

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK

KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

Minutes from the Meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee held on Monday, 17th June, 2024 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Saturday Market Place, King's Lynn PE30 5DQ

PRESENT:

Borough Councillors

Councillors M de Whalley and A Kemp (Vice Chair in the Chair)

County Councillors

Councillors L Bambridge and M Chenery of Horsburgh

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members

Councillor J Ward, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee
Councillor R Kybird, Norfolk Joint Museums Committee

Officers

Oliver Bone, Lynn Museum
Robin Hanley, Norfolk Museum Service

The Vice Chair took the Chair in the Chair's absence and Councillor M de Whalley was appointed Vice Chair for the meeting.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillors P Bland, T Bubb, Mr B Davison, Phillip Eke, Tourism Support Officer and Lindsey Bavin, Manager of True's Yard Museum.

County Councillor L Bambridge explained to the Committee that Lindsey Bavin had accepted a part time role of Museum Enterprise Manager at the Cambridge Museum of Technology which meant Lindsey would be working part time for True's Yard going forward. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed she would be happy to represent True's Yard in her absence as she was a Trustee, for this meeting and any future meetings.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

3 **MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor M de Whalley provided the Committee with an update on the Beuy's Acorns Project and explained that officers were still working on the proposal and Councillor M de Whalley added he had reminded officers that Norfolk Museum Service had expressed an interest and confirmed they would be notified in due course as the Project proposals progress.

4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

5 **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT HEAD OF MUSEUMS**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

The Curator of the Lynn Museum introduced the report on the King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from March to May 2024. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

The Committee's attention was drawn to the following areas of the report:

- Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum
 - Current Exhibition: The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour
 - Forthcoming Exhibition: Woof! A Celebration of Dogs
 - Family events
 - Family Trails
 - Mini Museum
 - Coffee Mornings
 - Talks Programme

The Chair asked the Committee if they had any questions or comments in relation to those areas of the report.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp raised a question in relation to the current exhibition, The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour and asked whether any schools had visited the exhibition. In response, the Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed the exhibition had been very popular with families and children. He added they had received interest from schools. The Committee was informed that they had record breaking attendance for some of the family events which they had relating to The Moon themes.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp raised a further question in relation to the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs and asked whether they planned to have any pictures by the 18th century artist George Stubbs as he was very good at depicting animals. In response,

the Curator of the Lynn Museum explained they did not have George Stubbs in the object list but did have work by Sir Edwin Landseer who was the Victorian artist noted for historic paintings of dogs.

In response to a further question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp, the Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed they did not have the artist Anthony van Dyck on the list but referred to the report and explained they had work by David Hockney which they were borrowing from the Tate Gallery.

County Councillor L Bambridge referred to the current exhibition, The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour and mentioned that she had received good feedback on this exhibition. She also referred to the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs and was very impressed with the loan of artwork by David Hockney.

Councillor R Kybird asked whether dogs were welcome at the forthcoming exhibition, Woof! A Celebration of Dogs. The Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed assistance dogs for visually impaired people would be welcome but explained they did not have a programme in place to encourage other dogs into the Lynn Museum. The Assistant Head of Museums added and explained the reason for this was because they did not want to encourage pests and want to minimise the risk to the collections within the Lynn Museum.

County Councillor L Bambridge referred to the coffee mornings and asked why the one on the 26th April 2024 only had 10 participants. The Curator of the Lynn Museum explained the coffee mornings did vary in numbers from time to time but was unsure of the reason why that coffee morning was lower with participants. He added they did review the events programme and the themes on a regular basis to check on the progress and try different ideas but confirmed he would feed that back to the team at the Lynn Museum.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked how much effort they were making to encourage people from care homes to attend the coffee mornings. The Curator of the Lynn Museum highlighted they wanted to offer the Museum Service to all sectors of the community. He explained they did have contacts at care homes and added they did make contact with them to let them know but highlighted there was always more they could do with publicity and would continue to work on that.

The Committee's attention was drawn further to the following areas of the report:

- Newman Legacy project
- Other Museum developments
 - Publicity and promotion
 - NMS Teaching Museum Trainees
 - Building Work at Lynn Museum
 - Retail offer at Lynn Museum

- Support for National Lottery Open Week

The Chair invited questions and comments in relation to those areas of the report.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp referred to the retail offer at the Lynn Museum and raised questions around how they were promoting it, how they were expanding the offer there and whether there were ways to improve it. The Curator of the Lynn Museum confirmed it was going really well at the Lynn Museum. He explained they had at the Lynn Museum and Gressenhall Museum material relating to the Taylor's Seed Shop which was in the town and added they were working with the NMS Retail Manager on developing new cards and new lines relating to Taylor's of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums added this was an area which they had been focusing on within the Norfolk Museums Service (NMS). The Committee were informed the NMS Retail Manager, Harriet Johnson had been working really well with the site teams across the service to make sure the retail offering matched any collections or forthcoming exhibitions and events. The Assistant Head of Museums explained they were looking at ways to develop the product line and highlighted the NMS Retail Manager was working hard to move away from cheaper imported material and work more with UK based suppliers, particularly Norfolk suppliers to offer more bespoke material. The Assistant Head of Museums referred to a question raised by Councillor A Bubb at a previous meeting in relation to the Seahenge mugs and explained they were about to launch the new range of Seahenge mugs and highlighted at the bottom of the mugs it clearly said which Museum it related to.

Following on from the question raised by the Chair, County Councillor L Bambridge commented that she had seen the retail offer promoted on Twitter, especially around Christmas time as she went to get some Christmas cards as a result. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained social media had been a really good way at promoting what was offered through the shops and agreed with the Chair, Councillor A Kemp that they should continue to be alert to that and use social media and other channels to raise awareness of what they had got.

County Councillor J Ward added he received messages every week on Facebook in relation to the museums and suggested it would be a good idea to pick a few things out of the shop and promote it via that social media channel as well.

The Assistant Head of Museums drew the Committee's attention further to the following areas of the report:

- Borough Council partnership working

The Assistant Head of Museums highlighted to the Committee within that section of the report that they had now recruited the successor for

Rachael Williams and explained Elizabeth Joice, who came from a teaching background, had joined the post at the end of April and added her initial priorities were around re-building the work with schools at the Stories of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums explained to the Committee that going forward they would ask Elizabeth Joice to provide a report for the Committee in the same way that Rachael Williams used to do if the Committee agreed to this and added the report would also include information around the visitor numbers for the Stories of Lynn. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they would ask Elizabeth Joice to provide a report for the next meeting. The Committee were informed that Elizabeth Joice would be going off on maternity leave towards the end of the year but explained they would be recruiting someone to cover the role.

The Committee's attention was drawn further to the following areas of the report:

- Learning & Outreach
- Kick the Dust Norfolk – project update. A verbal update was given following publication of the agenda.

In response to a question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp, the Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they continued to work really closely with Children's Services colleagues and explained the Kick the Dust coordinator met on a regular basis with those colleagues and the Committee were informed they were always alert of opportunities to both involve them and to make them aware of what they were doing.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp suggested that as Members they could write testimonials for the funding if that was to be helpful and commented that the Kick the Dust project demonstrated the power and relevance of the Museums Service in helping young people with the greatest challenges in building confidence and work related skills and added it was a fantastic project. In response, the Assistant Head of Museums explained they were always looking for further opportunities to develop Kick the Dust but highlighted that at the moment, the core activity was funded until 2027 by Arts Council England.

County Councillor L Bambridge commented and mentioned that she had seen the evidence of Kick the Dust and expressed how valuable it was and to get as much funding for it as possible.

In response to a question raised by County Councillor M Chenery of Horsburgh, the Assistant Head of Museums explained that through public health, they had been linking into a number of potential partner organisations and the Kick the Dust coordinator had been working really hard to develop new partnerships such as the Mental Health Trust. County Councillor M Chenery of Horsburgh commented that the Deputy Chief Executive for Norfolk and Suffolk was very keen. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed he would contact them.

The visitor figures for the period February to the end of March 2024 were circulated to the Committee at the meeting and noted. The Curator of the Lynn Museum highlighted to the Committee that the Lynn Museum reached a total of 23,881 visitors in 2023-24 and was very pleased with the figures. He added that they received more visitors in the winter months than the summer months and that the busiest month was February due to the February half term events. A copy of the visitor figures is attached to the minutes.

Councillor M de Whalley shared with the Committee the Stories of Lynn visitor figures which he had received from Councillor Simon Ring, Cabinet Member for Tourism, Events and Marketing via Alive West Norfolk following their last meeting. Councillor M de Whalley highlighted the figures were not complete but were an indication. The Committee were informed that in April 2024, the Stories of Lynn received 793 visitors and in May 2024, they received 734 visitors. Councillor M de Whalley explained the figures did not include school visitors as Alive West Norfolk were awaiting information for May from Norfolk County Council as they recorded this data and would then share it with staff at Alive West Norfolk. Councillor M de Whalley had also received visitor figures in relation to the Tourist Information Centre and the Committee were informed that in April 2024, they had received 1,101 visitors and in May 2024, they received 1,000 visitors.

County Councillor J Ward asked whether they had got the Stories of Lynn visitor figures for the previous year. In response, Councillor M de Whalley confirmed they had historic information dating back to when the Stories of Lynn first opened and also some very historic Tourist Information Centre data was available and added if they wished to look at any historic information, they could request it through the staff at Alive West Norfolk. Councillor M de Whalley confirmed he would request it and informed the Committee there was the offer of this information being provided going forward.

In response to a question raised by the Chair, Councillor A Kemp in relation to whether there were any plans to refresh the Stories of Lynn, the Assistant Head of Museums explained this sat with the Borough Council and highlighted whilst they would be happy to support the Borough Council to redevelop heritage assets, it would need to be instigated by Borough Council colleagues.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Head of Museums and the Curator of the Lynn Museum for the report.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

County Councillor L Bambridge presented the report of the Museum Curator at True's Yard in her absence. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

The Committee's attention was firstly drawn to the following area of the report:

- Visitor Numbers

The Committee were informed that True's Yard had done very well with an increase in visitor figures and County Councillor L Bambridge highlighted that the report also indicated that the largest demographic of visitors continued to be of an older audience.

The Committee's attention was drawn further to the following areas of the report:

- Temporary exhibitions and events at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum
 - Exhibition Programme
 - True's Talks
 - Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture
- Partnerships
 - The Festival of Archaeology
- Learning and Outreach
 - Half term Activities

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked whether the school trips were included within the True's Yard visitor figures. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed they did but highlighted there were very few school trips at the moment.

The Chair raised a further question in relation to The Festival of Archaeology and asked whether there was anymore information around that item. County Councillor L Bambridge wasn't able to provide anymore information but confirmed she would get more information on this in the future.

Councillor M de Whalley referred to the Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture and asked whether they could give an idea of what Dr Jago Cooper would be speaking about at the Lecture. County Councillor L Bambridge was unable to provide this information but confirmed she would find out more from Lindsey Bavin and if received a response would email the further information to Councillor M de Whalley.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked how easy it was for people to research their ancestry and on which days it was open and whether there was a charge. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed it was free of charge and took place on Saturday mornings. She explained if anyone was interested, they should ring up to make sure there was going to be someone there.

The Chair then referred to the history project in relation to the Northenders and asked whether there was an update on this. County Councillor L Bambridge confirmed this was ongoing.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

7 **REPORT OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK**

[Click here to view the recording of this item on YouTube](#)

In the absence of the Senior Tourism Support Officer, the Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked the Committee to put forward any questions to Phillip Eke, Senior Tourism Support Officer if they had any in relation to the report.

Councillor A Kemp commented that Phillip Eke, Senior Tourism Support Officer had been doing some work around the West Lynn Pavilion which she explained was a tiny museum which had pictures up within it of West Lynn.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

8 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor M de Whalley thanked the Assistant Head of Museums and the Curator of the Lynn Museum for the tour of The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour Exhibition which they had prior to their meeting that afternoon.

Councillor M de Whalley asked whether a tour could be arranged to visit the Aickman's Yard to see the stored exhibits. The Assistant Head of Museums confirmed they could facilitate this.

The Chair, Councillor A Kemp asked whether contact could be made with the Manager of True's Yard Museum to see if a visit could be undertaken by the Committee.

9 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Area Museums Committee would be held on 16th September 2024 at 2.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, King's Lynn.

The meeting closed at 3.20 pm



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**KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK
AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE**

17 June 2024

Item No.

KING'S LYNN MUSEUMS REPORT

Report by the Assistant Head of Museums

This report provides information on King's Lynn Museum activities in the period from March – May 2024

1 Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum

1.1 Current Exhibition: *The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour*

2 February – 15 September 2024

This touring exhibition explores Earth's natural satellite – the moon. A key exhibit is a large moon model suspended above the exhibition, making use of the museum's high chapel ceilings. As part of the exhibition visitors have the opportunity to touch a real piece of moon rock. Other artefacts include ephemera from the 1969 moon landing. These displays, together with an associated programme of events and activities has been supported by a grant of £10,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Funding for West Norfolk for arts cultural heritage and creative activities administered by the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk.



Publicity material for the Lynn Museum's current exhibition

The Moon theme has informed our event programming. The exhibition is proving very popular with visitors and has received excellent publicity including:

[BBC Radio Norfolk - BBC Radio Norfolk, Moon landing in King's Lynn](#)

[The Moon: Meet Our Nearest Neighbour - Exhibition at Lynn Museum \(whichmuseum.co.uk\)](#)

[Giant model Moon in major new exhibition at Lynn Museum | Eastern Daily Press \(edp24.co.uk\)](#)

[Museum in King's Lynn launches new moon exhibition which is free until the end of March \(lynnnews.co.uk\)](#)



Model of the Moon on display at Lynn Museum

1.2 Forthcoming Exhibition - *Woof! A Celebration of Dogs*

Tuesday 1 October 2024 – Sunday 29 June 2025

The curatorial team is currently working on *Woof!*, the dog-themed next exhibition at Lynn Museum. This will be curated in-house, drawing upon natural history, archaeology, art and social history collections. The majority of the items exhibited will come from the Lynn Museum reserve collection, supplemented with internal loans from other NMS sites, national collections and private individuals. The Tate Gallery has approved the loan of three artworks for the exhibition including a piece by David Hockney. The Kennel Club has also provisionally approved the loan of *England Expects* a painting by Maud Earl of two toy Bulldogs.



The White Dog by Vivian Crome, shortlisted for display in *Woof!*

The exhibition will be aimed at a family audience, with an emphasis on objects rather than text. The themes of *Woof!* include:

Origins of the dog - a natural history focus, featuring a taxidermy wolf and semi-fossilised wolf remains.

Early dogs - archaeological collections including the Legend of Black Shuck and global jackel headed Anubis in Ancient Egypt. Star objects include an Egyptian painted panel.

Working like a dog - dogs as working and competing animals.

Canine companions - domesticated dogs.

1.3 Family events

The museum continues to offer events and regular family trails during holiday periods. The Easter Holiday event *Spring into Space* attracted 148 visitors including 38 children.

1.4 Family Trails

Trails are provided at the museum for children and families to support their exploration of the museum. Trails offered at the Lynn Museum in the reporting period have included:

02/04/24 - 07/04/24 *Meet the Moon* - 188 participants

1.5 Mini Museum

Lynn Museum continues to provide regular activities for our youngest visitors through the monthly *mini museum* programme. Activities are delivered by the museum's learning team. These have included:

21/03/2024 *Old Macdonald had a Farm* - 38 visitors including 19 children

18/04/2024 *The Moon and The Stars* - 43 visitors including 19 children

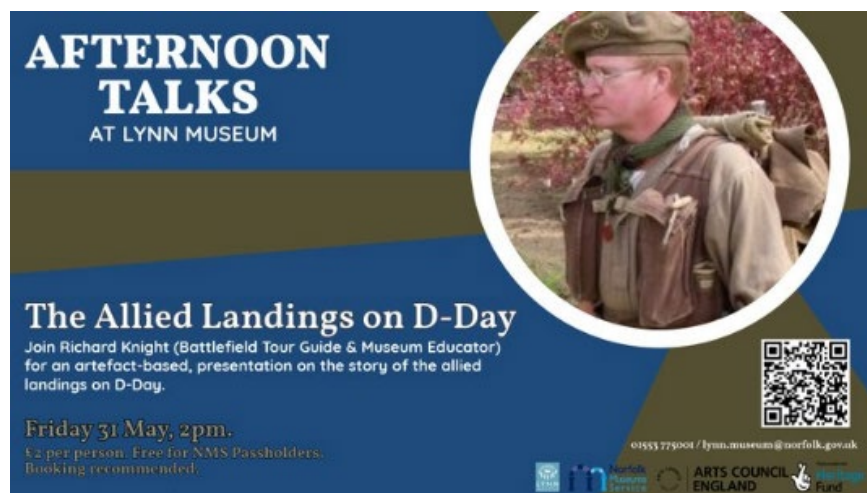
1.6 Coffee Mornings

The monthly themed coffee mornings continue to be offered at Lynn Museum. These offer a chance for people to enjoy the museum with an informal activity. The coffee mornings take place on the last Friday of the month. Topics have

included spring terrariums, the Bronze Age, basket weaving and medieval tiles. In this reporting period:

- 29/03/2024 Easter Pom Poms - 23 participants
- 26/04/2024 Glow in the dark jars – 10 participants
- 31.05.2024 The D Day landings – 27 participants

1.7 Talks Programme



Publicity for afternoon talk at Lynn Museum as part of the commemorations of D-Day

Recent talks at the museum have included:

- 26/04/2024 - *A Journey Beyond Our Solar System to the Edge of the Universe* with Alan Gosling/KLAS - 26 attending
- 31/05/2024 - *The Allied Landings on D-Day* with John Richard Knight - 26 attending

2 Newman Legacy project

As previously reported, the Lynn Museum has benefited from a legacy given specifically for the museum's use and provided by the late Eric and Rita Newman. The Newman's were siblings who had retired to Congham near King's Lynn with interests in local history and helping children learn. The museum service is very grateful for the Newmans' generosity.

Newman Assistant Curator Jan Summerfield joined the team in February and Newman NMS Teaching Museum Trainee Alice started in April. The team has made a good start on cataloguing and documenting material in the museum stores, as part of a planned programme of collections management work supported by the Newman legacy.

3 Other Museum developments

3.1 Publicity and promotion

The Lynn Museum continues to develop its social media presence, with X (Twitter), Facebook and now Instagram accounts being actively used and

maintained by staff. The museum's X (Twitter), Facebook and Instagram accounts may be seen here:

[Lynn Museum \(@Lynn_Museum\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

[Facebook](#)

[King's Lynn Museum on Instagram • Photos and videos](#)

NMS Learning Officer Melissa Hawker has continued her regular slot for Radio Norfolk to discuss local history and promote forthcoming events.

As well as digital delivery, the museum has maintained strong links with local media outlets including the *Lynn News*. Staff continue to contribute to a fortnightly *Picture This* column, with a focus on local drawings, engravings and paintings.

A variety of films linked to Lynn Museum are available on the museum's YouTube Channel, visible here: [Lynn Museum - YouTube](#)

A number of online exhibitions are available through the Google Arts and Culture platform: [Lynn Museum, King's Lynn, United Kingdom — Google Arts & Culture](#)



Museum Learning Assistant Hayley Simmons featured in the King's Lynn magazine

3.2 NMS Teaching Museum Trainees

Year-long paid traineeships are offered as part of the Norfolk Museums Service Teaching Museum scheme, principally funded through the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation programme. For 2024-25 we have Newman Teaching Museum Trainee Alice Ochocka working on the Newman collections project at the museum. We are also joined by Anna Heffron as Curatorial West Trainee, working across both Thetford and Lynn Museums. Both trainees started work in early April 2024.



This year's Norfolk Museum Service Trainees including Anna Heffron and Alice Ochocka who are based in King's Lynn

3.3 Building Work at Lynn Museum

Following a period of structural monitoring of the Victorian former Union Baptist chapel building, a programme of remedial structural works to the schoolroom building (the current Seahenge Gallery) is taking place, involving the installation of tie rods at roof level. This work started after the Easter holidays and will run into the summer. The museum has remained open for visitors, although the Seahenge Gallery is closed for safety reasons during this period. A reduced admission charge is in place to reflect the more limited visitor offer.

3.4 Retail offer at Lynn Museum

The museum team continues to develop the retail offer at Lynn Museum working with the NMS Retail Manager Harriet Johnson. New lines include a revised Seahenge mug and greetings cards using designs from the Taylor's seed packets.

3.5 Support for National Lottery Open Week

The Lynn Museum once again participated in the national programme of openings and events at sites that have received National Lottery Funding up and down the country. This included a programme of free tours of the Seahenge Gallery.



Publicity for the free Seahenge Tour offered at Lynn Museum in support of the National Lottery and as a thank you to lottery ticket holders

4 Borough Council partnership working

The delivery of NMS services in King’s Lynn & West Norfolk continues to operate under the terms of the current Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Borough Council. Under an extension to this agreement, NMS continues to provide curatorial and conservation advice, support and an enquiry service for those Borough collections currently held in the Town Hall including fine art and Civic Regalia.

NMS staff continue to support Borough Council colleagues with the development and delivery of relevant cultural and heritage project across the Borough, including ongoing support for Towns Fund projects including the Guildhall project. Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright has contributed to the work on the St George’s Guildhall project Interpretation Strategy and to various events and exhibitions, working with Jane Hamilton Learning and Engagement Officer at the Guildhall Team. Other work has included curating an exhibition of watercolours for the Fermoy Gallery by CT Page. Christopher Page was Curator of Lynn Museum and Art Gallery from 1902 to 1931 and painted local scenes in watercolour.



Publicity for ‘Views of Lynn: the Watercolours of C.T. Page (1866-1952). Displayed at the Fermoy Gallery King’s Lynn

NMS continues to support the Borough Council with the delivery of the NLHF-funded *Stories of Lynn* project focussed on King's Lynn Town Hall. NMS manages the Stories of Lynn Learning & Engagement Officer post, which is co-funded by the Borough Council and the ACE-funded Kick the Dust: Norfolk project. Recruitment has recently taken place for this post, which has been vacant for a number of months. The new postholder Elizabeth Joice started in post at the end of April.

NMS Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright leads on supporting the Borough Council and Festival Office on collections management advice and support. Recent contributions have included advice on the safe use of the civic regalia and the programming of temporary exhibitions at Stories of Lynn.

Recent examples have included support for the conservation of an historic mirror at the Town Hall and support for a Borough Council event to mark the donation of a painting of the Custom House by Walter Dexter.

The Lynn Museum free admission period started in October and ran until the end of March. This free admission period is provided under the terms of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Borough Council and NMS.



Publicity for event at St George's Guildhall supported by Norfolk Museums Service

5 Learning & Outreach

School visits

Lynn Museum continues to offer a broad range of school workshops run flexibly to accommodate teachers' needs. Typical sessions include the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings, Romans and Iceni, Bronze Age and Seahenge, Stone Age, the Second World War, Ancient Egyptians, and Homes Long Ago.

School sessions normally follow a pattern of a carousel of different activities, with children learning in a variety of styles. Delivery of sessions is normally undertaken by a mix of museum staff and freelance costumed interpreters.

The following link provided for teachers shows what is on offer at Lynn Museum for pupils at Key Stage 2.

[Key stage 2 education at Lynn Museum - Norfolk Museums](#)

Lynn Museum learning staff continue to work closely with Stories of Lynn colleagues in the running of joint school workshops on topics such as Maritime Life, Lord Nelson, Captain Vancouver, Crime and Punishment, Frederick Savage and the Lynn Mart, the Great Fire of London and Floods and Flooding.

6. Kick the Dust Norfolk – project update

Background

The first Kick the Dust project delivered by Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and ran from October 2018 to March 2023.

The target audience for Kick the Dust activity is young people aged 11-25, with a particular focus on young people aged 16-25 who do not normally engage with the heritage or consider it relevant to their lives. Priority participants are young people facing multiple challenges and barriers, including YMCA clients and other young people engaging with NCC and partner organisations specialist support services. Key project partners include YMCA Norfolk, Creative Collisions (Great Yarmouth) and NCC Children's Services, Libraries and Public Health.

Kick the Dust provides a progression pathway for young people, enabling them to use heritage to develop their confidence, skills and routes into employment using the *Player, Shaper, Leader* model.

For this original project, total participation numbers from October 2018 to March 2023 were 13,905 interventions, involving 4,527 individual young people taking part in 7,039 hours of quality activity, taking us beyond the initial project target of 8000 interventions. As the project developed, more young people took the lead in projects, shifting the percentage of activity at each of the 4 levels.

- 25% of all activity was at Player level
- 40% at Shaper level
- 35% at Leader level
- 86% of all activity in March 2023 involved young people in leading and designing projects, taking on the role of Young Ambassador and playing a leading part in the Youth Board.

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area from October 2018 to March 2023:

- 47% (1,449 opportunities) in the West (covering Kings Lynn, Thetford and Gressenhall),
- 27% (825 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer and Sheringham)
- 26% (771 opportunities) in Norwich
- 331 volunteering opportunities have been provided to 180 individual young people.

In total 420 staff took part in training, with 151 having taken up opportunities in lockdown. In addition, 45 young volunteers took part in training. Kick the Dust has supported 7 young people on its bursary traineeship programme, the last cohort finishing in May 2022, all of whom have secured permanent employment within the heritage sector. A further 6 young people completed the pre-traineeship programme. One Kick the Dust participant progressed onto the NMS Teaching Museum traineeship programme with 3 others applying for the role and being shortlisted. Two Young Ambassadors have progressed onto teacher training programmes. Our 7 Young Ambassadors have supported Institutional Change within NMS on the strategic Youth Board and Project Board. Staff from our Front of House (FOH) and Visitor Services teams have engaged in training such as mentoring and coaching, mental health first aid and creating autism friendly spaces which played a key role in supporting the new pre-traineeship pilot programme for YMCA clients and other vulnerable groups.

Current activity

Following the successful conclusion of the National Lottery Heritage Fund funded Kick the Dust project, Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) has secured additional funding through an Arts Council England NPO Uplift award for the period 2023-26. This will enable NMS to continue to support young people in the three Levelling up for Culture places of Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn and Thetford. This additional funding will enable young people to participate in high quality cultural and heritage activities that develop their creative and digital skills and potential, as well as prepare them for the workplace.

During 2023-25 NMS is also receiving funding from Norfolk County Council (NCC) Public Health to support Kick the Dust activities that focus on the mental health and wellbeing of Norfolk young people.

NMS is partnering with Norfolk Library & Information Service (NLIS) to deliver this exciting programme of activity enabling us to strengthen partnership working between museum and library staff and increase levels of cultural engagement by young people in a sustained way, employing the successful Kick the Dust approach to youth engagement that uses the three-stage progression model Player-Shaper-Leader. The programme will be aimed at those in the three priority places aged 16-25 years, with opportunities for 13–16 year olds to engage as part of the progression framework.

The key aims of the new Kick the Dust project are to:

- develop transferable work-related skills with the aim of supporting more working age young people into employment, training or further learning;
- develop digital skills linked to creative industries to address the digital skills gap in heritage and cultural sectors;
- increase young people's creative skills and for young people to gain a range of new cultural experiences;
- encourage an appreciation of the history and culture of their local communities.

Young people work alongside professionals to develop their transferable work-related and creative skills, through the co-production of activity and events, volunteering and work experience operating at a level that meets their needs. Feedback from young people shows that they value the skills they develop as part of the project with the top five skills being cited as: problem solving, digital, communication, team working and creativity.

The following data is based on the period 1/5/23 to 29/5/24.

Number of interventions with young people:

Between 1/5/23 and 29/5/24 there have been **1,749 interventions** involving **822 individual young people** taking part in **1,551 hours** of quality activity. **92%** of the activities were face to face, the other sessions being offered online with young people in the principal target areas.

This blended approach offers a wider range of opportunities for young people to engage in heritage:

- 18% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 64% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 18% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 87% of all activity involved young people in leading and designing projects

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 35% (117 opportunities) in the West (covering Kings Lynn, Gressenhall),
- 22% (74 opportunities) in Thetford
- 21% (70 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 18% (59 opportunities) in Norwich
- 6 opportunities were offered to young people at alternative venues outside of Norfolk
- 46 volunteering opportunities have been provided, with 3 young people taking on the role of Digital Buddy and 8 as Young Ambassador.
- Of all delivery, 84% involves young people being part of a long-term group, providing them with a deeper understanding of heritage and allowing them to explore their identity, develop their skills and confidence and embed themselves more in their local communities, a key aim of ACE.

The young people have access to all of NMS sites and can visit with a friend or family member for free during their engagement for that year. Free passes were issued to those beginning on the programme in June 2023. Data shows that passes are being used outside of the times the young people would attend a session in their home museum.

We continue to deliver a blended training offer for all staff and volunteers who support youth engagement in NMS. Staff input to the training programme will be formulated as the project progresses and needs are identified. Social

media training working with a specialist from Libraries has been embedded into team meetings which include three of our Young Ambassadors who are acting as Digital Buddies. Further opportunities are being planned for the Summer terms to include SEND and Mental Health First Aid training. The team accessed the 'Childhood Adversity and Creating a Trauma Informed Environment' in October 2023 and March 2024 and 'I'm a teenager get me in there' training in January 2024 at Ely Museum (as part of the new '*Your Heritage Your Future*' National lottery heritage Funded project) which will inform future delivery. Safeguarding training has been delivered to all team members through NMS.

Our offer to support young people around the important theme of mental health and wellbeing is on-going and this will be measured through the new evaluation framework using data from the young people's feedback forms as well as the new narrative evaluation which is being rolled out from September 2023 to September 2024. At the end of the NLHF funded project in March 2023, 26% of young people identified as having a mental health issue. Up to 29/5/24 data shows that **43%** of the individual young people who have taken part in the new programme of activity identify as having a **mental health issue** showing the need for this programme. Through a systematic approach to evaluation, in partnership with Libraries, the team will be able to demonstrate impact on mental health on those taking part and the young people will be able to monitor their progress through the programme in relation to skills, confidence and mental health. Narrative evaluation will further demonstrate impact and this will be reported upon in September 2024.

NMS and NCC continue to work together through the 'Making Creative Futures' group, chaired by the Kick the Dust Project Coordinator, where members from across Children's Services and Norfolk Public health identify ways to engage the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people through a joint effort. The group continues to play a key part in the delivery of activity as part of the DfE funded Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) project through the Big Norfolk Fun programme ([Big Norfolk Holiday Fun - Active Norfolk](#)) and through our own contributions through our Kick the Dust offer. The focus is on mental health and wellbeing and has representation from the NCC Public Health team who bring a different perspective to the meetings. This group acts as the vehicle to share best practice, ideas and resources and its membership continues to grow.

Target audiences: (some young people fall into more than one category) as of 29/5/24

- FE/HE – 41%
- YMCA clients – 16%
- Secondary schools – 31%
- Young people with mental health issues – 43%
- SEND – 3%
- Outside of mainstream education – 21%
- NEET – 33%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 2%
- Care Leavers – 2%

- Young Carers – 2%
- New arrivals and refugees – 7%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 1%

In terms of how young people find out about Kick the Dust, the Kick the Dust website is being used effectively with 33% of young people finding out about the project through the updated web pages ([Kick the Dust - Norfolk Museums](#)); 18% through a family member, 18% coming via one of our partner organisations and 12% having already taken part in a previous Kick the Dust project.

Impacts on mental health and well being

The new young people’s feedback form includes the 78 positively worded items from the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being scale for assessing a populations’ mental well-being. The Young Ambassadors developed the new framework alongside Norfolk Public health, and this allows us to measure impact in this key area. In addition, we are implementing a narrative evaluation model working with a smaller number of young people who are part of a long-term project group which will be reported on at the end of the summer to provide a richer story to accompany the raw data.

From the Young People feedback forms, following their involvement in Kick the Dust, **62%** strongly agreed that this had had a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing with a further **38%** agreeing that their involvement in Kick the Dust has helped them have more positive mental health. An additional question has been added to identify young people with neurodivergent tendencies and is showing that since March 66% of young people engaged in Kick the Dust identify as neurodivergent which is significant when designing new activity in terms of additional barriers these young people may face.

Of the 37 responses to 29/5/24, the following data chart highlights how young people were feeling before taking part in Kick the Dust:

QUESTION – pre engagement	None of the time	Rarely	Some of the time	Often	all of the time
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	0	19	40	27	14
I've been feeling useful	0	7	43	40	10
I've been feeling relaxed	0	22	30	30	19
I've been dealing with problems well	0	5	43	43	8
I've been thinking clearly	0	10	36	38	16
I've been feeling close to other people	0	16	24	43	16
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	0	8	22	41	30

The following data chart highlights how 13 young people were feeling following their engagement in Kick the Dust between March and May 2024 (NB: Part 2 is only completed once a young person has finished a group/ activity and has had a 121 session with the Project Worker)

QUESTION – post engagement	None of the time	Rarely	Some of the time	Often	all of the time
I've been feeling optimistic about the future	0	0	38	54	8
I've been feeling useful	0	0	31	38	31
I've been feeling relaxed	0	2	40	26	32
I've been dealing with problems well	0	15	15	55	15
I've been thinking clearly	0	0	31	54	15
I've been feeling close to other people	0	8	15	46	31
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	0	0	16	46	38

From the additional questions asked of the young people taking part, the programme is meeting their needs and helping them see themselves in a museum or heritage setting, with 80% stating the programme went above their expectations.

- 100% of all young people strongly agreed that the museum was a safe space for young people like themselves who were struggling;
- 100% strongly agreed they were given a voice that was listened to;
- 69% strongly agreed that they understood heritage better than they had done before taking part with a further 23% agreeing;
- 62% strongly agreed that following their engagement heritage was more relevant with a further 31% agreeing. 62% strongly agreed that heritage represented young people like themselves;
- 99% stated they now had a greater understanding of museums and the job roles available with 93% strongly agreeing that they could see themselves working in the sector;
- 62% strongly agreed that the skills they had acquired would be useful to them in the future with a further 38% agreeing;
- 58% strongly agreed they felt more connected to their local community than previously with a further 42% agreeing;
- 84% agreed that their involvement had helped them to explore and feel more connected to their own identity and heritage.

Summary

The NLHF funded Kick the Dust project ended in March 2023 with evidence clearly demonstrating the impact on young people and staff engaging in activity. The programme is now moving into a its second year of the ACE funded project.

Kick the Dust is a three-stage journey, with young people developing transferable work-related skills including digital skills and gaining experiences that they would struggle to find elsewhere, to support them in securing employment. Whilst young people cite being involved in curation and creating

exhibitions as the main areas they have enjoyed, it is through these activities that they hone their skills and understanding of the workplace, which will help them secure employment longer term.

Our aim as we move forward is to support more working age young people to progress into employment, training, or further learning and long-term volunteering.

The strong partnerships that have been developed through Kick the Dust provide a strong base on which to build, bringing new young people into museum and library spaces.

Success comes in many guises and this month another of our YMCA young people has progressed into independent living, with another taking on a part time role, with the Kick the Dust programme giving them the confidence to take these steps. Another former YMCA client who was part of Kick the Dust has completed her first year of studies whilst working in the Visitor Services team for Norwich Castle. Former participants and Young Ambassadors have since progressed into employment or onto further and higher education, having gained the confidence to move towards their goals. Another Young Ambassador secured a bursary to run her own project through Norfolk and Norwich Festival Bridge and has been working with groups in Norwich and the Library on a creative wiring project linked to heritage. She has since applied for funding from English Heritage to run a similar project this summer in Kings Lynn.

Quotes from our Young Ambassadors regarding their engagement in Kick the Dust and their involvement in the 'Done and Dusted' celebration event, show the impact that the programme has had on them.

'Kick the Dust gave me hands on experience of the industry I want to work for while becoming more proficient in the skills I need to get me there.' Chloe, Young Ambassador (Chloe is now on a Level 4 Apprenticeship working in London for Channel 4)

'The most important thing that Kick the Dust did for me was increase my confidence through representing the voices of other young people, inspiring me to pursue a career in the museum sector by showing me that it's a place where I'm able to make positive institutional change.' Emily, Young Ambassador (Emily is now studying for an MA and remains an active Young Ambassador)

'Kick the Dust has played such a key part in my life and helped me secure employment when most doors were closed to me, giving me the skills and confidence to move forward. It is like being part of a family.' Jazz, Young Ambassador (Jazz has worked on another KTD project and is an active Young Ambassador, presenting at the NLHF and GEM webinar in March 2024)

'My experience has been highly positive. It has allowed me to connect with other young people with a similar interest in the industry. It has also provided me with varied work experience that will contribute significantly to my search for employment in the sector. I have learnt so much more about the heritage sector and the abundance of roles at play, which has led me to new interests and career goals. Engaging with people currently working in the sector has been invaluable and deepens my understanding of the importance of the work the museum services do in the local community.' Marr, Young Ambassador (Marr is studying an MA at UEA and remains an active Young Ambassador)

'I've really enjoyed being part of Kick the Dust and it's given me so many amazing opportunities that I'd never get otherwise. I loved the opportunity to go behind the scenes at museums and learn about objects and collections from experts. It felt like I was being taken really seriously as a young person and that my voice mattered. The project was really well planned and executed and there was always something new to learn. I met people who had really different skills and backgrounds to me and it was so fun to work with a new group of people. It felt like the staff really cared about me and were always trying to support me and provide me with new opportunities. Without Kick the Dust, I don't think I'd have been able to get my first job in the heritage industry and feel confident in my own knowledge and skills.' (Rosa – Young Ambassador and participant in Knights of the Sound Table)

'I have very much enjoyed my time as part of the Kick the Dust work experience program. I feel a bit more confident in social situations than I did before, and I have a much firmer idea of what jobs are available in the museum service.' (Amy – work experience)

'Being part of this organisation, have given me a boarder view of where I see myself in the future and the career I want to go into. It has given me confidence and developed me as a team player when working together. It has given a boost of independence which I keep on achieving.' (Emily – online work experience and Young Ambassador)

New funding bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund

A successful National Lottery Heritage Fund Grants for Heritage Round 1 application was submitted to the NLHF for the Your Heritage Your Future (YHYF) project. The application was submitted by YMCA Leicester, with NMS as Lead Partner. This complex application was put together by a joint project team of staff from YMCA Leicester and NMS, who then worked together on the Development Phase, ahead of a Round 2 bid which was submitted on schedule in May 2024. If the Round 2 bid is successful, project delivery will commence in later 2024.

7. Visitor figures

Visitor figures for the period will be circulated at the meeting

8. Recommendations:

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report

Report Contact:

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NORFOLK MUSEUM SERVICE
Visitors by Museum and County Total

		APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	YEAR TO DATE	TOTAL	
NORWICH	Castle Museum	2022-23	8,129	6,857	9,070	8,289	9,390	8,084	8,900	7,259	2,995	7,483	7,914	14,373	14,986	98,743
		2023-24	13,471	9,922	10,889	12,590	15,391	10,647	11,597	7,256	6,079	6,031	8,576	10,031	23,393	122,480
		2024-25	8,942	9,907											18,849	18,849
	Norwich Castle Study Centre (Shirehall)	2022-23	24	59	43	56	46	29	85	46	49	82	116	121	83	756
		2023-24	106	53	126	92	101	75	63	79	178	58	150	118	159	1,199
		2024-25	119	213											332	332
	Museum of Norwich	2022-23	1,406	1,552	1,044	1,666	2,476	1,970	1,431	1,406	1,387	1,185	1,587	1,917	2,958	19,027
		2023-24	1,589	1,378	1,241	2,064	2,059	2,381	1,824	1,329	821	1,244	1,707	1,863	2,967	19,500
		2024-25	1,666	1,603											3,269	3,269
	Strangers Hall	2022-23	478	642	639	635	779	843	713	620	863	16	329	986	1,120	7,543
		2023-24	468	522	453	1,185	1,699	962	850	770	470	0	387	1,093	990	8,859
		2024-25	484	785											1,269	1,269
EAST	Tolhouse Museum	2022-23	323	197	116	273	886	643	217	30	11	104	39	53	520	2,892
		2023-24	475	196	207	346	1,145	1,104	367	15	0	199	53	82	671	4,189
		2024-25	420	474											894	894
	Elizabethan House Museum	2022-23	948	1,022	986	1,056	1,444	1,618	1,249	0	331	65	67	21	1,970	8,807
		2023-24	1,156	1,017	881	1,338	1,622	1,817	1,237	79	98	0	3	170	2,173	9,418
		2024-25	1,163	1,422											2,585	2,585
	Time and Tide	2022-23	1,705	1,947	2,427	2,336	2,604	3,035	2,188	2,040	1,149	1,344	1,949	2,803	3,652	25,527
		2023-24	2,451	2,235	2,508	3,083	3,350	3,701	2,502	2,053	1,773	1,498	1,907	2,582	4,686	29,643
		2024-25	2,774	3,024											5,798	5,798
	Cromer Museum	2022-23	943	902	1,018	1,281	1,842	1,423	1,045	2	25	111	52	60	1,845	8,704
		2023-24	1,046	1,223	1,357	1,426	2,163	1,436	1,230	0	0	189	643	262	2,269	10,975
		2024-25	1,266	1,524											2,790	2,790
WEST	Lynn Museum	2022-23	810	818	959	1,528	1,553	1,257	2,495	1,804	1,129	1,228	2,233	1,984	1,628	17,798
		2023-24	1,358	1,171	1,445	1,446	1,887	1,774	2,228	2,228	1,944	2,162	3,481	2,757	2,529	23,881
		2024-25	1,564	1,586											3,150	3,150
	Ancient House Museum	2022-23	784	483	440	1,062	710	961	882	429	701	764	743	878	1,267	8,837
		2023-24	650	635	686	1,466	676	959	693	832	721	730	1,066	929	1,285	10,043
		2024-25	798	922											1,720	1,720
	Gressenhall Farm & Workhouse	2022-23	5,676	5,273	7,604	5,018	6,139	5,731	5,912	1,836	1,018	265	637	4,955	10,949	50,064
		2023-24	5,840	4,363	7,648	4,788	6,653	5,768	5,408	1,585	1,245	206	646	5,760	10,203	49,910
		2024-25	5,744	5,831											11,575	11,575
	Norfolk Exhibition Programmes incl. King's Lynn Town Hall SLA	2022-23	308	338	785	686	200	39	2,091	825	221	414	621	402	646	6,930
		2023-24	263	883	568	130	360	1,395	523	274	204	30	228	159	1,146	5,017
		2024-25	0	0											0	0
		2022-23	21,534	20,090	25,131	23,886	28,069	25,633	27,208	16,297	9,879	13,061	16,287	28,553	41,624	255,628
		2023-24	28,873	23,598	28,009	29,954	37,106	32,019	28,522	16,500	13,533	12,347	18,847	25,806	52,471	295,114
		2024-25	24,940	27,291										52,231	52,231	
		TARGET														



KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK AREA MUSEUMS COMMITTEE

June 2024

TRUE'S YARD FISHERFOLK MUSEUM REPORT

Report by Museum Curator

1. Temporary exhibitions and events at True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum

1.1 Exhibition Programme.

After careful review of our audience data and in light of the success Lynn Museum achieved with their *Tiger Who Came to Tea* exhibition we decided to change up our exhibition schedule and produce a new exhibition, which might be more appealing to general audiences. *The History of Fish and Chips* has garnered such interest and featured on BBC News Online.

Exhibition Schedule 2024

King's Lynn in World War 1	January- March 2024
The History of Fish and Chips	May- August 2024
Summer Art Exhibition <i>Nostalgia...King's Lynn Through Time</i>	5th July -31st August 2024 Old Smithy
Archaeology Exhibition	July- September 2024
<i>St Nicholas: The Man, The Legend, The Chapel and the New Hanse</i>	October 2024- December 2024

1.2 Forthcoming Summer Art Exhibition

Our annual art exhibition theme for 2024 is *Nostalgia...King's Lynn Through Time*. The High Sheriff of Norfolk, David Flux, will open the exhibition on 5th July. It will feature 21 brand new pieces by local artist, Alan Castleton inspired by photographs from the town's past.

This is all the more remarkable as shortly after the Museum and Alan agreed on the exhibition theme, the artist was struck down with a rare neurological disease. In the space of a week, Alan could hardly see, swallow, speak or even hold a paintbrush for more than half an hour at a time. Despite this, he just kept going with a singular focus and determination to complete these works. We are delighted to say that Alan is doing much better and all 21 paintings have been completed.

1.3 True's Talks

Our True's Talks Spring series proved incredibly popular and to accommodate those who were unable to get tickets 3 additional talks were put on the subjects of the Georgian Upper Crust, Tales from the Taproom and the Repopulation of True's Talk in the 1921 Census. We are now finalising our autumn programme with speakers and thanks to funding from the Norfolk Community Foundation Love Norfolk Fund we have been able to extend our current provision.

1.4 Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture

This year's Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture will be given by Dr Jago Cooper, Executive Director of the Sainsbury Centre and professor of Art and Archaeology at the University of East Anglia. Formerly, he was Curator of the Americas at the British Museum. Since 2011 he has written and presented a series of programmes for BBC Four, including Lost Kingdoms of South America, Lost Kingdoms of Central America, Easter Island: Mysteries of a Lost World, Masters Of The Pacific Coast: The Tribes Of The American Northwest, and The Inca: Masters of the Clouds. He has also published books on world art and archaeology including Surviving Sudden Environmental Change: Answers from Archaeology, Arctic: Culture and Climate, Mapping a New Museum and Peru: a journey in time.

Other Museum Developments

2.1 Events

5th July Summer Art Exhibition *Nostalgia...King's Lynn through Time.*

7th July Sea Sunday

13th- 27th July Festival of Archaeology

8th September Heritage Open Day

20th November Pat Midgley Memorial Lecture - Dr Jago Cooper.

6th December St Nicholas Day

3. Friends of True's Yard

We are most fortunate to have the support of the Friends, they have already made contributions to help take some of the sting out of our increasing accountancy and insurance fees.

3.1 Fundraisers

The Friends of True's Yard have 8 fundraisers planned this year including their normal lunches.

4. Partnerships

4.1 YMCA Leicester and Norfolk Museum Service, Your Heritage, Your Future

On 29th May Shannon completed her 6 month 'Your Heritage Your Future' placement with us. Although The North End Trust is not in a financial position to offer Shannon a post, the Museum Curator and Project Worker Leona worked with Shannon in her final weeks with us on job applications including one to Lynn Museum's for the lunchtime cover Front of House post.

4.2 The Festival of Archaeology

This summer we will be holding a Festival of Archaeology with several partners including the Museum of London, King's Lynn Under Siege and West Norfolk & King's Lynn Archaeological Society. Speakers will include Jelena Bekvalac, Curator (Human Osteology) from the Museum of London, Jason Stewart (Geoarchaeology/ environmental archaeology) and others.

So far, we have planned:

13th July - Tour and Talk on foreshore finds and the history of the North End.

16th July - site visit to a local excavation.

20th & 27th July- 'Skeletons and Pirates' mock excavation, recording and identification and object handling.

4.3 Heritage Learning Forum

After four years our curator Lindsey will be handing over the role of Chairperson of the forum to Learning Engagement Officer, Jane Hamilton, of St George's Guildhall.

The Heritage Learning Forum has representatives from Stories of Lynn, King's Lynn Town Guides, Community Action Norfolk, Lynn Festival, King's Lynn Library, Marriott's Warehouse Trust, Lynn Museum; Voluntary Norfolk, St George's Guildhall Complex, CWA, King's Lynn Minster and St Nicholas' Chapel.

5. Learning and Outreach

5.1. Half term Activities

Bugs & Creepy Crawlies Activity Days

There was plenty to see and do on the 29th & 30th May including wax spider-web watercolours, moving butterflies, snail clay pots, and butterfly feeders. We had 75 attendees which considering the weather was reasonable.



5.2 Hanse Festival

To celebrate there will be a Pirate themed treasure hunt and activities around the Museum on 15th June.

5.3. Oral History Project- Capturing Memories

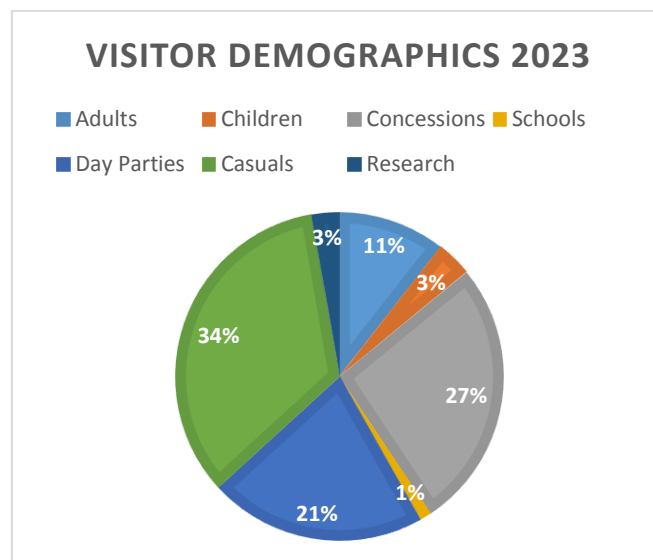
Our new Oral History Committee is hard at work capturing new oral histories and so far 5 have been recorded. The new project ‘Capturing Memories’ will focus on recording the memories of the last generation of Northenders and those of the people of Lynn.

5.4 Social Media

Currently the Museum’s Facebook page has 2.3k followers and Twitter/X has 1,437 followers and Instagram 439 Followers (last report 420).

6 Visitor Numbers

The figures for 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 were 11,554 (At last meeting in December 10,266). We exceeded last year’s visitor numbers of 11,250.



Our largest demographic of visitors to the Museum continues to be concessions (60+, blue light and students). This corresponds to the data we receive from Groupon where 70% of sales are to people 51+. We are planning to increase our schools offer to encourage more school visits.

7 Resource Implications

Finance- Increasing costs of utilities, insurance, accountancy have proved challenging. Savings and income generation is a big part of the 2024/25 budget.

Property- None.

Staff- Ray Howard, Finance Officer Retired on 9th May. Lindsey Bavin (Museum Curator) has reduced her days to 2 having accepted the part time post of Museum Enterprise Manager at the Cambridge Museum of Technology.

8 Recommendations

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report.

Originator of report:

Lindsey Bavin

Museum Curator

True's Yard Fisherfolk Museum

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