to wider social and political issues and how many of the changes in the world today will affect conservation.

The pamphlet, by John Holden & Sam Jones, will be launched at an event at the Banqueting House, London, on the morning of 28 November. If you would like to attend email: demoslau@soton.ac.uk [Back](#)

[South East/London Seasonal Networking Opportunity, 28 November](#)

The South East and London Historic Environment Forums, together with the Association of Preservation Trusts, will be hosting an afternoon conference and seasonal networking opportunity on 28 November in London. The conference is dedicated to exploring sustainability and climate change issues and opportunities for the heritage sector and will highlight the work of the APT in the sustainable reuse of historic buildings.

The new regional publication *Our Heritage in a Changing Climate* will be launched. It will also provide the chance to look at regeneration projects in detail on a site visit tour. A full programme with timings and venue specifics will be circulated in ten days, in the meantime please save the date in your diary or visit www.helm.org.uk [Back](#)

[HELM training events, 25 September/30 October/4 December](#)

HELM training is designed to meet the needs of historic environment, planning officers and other specialists in local authorities whose role impacts on the historic environment

There are still places available on the following HELM training workshops: The Future of Historic School Buildings (25 September, Newcastle), Changing Churches (30 October, London), Conservation Areas:

Appraisals and Management (4 December, Derby). For further details please go to the training pages on the HELM website or contact HELMbookings@english-heritage.org.uk [Back](#)

Heritage education with youngsters, 6-12 April (France)

A different view on heritage education with youngsters is a five day European in-service training course on heritage education. It is aimed at both teachers in secondary education and educational guides or officers who want to start with heritage education and are looking for tools to get started or who already have experience with heritage education and want to stretch their thinking. The course aims to engage its participants actively to experience heritage by means of art based methodologies.

The course content has been developed by De Veerman (The Ferryman), a Flemish arts educational project organisation. Starting from a theoretical introduction on what heritage and heritage education is, it goes on to explore the Abbey of St-Jean d'Angély and the surrounding area and cities by means of observation and exploration exercises, active workshops and guided visits. Specialised knowledge of heritage themes and/or art disciplines is not required. Every day sufficient time will be given to the participants to present their own experiences, to exchange ideas and to reflect upon their learning.

The course is organised by GO! onderwijs van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap (Belgium) and is the result of the European Comenius 2.1 project HEREDUC – HERitage EDUCation. For more information visit www.hereduc.net [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](#)

Heritage Link: Parliamentary Officer

Heritage Link is looking to appoint a Parliamentary Officer to advance the interests of its members in shaping the Heritage Protection Bill. This is a unique post to be funded by Heritage Link members with support from English Heritage.

Through this post Heritage Link will act as a key source of information and opinion in the sector, contributing to the wider political strategy to promote the value of heritage as the Bill progresses through Parliament. The post holder will have outstanding lobbying, communication and policy skills to develop relations with parliamentarians with strong research, analytical and written skills to produce high quality briefing materials that will interest and influence parliamentarians and media.

Candidates should have a significant interest in and knowledge of political affairs, an ability to deal confidently with senior colleagues and external stakeholders with an understanding of effective and appropriate methods for achieving influence in Parliament.

Salary £9000 part time over the period of the 2008-9 Parliamentary session. Candidates must have a high degree of flexibility in timing and working arrangements. The post will be confirmed subject to the Heritage Protection Bill being introduced in the Queen's Speech on 3 December.

The deadline for applications is 17 November 2008. For full details and how to apply contact The Secretary, Kate Pugh, at kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk or see www.heritagelink.org.uk [Back](#)

English Heritage: Head of Visitor Operations

English Heritage (EH) is looking for a Head of Visitor Operations to manage their London (South) historic properties, currently comprising of five staffed sites including Eltham Palace. The post holder will have responsibility for the delivery of its property strategy, covering a wide range of management issues, from retail, catering, admissions, membership and hospitality, through to maintenance and Health and Safety. The successful candidate will manage a 40-strong Visitor Operations team.

EH is looking for an accomplished and motivational manager to oversee all day-to-day operations, manage expenditure budgets totaling c. £2.5m and deliver income targets of c. £1m per annum. This is a fast-paced, multi-disciplined role for a pro-active and enthusiastic individual with a solid track record of management and delivering tangible results in a customer focused environment.

The salary for this role is c. £37,000 pa. The closing date for applications is 16 November. For more information visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs [Back](#)

Heritage Lottery Fund: Head of Natural Heritage

Since 1994 the Heritage Lottery Fund has invested more than £800 million in our conserving and opening up the UK's amazing natural heritage for present and future generations to enjoy. The range of natural heritage projects includes countryside and biodiversity as well as public parks and designed landscapes. As HLF's senior professional advisor in this area the post holder will lead HLF's relationship with the natural heritage and parks sector.

The salary for this role is £43,062 - £58,528. The closing date for applications is 24 November. Interviews will be held on either 9 or 11 December. For more details of the post visit www.hlf.org.uk
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UCL Centre for Sustainable Heritage: Research Assistant – Sensors and Instrumentation

The Centre for Sustainable Heritage at UCL is seeking to appoint a Research Assistant, qualified to Second Class or higher Engineering, Physics or Chemistry degree. The post holder will work on a project developing novel methods of monitoring heritage objects and buildings using wireless networks of intelligent micro-sensors.

Applicants should have experience with micro-sensors such as micro-electromechanical machines (MEMS) devices, some knowledge of short-range wireless technology, such as ZigBee (ideal) or WiFi (preferable), good research skills and laboratory experience, good communication skills and should be able to manipulate and interpret technical data. A full driving licence is required. An interest in the historic environment is desirable. The post is based at UCL's Centre for Sustainable Heritage on the UCL main campus, and the reports to the Centre's Director.

The deadline for applications is 28 November. The salary for this role is £24,877 + £2,786 LInformal enquiries should be addressed m.strlic@ucl.ac.uk. For more information visit www.jobs.ac.uk [Back](#)

War Memorials Trust: Assistant Conservation Officer

The War Memorials Trust seeks an Assistant Conservation Officer with initiative and enthusiasm to support the Conservation Officer in delivering the Trust's conservation, advisory and grant-making activities. The post holder will have some knowledge of, and a strong interest in, the conservation of the historic environment, relevant legislation and the technical issues involved in the care and repair of war memorials. They should be able to provide advice and guidance to custodians and members of the public on all aspects of war memorials in line with the Trust's policies and act as an advocate for war memorials' protection and appreciation.

The post is offered as a 12 month contract. It is full-time and London based but flexible hours can be discussed. The salary is £20,000 pa. The closing date for application is noon on 17 November. The anticipated interview date is 5 December. For further details and a job description please contact the Trust Manager at 4 Lower Belgrave Street, London SW1W 0LA, 020 7259 0403, frances@warmemorials.org or visit www.warmemorials.org. [Back](#)

Learning Outside the Classroom: Chief Executive Officer

The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom is a recently established charitable organisation committed to raising achievement of young people through improved access to experiences outside the classroom. They are looking for an enthusiastic leader to further develop the Council and to: act as an ambassador and spokesperson for Learning Outside the Classroom, to influence debate and government policy; provide leadership and direction to the Council and to its Board; be responsible for delivering the Council's business plan; build strong working relationships and partnerships in the sector and strengthen the Council's long term sustainability.

The closing date for applications is 21 November. The salary for this role is £40,000 pa. Information packs can be requested by email from lotc@btinternet.com. Candidates will need to be available on 1 December for interview. [Back](#)

English Heritage: Education Liaison Officer

The successful candidate will be responsible for the co-ordination and administrative support for education programmes in the London region. This will include taking bookings for visits, liaising with schools and other education groups, and marketing and evaluating education programmes, with opportunities for researching and supporting the development of our education activity.

The post holder will come from a working administrative background, with knowledge of the education or heritage sectors being a distinct advantage. They will be a flexible team member and have an ability to help and liaise with customers, both internally and externally. Excellent organisational skills, computer literacy particularly in Word, Excel and PowerPoint and meticulous attention to detail are also a must.

Based in London the salary for this role is £20,793 pa pro rata (part-time). The closing date for applications is 24 November. To discover more visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs [Back](#)

University of Oxford: Historic Venues Officer

The Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford is renowned across the world for the unrivalled breadth and depth of its collections. The post holder will manage the historic venues to add value both to the Library and University, including commercial exploitation of all heritage aspects. Getting the most from the team and the budget the post holder will ensure that the Bodleian is a high caliber visitor destination and events centre, including the negotiation of contracts and fees and licensing for filming and photography. In particular the successful candidate will develop attractions and tours for diverse audiences, drive marketing and promotional activity, and build relationships with academics, Guides, Friends of the Library and other key stakeholders.

The salary for this role is £28,839 - £35,469 pa (part-time, 30 hours a week). The deadline for applications is 21 November. For more information visit www.admin.ox.ac.uk/fp/ [Back](#)

Jewish Heritage UK: Development Officer (part-time)

Jewish Heritage UK seeks a part-time Development Officer to work out of the Manchester office. The successful candidate will primarily be responsible for developing a membership base for this newly registered charity (est. 2004), created to care for the historic buildings and sites of Britain's Jewish community.

This role is for 10 hours per week, flexible, at @£20 per hour, plus reasonable administrative and travel expenses. The deadline for this role is 5 December. For further information about Jewish Heritage please visit www.jewish-heritage-uk.org. For further details about this post please contact the Director on 0161-275-3611 or email: director@jewish-heritage-uk.org [Back](#)

Sir John Soane's Museum: Museum Administrator

The successful candidate will be responsible for all administrative functions, booking group and educational visits, preparing for meetings of the Trustees, and supporting the Director and curatorial staff. They will be encouraged to play an active role in the life of the Museum. The role is pivotal, varied and extremely busy, and would suit a highly organised, pro-active, articulate, versatile all-rounder with initiative and energy.

The salary for this role is £21,000 pa. This post will require an Enhanced CRB Disclosure. The closing date for applications is 21 November. Applications in the form of a curriculum vitae and supporting letter, together with the name and addresses of two referees, should be sent by post to the Deputy Director, Sir John Soane's Museum, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP. For more information visit www.soane.org [Back](#)

SAVE Britain's Heritage: Volunteers

SAVE Britain's Heritage, the national charity that campaigns for historic buildings, has been collating a register of Grade II and unlisted buildings at risk in England and Wales for the last 20 years. The prime aim is to promote new uses for vacant buildings. The project requires lots of work to ensure that the databases are up to date and that over 100 new entries are researched and compiled for the annual catalogue.

SAVE is calling for volunteers who are computer literate and with good verbal and written skills to commit at least 1 day a week over the next few months. It would be ideal for a university graduate hoping to pursue a career in heritage and conservation. For further information email Catherine Townsend: catherine.townsend@savebritainsheritage.org [Back](#)

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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. Subscription policy:

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 for Update 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.

4. 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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