

## Association of Independent Museums AIM E-News 28 March 2019 - **EXTRACTS**

### **AIM Says Goodbye To Helen Wilkinson**

Helen Wilkinson, AIM Assistant Director, is leaving AIM today after four years. AIM will shortly be establishing an office base for the first time and, while this is an important milestone for the organisation, Helen has chosen not to move to the new location.

AIM will be recruiting for two new senior positions shortly, based in the new office. In the meantime, Emma Chaplin will be picking up work on programmes which Helen previously led on. The rest of the staff team - Helen Farress, Justeen and Sassy - will remain in post, and [so please contact them as normal](#).

### **All The Answers To Your Top Gift Aid Questions**

If you missed our Twitter Chat with Charity Finance Group and Rachel Cooper last week, you can now find all the [questions and answers from that session on the AIM website](#). We would like to thank CFG and Rachel Cooper for supporting this chat.

### **AIM Energy Action Group Launches New Energy Audit For Museums**

The Government is targeting energy efficiency as a way of reducing UK wide energy demand and is urging organisations to act by exploiting energy efficient equipment and processes. Museums can all do their bit. The problem is, where do you start? We have designed an Energy Audit that seeks to get an overview of where your museum is right now, where you are headed and what areas can yield the most effect, hopefully with the minimum effort or expense. [Click here to download your survey form](#).

### **Coming Soon: New Survey And Economic Impact Toolkit**

Since it launched in 2010 and [was revised in 2014, the AIM Economic Impact Toolkit](#) has been downloaded and used by museums across the UK to help them measure the impact they might have on their local economy. We are now in the process of updating this toolkit and have appointed DC Research in partnership with Durnin Research to update the toolkit and to carry out a survey as part of their work. The survey will be launching on Friday 29 March and will be sent via our E - News channels. Please watch your inbox for its arrival and contribute to the survey to ensure that AIM can produce a high quality and useful new toolkit to support all AIM members.

### **AIM Associate Supplier Article: Got A Museum Shop? Read The Latest Update On Toy Safety**

Many AIM members have museum shops that sell products for children, so how can you be sure that what you are selling is safe? AIM Associate Supplier members – Best Years – have been specialising in making toys for over 10 years. Their Managing Director, Gaynor Humphrey, [kindly wrote an article on toy safety](#) so that AIM members are aware of what to watch out for when making purchasing decisions for their shops.

### **Training For New Chairs**

The Association of Chairs have just released new dates for their popular workshop - New Chairs Briefing. These half-day workshops are valuable to both brand-new

Chairs and as a refresher for those taking up a new post. The focus is on the role in practice, for example looking at preparing and chairing board meetings, working with your CEO/lead officer, as well as building a collaborative and effective governing body. The session also explores the leadership skills and knowledge that will make you the most effective Chair you can become, identify any personal gaps you feel you have, and where you can get further support. The event is free to AoC members who also have priority booking. Non-members are welcome to attend at a cost of £40. We have a small number of [free memberships to give away to AIM members](#). For all dates, locations and details of other AoC events, [please click here](#).

### **Nominations Now Open For The Family Friendly Museum Award 2019!**

Kids in Museums have just [launched their search for the UK's most family friendly museum](#). Nominations are now open to both families and museums until noon on 31 May. For the first time this year, in addition to one overall winner, Kids in Museums has introduced award categories based on museums' visit numbers: Small, Medium and Large Museum.

### **Grants For The Conservation Of Manuscripts**

The [National Manuscripts Conservation Trust](#) offers grants for the conservation and preservation of manuscripts and archives. Since the NMCT was founded in 1990 it has awarded grants of over £3m, which have enabled the conservation of hundreds of musical, literary, architectural and other vital historical documents. Our grants ensure that these important collections can once more be made accessible to the public and researchers. The next deadline for the submission of applications is 1st April 2019 and the results will be announced in early July. If you want to plan ahead, the deadline after that is 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019. Please visit: [www.nmct.co.uk](http://www.nmct.co.uk)