

Association of Independent Museums

AIM E-News 11 September 2019

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Get Ahead With Our Updated Quick Guide To Donation Boxes

Since its initial launch in 2015, the AIM Quick Guide to 'Donation Boxes in Museums' has often been cited by our members in feedback surveys as one of the most useful AIM resources, and it has helped many of our museum members to increase their on-site donations.

Produced on behalf of AIM by Judy Niner and the team at [Development Partners](#), there is now an updated version of this guide which also contains information about contactless giving boxes. In an increasingly cashless society, the market for contactless donations solutions is a growing one, [so download the updated guide to help you get started](#).

If you use the guide and have any success stories to share – we would love to hear from you! Please email sassy@aim-museums.co.uk

Looking For Funding Up To £12,000? Don't Miss Out On A Hallmarks Award!

Supported using public funding by Arts Council England, the AIM Hallmark Awards are available for AIM members in England in two strands: small grants (£3000 – £6000) and main grants (£4000 to £12000) and the next closing date is 20 November.

The Hallmarks Awards can support your museum by improving your financial sustainability or they can positively impact by strengthening your strategy or business model. For full information, some useful case studies of previous grant recipients and how to apply, please visit: [AIM Launches Hallmarks Awards In England For 2019](#).

Join The New AIM Facebook Group

Have you ever wanted to ask another AIM member a question? Or find out what other museums are doing to solve a specific problem? We have just created a new 'AIM Members Information' Facebook group to act as a friendly forum for our members.

Members can create posts, start discussions and give answers to any post. We have created this group so that members can talk directly to each other on any museum topic, which our current Facebook page doesn't allow.

The group is also open for our Associate Supplier members, supplier members and consultants so that they can directly promote their goods and services – and special offers – so feel free to join up and get chatting today. Join using your Facebook account at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AIMMuseumsMembers/>

Your Gift Aid Questions

CFG's Tax, VAT and Gift Aid Conference is filling up fast in London, but the good news is the conference will be coming to [Birmingham](#) and [Newcastle](#) too – book your place now with member discount.

Not sure of cost - have to log-in as a member to find out.

News From Museums + Heritage

As part of our new partnership with [Museums + Heritage](#) who have kindly acted as a Contributing Third Party for AIM as an Environmental body, supporting the AIM Biffa

Award History Makers Year 4 Grant Scheme, we will regularly feature news and updates from Museums + Heritage here in the AIM E-News that will benefit our members.

Does Your Museum Have An Unsung Finance Hero? Enter The Charity Finance Group Awards

The new Charity Finance Group Awards celebrate the unsung heroes in the world of charity finance. The awards are not only for finance directors and traditional 'leaders' but open to anyone working in the charity finance world. [Nominations will be open until 27 September.](#)

Is Your Museum Ready For Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) Compliance?

On the 14th September, the EU's Second Payment Services Directive comes into effect, changing the way in which all customer to business transactions are processed. Regardless of the Brexit outcome, this new law will have an impact on all organisations with online payments operations.

Edward MacWhirter, [Managing Director of Museum Shops Ltd](#) – an online marketplace dedicated to supporting the work of Museums by growing retail sales and bringing gift shops to a wider audience – [has written tips and article to help AIM members prepare for this change.](#)

Improve Your Cyber Security: Charity Digital Video

Charity Digital have just released an informative video featuring NCSC's Cub Llewellyn-Davies explaining everything charities need to know about cyber security. [View 'The who, what, why and how of cyber security for charities' video on Charity Digital here.](#)

Event: Business Rates For Charities

Colin Hunter, Director of Business Rates at Lambert Smith Hampton and an advisor to AIM on Business rates will be speaking at this event for charities in London on 17 October. Business rates relief for charities totalled £2.2 billion in 2018/19, compared to £1.3 billion for Gift Aid. This relief is increasingly coming under attack from cash-strapped Local Authorities, who are trying to either remove reliefs altogether or reduce them by splitting assessments to strip out commercial areas. [The event is free, and you can register by clicking here.](#)

Can You help An AIM Member?

[Hucknall Flight Test Museum](#) have asked other AIM members if they can assist them by answering an attendance data question as part of their business planning. This is a small private museum of approx 800 sq metres exhibit space, now seeking to fully open to the public. But before this happens, they are creating a business case to access more funding to improve facilities but need to submit their potential annual public attendance income - based as far as possible - upon 'real world' data. If you are happy to help, please contact huflighttest@gmail.com