



Welcome to this month's NMDC newsletter, which includes a supplement with summaries of the policies affecting museums in the three main parties' manifestos.

[www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

## NMDC News

### NMDC Meeting

The National Museum Directors' Conference met on 8 April. The discussion included proposals to promote cultural diversity, as well as the NMDC joint response to the DCMS consultation Understanding the Future. Alex Stewart of Saxton Bampfylde and Marc Jordan of AEA Consulting joined the meeting to discuss their recent research on succession planning.

### National Museums Marketing Group

The National Museums Marketing Group met on 15 April. A sub-group has been established to take forward work on visitor profile surveys and attitudinal surveys, aiming to develop better understanding of existing data collection, and proposals to develop greater consistency and coherence. The group will also be looking at research into non-users.

### Joint Advocacy Group

The leading museum sector bodies met at the Imperial War Museum on 11 April to take forward the work begun with the Manifesto for Museums in 2004. By working together, the group aims to make the strongest possible case for museum funding in the next Spending Round. Peter Jenkinson and Hillary Gresty of VAGA, joined the meeting to discuss the Right to Art campaign

### PR Group

The PR Group met on 22 April at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms. The Group discussed policy for working with TV producers and film crews and gave updates on current and future events at their institutions.

### IPPR Project - Culture, Community and Civil Renewal

The final two seminars for the ippr (Institute of Public Policy Research [www.ippr.org.uk](http://www.ippr.org.uk)) project 'Culture, Community and Civil Renewal', in which NMDC is a partner were held last month.

The first of these 'Community and Business - Arts, Heritage and Civil Renewal' was held on 15 April and explored the role that business could play in supporting community volunteering and the potential benefits to both business, the individual and the community. Speakers included John Knell of the Intelligence Agency, Phillip Mind from the Voluntary and Community Sector Team at HM Treasury and Andrew Litchfield of Nationwide who talked about the joint Nationwide/HLF/Countryside Agency LHI project. The final seminar 'Art, Heritage and Civil Renewal: Do we have the right policies?' was held on 28 April. Discussion focused on the interrelation between cultural participation, social capital and civil renewal and the structural role of cultural and public organisations. Speakers included Professor Vivien Lowndes of the Local Government Research Unit at De Montford University, David Halpern of the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit, and Ben Rogers and Emily Keaney of ippr.

Following this series of seminars, ippr are planning to present findings to the Minister for the Arts and the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport in June. These will be produced in a report to be published in July. Further information about the project can be found at:

[www.ippr.org.uk/research/teams](http://www.ippr.org.uk/research/teams)  
[.ippr.org.uk/research/teams](http://www.ippr.org.uk/research/teams)  
[/project.asp?id=837&pid=837](http://project.asp?id=837&pid=837)

# Members News

## World Museum Liverpool Opens

The World Museum Liverpool opened on 29 April. Visiting crowds were entertained by musicians and dancers and the newly appointed NML Chairman, Loyd Grossman, cut the giant pink ribbon to officially open the new museum, following its £35million refurbishment.

Previously known as the Liverpool Museum, the relaunched World Museum Liverpool has more than double its original display space in which to display its archaeology, ethnology and natural and physical sciences collections, as well as housing Britain's only free Planetarium.

Last month NML reported its highest visitor figures on record, with this year's count standing at 1,537,590. It is hoped that the World Museum Liverpool will become a favourite with a new generation of visitors.

To visit the World Museum Liverpool website go to: [www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/wml)

## National Waterfront Museum Swansea Announces Opening Date

The official opening of the new National Waterfront Museum in Swansea will take place during Trafalgar Week this October. The opening will be a major event within the UK-wide Sea Britain Festival, inspired by the 200th anniversary of Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. The £30m HLF-funded museum will use cutting edge technology to bring Wales' industrial heritage to life for visitors of all ages. For further information visit:

[www.nmgw.ac.uk/nwms/](http://www.nmgw.ac.uk/nwms/)

## FameLab Science series on Channel Four

NMSI's Dana Centre and MAGNI's W5 each hosted a round of auditions for FameLab - a competition to find the best new talent in science communication. Dubbed as 'the science world's equivalent to Pop idol', the nationwide hunt aims to find a new generation of David Attenboroughs and Susan Greenfields who can excite and inspire the public imagination.

The overall winner, to be established at the final on 11 June at the 2005 Cheltenham Science Festival will be given broadcasting time on Channel 4, a UK tour of speaking events and £2000 prize money.

For further details go to: [www.FameLab.org](http://www.FameLab.org)

## V&A receives £2m donation

The V&A has been given £2 million to create a new garden by John Madejski, the owner of Reading Football Club. The garden, which opens on 6 July, is being named after Mr. Madejski. The garden will provide a welcome focal point from which to explore the Museum, and will be used as a stage for display, theatre, parties and events. It is a central part of the V&A's ten year future plan to transform the museum. [www.vam.ac.uk.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk.uk)

## Older Peoples Conference at NML

National Museums Liverpool is organising an 'Older Peoples Conference: Raising the Profile of Health Related Reminiscence Projects within Museum and Heritage Sites' on 13 May 2005 at the Merseyside Maritime Museum. The Conference has been organised for both museum professionals and for health related issues, university research units and other bodies involved with creating facilities and resources for and with older people. Further information will be available on the MLA website shortly at:

[www.mla.gov.uk](http://www.mla.gov.uk)

## NMSI Website Wins Award

NMSI's Making of the Modern World website ([www.makingthemodernworld.org.uk](http://www.makingthemodernworld.org.uk)) has been named Best of the Web at this year's Museums and the Web conference in Vancouver ([www.archimuse.com/mw2005/](http://www.archimuse.com/mw2005/)). The site relays stories about science and innovation from the eighteenth century through to today.

## Final ReDiscover Fund Awards Announced

£7.3 million has been awarded to science centres and museums across the UK in the final round of funding from ReDiscover, the renewal fund formed as a joint venture between the Millennium Commission, the Wellcome Trust and the Wolfson Foundation. Grants include £570,466 to National Museums Liverpool for a new exhibition centre around a working laboratory, £287,831 to the Imperial War Museum, Duxford for an exhibition called 'How Does an Aeroplane Fly' and £85,924 to the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich for a new audio-visual simulation, forming the main focus of the development of the Museum Bridge Gallery. For further information go to:

[www.millennium.gov.uk/news/](http://www.millennium.gov.uk/news/)

# Current Issues

## May is Museums and Galleries Month

The Prince of Wales launched this year's Museums and Galleries Month in the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace on 27 April. Events this year include a 'Fabulous Finds Day' on 30 April where nine museums, including the Museum of London

([www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)), welcomed members of the public bringing in historical objects for discussion and identification with museum experts.

All over Europe, museums will be opening late on 14 May for Nuit des Musees, or Museums at Night, an event led by the French Government. UK participants include Tate Modern ([www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)), who are keeping their collection, restaurants and cafes open late as well as the special exhibition of paintings by August Stridberg.

For further details of these and many other events visit the Museums and Galleries month website at: [www.mgm.org.uk](http://www.mgm.org.uk)

## Transfer of Cultural Property Functions to MLA

Further to the article in last month's newsletter, reporting the planned transfer of cultural property functions to the MLA from DCMS, the transfer has now taken place and MLA will carry out the following functions on behalf of the Secretary of State:

- The Acceptance in Lieu Scheme
- The Government Indemnity Scheme
- The Secretariat to the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art
- Export Licensing for Cultural Goods (from 1st May)

For further details go the MLA's website at: [www.mla.gov.uk/news/press\\_article.asp?articleid=795](http://www.mla.gov.uk/news/press_article.asp?articleid=795)

[www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

## Invest to Save funds for Arts and Culture

HM Treasury announced in April the increased access to the arts and culture sector and improved energy efficiency in the public sector, will be priority areas for the allocation of £40 million from the Invest to Save - Inclusive Communities Budget (ISB). Relevant projects will be able to bid for the funds from this, the 8th round of ISB allocations, from June 2005. Further details are expected to be announced after the next election. Meanwhile, to view the full treasury press release go to: [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/treasury.gov.uk/newsroom\\_and\\_speeches/press/2005/press\\_38\\_05.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/treasury.gov.uk/newsroom_and_speeches/press/2005/press_38_05.cfm)

Details of previous winning projects can be viewed on the 'Projects' section of the ISB website at [www.isb.gov.uk](http://www.isb.gov.uk).

## English Heritage publish teachers' guide for Citizenship

English Heritage has published a teachers' guide that provides practical help for Foundation to KS3 teachers wishing to draw on the historic environment as a resource for teaching citizenship. The guide explores themes including buildings at risk and regeneration, and inspiration is provided through case studies. A CD-ROM is also provided.

Further information: [www.english-heritage.org.uk/education](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/education)

## NESTA Survey on Scientific Enquiries

The Centre for Studies in Science and Mathematics Education (CSSME) at the University of Leeds has been commissioned by NESTA (the National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts) to conduct a survey of innovative projects in which students undertake scientific enquiries. CSSME anticipate that a significant amount of activity of this kind occurs in connection with museums and science centres and would like to hear from colleagues with knowledge of work of this kind.

Further information can be found at [www.education.leeds.ac.uk/research/cssme/projects.php?project=1&page=1](http://www.education.leeds.ac.uk/research/cssme/projects.php?project=1&page=1)

## Archive Visits up 24% After BBC Series

Research carried out by the BBC into the effectiveness of their 'Who Do You Think You Are?' series has found that 7% of UK adults began researching their family history for the first time in October and November as a result of watching the series. The BBC series and Archive Awareness Campaign events have proved a great success in increasing visitor numbers to archives. Archives recorded a 24% increase in visits and a 36% increase in new users in the last quarter of 2004 compared to the same period in 2003.

For more information about the Archives Awareness Campaign visit [www.archiveawareness.com](http://www.archiveawareness.com). The BBC 'Who Do You Think You Are?' website can be viewed at: [www.bbc.co.uk/history/familyhistory](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/familyhistory).

## MLA announce funding allocations for Renaissance

The MLA announced in April how the £100 million Renaissance funding will be allocated to museums throughout England between 2005-08.

Most of the money will go to regional Hubs: a network of flagship museums in each region, which are responsible for setting standards and providing advice. But others are also set to benefit, with £21 million set aside to support smaller or independent museums throughout the country.

The regional allocations for 2005/06 to 2007/08 are:

- North West Hub £7.101 million
- Yorkshire Hub £5.946 million
- East of England Hub £6.189 million
- London Hub £7.14 million
- East Midlands Hub £5.313 million
- South East Hub £7.874 million
- North East Hub (pilot) £10.603 million
- South West Hub (pilot) £15.601 million
- West Midlands Hub (pilot) £16.44 million
- Total for Hubs £82.207 million
- Other funding £21.007 million
- Total 2005/06-2007/08 £103.214 million

For further information go to: [www.mla.gov.uk/news/press\\_article.asp?articleid=795](http://www.mla.gov.uk/news/press_article.asp?articleid=795)

## Arts Organisation E-marketing survey

The Arts Marketing Association (AMA) has conducted a pilot benchmarking project funded by Arts Council England to assess the effectiveness of arts organisations' e-marketing activity. 32 organisations have taken part in the research from across the UK. The most frequent response from pilot participants for the total number of unique visitors to their website each month is 2,000-8,000. However a couple reported well over 50,000 and the highest response was 289,284. The research also showed that arts organisations spend less than 1p (marketing costs only) to attract each visit and each unique visitor to their site and it takes less than 10 seconds of staff time working on e-marketing to attract each visit.

To download the full report go to: [www.a-m-a.co.uk/news\\_detail.asp?id=18](http://www.a-m-a.co.uk/news_detail.asp?id=18)

## Murex and Li Show

Murex The National Museum Resources Exhibition ([www.museum-expo.com](http://www.museum-expo.com)) took place alongside the Library and Information Show ([www.lishow.co.uk](http://www.lishow.co.uk)) on 20 and 21 April at the Birmingham NEC. The shows provided a forum for Museum and Library suppliers to exhibit a wide range of products from Deepstore ([www.deepstore.com](http://www.deepstore.com)), an organisation offering storage solutions in a Cheshire salt mine, to CABI Bioscience ([www.discoverybiosystems.org](http://www.discoverybiosystems.org)) who produce fungal sampling kits. There was also a series of seminars given by museum and library professionals.

The MLA's Chris Batt gave the keynote speech on 20 April in which he discussed the potential of the Knowledge Web, an initiative that will link digital collections across the country giving easy access to users by extracting knowledge and presenting it reassembled as personalized answers to specific questions (for further information go to: [www.mla.gov.uk/documents/iik\\_kw.pdf](http://www.mla.gov.uk/documents/iik_kw.pdf))

If you have any comments on the NMDC Newsletter or would like to contribute to a future edition, please contact Claire Henry – [chenry@iwm.org.uk](mailto:chenry@iwm.org.uk)

## Adult Learners Week 21-27 May

Adult Learners' Week, the UK's largest festival and celebration of adult learning, co-ordinated by NIACE and core-funded by the DfES, ESF and learndirect, starts on 21 May.

Participating Museums in England and Wales can upload their events on a special calendar hosted on the NIACE Website at:

[www.niace.org.uk/ALW/2005/Calendar/Default.htm](http://www.niace.org.uk/ALW/2005/Calendar/Default.htm).

For further details go to: [www.niace.org.uk/ALW/2005/Default.htm](http://www.niace.org.uk/ALW/2005/Default.htm)

## The Changing Role of Museums in the 21st Century

The Goodenough trust hosted a conference on 23 April on 'The Changing Role of Museums in the 21st Century'. A wide range of issues was discussed from Government intervention in museums and lottery policy to education and future developments in computer interactives at museums.

Dr. George Roussos of the London Knowledge Lab gave an intriguing insight into the future of interactive technology at museums, where computers are used to track visitors movements around the museum so that they can revisit exhibits 'virtually' on the web when they return home.

Sam Moorhead, Head of Interpretation at the British Museum ([www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)) looked at the ways in which the BM had attempted to make their galleries more accessible within the constraints of working with a historic building. Sam described how the BM was trying to find new voices when creating exhibitions, juxtaposing historical and contemporary material.

Liz Gilmore discussed the development of community programmes at the National Gallery ([www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)), such as the young mothers group who made sculptural responses to Raphael's Madonna of the Pinks. This prompted an interesting debate during the panel discussion in the afternoon on the extent to which art should be valued for its own sake rather than its potential to achieve social goals.

For more information about the programme go to: [www.goodenough.ac.uk/conferences.html](http://www.goodenough.ac.uk/conferences.html)

## International Museum Day 2005

ICOM is inviting museums all over the world to celebrate International Museum Day on 18 May 2005. To pay tribute to cultural diversity and to encourage museums in their role of spanning various ethnic, religious, and national divides, this year's theme is "Museums Bridging Cultures". For further information and a list of suggested activities visit the ICOM website at:

<http://icom.museum/imd.html>

## First Chair of ALM London announced

Geoffrey Bond has been announced as the first Chair of ALM London ([www.almlondon.org.uk](http://www.almlondon.org.uk)), the strategic regional development agency for archives, libraries and museums in London. Mr Bond, who has been a trustee of ALM London since July 2004 will take up the post immediately.

## New Chief Executive for Royal Parks

DCMS has announced the appointment of Mark Camley as Chief Executive of The Royal Parks ([www.royalparks.gov.uk/](http://www.royalparks.gov.uk/)). He will take up the post at an early date to be agreed.

## New Post for Estelle Morris

Estelle Morris has been appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sunderland where she will take a lead role in developing the University's partnerships with schools, colleges, communities and other partners. Ms Morris, who is stepping down at the election, will take up her new role in June on a part-time basis. For further information visit the University of Sunderland website at:

<http://welcome.sunderland.ac.uk/news.asp?n=242/news.asp?id=242>

## New Chief Executive Appointed to SWMLAC

Bob Sharpe has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of the South West Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (SWMLAC). He will be taking over from Sam Hunt from July 2005. Bob is currently Director of Information and Learning Services at the University of Plymouth and has been closely associated with SWMLAC, both as a Board member and leading up a strategy for ICT development. For further information about SWMLAC go to: [www.swmlac.org.uk](http://www.swmlac.org.uk)

## **New Digital Futures Team**

David Dawson has been appointed as Head of the Digital Futures Team at MLA. The team will be taking forward a wide range of ICT initiatives including the launch of the People's Network Service and the development of the concept of the Knowledge Web.

For more information contact David Dawson on 0207 273 1415, email: david.dawson@mla.gov.uk

## **The Electronic Museum**

A new web resource for technical managers, developers, authors, or any other professionals who are using the web, kiosk, or similar technologies in a museum context is launching in May. The site includes reviews, a discussion forum and articles such as 'Google for Museums' including 'ten easy-win things to do with Google for your museum website'. To view the site and for further information go

[www.electronicmuseum.org.uk](http://www.electronicmuseum.org.uk)

## **artExchanges website launched**

A new website showing how artists create art has been launched by Bradford Museums, Galleries & Heritage. ArtExchanges at

[www.artexchanges.org.uk](http://www.artexchanges.org.uk) aims to help young people and adults learn, from artists themselves, the processes they use to make art. The initial concept for the project was funded by Culture Online. The website has been designed so that new content can be added to it from projects between schools and museums and galleries.

## **24 Hour Museum Web Survey**

The 24 Hour Museum has published their 2004 web survey. Since 2002, the 24 Hour Museum has undertaken an annual survey of web statistics for UK cultural websites, with performance indicators used for the survey drawn from NOF guidelines plus an extra one added by them.

Tate Online was the museum with the highest number of total visitor sessions in 2004 with 3,995,048 recorded. VisitBritain had the highest number of sessions overall at 5,727,412. You can download the results for the 2004 survey from the 24 Hour Museum site at: [www.24hourmuseum.org.uk/etcorg.uk/etc/formuseums/TXT21448\\_gfx\\_en.html](http://www.24hourmuseum.org.uk/etcorg.uk/etc/formuseums/TXT21448_gfx_en.html)

## **CALIMERA launches a policy toolkit for cross domain working**

A new toolkit aimed at supporting anyone developing policies for partnerships between museums, libraries and archives has been launched by CALIMERA.

Funded under the European Commission's Information Science Technologies (IST) programme ([www.cordis.lu/ist/](http://www.cordis.lu/ist/)), the CALIMERA project was set up to co-ordinate IST for Europe's local cultural institutions (for further information visit their website at [www.calimera.org](http://www.calimera.org)) The CALIMERA 'Policy Toolkit' is available online at [www.calimera.org/tool-kit/default.htm](http://www.calimera.org/tool-kit/default.htm)

A policy forum has been set up by CALIMERA to enable discussion about the policy toolkit and related issues. To join the forum go to <http://www.calimera.org/default.aspx> and follow the link to register.

## **Talking Images Publications Online**

The RNIB and Vocaleyes have recently published Talking Images publications online, including a report provides advice on improving access to museums, galleries and heritage sites for blind and partially sighted people and a research report that summarises research studies undertaken.

The publications can be accessed at [www.rnib.org.uk/audiodescription](http://www.rnib.org.uk/audiodescription)

## **24 Hour Museum Website nominated for 'Webby'**

Show Me, the 24 Hour Museum's zone for kids, has been nominated for a prestigious international Webby Award.

The Webby Awards are leading international awards honouring excellence in web design, creativity, usability and functionality. This year the 9th Annual Webby Awards received more than 4,000 entries from over 40 countries worldwide. Show Me has been nominated in the Education category. To visit the Show Me site go to: [www.show.me.uk](http://www.show.me.uk).

For more information about the Webby Awards and to vote visit: <http://pv.webbyawards.com/>

## MLA Publication and Prize for Website Accessibility

MLA's new national report assessing accessibility standards across the sector was launched on 12 April. The launch coincided with the announcement of the biennial Jodi Mattes Accessibility Awards.

The report 'Accessibility of museum, library and archive websites' produced by City University revealed that the sector's compliance with web accessibility standards is about the national average and that the sector is improving with the level of compliance with the basic accessibility guidelines, WAI Level A, at over twice that found by the Disability Rights Commission in an audit undertaken last year. To download the full report go to: [www.mla.gov.uk/documents/mla\\_web\\_accessibility.pdf](http://www.mla.gov.uk/documents/mla_web_accessibility.pdf)

The Jodi Mattes Excellence Award 2005 was won by Webwords ([www.webwords.org](http://www.webwords.org)). Created by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead the website provides audio extracts of some 500 audio books, allowing visually impaired people - and every user - to choose their preferred narrator. The Award for Excellence with Low Budgets 2005 went to Pewsey Heritage Centre's website ([www.pewsey-heritage-centre.org.uk](http://www.pewsey-heritage-centre.org.uk)). The Centre runs on a budget of only £1,000 a year and judges were impressed that their carefully designed site that meets WAI (Web Accessibility Initiative) Level AA guidelines.

## International Issues

### Measuring the Muse Conference

The National Arts Journalism Program (najp) is hosting a conference called 'Measuring the Muse: Arts Research from the Frontlines' at Columbia University on 5 May. The conference will explore the real value of creativity in the economy, how artists and cultural institutions affect their communities in the US and whether arts participation is on the decline, among other issues. For further information go to [www.najp.org/events/measuringmuse/index.html](http://www.najp.org/events/measuringmuse/index.html)

## Lord and American Museum of Natural History Announce Strategic Alliance

LORD Cultural Resources and the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) have developed a strategic alliance enabling LORD to offer content and expertise from AMNH to its clients and projects worldwide. In turn, the AMNH will have access to an international network of cultural institutions to present travelling exhibitions, planetarium shows, and develop new partnerships.

For further information go to:

[www.lord.ca/whatsnew/PDF/AMNHannouncement25Apr05.pdf](http://www.lord.ca/whatsnew/PDF/AMNHannouncement25Apr05.pdf)

## MoMA to receive largest cash gift

MoMA ([www.moma.org](http://www.moma.org)) is to receive its largest cash gift according to reports in the New York Times and Washington Post last month. Their Chairman Emeritus David Rockefeller has made a pledge of \$100 million to the Museum's endowment. Although the Museum will only receive the money after his death, Rockefeller will give the museum \$5 million a year as though it were already invested. Rockefeller, who is 89, is the son of one of MoMA's founder members.

## Forthcoming Meetings

### Learning and Access Committee

Tuesday 17 May, 2pm, National Portrait Gallery

### Spoilation Working Group

Tuesday 17 May, 4.30pm, Tate Britain

### NMDC Executive Committee

Thursday 26 May 2005, 11am, IWM

Friday 16 September 2005, 11am, IWM

### Valuing Museums Working Group

Tuesday 14 June, 10am, venue t.b.c.

### HR Forum

Friday 17 June, 1pm, National Portrait Gallery

# Parliamentary Report

## Gift Aid omitted from Finance Bill

Gift Aid was omitted from the Finance Bill, which went through parliament last month and is now the Finance Act 2005. If Labour return to government following the election, it is likely that Gift Aid measures will be included as drafted in the supplemental act. If there is a change of government the issue may be reopened. The Finance Act 2005 can be downloaded from: [www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2005/20050007.htm](http://www.legislation.hmso.gov.uk/acts/acts2005/20050007.htm)

## The Market for Art

The Culture, Media and Sport Committee have published their 6th report 'The Market For Art'. The report calls for DCMS to 'signal and promote the arts throughout government'. It is critical of DCMS's lobbying power in Government stating that it 'seldom punches, if it punches at all, at a weight commensurate with the centrality of the arts to our national life'. It recommends that the UK takes the important opportunity afforded by its forthcoming presidency of the European Union to promote international co-operation in cultural development.

Although the Committee state that they are not against Droit de Suite in principle they recommend that the Government lowers the threshold at which the resale right applies from 3,000 to 1,000 euros so as not to benefit solely the richest artists. They also recommend that Government should renew efforts to achieve universal adoption of Droit de Suite through international channels in order to minimise the potential damage to the UK art market as a result of the policy's implementation from January 2006.

To view the full report go to: [www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmcmds.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmcmds.htm)

# [www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

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## **Election Supplement: Policies affecting museums from the three main parties.**

This is a summary of some of the main policies affecting museums and galleries published by Labour, the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats during the current election campaign. Both the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives launched a separate mini manifesto or policy document for culture issues entitled 'Focus on Culture, Media, Sport & Tourism,' and 'Action on Arts Heritage' respectively. For New Labour most policies that affect museums directly are in their main manifesto in Chapter 8 entitled 'Quality of life: Excellence for all. Forward to Olympic gold, not back to cuts in sport and culture'. The beginning of each party section gives a web link where you can download the full text.

### **The Labour Party manifesto 2005**

[www.labour.org.uk/fileadmin/manifesto\\_13042005\\_a3/pdf/manifesto.pdf](http://www.labour.org.uk/fileadmin/manifesto_13042005_a3/pdf/manifesto.pdf)

'We believe in the inherent value of arts, culture and sport. Our towns and cities are being energised by sports and culture and as they are regenerated the quality of life for all is transformed' (pg. 93)

**Free Entry.** 'Since the introduction of free entry, visits to our national museums and galleries have risen by 75 per cent'.

**Renaissance in the Regions.** 'By 2008 we will have invested £147 million in partnerships across the county, modernizing museum collections, broadening access to new audiences and providing a comprehensive service to schools' (pg. 94)

**Arts Council England.** 'From 2006 we will provide £12 million over two years to the Arts Council England to promote leadership and management in the cultural sector.'(pg. 94)

**Philanthropy.** 'We will explore further ways to encourage philanthropy to boost the quality of our public art collections.' (pg. 94)

**Creative Partnerships and Creative Sparks.** 'Our aim is that everyone should have the opportunity to participate in cultural life, and we want that involvement to start as early as possible. Creative Partnerships, our programme of support for art in schools in our most disadvantaged areas, has already reached over 150,000 children. We will build on this approach by rolling out our new programme Creative Sparks to guarantee that all children and young people will be given the chance to experience the very best of culture every year'. (pg.95)

**Lottery** 'By the end of 2005 we will put in place a new, national consultation on the way that the National Lottery good causes proceeds are spent after the new Lottery Licence is awarded in 2009' (pg. 100)

### **Conservative Action on Arts Heritage**

[www.conservatives.com/file.do?def=manifesto.index.page](http://www.conservatives.com/file.do?def=manifesto.index.page)

'We will trust the professionals to get on with the job of enriching the nation through passion and excellence not targets and paperwork'.

'Our vision is of a nation that seeks and rewards excellence in the arts, appreciates and learns from our heritage, and enjoys the benefits of successful British film and music industries'(pg.1).

**Free Entry.** 'We will support museums that provide free access, and we will not impose entry charges. Neither will we penalise those institutions that feel it is in their best interests to charge' (pg. 2)

**Renaissance in the Regions.** 'We will continue 'Renaissance in the Regions' to fund regional museums, but will review emphasis of the programme'.

'We will launch an extensive consultation process to review local authority funding of regional museums and galleries' (pg. 2)

**Arts Council England.** 'We will drastically reduce Arts Council and DCMS bureaucracy' (pg.1)

**Philanthropy.** 'We will examine whether the tax system can be better used to create a 'Culture of Giving' by encouraging private donations of both works of art and money from the private and corporate sector, as recommended by the Goodison Review'(pg.1).

**Financial Loans.** 'We will review the application of charity laws in the museums sector to examine the feasibility of financial borrowing by trustees (pg. 2).

**The Lottery.** 'We will abolish Labour's Big Lottery Fund, complete the funding of all existing NOF programmes, and put extra Lottery money into charities, arts, heritage and sports.'  
'...we will guarantee that the four good causes each receive 25% of Lottery funded after current licenses expire in 2009'  
'We will allow institutions to bid for project endowments to ensure long-term financial viability' (pg. 1).

**National Acquisitions Fund.** 'We will establish a National Acquisitions Fund (NAF) of £150 million. The NAF will be funded from the increased Lottery resources available for arts and heritage' (pg, 2).

**The British Overseas Heritage Fund.** 'We will establish an Overseas Heritage Fund, of £5million per year, to be funded from the increased heritage lottery funding'(pg. 3)

**The Art Market.** 'We will resist implementation of the Artist's Resale Right pending re-examination of its impact on the British art market...'(pg. 4)

### **Liberal Democrats Focus on Culture, Media, Sport & Tourism**

[www.libdems.org.uk/media/documents/policies/CMSmanifesto.pdf](http://www.libdems.org.uk/media/documents/policies/CMSmanifesto.pdf)

'Civilised societies value culture for its own sake as well as its undoubted benefits to other areas, such as the economy, health, crime prevention and education and creating a sense of community. It is important for personal development too.' (Charles Kennedy, pg. 1)

**Free Entry & Renaissance in the Regions.** 'Continue to support free entry to DCMS-sponsored museums and galleries and the roll-out of Renaissance in the Regions' (pg. 1).

**Arts Council England.** 'End Labour's freeze in the core Arts Council budget, guaranteeing that growth in core arts' funding at least matches inflation'. (under 'Sustainability' pg. 1)

**Philanthropy.** 'Investigate additional measures to encourage philanthropists and business to invest in the sector'(under 'Sustainability' pg. 1).

**Creative Partnerships.** 'Axe centrally directed government schemes such as Creative Partnerships and ensure that public spending on the arts is not prioritised directly by Government but rather by artists, arts organizations and the communities they serve'. (under 'Freedom to Create' pg. 1)

**National Museums and Galleries.** 'Rewrite the constitutions of the National Museums and galleries to make them fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century' (under 'Sustainability' pg. 1)

**Financial Loans** 'Develop a more robust framework to enable public sector funding to provide loans and investment capital as well as grant aid' (under 'Sustainability' pg. 1)

**Collection Loans** 'Where possible, encourage museums and galleries to loan interesting pieces that are not displayed, and would not be put at risk, for display in public and commercial spaces' (under 'Freedom to Enjoy' pg.1)

**New Heritage Agency.** 'Streamline the plethora of public funding agencies who support the arts, culture, creative and arts-based industries, in particular by creating a new Heritage Agency whose transferred core budget would increase by £12.5m over five years' (under 'Sustainability' pg. 1).

### **The Lottery.**

'Retain a defined, strong, natural and cultural heritage strand in the National Lottery in the review of Lottery funding distribution which will be implemented in 2009'

'Change lottery rules to enable lottery funding to kick-start endowment funding for national, regional and cultural institutions'. (under 'Sustainability pg. 1)