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

**8 January 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 September to November 2023**

**1. COVID-19 and Infection Control service update**

A number of the COVID-secure systems and procedures implemented across Norfolk Museums Service (NMS) sites during the pandemic remain in place. Infection control priorities remain:

- Ventilation
- Cleaning regimes
- Hand sanitisation

CO2 monitors provided through Norfolk County Council (NCC) continue to operate in a number of spaces across NMS where there is more limited natural/mechanical ventilation. These CO2 detectors are monitored locally by staff and also link into the LoRaWAN network, facilitating the use of monitoring dashboards to track live data and trends.

**2 Exhibitions and events at Lynn Museum**

**2.1 Current exhibition: *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* 24 November 2023 - 20 January 2024**



The current exhibition at Lynn Museum is a touring exhibition supplemented by material from the museum collections. *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*

celebrates the life and work of Judith Kerr, one of Britain's best known children's book author-illustrators.



Opening event on 24 November 2023



Retail display of tiger-related merchandise at Lynn Museum

Copies of Kerr's original artwork will be on display alongside notes and sketches. Children can also enjoy stepping into Sophie's kitchen to have tea with a life-size tiger. Published in 1968, Kerr's first picture book *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* began life as a bedtime story for her own children. It became a classic. By the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, the book had 11 language translations and had sold over five million copies.

The exhibition celebrates 100 years of Judith Kerr and her major contribution to children's literature. It has been developed by Seven Stories, the National Centre for Children's Books, and introduces the beloved picture book to a new generation of family audiences. Reading the story was a popular online event during lock-down in 2020. The story and exhibition make a connection with the taxidermy tiger known as 'Horace' on display in the museum entrance area.

## 2.2 Hoards: Archaeological Treasures from West Norfolk

Until Saturday 11 November 2023



The Hoards exhibition continued to prove popular in its last months at the museum. The artefacts are now safely packed away and the loans from Norwich Castle Museum & Art Gallery returned.

The display explored the stories of ancient hoards in West Norfolk, their significance and burial. The exhibition featured hoards buried in the area from the Middle Bronze Age until the time of the English Civil War.

The exhibition has also been an opportunity to display examples of coin hoards from the Iron Age and early medieval periods purchased in recent years with the support of the Museum Friends, the V&A/ ACE Purchase Fund, the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Headley Trust.



Hoard of early Anglo-Saxon coins from Fincham



General view of the Hoards exhibition at Lynn Museum

The museum team used the theme of the exhibition for other public programming including the monthly adult talks programme. For example, Adrian Marsden, numismatist with the NCC Historic Environment team spoke about the Dersingham English Civil War hoard and NCC Finds Liaison Officer Helen Geake spoke about the Sutton Hoo finds in the light of new discoveries of Anglo-Saxon goldwork. In October, Prof Michael Lewis FSA MCIfA Head of Portable Antiquities & Treasure at the British Museum gave a talk on *Treasuring the Past: recording archaeological finds made by the public*.

The Museum team is working with our NCC colleague Adrian Marsden on a publication about hoards in west Norfolk. This will serve as a legacy for the exhibition.

### **2.3 Forthcoming exhibition *The Moon: Meet our Nearest Neighbour*'** opening Monday 3 February 2024

This touring exhibition explores earth's natural satellite – the moon. A key exhibit is a gigantic moon model which will be suspended above the exhibition making use of the museum's high ceilings. Also, as part of the exhibition visitors will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to touch a real piece of moon rock. Other exciting artefacts include ephemera from the 1969 moon landing. The display 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.

### **2.4 Forthcoming Exhibition *Woof, a Celebration of Dogs*** opening Autumn 2024

This will be a Lynn Museum-curated exhibition drawing upon natural history, archaeology, art and social history.

### **2.5 Family events**

The museum continues to offer events and regular family trails during holiday periods. The *Ancient Romans Discovery Day* (family event day) in October Half Term was on a Romans theme to tie in with the Roman material featured in the Hoards exhibition. This event saw 339 visitors attending including 143 children.

### **2.6 Family Trails**

Trails are provided at the museum for children and families to enjoy an exploration of the museum.

Trails offered at the Lynn Museum during the autumn of 2023 included:  
10 September - *Let's Create!* Drawing Trail (84 visitors)  
16 October to 5 November - *Kids in Museums Monster Tour* (254 visitors)  
24 October to 28 October - *Roman Gods* (240 visitors)

## 2.7 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.

21 September - Dinosaurs

19 October - Autumn

9 November - Nursery Rhymes

## 2.8 Heritage Open Day

The Museum once more opened for free admission on the town's Heritage Open Day and received 552 visitors.

## 2.9 Coffee Mornings

The monthly themed coffee mornings continue to be offered at Lynn Museum. These offer a chance for people to enjoy the museum and an informal activity. The coffee mornings take place on the last Friday of the month. Topics have included spring terrariums, Bronze Age handling, basket weaving and medieval tiles.

29 September Ask a Curator (15 participants)

27 October Roman Mosaic Tiles (8 participants)



Poster for October's coffee morning at the museum

## 2.10 Talks Programme

Recent talks at the museum with attendance are listed here:

29 September *The Norfolk Regiment in the First World War* (29 participants)

27 October *Treasuring the Past: Recording Archaeological Finds Made by the Public* (21 participants)

## 3 Legacy

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 Newman's generosity.

Dayna Woolbright has been appointed as Newman Curator, and we have recruited to a Newman Assistant Curator position. Jan Summerfield will be joining the team in February.

#### 4 Other Museum developments

4.1 The Lynn Museum continues to develop its social media presence, with Twitter and 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:

[\(20\) Lynn Museum \(@Lynn\\_Museum\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)  
[\(20+\) Facebook](#)  
[King's Lynn Museum on Instagram • Photos and videos](#)



Social media post by Professor Michael Lewis who plans to collaborate with the museum team on a new book about pilgrim badges

4.2. It is planned to revisit on site volunteering in the coming months as part of a Connected Communities bid the museum team is working on.

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

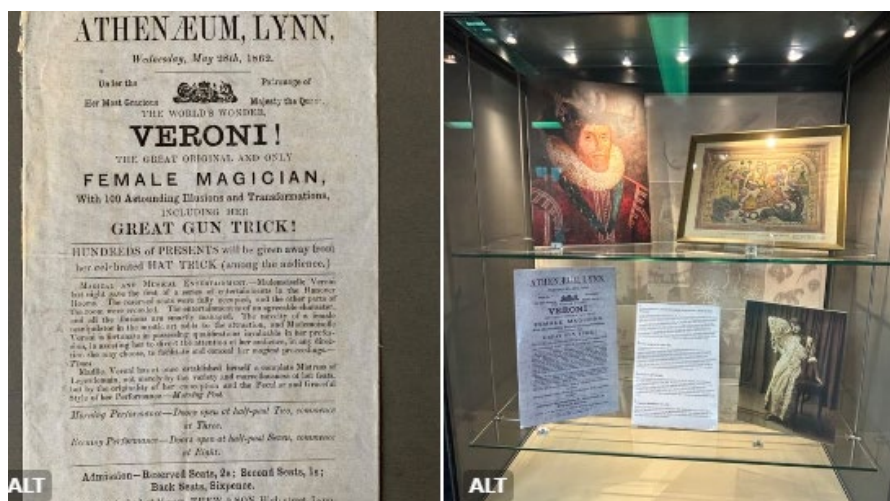
4.4 As well as digital delivery, the museum has maintained strong links with local media outlets including the *Lynn News*. Staff continue to contribute to a fortnightly *Picture This* column, with a focus on local drawings, engravings and paintings.

4.5 A variety of films linked to Lynn Museum are available on the Lynn Museum You Tube Channel, see: [Lynn Museum - YouTube](#)

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

#### 4.7 Teaching Museums Trainees

Recruitment will be starting shortly for the one year-long NMS Teaching Museum Traineeships, delivered as part of the NMS Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations Business Plan 2023-26. As part of this programme there will be a Curatorial West Trainee position working across both Thetford and Lynn Museums. In addition, there will be a Newman Trainee to work on a collections project at the museum. Both trainees will start in early April 2024.



Reception case display at Lynn Museum created by this year's NMS trainees

## 5 Partnerships

5.1 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.

5.2 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. Newman Curator, Dayna Woolbright has contributed to the work on the St George's Guildhall project Interpretation Strategy and the events and exhibitions programme working with Rachael Williams. Jane Hamilton has now joined the Guildhall Team as Learning and Engagement Officer. The events have included a popular Dragon Festival and a Christmas event will be held in December. Other work includes 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 passed away in 1952.

5.3 The Lynn Museum free admission period started in October and runs 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.

5.4 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 NMS *Kick the Dust: Norfolk* project. Recruitment to this post is currently underway, following the departure of previous postholder Rachael Williams. The postholder works closely with colleagues from the Borough Council and the Norfolk Record Office.

5.5 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 delivery of temporary displays at Stories. An example is the current exhibition *Retro Games*, using content and collections from the NMS site Time and Tide Museum in Great Yarmouth. The *Retro Games* exhibition charts the rise of video gaming. Starting with the early days of arcades in the 70s, the show moves through the decades of gaming development taking in some of the key vintage consoles. NMS staff also assisted an enquirer with access to civic collections. The enquirer's ancestor had given the town some of the regalia.

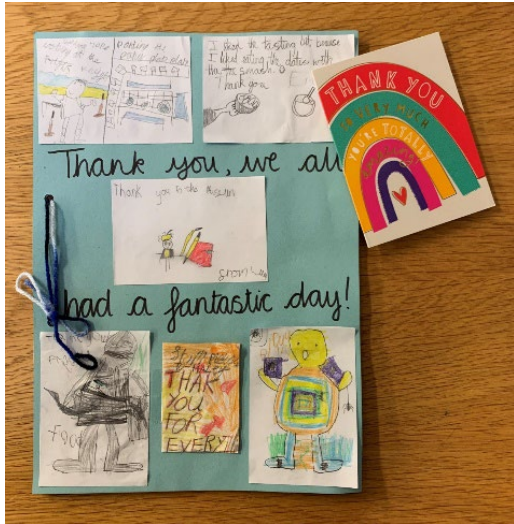
## **6 Learning & Outreach**

### **6.1 School visits**

Lynn Museum continues to offer a range of school workshops run flexibly to accommodate teachers' needs. During this period topics have included 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 by a mix of museum staff and freelance costumed interpreters.

Lynn Museum continues to work closely with Stories of Lynn, running 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.





Thankyou drawings and letters from pupils from Green Park School following a visit to Lynn Museum



Social media post from All Saints Academy showing appreciation for a visit for a learning session about Egyptians at Lynn Museum

This following link for teachers explains what is on offer at Lynn Museum for pupils at Key Stage 2:

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

## 7. Kick the Dust Norfolk – countywide 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, NMS has secured additional funding through an Arts Council England National Portfolio Funding (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 2023-24 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 will 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.

### **The following data is based on the start of this new project covering the period 1/5/23 to 18/12/23.**

#### **Number of interventions with young people:**

Between 1/5/23 and 18/12/23 there have been **1,098 interventions** involving **446 individual young people** taking part in **747 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:

- 20% of activity was at Player level (to introduce new young people to the project)
- 58% at Shaper level (longer term project with young people determining the content)
- 22% at Leader level (long term engagement – young people leading projects, acting at governance level, mentoring staff)
- 74% of all activity involved young people in leading and designing projects

Breakdown of activity taking place in each area:

- 45% (87 opportunities) in the West (covering Kings Lynn, Gressenhall),
- 18% (36 opportunities) in Thetford
- 19% (37 opportunities) in the East (covering Great Yarmouth, Cromer)
- 16% (31 opportunities) in Norwich
- A further 3 opportunities were offered to young people at alternative venues outside of Norfolk
- 36 volunteering opportunities have been provided, with 3 young people taking on the role of Digital Buddy and 7 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 Spring term to include SEND and Mental Health First Aid training. The team accessed the 'Childhood Adversity and Creating a Trauma Informed Environment' on 31 October (as part of the new *Your Heritage Your Future* National Lottery Heritage Fund funded project) which will inform future delivery and they will also join the '*I'm a teenager get me in there*' training in January 2024 at Ely Museum.

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 18/12/23 data shows that 47% of the individual young people who have taken part in the new programme of activity identify as having a mental health issue (although this is from a smaller number taking part) 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 talking 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.

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 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. 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 18/12/23**

- FE/HE – 44%
- YMCA clients – 8%
- Secondary schools – 39%
- Young people with mental health issues – 47%
- SEND – 3%
- Outside of mainstream education – 25%
- NEET – 31%
- Looked after children and adopted living those at home - 0%
- Care Leavers – 1%
- Young Carers – 6%
- New arrivals and refugees – 6%
- Pregnant young mums and teenage parents – 1%

In terms of how young people are finding out about Kick the Dust, it is clear that the Kick the Dust website is being used effectively with 50% of young people finding out about the project through the updated web pages ([Kick the Dust - Norfolk Museums](#)); 17% coming via one of our partner organisations and 17% having already taken part in a Kick the Dust project in the past.

### 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 worked alongside the Norfolk Public Health team to devise the questionnaire, and this will be used in addition to the other measures to show impact in this key area.

From the Young People feedback forms, following their involvement in Kick the Dust, 50% strongly agreed that this had had a positive impact on their mental health and wellbeing with a further 50% agreeing.

Of the 22 responses to 18/12/23, the following data chart highlights how young people were feeling before taking part in Kick the Dust:

<b>QUESTION – pre engagement</b>	<b>All of the time</b>	<b>Some of the time</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Most of the time</b>
I've been optimistic about the future	7%	43%	28%	21%	0%
I've been feeling useful	14%	57%	21%	7%	0%
I've been feeling relaxed	14%	57%	14%	14%	0%
I've been dealing with problems well	7%	36%	50%	7%	0%
I've been thinking clearly	14%	28%	50%	7%	0%
I've been feeling close to other people	7%	36%	36%	21%	0%
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	28%	21%	43%	7%	0%

The following data chart highlights how 8 young people were feeling following their engagement in Kick the Dust between June and October 2023 (no further forms have been completed between Oct and Dec):

<b>QUESTION- post engagement</b>	<b>All of the time</b>	<b>Some of the time</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Most of the time</b>
I've been optimistic about the future	13%	50%	38%	0%	0%
I've been feeling useful	25%	38%	38%	0%	0%
I've been feeling relaxed	25%	50%	13%	0%	13%
I've been dealing with problems well	25%	25%	38%	13%	0%
I've been thinking clearly	25%	38%	38%	0%	0%
I've been feeling close to other people	13%	13%	63%	13%	0%
I've been able to make up my own mind about things	25%	13%	63%	0%	0%

From the additional questions asked of the young people taking part, it is clear that the programme is meeting their needs and helping them see themselves in a museum or heritage setting.

- 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;
- 63% strongly agreed that they understood heritage better than they had done before taking part with a further 25% agreeing;
- 63% strongly agreed that following their engagement heritage was more relevant with a further 25% agreeing. The same numbers stated that they felt heritage represented young people like themselves;
- 85% stated they now had a greater understanding of museums and the job roles available with 50% strongly agreeing that they could see themselves working in the sector;
- 63% strongly agreed that the skills they had acquired would be useful to them in the future with a further 38% agreeing;
- 43% strongly agreed they felt more connected to their local community than previously with a further 57% agreeing;
- 72% 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 new phase, with funding support from ACE and NCC.

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 we have had one of our YMCA young people progress into independent living and gain a place on a Level 3 Access course, with the Kick the Dust programme and pre traineeship giving her the confidence to take these steps. She has also secured a role in the NMS Visitor Services team for Norwich Castle. Another participant is now a core member of staff on the NMS Visitor Services team at Gressenhall. Another young person has progressed from being a Young Ambassador to gaining a L4 Apprenticeship with Channel 4 in London and two others have secured places on the MA in Museum Studies in Norwich. One former Kick the Dust participant has secured an internship with the United Nations.

**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

*'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

*'A fantastic opportunity to develop my confidence, experience and skills for future employability, and learning more about different opportunities in the heritage sector, as well as the next steps I want to take and my future aims'* (Emily following her engagement in Kick the Dust)

*'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

*'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)

*'Can I thank you again for the guide to the museum which details all the sensory issues and what to expect etc. We used the booklet before her last school trip in January. I wish more places had something like that.'* (Parent of an autistic child using the booklet prepared by Teenage History Club)

### **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 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 are now working on the Development Phase of this application, ahead of a Round 2 bid submission in May 2024. If the Round 2 bid is successful, project delivery would commence in later 2024.



**8. Visitor figures for the period will be circulated at the meeting**

**9. Recommendations:**

That the Area Museums Committee notes the report

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