



January 27 2020

AIM NEWS -- EXTRACTS

Stop Press! Landmark Business Rates decision for museums in England and Wales

Museum operators across England and Wales breathed a sigh of relief last week after the Upper Tribunal (Land Chamber) ruled in their favour, following a long-running battle with the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) over how museum properties are valued for business rates.

The court said that the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter should not have been valued based on the cost of rebuilding (Contractor's), the VOA preferred method. Instead, it ruled that the museum's buildings should be valued based on net income (Receipts and Expenditure), reinforcing the decision of a similar appeal by York Museums and Gallery Trust in 2017. The result is likely to have a significant impact on the way English and Welsh museums are valued in the future.

[Read more.](#)

AIM website refresh – your views welcome!

We're in the process of giving our website an early Spring clean and would welcome views and opinions on how to improve. If you're a user of the site and could spare a couple of minutes please do help by [completing this short survey](#).

50% Training Discount for AIM Members

Did you know AIM Members receive a considerable discount on National Army Museum training programmes?

Covering a variety of museum best-practice topics including conservation, learning services and curation there's a wealth of options to explore.

Training is provided free to the staff, trustees and volunteers of Regimental and Corps Museums (R&CM) in the UK.

[Check out the training programmes](#)

Not sure how relevant these courses are. They seem quite interesting and some of relevance to general museums, but they are all linked in some way to the armed forces museums. Cost £100.

OTHER NEWS

Let's Create – Arts Council England outlines its vision for the next ten years

Arts Council England has this morning released details of its 2020-2030 strategy 'Let's Create'.

The result of considerable consultation – over 6000 were involved in workshops and public conversation – the strategy focuses on driving change and innovation, broadening access to culture and enabling individual creativity at all life stages.

Four investment principles around Ambition and Quality; Inclusivity and Relevance; Dynamism; and Environmental Responsibility will support achieving the plan's objectives, with a delivery plan released later in the year.

[Read the Strategy](#)

Look out for the CFG Annual Conference 2020 brochure

This week CFG is sending its brochure out to all signed up members - find out more about what's in store at CFG's flagship event and book your early bird – available for a limited time www.cfg.org.uk/ac20