

AIM E-News Mid July Edition 2017 – Number 110 – **EXTRACTS**

Business Rates Appeals – What’s The Rush?

The [successful appeal by York Museums Trust](#) has generated a lot of media interest... but little museum activity, although many museums could benefit from the decision if their assessment is currently based on the Contractors method.

The decision creates a time limited opportunity to appeal against the 2010 Rating List with potential for back dated benefits. However, appeals have to be made before the 1st October 2017, and any appeals in Scotland for the 2017 Rating List have to be started before the 1st October 2017 as well.

Not all AIM members will be better off, so it is essential to take advice first. AIM members can get 15 minutes free advice through Colin Hunter at [Lambert Smith Hampton](#). Read more: [Business Rates Appeals – What’s The Rush?](#)

Helping Museum Trustees To Get Ahead: Free AIM Hallmarks Governance Sessions

We are pleased to announce a new series of free AIM Hallmarks Governance Sessions for heritage trustees that will run from September 2017 to the end of January 2018. Organised in partnership with Museum Development colleagues and supported by Arts Council England and Development Partners, they are aimed at strengthening and developing the skills and knowledge heritage trustees need to enable their organisations to prosper. [Helping Museum Trustees To Get Ahead: Free AIM Hallmarks Governance Sessions](#)

‘So, What Was All That About Then?’ Keynote Speech By Michael Day CVO

One of the highlights of AIM National Conference 2017 was the closing keynote speech by Michael Day CVO, recently retired CEO of Historic Royal Palaces and Vice President of AIM. Michael is always an engaging and affable speaker, so his talk, looking back over four decades of his own career in the museum and heritage sector, was very well received. Here we have published his speech in full. [‘So, What Was All That About Then?’ Keynote Speech By Michael Day CVO](#)

Good News For The Museums And Galleries Tax Relief?

Things are looking hopeful for the Museums and Galleries Tax Relief. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury last week confirmed in a written ministerial statement that Government intends to introduce a Finance Bill as soon as possible after the summer recess containing the provisions which were withdrawn before the election, including the museums and galleries tax relief. Where policies have been announced as applying from before the introduction of the forthcoming Finance Bill, there is no change of policy and these dates of application will be retained. In the case of the museums and galleries tax relief, that means

that the relief would apply to expenditure incurred from 1 April 2017. You can find the full statement here: [Finance Bill:Written statement – HCWS47](#)

List Your Museum For Free With ‘Get Kids Out Learning’

A new online initiative called [‘Get Kids Out Learning!’](#) by Tutora is an easy way for families to find fun, local days out which still provide great learning and educational opportunities and they are actively encouraging independent museums and heritage sites to sign up to the website for free.

The New Charity Governance Code – Essential Reading For All Trustees

The charity sector’s governance code is now in its 12th year and its 3rd edition. The Charity Commission has supported and endorsed the code since its inception and the Code is a practical tool to help charities and their trustees develop high standards of governance [The New Charity Governance Code](#)

Charity Finance Group Calls For All Charities To Pledge To Tackle Fraud

Fraud is estimated to cost the charity sector £1.9bn every single year, so the Charity Finance Group are asking all charities to sign up to their new Counter Fraud Pledge. Launched last week, charities can download toolkits and sign up here: [Counter Fraud Pledge](#)

Art Fund Research On The Impact Of Collecting – Share Your Experience

To mark 40 years of partnership, The Wolfson Foundation and Art Fund are commissioning new research into the current state of collecting in UK museums. Art Fund are inviting museums from around the country to share their knowledge and experience of managing collections by taking part in a survey to feed into the report. It should take about 15-20 minutes to complete and can be accessed by 25 July via <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WhyCollect>.

Almanac 2017: An Introduction To The Latest Data On The Voluntary Sector

A new webinar and associated documents produced by NCVO that explores information and trends from the 2017 UK Civil Society Almanac – which was published in May – has just been made available online. [Almanac 2017: An Introduction To The Latest Data On The Voluntary Sector](#)

Arts Council England Museum Accreditation Scheme Update

Arts Council England has recently published a new update with regards to their Accreditation Review. They are also updating their contact list for Accredited museums, and will be in touch with museums over the summer to make sure they are reaching the right people. AIM's Executive Director, Tamalie Newbery, will be joining the advisory group <http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/accreditation-scheme/about-accreditation#section-5>

Community History Of Britain Gateway: A Living History Of Great Britain

Gateway is a new platform designed to provide a digital presence and licensing opportunity for smaller heritage collections. Gateway will put these collections on the digital map and offer an online licensing service enabling users to access digital images responsibly and legally, generating income for the participating organisations as well as making collections more accessible across the heritage sector. Please complete the survey to help shape the platform: [Community History Of Britain Gateway](#)

Event: Pulling Together: Collections Trust 2017 Conference

This year's Collections Trust conference considers the human side of documentation systems, the people who capture and share information that gives museum objects meaning. Runs 20/21 September in York [Collections Trust 2017 Conference](#) **COST IS FROM £85**

The ScottishPower Foundation

The ScottishPower Foundation, a registered Scottish charity operating independently of ScottishPower, offers funding to registered charities and not-for-profit organisations based and working across Great Britain. Grants of between £25,000 and £250,000 are available for projects including arts and heritage [The ScottishPower Foundation](#)

Architectural Heritage Fund Launches New Heritage Mortgage (UK)

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) has launched a new mortgage-style loan facility that allows charities, not for profit companies, CICs, Parish and Town councils to borrow £150,000 - £500,000 over 10 - 20 years (up to 30 years by exception) for the conservation and regeneration of historic buildings. [Architectural Heritage Fund](#)