

# Heritage Update 176

*Heritage Update is sent to members and supporters of The Heritage Alliance 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.*

11 December 2009

## CONTENTS

### THE HERITAGE ALLIANCE

The Heritage Alliance: Heritage Link steps up campaigning  
Making the Most of our Heritage: taking our message out  
Making the Most of our Heritage: Chairman optimistic  
The Heritage Debate 2009  
Heritage Debate: Minister Margaret Hodge  
Heritage Debate: Conservative Shadow Minister  
Heritage Day Lib Dem Spokesperson  
The Heritage Debate Q&A

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

CMS Sport Select Committee call for evidence on Olympics Legacy  
Health and safety guidance for school visits: consultation to 8 February 2010  
Asset Transfer Unit Year 4: expression of interest by 22 January 2010  
Questionnaire to update Landscape Character Assessment Guidance  
New HCA study into recession's impact on skills  
Learning Outside the Classroom EDM – has your MP signed up yet?

### NEWS

Pre Budget Report: central government spending  
Pre Budget Report: other measures  
New Edition of POW WOW published  
Embedding Shared Heritage: the Heritage Diversity Task Force  
World Class Places Action Plan  
HLF Skills for the Future: one off opportunity open until 19 March 2010  
IfA seeks hosts for new HLF funded workplace learning bursary placements  
West Midlands Heritage Strategy Launched  
HCA launches new place-making workshops  
Historic Towns Forum Seminars: Managing Heritage Assets for Added Value  
York Foundation: Grants and Bursaries for Craftsmen and Conservators  
£2.6m 'Christmas bonus' for high streets with empty shops  
Government backs down on sale of BW's Assets

### PEOPLE

### EVENTS

### SITUATIONS VACANT

Notes and subscriptions

This issue of Update starts with a comprehensive account of our own AGM

### The Heritage Alliance: Heritage Link steps up campaigning

A new name The Heritage Alliance, supported by members at the AGM on 2 December makes public the definite shift in Heritage Link's focus, towards a more outward looking and campaigning body.

Lloyd Grossman, taking over the Chairmanship recommended to members that Heritage Link could use a name that more accurately reflected the changing nature of the organisation. Simple, obvious and more forceful, the new name illustrates members' greater determination to work together more effectively and to be heard more loudly. We are all in this together he said and 'if we work together as a real alliance we can accomplish great things'.

The legal requirements will be completed in the New Year but from now on Heritage Update is the name of this fortnightly ebulletin. [Back](#)

### **Making the Most of Our Heritage: taking our message out**

The core of the new Heritage Alliance campaign is the series of messages presented in our new manifesto Making the Most of our Heritage. Published on 2 December, This makes clear how heritage can help government deliver their objectives in four key areas: building a new economy, giving value for money, empowering people and responding to climate change.

Making the Most of our Heritage sets out what measures we want an incoming government to take to ensure that our heritage can deliver even more to our national wellbeing in economic, social, environmental and educational terms.

It provides a coherent set of messages for all - members of The Heritage Alliance or not - to take out at national, regional and local level, pre election and post election. Loyd Grossman, as the new Chairman, commended it as a real fighting document 'something we can use effectively in the run up to the General Election to get the message across consistently and enthusiastically'.

See <http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/2009/12/02/heritage-link-manifesto/> or for hard copies contact Kate Pugh [kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk](mailto:kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk) [Back](#)

### **Making the Most of Our Heritage: Chairman optimistic**

Incoming Chairman, Loyd Grossman in his inaugural speech was certain he had one of the most exciting the jobs in the heritage sector. Everyone today, he said especially the politicians would talk about the miserable climate in which we find ourselves, but while the gloom about economic downturn and public finances was certainly a cause for concern, it was not a cause for despair.

Already he had found that Heritage Link had an enormous amount of credibility and that its work was highly respected. He looked forward to working with the members and assured the politicians speaking at the Heritage Debate that whichever of them was in the next government, they would be the object of our unceasing attention.

He felt strongly that the nongovernment and voluntary sector had an increasingly important role to play, 'not just because we were seen to do things more cheaply but because, we are seen to do this excellently, enthusiastically, passionately and efficiently'. 'What I intend to do' he continued 'is to highlight to our political masters the incredibly important voluntary and non government bodies have played and increasingly important role it will play'. 'We are the ones who look after at least two thirds of our heritage. Our strength comes from the fact that we cover everything from vintage motorbikes to stately homes. The heritage is a very broad church and this is the message we have to get across consistently and enthusiastically.' [Back](#)

### **The Heritage Debate 2009**

Every year Heritage Link stages an annual debate inviting the wider heritage and cultural sector to join members to hear a well-known heritage figure share their insight. We have heard Chris Smith, Andrew McIntosh, Don Foster and John Whittingdale, David Lammy, Margaret Hodge and Dame Jenny Abramsky.

In this pre election year, as in 2004, the event was offered as a hustings to hear and compare the heritage spokesmen from the three main political parties. This year, despite a three-line whip in the House of Commons, Margaret Hodge Minister for Culture, Ed Vaizey, Shadow Culture Minister and Richard Younger-Ross Lib Dem Spokesman on Heritage met on the platform to share and compare their approach to heritage and the voluntary heritage sector. [Back](#)

### **Heritage Debate: Minister Margaret Hodge**

Culture Minister Margaret Hodge began with thanks to the voluntary heritage organisations for nurturing, maintaining and helping us enjoy our heritage. 'Without you' she said 'our heritage would be much the poorer'. She celebrated and welcomed a well funded independent sector alongside strong well funded statutory bodies.

Then she proceeded to set out the Labour party's 'proud' record: some £600m invested since 1997, sustaining the Heritage Lottery Fund; developing the Renaissance in the Regions programme, some 28

World Heritage sites and nearly half the Buildings at Risk on the EH register now improved as well as a huge increase in opportunities for people to enjoy heritage. When Tories would have cut public spending, she noted the Government had set aside £10m for Stonehenge and investment through the recent Cathedrals programme. She also confirmed that the long-awaited Vision Statement had been 'okayed' and yet again that the Heritage Bill was ready to go 'as soon as parliamentary time allowed. She claimed a rise in investment in real terms of 24%, a questionable figure for heritage, given that it includes investment in museums and the Renaissance programme. With some further sleight of hand she even claimed credit alongside EH figures, for the booming National Trust visitor figures.

So where for the future? She looked for long term stability of investment for the longer term. She would campaign against cuts – as in Holland where culture and heritage are excluded from cuts in public spending. With James Purnell, she had protected heritage funding in the last Comprehensive Spending Review and she was she said very ready to do it again.

Looking ahead, she pledged to give more money to the Olympics which would sustain heritage assets; to keep the Sea Change and Renaissance in the Regions programmes; to build on the Find Your Talents scheme and, finally, to keep free admission to national museums. Simply expressing support is not enough she concluded, 'we must put our money where our mouth is'. [Back](#)

#### Heritage Debate: Conservative Shadow Minister

Ed Vaizey welcomed the change of name to The Heritage Alliance, having an organisation like this he said was not just an invaluable means of sharing news and views but also for those at the policy end and he paid tribute to Anthea Case for her fantastically effective Chairmanship over the last 6 years, He agreed with the Minister over the partnership between government and the voluntary sector but challenged the Government's record on heritage funding.

He set out the Conservative pledges: restoring the National Lottery Fund to the original four good causes which would he said generate some £50m extra for heritage; simplify Gift Aid and establish a more benevolent tax regime for giving. He elaborated on the proposed Conservative Party Heritage and Museums Bill explaining that this would incorporate the main points of the Draft Heritage Bill as well as amending the status of major cultural institutions.

He mentioned the merger of EH and HLF proposed recently by Shadow Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, but then he went on to recommend a debate on the role of English Heritage, suggesting its grant giving function might transfer to HLF, the properties be hived off into a separate trust and a stand-alone heritage regulatory body. 'That is an issue we would very much like to debate with you.'

'We are hugely committed to the heritage sector', he claimed. His main concerns were to fund the heritage sector properly and to free it from too much bureaucracy. 'We want to see you survive and thrive.' 'Heritage is' he said 'very much part of the present and certainly part of our future'. [Back](#)

#### Heritage Day Lib Dem Spokesperson

With a three line whip requiring Shadow Secretary Don Foster's presence in the House of Commons, Richard Younger-Ross, MP for Teignmouth and an architect by profession, took up the Lib Dem side. Criticising the confrontational attitude of the two previous speakers he proposed a 'proper debate on the future of heritage in the UK' looking beyond the planning policy statement and VAT as to why heritage is essential to our future. He said that every day that passed without a Heritage Lottery Act put heritage buildings at risk. He confirmed Lib Dem policy on VAT adding that his colleagues would also lobby the EU to extend a lower rate of VAT from works to historic building to include maintenance. He recommended a cast iron guarantee that the National Lottery should be free from government interference.

On the question of merging English Heritage and HLF, apart from issues arising from their contrasting remits, national coverage, saving, he said, should not be the only justification. They should be merged only if it resulted in a bigger, better and single body 'which is better placed to help our heritage prosper and be protected'.

'We are focusing on the minutiae but we're not keeping a view of the big picture' he continued, He wanted to take heritage out of being a history lesson and a tourism attraction and to make it an inherent part of who we are. He proposed a 'proper debate' examining the longer term solutions perhaps in the form of a Commission, a proposal that The Heritage Alliance has already offered to assist. [Back](#)

### The Heritage Debate Q&A

Questions covered a number of shared concerns. On the ever delayed Heritage Protection Bill, Minister Margaret Hodge rejected the idea of piecemeal legislation but meanwhile the government would 'get on with the bits that did not need primary legislation'. She wrongly claimed that the Bill would not have provided increased protection, and Loyd Grossman will be writing to her on this point, reminding her that interim protection for buildings being considered for listing would have been a major gain. Ed Vaizey stressed the Conservatives' proposed Heritage and Museums Bill but gave no firm commitment on timing yet both he and Richard Younger-Ross argued that the banking crisis was an unconvincing excuse for it not been given Parliamentary time, and that had the Government wanted to pass the Bill, then they could easily have found space

Challenged on how best to sell heritage to Treasury sceptics, all MPs agreed the Treasury was a hard nut to crack, Ed Vaizey cited the Kings Cross regeneration area as an example of heritage having made its case well, while the Lib Dem spokesmen felt advocacy at local level would help.

A subsequent question on localism, confirmed that none of the parties could dictate budgetary priorities to local authorities. Richard Younger-Ross suggested further development of civic societies, Margaret Hodge drew attention to recent government documents such as World Class Places, 'All we can do is promote excellence, good practice and demonstrate success.' Ed Vaizey would prefer heritage pushed up to county level with more effective resources over a wider area. [Back](#)

### CMS Sport Select Committee call for evidence on Olympics Legacy

As part of the Committee's on-going scrutiny of the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympic Games, the Culture Media and Sport Select Committee announces an inquiry into the preparations for securing a lasting legacy from the 2012 Games. The Committee seeks views on: whether the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games will deliver a lasting legacy of social, physical and economic regeneration; ways of maximising the value of the Olympic legacy both within the host boroughs, London and across the UK; the use and management of the Olympic Park and venues after 2012; progress towards meeting targets to increase grass roots participation in sport; the aim of leaving a lasting legacy that improves cultural life; and finally how success in delivering lasting legacy can be measured. The Committee will also examine other areas of interest that arise.

Submissions should be received by 11 January 2010. For further details and guidance on responding see <http://www.parliament.uk/cmscom> [Back](#)

### Health and safety guidance for school visits: consultation to 8 February 2010

Health and Safety of Learners Outside the Classroom (HASLOC) will replace Health and Safety of Pupils on Educational Visits: a good practice guide 1998 (known as HASPEV) and the 3-part supplement published in 2002.

HASLOC will have a wider audience across all children's services (not just schools). It sets out the enabling nature of sensible risk management and how to reduce 'red tape'. It flags up the lessons learned from serious incidents. HASLOC also sets out how and why staff can expect to be treated fairly if a participant is injured despite their care. In general HASLOC works at a high level and leaves most of the detail to the operational parts of the Learning Outside the Classroom Council's website which will carry downloadable material.

In this consultation, DCSF seeks views and suggestions to help make this an accessible, user-friendly and effective guide for front-line professionals. See <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=consultationDetails&external=no&consultationId=1599>. Closing date 8 February 2010 [Back](#)

### Asset Transfer Unit's Year 4: expression of interest by 22 January 2010

As part of the implementation programme arising from the Quirk Review: Making Assets Work (2007), the Advancing Assets for Communities programme offers expert support to local authorities and their third sector partners to develop joint plans for community asset transfer. It can help with the development of the strategies, policies and procedures Councils need to process requests made by communities to transfer land and buildings into third sector management and ownership. It can also provide practical support from community enterprise practitioners to demonstrate the feasibility of community asset transfer through pilot activity.

Local authorities in England who are interested in participating in the programme should download an expression of interest form and submit the completed form to Jennifer Mathew, Asset Programmes Officer, Development Trusts Association [j.mathew@dta.org.uk](mailto:j.mathew@dta.org.uk) The Asset Transfer Unit is also offering an appraisal service for all applications. To take advantage of this service expression of interest forms must be submitted no later than 22 December 2009. Deadline for submission of Expression of Interest Forms: 22 January 2010. For further information or advice about the programme see <http://atu.org.uk/programmes/AA/AA4> [Back](#)

#### Questionnaire to update Landscape Character Assessment Guidance

Natural England, with Scottish Natural Heritage, are currently reviewing and revising the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) Guidance for England and Scotland (2002) and related Topic Papers. The guidance will be updated to reflect its current use, good practice, and the European Landscape Convention (ELC). It will include new topics and additional related guidance that may be needed

The questionnaire provides an opportunity for all to help shape the structure, content and format of the new LCA guidance. Follow the link below to complete the short questionnaire (no more than 10 minutes). Responses should be based on your involvement in LCA in England and Scotland. See <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/englands/character/assessment/guidance.aspx> For queries contact [LCAguidancereviewenquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:LCAguidancereviewenquiries@naturalengland.org.uk) [Back](#)

#### New HCA study into recession's impact on skills

Homes and Communities Agency has launched a new study into skills gaps in key professions across the place-making sector. The study will assess how the recession has affected the supply and demand of skills in the sector, updating the findings of Mind the Skills Gap (MSG) – launched in September 2007 and subsequent studies in light of the recession and policy changes. In 2007, MSG concluded that England faced a significant shortage of qualified professionals with the necessary skills between now and 2012.

The research will explore generic skills such as finance, project management, leadership and communication in order to help the sector understand how the recession has affected skills issues for the place-making sector; identify the numbers of people employed in the different occupational groups; assess the current supply and demand of skills, compare how this has changed since 2007 and establish whether the same range of issues are affecting all occupational groups; evaluate existing training provision; and recommend how the market can bridge remaining skills gaps.

Online surveys will run during December 2009 and January 2010. Results of the research will be published in June. To take part in the research visit: [www.hcaacademy.co.uk/skills-survey](http://www.hcaacademy.co.uk/skills-survey) [Back](#)

#### Learning Outside the Classroom EDM – has your MP signed up yet?

An Early Day Motion (EDM) proposed by the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom has now been tabled: 'That this House notes the conclusion of an Ofsted report that learning outside the classroom contributes significantly to raising standards; recognises that learning through experience is a powerful educational tool; applauds the work put into the Manifesto for Learning Outside the Classroom; regrets that despite this work, its aspiration to provide all young people with a wide range of quality experiences outside the classroom, including one or more residential visits, is not yet embedded in all schools; and calls on the Government to find a way of making this a reality for all young people, including those who need financial support.'

EDMs that are signed by a hundred or more MPs have a significant effect. Everyone in the LOfC community who cares about the future of learning outside the classroom is invited to write to their MP and ask him or her to sign EDM number 4.

You can write to your MP at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA or by email link at [http://www.parliament.uk/mps/lordsandoffices/mps\\_and\\_lords/alms.cfm#A](http://www.parliament.uk/mps/lordsandoffices/mps_and_lords/alms.cfm#A). [Back](#)

#### Pre Budget Report: central government spending

Reports had predicted that Government departments could expect to see their budgets slashed by up to 15%, but in his pre Budget Report published on 9 December the Chancellor refused to name a figure or give details of where cuts would be made. The 2009 Pre-Budget Report confirms that the Government will stick to planned levels of overall departmental spending in 2010-11 to help support the economy

through the downturn, but from 2011-12 onwards spending growth would reduce to help halve the deficit over the next four years.

At the same time, the Chancellor announced new efficiencies and reforms across the public sector including £11 billion of savings by 2012-13 through smarter government for example through rationalising Arms Length Bodies, greater use of online systems for providing advice and information to the public, cutting consultancy spend by 50 per cent, and better management of government assets. This reflects the Prime Minister's speech on 7 December announcing new public sector "efficiency savings" worth £3bn. £1.3bn of savings are expected to come from "streamlining" Whitehall, which is expected to mean job losses and relocations to the regions. [Back](#)

#### Pre Budget Report: other measures

The standard rate of VAT is returning to 17.5% on 1 January 2010 as planned, following a 13-month reduction to 15% which has cost the economy £11.5bn. There was some relief here that the rate of VAT would return to 17.5% and not to a higher rate, such as the 20% as some had predicted. The temporary increase in the threshold for empty property rate relief is extended.

Under the Housing Recovery Strategy the Pre-Budget Report announces components of a wider strategy to support a timely and effective housing supply response for example by ensuring more land is brought forward for development, through improving local authorities' five-year land supplies and it will 'reduce regulation and ensure requirements do not unduly constrain house building by scaling back section 106 requirements'. As section 106 agreements are used to set conditions associated with the granting of planning permission, for to ensure for example the restoration of heritage assets, this may have an impact for heritage organisations. Further information is awaited.

An additional £150 million investment will support low carbon technologies including £50m to investment in the development of the UK offshore wind industry and £40m support for low carbon technologies, including continued support for small-scale and community-level low-carbon energy generation. The income received by those who generate small-scale renewable electricity for their home through the clean energy cash-back scheme, worth on average £900 in 2010, will be tax free. [Back](#)

See [http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/prebud\\_pbr09\\_index.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/prebud_pbr09_index.htm)

#### New Edition of POW WOW published

The fourth issue of POW WOW, the quarterly Newsletter of Places of Worship @ Heritage Link has just been published, and is available to download from the POWlink pages of the Heritage Link website [www.heritagelink.org.uk](http://www.heritagelink.org.uk).

If you would like to be put on the mailing list to receive direct electronic copies of future issues of POW WOW, contact Deborah Jarman, Places of Worship Development Officer: [placesofworship@heritagelink.org.uk](mailto:placesofworship@heritagelink.org.uk). [Back](#)

#### Embedding Shared Heritage: the Heritage Diversity Task Force

The launch of Embedding Shared Heritage on 27 November marks the successful completion of the Task Force and the Mayor's Commission on African and Asian Heritage, a process that has engaged a wide range of stakeholders.

The report features a range of essays from key leaders and provides a timely snapshot of the sector's collaborative efforts to promote cultural diversity within organisational practices, policies and programmes. Prakash Daswani, Chief Executive of Cultural Co-operation, writes about diversifying heritage organisations; Lee Hong Fulton writes about diversifying the workforce; Professor Jack Lohman from the Museum of London looks at community heritage partnerships – and many more.

Copies of the report are available from [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk) and [www.mla.gov.uk/renaissance](http://www.mla.gov.uk/renaissance) [Back](#)

#### World Class Places Action Plan

In May, DCMS and CLG published World Class Places, the Government strategy that laid out why and how quality of place matters. Six months later, the new Action Plan states 'the challenges of the recession remain, but the agenda is still very clear – we must not sacrifice quality. To do so would be a false economy.' Published on 27 November, the Secretaries of State for DCMS and CLG set out seven

strategic objectives covering leadership, local prioritising, user-friendly government policy, guidance and standards, the government estate, and standards in market led development.

It sets out in detail how the Government will work with and support local authorities, developers, partners and regional bodies to help implement the Strategy. A number of actions promote the historic environment such as ensuring Regional Development Agencies work to improve quality of place, publishing the long-awaited statement of the Government's vision for the historic environment in England and a new planning policy on the historic environment. English Heritage will publish and promote its Historic Environment Characterisation tool and guidance document 'Constructive Conservation: Conservation Areas'. And under market-led development it proposes research demonstrating the significance of the historic environment to people's sense of place, including exploring both the social and economic benefits of investing in the historic environment.

Most interesting is Strategic Objective 4, putting the public at the centre of decision making by enabling greater public ownership of local assets such as parks and open spaces through, for example, the Advancing Assets and Community Builders programmes.

The Action Plan can be found at [http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/publications/6439.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/6439.aspx)  
World Class Places: The Government's Strategy for Improving Quality of Place can be found at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/worldclassplaces?view=Standard> [Back](#)

#### **HLF Skills for the Future: one off opportunity open until 19 March**

Skills for the Future will fund projects which provide paid training placements to meet a skills gap in the heritage sector, and support trainees to learn practical skills. It will fund traditional conservation training and also the skills needed to engage people with heritage. This could include the skills to deliver education, community participation or volunteering programmes, or to use new media and technology to open up heritage.

HLF welcomes applications from organisations which can deliver training opportunities in heritage that are additional to current or recent provision. Partnerships – for example of community and voluntary organisations, professional bodies and learning and training providers – can also apply. Priority will be given to not-for-profit organisations. If private sector organisations are involved, HLF expects the public benefit to be greater than any private gain.

There is only one opportunity to apply to Skills for the Future. The closing date is 19 March 2010. Awards will be made in May 2010. You can now register and apply online. For full details go to <http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/Skillsforthefuture.aspx> [Back](#)

#### **IfA seeks hosts for new HLF funded workplace learning bursary placements**

In October 2009 The Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) announced that it had been successful in securing £355,746.69 of additional funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to continue providing Workplace Learning Bursaries. This new funding will allow the project to continue for another 19 months, allowing 20 more individuals to take up placements with professional archaeological organisations. The new funding will be used to create new placements which will start throughout 2010 and 2011.

These new placements will be tailored to meet the skills gaps that have been identified by research undertaken by the IfA and will take account of the changing working landscape that is confronting archaeology as the recession bites into this sector. The project will also identify and train Workplace Learning Champions who will promote the scheme and workplace learning across the sector.

IfA now seeks hosts for new placements, if you would like to propose a placement at your organisation please read the information for prospective hosts on the IfA website <http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=156> and contact Natasha Kingham at [natasha.kingham@archaeologists.net](mailto:natasha.kingham@archaeologists.net) [Back](#)

#### **West Midlands Heritage Strategy Launched**

A new strategy setting the overall direction for the heritage sector in the West Midlands 'Putting the Historic Environment to Work' has been developed on behalf of the West Midlands Historic Environment Forum (HEF). The HEF is chaired by English Heritage and members come from the public, private and voluntary sector. The 5 year strategy is accompanied by an action plan which provides a framework for stakeholders to measure their progress in meeting identified priorities.

Three key themes underpin the strategy and form the core of HEF's vision of the historic environment - People, Places and Policies. It is aimed not only at policy-makers in ensuring the historic environment is considered in evolving strategic plans and policies throughout the West Midlands but also for communities to use to identify sources of support and possible funding for local projects that aim to enhance, conserve and broaden access to local heritage.

See [http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/Putting\\_the\\_Historic\\_Environment\\_to\\_Work\\_-\\_a\\_Strategy\\_for\\_the\\_West\\_Midlands.pdf?1260175952](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/Putting_the_Historic_Environment_to_Work_-_a_Strategy_for_the_West_Midlands.pdf?1260175952) [Back](#)

#### HCA launches new place-making workshops

A new free flexible electronic toolkit, Train&Sustain, from Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) provides trainers with materials to give audiences a good understanding of place-making and practical examples of how to make communities more sustainable. The toolkit includes bite-sized information that describes different aspects of place-making; a workshop presentation sufficient to support a one-hour, half-day or full-day workshop; supporting information including learning activities, case studies, audio and video; and downloadable guides that provide advice on how to use the toolkit and background information about place-making.

The resource enables trainers to construct a variety of learning activities, and to tailor the contents and structure to suit different audiences. The material can be adapted to reflect different localities by adding local case studies, information about specific organisations or other relevant resources. To access Train&Sustain visit: <http://trainandsustain.hcaacademy.co.uk> [Back](#)

#### Historic Towns Forum: Managing Heritage Assets for Added Value

A national seminar series has been developed by the Historic Towns Forum and English Heritage to support those in local authorities responsible for strategic management and policy making. It aims to show how a strategic approach to conservation management as part of planning and development will help not only to protect and enhance conservation areas but also to achieve broader corporate objectives.

Four seminars will be held in Manchester, Exeter, Birmingham and London in January and February 2010. Each will demonstrate the strategic importance of conservation, looking at the implications arising from the Conservation Areas At Risk survey and the importance of proactive management. In addition, regional issues will be addressed, with an optional local case study and study tour.

Fee: £50 per person per event - this includes all refreshments, seminar materials and the site visit. A free place is offered to an Elected Member accompanying a paying Officer, or an Officer accompanying a paying Councillor

For further information see <http://www.historictownsforum.org/CAAR> [Back](#)

#### York Foundation: Grants and Bursaries for Craftsmen and Conservators

Applications are invited by the York Foundation for Conservation and Craftsmanship for bursaries to assist the training of craftsmen and conservators. Bursaries of up to £1,500 each are available to further the knowledge and skills of craftsmen and conservators at various stages of their careers. This can include CPD courses. Bursaries of up to £3,000 are offered to encourage and assist established craftsmen and conservators to take on a new apprentice/trainee. Some awards are restricted to people with links to York and Yorkshire. The closing date for receipt of applications is 27 March 2010.

The Trustees are particularly keen to facilitate the taking on of new trainees/apprentice either starting out or part way through a three year apprenticeship, or a person not yet in the trade/profession but who, having had some basic skills training or relevant experience, needs further skills training to qualify. Applications for such bursaries would normally be expected from the potential employer. A full list of previous years' winners appears at: <http://www.conservationyork.org.uk/html/winners.htm>

Application forms can be downloaded from <http://www.conservationyork.org.uk/html/appform10.htm> or from the Secretary by email [conservationyork@hotmail.com](mailto:conservationyork@hotmail.com) or by post from The Merchant Adventurers' Hall, Fossgate, York YO1 9XD. The Consortium's new Directory is now available from the Secretary at [conservationyork@hotmail.com](mailto:conservationyork@hotmail.com) [Back](#)

### £2.6m 'Christmas bonus' for high streets with empty shops

On 4 December the Government announced a further £2.6 million to fifty more high streets, The Government is determined to make sure town centres remain vibrant places and earlier this year it put in place a fund to help many of the hardest hit areas reopen or re-use empty shops. This latest boost will bring the total empty shops funding allocated to £5.6 million. Each council receives a £52,000 grant to use as they see fit such as a showroom for local artists, a nativity scene or other ideas to spruce up the high street.

Communities Secretary John Denham is also publishing special lease templates called 'meanwhile use leases' that will make it easier for local groups to temporarily use a vacant property rent free for a non-commercial purpose while the landlord seeks a permanent new business. These standardised documents give landlords the chance to reduce their property bills costs, avoid empty property rates, ensure the building is maintained whilst having the legal assurance of getting the property back quickly once they can let it commercially again. See <http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1403194> [Back](#)

### Government backs down on sale of BW's Assets

Inland Waterways Association welcomed the Government announcement postponing the proposed assets sell –off. In the 'Operational Efficiency Programme : Asset Portfolio' see <http://www.hmg.gov.uk/media/52715/oep-assetportfolio.pdf> the 2009 budget proposal to transfer its property activities (including joint ventures) into a wholly-owned property subsidiary, appears to have been shelved. Instead, 'the Government recognises that there may be benefits in considering alternative structures for BW's business as a whole, including its property portfolio. We will therefore consider alternative models for the business as a whole, such as mutual or third sector structures. As part of any such future structure for BW, therefore, there may be opportunities for the private sector to invest in the portfolio'.

IWA believes that not selling BW's assets makes economic sense. British Waterways' property contributes some £45m per annum towards the £125m the company needs to maintain its inland waterways network, and to have sold the assets would have had dire consequences for the waterways, not only from a maintenance point of view but also in terms of British Waterways vision for becoming a third sector organisation.

IWA now seeks great clarity on the last sentence of the statement. For further information on IWA's long-running campaign see <http://www.waterways.org.uk/Home> [Back](#)

## PEOPLE

### The Heritage Alliance – new Trustees

As well as a new name, The Heritage Alliance gained four new Trustees on 2 December: Denis Dunstone from the Transport Trust, Mary King from King Partnership, Charles Angus as Honorary Treasurer, and Ela Palmer from ASHTAV. Trustees serve for three years, renewable for a further term.

With new Chairman Loyd Grossman, they join Ian Lush, Deputy Chair and Architectural Heritage Fund, Ben Cowell, the National Trust, Catherine Croft, the Twentieth Century Society, Mike Heyworth, Council for British Archaeology, David Souden, Historic Royal Palaces, Crispin Truman, Churches Conservation Trust and Nick Way, Historic Houses Association to make up the Board of The Heritage Alliance. [Back](#)

### Women to Watch: nominations invited

The Cultural Leadership Programme is calling on the cultural and creative sector to nominate their 'woman to watch' – women who have already made a noticeable impact within the sector and have the potential to rise to the top – for inclusion on the Cultural Leadership Programme's inaugural Women to Watch list 2010.

Submissions are invited from across the creative and cultural sectors, including advertising, archives, crafts, design, libraries, literature, museums, music, performing and visual arts, the historic environment and other creative businesses.

The list will be announced in March 2010 to coincide with International Women's Day and the achievements of the 50 selected women will be celebrated at an evening reception. The deadline is 29

January. Nominations can be completed online or forms downloaded at [www.culturalleadership.org.uk/W2W](http://www.culturalleadership.org.uk/W2W) [Back](#)

## EVENTS

### Britain's Changing Towns, 28 January – 4 March 2010

The Twentieth Century Society Spring 2010 lecture series looks at how our towns have changed over the last 40 years. Do we now rate of revere the modern buildings and infrastructure admired in the 1960s? The C20 Society asks the authors of five recent Pevsner City Guides to take a fresh look at what architectural critic Ian Nairn praised in his series of articles *Britain's Changing Towns*, from 1960 onwards.

The lectures are 28 January, Ian Nairn by Jonathan Meades; 4 February, Brighton by Richard Morrice; 11 February, Sheffield by John Minnis; 18 February, Birmingham by Andy Foster; 25 February, Manchester by Clare Hartwell; and 4 March, Newcastle upon Tyne by Grace McCombie.

All lectures are at 6.30pm on Thursdays at The Gallery, 70 Cowcross Street, London EC1M 6EJ, Members £7, non-members £9, students £5. All include a glass of wine. Book via: [administrator@c20society.org.uk](mailto:administrator@c20society.org.uk) 020 7250 3857 or see [www.c20society.org.uk](http://www.c20society.org.uk) [Back](#)

### Garden History Society winter lecture series

This series cover an extraordinarily wide range of subjects during February and March, including The Trentham Estate: A Contemporary Revival on February 3 and Paradise of Exiles: The Anglo-Florentine Garden on 10 February: The Temptations of Using Archaeology in Historic Gardens on February 17 (6:30 pm to 8:00 pm) is the 8th GHS Annual Lecture at the Royal Horticultural Halls and Conference Centre in London given by Brian Dix, International Garden Archaeologist. It is followed by Affliction Brightened by Hope: The Evolution of the English Cemetery Landscape on March 3 and Discovering Gilbert White's Garden on March 10.

For further information on the speakers, venues and ticket prices, see <http://www.gardenhistorysociety.org/events/> [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](#)

### EH Heritage Protection Administrators x4

English Heritage's Heritage Protection Department carries out a number of statutory and corporate functions in terms of designation and is the lead department on Heritage Protection Reform.

Applications are invited for four posts, based in English Heritage's offices in Bristol, £16,065; Cambridge, £17,404; London, £18,743 and York, £14,838 on a fixed-term contract until December 2010. The post holders will help to deliver all designation casework efficiently, transparently and accountably, involving the administration of casework, preparation of letters, handling enquiries, and general project support and will need to be able to work to tight deadlines.

With excellent administrative and communication skills, candidates will be personable and able to deal with a wide range of contacts. They must be highly organised and have good attention to detail. A working knowledge of databases is also required. Please state in your application which location you prefer.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs) cvs not accepted. Closing date 15 January 2010. Interviews will be held in February 2010.

### Diocese of Newcastle: Inspired North East Development Officer

Inspired North East is a new project that will support churches to make best use of their buildings for local communities and visitors. The Diocese is looking for someone who has: experience of heritage, visitor development or other buildings-related discipline; the skills to enable and motivate groups and individuals; the ability to work strategically and in partnership with other agencies; and an understanding of the use of church buildings and how to adapt them

Salary c £27,000 (three year fixed term contract). For details contact the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne tel: 01670 503810, email: [p.robinson@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:p.robinson@newcastle.anglican.org) or go to [www.newcastle.anglican.org](http://www.newcastle.anglican.org) Closing date for applications: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Interviews: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 in North Shields.

### National Trust General Manager, Wiltshire

This unique portfolio encompasses all National Trust countryside properties in Wiltshire (including Calstone & Cherhill Down, Cley Hill, Hinton Parva, Dinton, Eastleigh Court, Figsbury Ring, Joiners Hall, Lockeridge Dene, Melbury & Fontmell Estate, Pepperbox, Piggledene, Sutton Lane Meadows, White Barrow and Win Green Hill. It also includes two World Heritage Sites – Avebury and the landscape surrounding Stonehenge).

This is a role for a leader with vision, entrepreneurial thinking, and, above all, a passion for preserving our national heritage for all to enjoy for generations to come. Working with an ambitious 'triple bottom line' approach to balance environmental, social and financial needs, the focus will be on visitor enjoyment, conservation and profitability

Salary £45,000pa permanent, full-time. Ref NT09/04271. For further information apply online at [www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrustjobs.org.uk) using quick search reference NT09/04245. Closing date: 18 December 2009.

### Notes and subscription [Back](#)

1. The Heritage Alliance is an operating name for Heritage Link, Heritage Link is a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales Registered Company No 4577804 and a Registered Charity. Charity No 1094793. Registered Office Clutha House, 10 Storey's Gate, London, SW1P 3AY.

2. It is estimated that Heritage Update reaches about 12,000 mailboxes in the UK and beyond.

3. Subscription policy:

By popular request from individuals, agencies and commercial companies who cannot formally join The Heritage Alliance as members but wish to support its work, the following subscription rates for Heritage Update are recommended:

Individual subscription: £25.00pa (cheques preferred, payable to Heritage Link; for address see above.  
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 The Heritage Alliance.

4. If you would like to be included in the circulation list for Heritage 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.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk](mailto:kate.pugh@heritagelink.org.uk)

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

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