



ENGLISH HERITAGE



# Heritage Skills HUB for the English Midlands

Issue 30 (14<sup>th</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011)

## EDITORIAL



Dear Reader - Well what a difference a couple of weeks makes. Since the HeritageHUB joined the **Tweeting community**, we have already attracted 140+ followers, which I think is FAB! We are now linked to a whole range of people and organisations who I couldn't possibly have hoped to meet through 'normal' channels and Twitter is also proving to be a great tool for letting the world know about our events, information and skills news – will I crumble so easily regarding Facebook??

I can't believe quite how much information and news there is already to share with you since the New Year. **Training courses**- short and long, **events, awards, consultations & policies, general heritage news** items and **situations vacant** – there really is too much to highlight here, so you are just going to have to read the whole thing this time! You will need a crumpet or two with your cup of tea, but well worth a quiet few minutes so you make sure you are up to date with everything that's happening out there.

There is a wealth of information on the web—contractors, professionals, manufacturers, sustainability, repair and maintenance, funding information and training courses, *but if you don't know where to look*, then try the HeritageHUB first as we are updating it all the time and if it's not on the [HeritageHUB](#), then we are providing [great links](#) to other sites including registers, trainers and heritage organisations that will!

### Cathie

(Heritage Skills Training Coordinator for the English Midlands)

## HERITAGE/TRADITIONAL CRAFTS EVENTS DIARY [www.emcbe.com/heritage/](http://www.emcbe.com/heritage/) (send me your events to add to this list!)

Feb & March	Constructionsite workshps – FREE, book through EMFEC – see below and online,
Fri 6 May	Gypsum Plaster Floors – SPAB Technical day – Fee will apply
Sat 7 May	SPAB Tuxford Building Conservation Fair, Tuxford Windmill, Tuxford, Notts-FREE
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Heritage Craft Association Annual Conference, V&A Museum, London
23-25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	NHIG Architectural Ironwork CPD, <a href="http://www.nhig.org.uk">www.nhig.org.uk</a>
19-21 <sup>st</sup> May	PTN International Conference, 1000yrs of Traditional Crafts <a href="http://www.iptw.org">http://www.iptw.org</a>
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> May	1000 years of traditional crafts – Lincoln Castle & Cathedral, Open to all, entry fee ticket
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Calke Abbey, Heritage Craft Skills Day, National Trust
1 <sup>st</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> June	Volunteers Week

22-24<sup>th</sup> June

22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June Conservation of Interiors, York University, £350 (subsidies available, conditions apply)

24-26<sup>th</sup> June

Derbyshire EcoCentre Heritage weekend (details tbc)

29<sup>th</sup> June

Lime in New Build – West Midlands, venue tbc

23-25 Sep

Building Limes Forum Annual Conference, Ironbridge, Shropshire

## NEW EVENTS, CONFERENCES, MEETINGS etc

### CONSTRUCTIONSITE Masterclasses – Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Following on from a very successful event last week, we have pleasure in being able to announce that, due to popular demand, EMFEC in Nottingham have announced a series of special Constructionsite Masterclasses to support Built Environment Training Providers to use this fantastic online learning resource. There is great potential to develop Heritage strands and Constructionsite hope that it can work with existing and new partners to grow the resource library and encourage more and more training providers to see the benefit of using it to enhance their curriculums. If you would like to reserve a place at these FREE workshops, then please contact Michelle Chesterfield on [michellec@emfec.co.uk](mailto:michellec@emfec.co.uk), ring on 0115 8541626 or book online at [www.emfec.co.uk](http://www.emfec.co.uk). (Flyer to be added to EMCBE website)

**SOURCE:** Cathie Clarke: EMCBE/HeritageHUB

### LIME IN NEW BUILD – bringing it to the West Midlands in 2011!

With the success of the event held at Nottingham Trent University in December, the HeritageHUB is working with the Building Limes Forum and all its partners to deliver a similar event in the West Midlands. We are looking for a suitable venue, so if you'd like to get involved, or would like more details, then please get in touch. The likely date is going to be the 29<sup>th</sup> June – pencil it in your diaries now!

**SOURCE:** Cathie Clarke: EMCBE/HeritageHUB

### INNOVATION FROM THE INSIDE OUT – EVENT REPORT



Last week, HeritageHUB was a key partner in the delivery of 'Innovation from the Inside Out'. This event was aimed at Built Environment Training Providers to demonstrate how they can enhance their curriculums through the use of high tech e-based resources and 3-D simulators, effective partnership and knowledge transfer projects and the value of bringing mastercraft skills back into the classroom. Morning presentations were followed by 3 carouselling workshops in the afternoon. Feedback confirmed that the most enjoyable was the stonemasonry workshop which allowed delegates 40 minutes with mastercraftsman, Andy Oldfield and most people managed to carve a complete flower in that time. Feedback for the event overall was superb, and we were especially pleased to welcome delegates from colleges as far away as Southampton! We hope that more colleges will investigate how to bring traditional crafts 'back to the classroom' and allow their students the benefits that could be achieved by allowing mastercraftsmen and women a forum for passing

on their valuable experience – one delegate promised to do just that following the workshop, let's hope more follow his lead – (Result!!)

**SOURCE:** Cathie Clarke: EMCBE/HeritageHUB



### RESILIENT HERITAGE 2011 – KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

14 July 2011, Peterborough – Great Northern Hotel and St John's Church. Taking as its starting point the need to do things differently this conference will highlight a range of approaches to the historic environment and heritage assets. Reduced public spending for the foreseeable future highlights the need to innovate, be entrepreneurial and find original responses to problems. Fruitful reactions to the current financial climate may be found within partnerships, commercial approaches, different ways of looking at funding pots or within existing models. This conference will provide a platform for networking and sharing ideas to protect and enhance the historic environment for the future.

Confirmed speakers include:

Greg Luton, Head of Eastern Region, English Heritage  
Ian Rice, Architectural Heritage Fund  
James Mott, Projectbook  
Robyn Llewellyn – Head of Eastern Region, Heritage Lottery Fund  
Clara Willett, Building Bursaries  
David Tomback – English Heritage - Enabling Development

The conference will be free to delegates, with a buffet lunch and evening reception in one of Peterborough's finest heritage assets, St John's Church. To reserve your place email [alice.kershaw@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:alice.kershaw@peterborough.gov.uk)  
**SOURCE:** Alice Kershaw: [alice.kershaw@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:alice.kershaw@peterborough.gov.uk)

## TRAINING & EDUCATION

### THE NVQ 3 HERITAGE SPECIALIST APPRENTICESHIP COURSE SPECIAL BLOG REPORT BY [WWW.PROJECTBOOK.CO.UK](http://WWW.PROJECTBOOK.CO.UK)

James Mott from Projectbook was invited to visit the South Coast Roof Training facility, by the founder Mike Fildes. The centre is piloting the new Specialist Apprenticeship in heritage roofing, leading to the NVQ level 3 qualification, the first of its type in the UK. The centre has been impressively kitted out with a wide variety of different rigs to work on, and even features a complete building with roof and eyebrow feature.

East Midlands based course tutor Richard Jordan (below) of [Jordan Heritage Roofing](#) is a very experienced and time-served slater and tiler, having been trained in traditional techniques whilst working alongside his father early on in his career. Richard is knowledgeable and clearly passionate about heritage buildings, and is widely recognised as an expert in his field. In 1999 he gained the prestigious William Morris Craft Fellowship from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).



James' visit was on week three of a sixteen week course designed to up skill already qualified roofers. Today's session was on random and diminishing slating. When I arrived at 9:00am – they were already in full swing with Richard showing the group how to mark out a setting out rod. These students are already qualified roofers; however there are plenty of puzzled looks and much head scratching going on - heritage roofing means learning a whole new way of doing things.



“NVQ level 2 is easy” Chris from John Williams Roofing informed me, “what we are learning is far more challenging and enjoyable – give me the choice of doing a modern roof to this and I know which one I'd rather do”. The sentiment was echoed by Dan O'Sullivan, who runs his own business and travels from Exeter (over 200 miles away) every week – “I spent over two years searching for training like this” he told me “this course is worth way more than the qualification”.

Throughout the day the group went through all the processes: making a setting out rod, sorting the tiles, cutting and trimming, punching holes and inserting tapered oak pegs, laying up, edge bedding and 'torching' (the process of applying a horse hair/lime mortar to the back of the batten/tile to help secure the tiles and hold the oak pegs in position).

I soon became aware of a conflict – this method of traditional tiling means that the modern thinking of nailing battens onto felt/ breathable membranes is simply not possible. When I raised the subject with Richard, he drew a large breath; perhaps I'd better leave this discussion for another blog.....

All this left me thinking that I had only just scratched the surface. The different techniques, regional variation in terms and practise is a lot to take in. So, the pupils are keen to learn, have excellent facilities and an

experienced and passionate teacher; for the students there will be many learning challenges over the next thirteen weeks – I'll return in a few weeks to see how everyone is progressing.

To see an English Heritage video featuring Richard Jordan: Re-slating a manor house using Swithland Slate in Leicestershire [click here](#). This demonstrates traditional techniques used to prepare and relay slates and apply torching.

Richard is looking for other venues to run this Specialist Apprenticeship course, so if you think your organisation would be interested, contact Richard direct or Simon Holmes; CSkills Heritage Training Advisor, all the details of all Specialist Apprenticeships and contacts can be found on the [HeritageHUB](#). A table of contacts is available to download from this page.

**SOURCE:** James Mott, Projectbook blog, [www.projectbook.co.uk](http://www.projectbook.co.uk)

### CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL IRONWORK' CPD COURSE

The National Heritage Ironwork Group (NHIG) are proud to announce that, in partnership with the Yorks and Humberside National Heritage Training Academy, a conservation studies CPD course in the 'Conservation of Architectural Ironwork' will be held in York from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2011. Tender procedure often requires the commissioner of the work – whether restoration or new work in an ancient setting – to have knowledge of the medium in order to procure the best value. NHIG is able to offer to fill this knowledge gap with a series of lectures designed to equip commissioners of ironwork, whether architects, surveyors or conservation professionals with information they will find essential in the writing of specifications.

The programme will be delivered by acknowledged experts in the field, who will also accompany the delegates on two site visits, to a blacksmith/conservation workshop and to a local country house with excellent case studies of heritage ironwork. NHIG hope you will join us for an enjoyable and informative event which will also help us to further our aim to safeguard historic wrought ironwork. For more details, contact Bethan Griffiths, Secretary, NHIG tel: 01483 20 20 27 07941 127 024, [www.nhig.org.uk](http://www.nhig.org.uk)

**SOURCE:** Bethan Griffiths, NHIG [www.nhig.org.uk](http://www.nhig.org.uk)

### SHORT COURSES AT ACTON SCOTT HISTORIC FARM

Acton Scott Historic Working Farm is entering into their third year of running traditional rural skills courses and among those on offer are some new building courses run by Terrence Lee, a very experienced craftsman. Colin Richards, Shropshire's conservation officer is also very involved in Acton Scott and he is also running a couple of courses. A flyer will be available as a download on the website very soon, but in the meantime, go to their website: <http://www.actonscott.com/courses.php>

Other short courses across the Midlands and UK can be found on the [HeritageHUB](#).

**SOURCE:** Sarah Griffiths: Education Officer for Shropshire Museum Service [sarah.griffiths@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.griffiths@shropshire.gov.uk)

### LIME PLASTER: THE BUSINESS OF HERITAGE-HANDS-ON COURSE, PETERBOROUGH



Essex County Council has joined together with Opportunity Peterborough to run this **FREE** one day hands-on course on lime and lime plaster at Peterborough Regional College. The course which has been part funded from LandSkills East will equip attendees with all the information they need in order to understand this traditional building material and its applications in different situations. Lunch and teas & coffees will be provided on the day also free of charge.

The course will cover:

- An introduction to lime and its properties and use
- Fixing laths and preparing and mixing lime plaster
- Applying lime plaster: patch repair and new
- Aftercare of lime
- Considerations for listed and historic buildings

Course Tutor: Roy Cafferty Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2011, Peterborough Regional College, PE1 4DZ  
For further information, enquiries or bookings please call Rebecca Carter 01245 437672 or e-mail [Traditional.Buildingskills@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Traditional.Buildingskills@essex.gov.uk)

**SOURCE:** Alice Kershaw

### **FRESCO WORKSHOPS – BEDFORDSHIRE, JUNE-JULY 2011**

This Fresco Paining course will be held in a relaxing environment set within the picturesque surroundings of a Bedfordshire farm with traditional farmhouse bed and breakfast accommodation available for those that require it.

Participants will learn through both practical and theoretical methods from an experienced tutor (Carla Benincasa) with help at hand from an equally experienced lime plasterer for substrate preparation. All work will be completed on a panel which may be then taken away at the end of the course.

We also hope to conduct similar short courses in traditional techniques in the future and to date have also trialled a two day event in Italian polished plaster and Marmorino again, held with an experienced tutor from the Veneto region of Italy. See attached flyer for more details or contact Celia Hanbury 01234 881621

If you have friends or colleagues that might be interested in this opportunity, or indeed the polished plaster workshop, please feel free to forward on the details or contact the sender.

**SOURCE:** Carla Markland, [carla.markland@btinternet.com](mailto:carla.markland@btinternet.com)

### **HELM TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR 2011**

The [HELM Training programme for 2011](#) is now available to view on our website. We are running many new topics this year including the Transfer and Setting of Heritage Assets, Marine Planning, and Legal Issues facing Historic Buildings. For more information and locations, or to discuss what topics you would like to see in your area HELM run in future, or book a place on a course, please contact Sam Channer on 01793 44 5029 or [HELMbookings@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:HELMbookings@english-heritage.org.uk)

**SOURCE:** English Heritage HELM newsletter; [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)

## **GENERAL**

### **CONSERVATION & HERITAGE INFORMATION – WHERE TO LOOK**

The more we look, the more we find websites that have information, help and advice about conservation, restoration and repair. We are trying to make the HeritageHUB website comprehensive, but want you all to know about the other sites out there too and so we are constantly updating our own links page on the website so you can find them easily. For instance, [www.BuildingConservation.com](http://www.BuildingConservation.com) and [www.projectbook.co.uk](http://www.projectbook.co.uk) are both valuable sources of information, as are [www.spab.org](http://www.spab.org) and [www.buildinglimesforum.org.uk](http://www.buildinglimesforum.org.uk). If you want your organisation to be added, then please let us know – would be great if you would respond by putting the HeritageHUB link onto your own page too.

**SOURCE:** Cathie Clarke, HeritageHUB [Cathie.clarke@emcbe.com](mailto:Cathie.clarke@emcbe.com)

### **SPAB SEEKS SANDSTONE BUILD FOR STUDY**

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings will be studying the energy efficiency of a small group of historic and traditional buildings throughout 2011 and 2012, and is seeking to identify a solid wall sandstone house that's going to be refurbished in the next few months.

The study aims to examine the building before and after refurbishment to try and offer as complete a picture as possible of the property. The results of the research will be published in order to assist people with improving the energy efficiency of other traditional buildings.

The property needs to be solid wall, sandstone, definitely undergoing significant refurbishment before next winter, preferably listed (in which case, planning / listed building consent needs to have already been obtained) but any pre-1919 home will be considered and, of course, the owner must be willing to participate in the study. The SPAB is flexible about the floor area of the building being sought and it can be located anywhere.



If you are interested in participating please contact Jonathan Garlick, Technical Officer at the SPAB at [jonathan@spab.org.uk](mailto:jonathan@spab.org.uk) or ring 0207 456 0906

**SOURCE:** IHBC News, [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

### **ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND HISTORIC BUILDINGS: APPLICATION OF PART L OF THE BUILDING REGULATIONS TO HISTORIC AND TRADITIONALLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS**

This guidance provides technical advice to help prevent conflicts between energy efficiency requirements in Part L of the Building Regulations and the conservation of historic and traditionally constructed buildings. This new interim guidance has been produced to coincide with the revisions to Part L of the Buildings Regulations that came into effect on 1 October 2010. It will be published in early 2011 in a fully illustrated form. The purpose of the guidance is to help prevent conflicts between the requirements of the regulations and the conservation of historic and traditionally constructed buildings. To download, go to:

[http://www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/ign\\_partl\\_buildingregs.pdf](http://www.helm.org.uk/upload/pdf/ign_partl_buildingregs.pdf)

**SOURCE:** English Heritage HELM newsletter; [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)

### **IHBC LAUNCH WEB RESOURCE TO SUPPORT IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVATION TO NON-SPECIALISTS**

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) has just launched a test (Beta) version of a web resource for IHBC members and other built and historic environment conservation specialists, particularly those in local government in England, to help them specify the importance of conservation to non-specialist managers or other decision makers targeting conservation services.

IHBC Chair Jo Evans said: "The website will help guide members to independent studies and statements on the importance of their professional work, whether core statutory functions or front line services supporting local communities. This is an essential evidence base, helping remind us all of the duties that must be carried out even if a conservation post is lost, and the consequences, including the scrutiny of the ombudsman, if those duties are ignored.

Crucially, the resource also provides a signpost to the widespread, but often unsung, statements of the value of our members' work by key authorities outside the heritage sector. While the statements have often been inspired specifically by the IHBC's own advocacy, they are a unique independent confirmation of the value of our work to business in particular, and society in general."

IHBC know that this is a website that is neither complete in itself, nor perfect in its content – it is a signpost rather than a library, and a stick rather than a solution – but they welcome any feedback. That may take the form of new case studies to supplement our evidence in England, draft texts for the pages that are as yet unwritten, or even suggestions for tweaks to improve the function. They are very happy to receive any useful comments. To provide feedback, please email Seán O'Reilly at [director@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:director@ihbc.org.uk)

For the Beta web resource see: <http://ihbconline.co.uk/skills/final.html>

**SOURCE:** IHBC News, [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

### **RESTORATION MAN RESURRECTED**

Channel 4's Restoration Man programme is again seeking properties that are shortly to be granted planning permission or have been granted permission in the last three months or so for renovation, where the owners maybe interested in participating in the programme.

They are looking for unusual and historic buildings throughout the UK that are being restored or converted into a domestic dwelling and, specifically, for owners who aren't property developers, and who are restoring the building as their own home or for use as a holiday home for themselves. Contact: Vikki Harris, TigerAspect Productions, 5 Soho Square, London, W1D 3QA. Tel: 020 75299416 (Internal: 5416)

**SOURCE:** IHBC News, [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

### **CHAIN BRIDGE FORGE – PROJECT TO BRING EARLY 1800'S BLACKSMITH WORKSHOP & CREATE A LIVING MUSEUM**

The Friends of Chain Bridge Forge need you! They are hoping to preserve this early 1800s Blacksmith's Workshop. They want to:

- Create a living museum which tells the story of the Forge, the people, the Blacksmith craft and the relationship to the community that it served
- Through an outreach programme tell this story to schools and other interested parties
- Demonstrate the Blacksmith craft and to involve others
- Increase visitors to the town of Spalding and county of Lincolnshire



If you would like to know more or get involved with the project, then please contact the Friends of Chain Bridge Forge, C/o Geoff Taylor, 107 Hawthorn Bank, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 1JQ, e-mail: [geofftaylor1946@googlemail.com](mailto:geofftaylor1946@googlemail.com) Telephone: 07960587724

The HeritageHUB will be visiting the Forge in February to see how it could help with including traditional skills training in the renovation of the forge.

**SOURCE:** Geoff Taylor, [geofftaylor1946@googlemail.com](mailto:geofftaylor1946@googlemail.com)

### **CONSERVATION AREAS IMPROVING THANKS TO LOCAL ACTION**

Conservation areas all over England are benefitting from the voluntary efforts of local people, working closely with local councils and supported by English Heritage. *Valuing Places: Good Practice in Conservation Areas* published today by English Heritage, is a blueprint for action, describing dramatic improvements to 18 conservation areas from Berwick, Ulverston, Ripon, Bradford and Sheffield in the North to Truro, Aylesbury, Portsmouth and central London in the South.

**SOURCE:** English Heritage HELM newsletter; [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)

### **BALVENIE MASTERS OF CRAFT AWARDS, CELEBRATING HANDCRAFTED GOODS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**

The awards scheme aims to shine a light on the talent in the field of handcrafts - working with metal, leather, wood, stone, food and drink, glass and ceramics and textiles. It is not a history project - youthful exuberance is helping to drive these skills on and making them relevant in the 21st century and commercially viable.

Joining HCA Chair **Robin Wood** on the judging panel is **Kevin McCloud**, the presenter of Channel 4's *Grand Designs*. Kevin has employed craftsmen in his design business, and witnessed their skill on the set of *Grand Designs*. It is, he says, "an enormous privilege" to watch a craftsman at work. But he is concerned for the future. "We have lost touch with the value of things," he says. "We don't understand the skills required to make things anymore."

Nominations are sought for craftspeople who uphold elements of traditional artisanship and recognise the importance of working to innovate and develop sustainable markets for their products in today's world. Nine awards will be given in total. One for each of the seven craft categories (Stone, Wood, Metal, Glass and Ceramics, Textiles, Leather, Food and Drink), one for The Balvenie Young Master of Craft 2011 (those 30 years of age and under, who symbolise the successful passing on of skills to a new generation) and one for the overall Master of Craft 2011. Craftspeople can nominate themselves. For more details and to submit a nomination, please go to [www.thebalveniemastersofcraft.com](http://www.thebalveniemastersofcraft.com). Entries can be sent by post to: The Balvenie Masters of Craft Awards, c/o Seventy Seven PR, 77 Kingsway, London WC2B 6SR. Electronic entries welcomed: email [entries@thebalveniemastersofcraft.com](mailto:entries@thebalveniemastersofcraft.com) The Balvenie Masters of Craft competition will be open from Sunday January 23. All entries must be in by Thursday April 21 2011. *For full terms and conditions go to [www.thebalveniemastersofcraft.com](http://www.thebalveniemastersofcraft.com)*

**SOURCE:** Heritage Craft Association

### **IHBC Gus Astley Student Award: winners & seminar**

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), the key professional body for built and historic environment conservation specialists, has announced the winners of its Annual Gus Astley Student Award for 2010, the major award of its type for the sector.

*Recipient of the IHBC Gus Astley Student Award 2010:*

Andrew Beckett, of Oxford Brookes University, for his dissertation on Building Preservation Trusts

(BPTs), described by the judge, Trefor Thorpe, as 'a thoroughly engaging exposé of the BPT movement today and a cracking good read to boot!'

Andrew will receive £300 & the offer of a place at the IHBC's 2011 Annual School in Llandudno, in June.

*Special Commendation with Distinction:*

Anne Brownley Raines of Edinburgh College of Art, for a case study of area conservation & regeneration in an industrialized German region, described by Trefor Thorpe as being 'excellently researched and immaculately presented... a superb study of the rise of conservation values tied to renewal and regeneration in a heavily industrialized area.'

Anne will receive £100 & the offer of a place at the IHBC's 2011 Annual School.

The winning candidates are among some of the applicants invited to speak at the IHBC's Awards seminar to take place at the Architectural Association in London on 4 March 2011. Details will be posted on the IHBC's website.

**SOURCE:** *IHBC News*, [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

## **HONOR FOR LOYD GROSSMAN BY LINCOLN UNIVERSITY**

On 19 January Chairman of The Heritage Alliance, Loyd Grossman, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of the Arts from the University of Lincoln in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the heritage and the arts. Loyd received the honorary degree at a ceremony at Lincoln Cathedral, where he joined more than 370 students as they celebrated their university achievements.

**SOURCE:** *The Heritage Alliance, Update 201:* [www.heritagelink.org.uk](http://www.heritagelink.org.uk)

## **POLICIES, REPORTS AND CONSULTATIONS**

### **EU CONSULTATION ON VAT – YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY!**

An opportunity has arisen to express concern about the way that VAT is levied on the cost of maintenance and repairs to historic buildings (but not on replacement or new builds) in response to the European Commission Green Paper: 'Towards a simpler, more robust and efficient VAT system'. The aim of the consultation is to launch a debate on the structure of the current VAT system, ways to make it more coherent within a single market and to reduce the cost of compliance. Deadline: 31 May.

[http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/common/consultations/tax/2010\\_11\\_future\\_vat\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/consultations/tax/2010_11_future_vat_en.htm)

**SOURCE:** *The Heritage Alliance, Update 201:* [www.heritagelink.org.uk](http://www.heritagelink.org.uk)

### **NATIONAL HERITAGE PROTECTION PLAN**

Previous newsletters have made reference to the development of English Heritage's National Heritage Protection Plan. [The Plan](#) will help us, and the heritage sector more widely, become more effective and proactive in protecting and managing the historic environment.

To oversee and support the development of the Plan we are establishing a group of key stakeholders to advise English Heritage. Local Government has a vital role to play in the protection of England's historic environment and that is why we are seeking the input of a Heritage Champion on this group. The group will meet twice a year in London to discuss progress on the Plan and advise how it can best be focussed to deliver what is needed to ensure England's heritage is properly managed. If you would like to nominate yourself as the Heritage Champion representative for the group please email your interest, and any questions you may have, to [champions@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:champions@english-heritage.org.uk) before February 25th.

**SOURCE:** *English Heritage HELM newsletter, 31Jan2011*

## **SITUATIONS VACANT**

### **SENIOR HLF GRANTS OFFICER - EAST MIDLANDS**

Applications are sought for the permanent and full time position of Senior Grants Officer in our East Midlands Team. The job holder will report to the Head of HLF East Midlands and will assess and process applications for grants in that region. This includes progress monitoring of projects undertaken by successful applicants. The post is based in Nottingham and will involve some travel across the region for site visits.



As a more experienced case worker within the team, the job holder will be responsible for handling a wide range of applications and awards for grants for major projects, as well as assisting in the formulation of HLF regional grants strategies, developing and participating in outreach activities, and pursuing other strategic objectives. The position line manages one Grants Officer and will work closely with the Casework Manager, other Grants Officers and the Development Team.

Duties include:

- \* Management of the assessment and processing of grant applications, particularly large and complex cases.
- \* Post award processing and monitoring of successful grant applications.
- \* Providing advice and guidance to applicants and prospective applicants.
- \* Line management responsibility for one Grants Officer.

The HLF is the UK's leading funder of our diverse heritage and gives grants to a wide range of projects involving the local, regional and national heritage of the United Kingdom. We fund the entire spread of heritage including historic buildings, museums and archives, natural heritage and the histories of people and places. Closing date is Friday **11 February 2011** and interviews will take place in Nottingham on Wednesday **23 February 2011**.

To apply for the vacancy or to access a fuller job description, please follow the link below and click on the 'senior grants officer' link in the opening paragraph

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/inyourarea/eastmidlands/Pages/welcome.aspx>

**SOURCE:** *Ian Fisher – East Midlands Funding Forum*

#### **UPVC WINDOWS - FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM ACROSS THE POND**

Rochester City Newspaper New York – 12Jan2011 - It's not unusual in neighborhoods throughout the city to see older wood windows stacked at the curb. Rather than restore the windows, property owners usually replace them, often with vinyl windows. Rochester is now among cities and towns across the country reviewing its ordinance regarding vinyl replacement windows. It's a hot topic among preservationists that is attracting broader public attention.

The change would be significant. While it would impact a relatively small and distinct group of properties, Rochester's approach is being closely watched by communities around the state...Many of the city's buildings - residential and commercial - are older and have windows that need attention. Vinyl replacement windows are popular because they are relatively cheap and easy to install. Educating consumers about the value of restoring older wood windows is important, says Cynthia Howk, architectural research coordinator for the Landmark Society of Western New York...But many property owners are intimidated by the necessary repairs and upkeep of older windows.

The work can be difficult, time-intensive, and require the help of an experienced window repair person, said John Schick, architect and Preservation Board member, at last week's meeting...And finding a knowledgeable craftsperson to do the work can be problematic, he said.

Highly qualified restoration people do exist in the Rochester area, Howk says, but they aren't well-known.

And their work takes time, she says, and may seem costly compared to installing a vinyl window.

Getting consumers to think about the long-term investment they're making might ease some of their worries, Howk says... Still, some Preservation Board members are concerned about creating restrictive guidelines, especially during a difficult economy. What difference would it make, one board member asked, if a vinyl window is used in the back of a building facing a parking lot? But Howk says taking shortcuts is not the answer. **"Once those wood windows have been removed, they're probably lost forever,"** she says.

If you are interested and want to read the full article and public responses, go to

<http://www.rochestercitynewspaper.com/news/articles/2011/01/PRESERVATION-Closing-the-door-on-vinyl-windows>

**SOURCE:** *HeritageHUB through Twitter!!*