

Association of Independent Museums AIM E-News – November 2012 – Number 39 - **EXTRACTS**

AIM Sustainability Workshops - dates

This new series of one-day workshops (introduced in the October E-News) has been developed to help smaller and medium-sized independently managed museums, galleries and heritage attractions **identify and develop areas that could increase their income** and help them to become more resilient. They are funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, which supports the AIM Sustainability Scheme. A reminder of workshop dates: 5 December at The Lightbox, Woking; 23 January 2013 at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery; 14 February at The Quilt Museum, York and 20 March at National Maritime Museum Cornwall, Falmouth. The workshops are led by Judy Niner of Development Partners and supported by an AIM Council member and the AIM Executive Director. Each will be limited to a maximum of 15 organisations, with two places for each for a senior staff member ideally accompanied by a trustee or chairman. **To book a place on one of the workshops please contact the AIM Administrator on 01584 878151 or email: aimadmin@aim-museums.co.uk.** The workshops are free to AIM members. Bursaries are available where individuals are unable to reclaim expenses and distance travel is incurred. Judy Niner will arrange a pre-workshop preparatory discussion with a representative of each organisation.

ACE restructure announced

Arts Council England (ACE) has announced a major re-structure which will come into operation on 1 July 2013. The changes follow the Government's requirement for reduced administrative costs as part of its 2011-15 settlement. Principal changes are:

- Reduction in staff numbers by 21% from 559.5 full-time posts to 442 (117.5 posts)
- Four executive directors, reduced from eight, to deliver the overall strategy, with the chief executive
- Leadership of art form and policy expertise will be distributed geographically, with everyone having a local and national focus
- Property costs to reduce by 50%, with major offices in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Bristol, and some small local offices
- Five areas will cover London, the South East, the South West, the Midlands and the North, replacing current regions. (The South West boundary will move eastwards to incorporate Hampshire with Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight).

Alan Davey, ACE chief executive, said the changes would require new ways of working, but guided by the principle of one national organisation with local presence. "We'll do less and we'll do it differently – but we'll do it well," he said. <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/news/arts-council-news/arts-council-england-announces-details-new-structure/>

Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund next round

The Museums Association is accepting applications for the next round of funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund, which offers grants of £20,000-£100,000 for collections work outside the scope of museums' core resources. The fund, which builds on the MA's Effective Collections programme, awards some £800,000 a year in two grant rounds. Next deadline is **5 April 2013**.

AIM Annual Conference 2013

The 2013 conference will be held at the Museum of Science & Industry, Manchester, on 20/21 June, sponsored by Development Partners. The theme is *Money – that's what I want*.
www.aim-museums.co.uk