

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT MUSEUMS  
AIM E-NEWS DECEMBER 2016 EDITION, – NO 97

Help Us To Celebrate 40 Years Of AIM!

AIM is 40 in 2017 and what better way to mark our anniversary than by celebrating the stories of you, AIM's members? We are looking for unusual and inspiring stories of individual organisations, that illustrate the past 40 years of independent museums. These will run in the AIM Bulletin throughout next year and be discussed at our national conference in June.

If your museum has an interesting story with lessons that could benefit other museums, please get in touch. Just send us about 100 words initially and we will choose a selection that reflect the huge diversity of our members and ask those for further information. We are particularly keen to hear from members whose museums started in the 1970s, 1980s - or even earlier. We know that there is a wealth of interesting stories and personal accounts amongst our membership, so please share them with us – and with other AIM members. Please email: [sassy@aim-museums.co.uk](mailto:sassy@aim-museums.co.uk)

AIM Funding: Upcoming AIM Grants

The AIM Sustainability Grant Scheme, supported through the generosity of the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, is intended to help medium and smaller sized members improve their medium and long term sustainability. The next closing date for applications is 15 January 2017 [AIM Sustainability Grants](#)

AIM Training Grants will open again for applications from 1 January. AIM Training Grants are available to support member museums in developing the skills and expertise of their workforce (paid or voluntary). The purpose of AIM Training Grants are to promote best practice by supporting attendance at conferences and training courses. Applicants museums must be AIM members and priority will be given to smaller museums receiving less than 50,000 visitors p.a. [AIM Training Grants](#)

AIM Call Out For Conference Case Studies

Can you help us create some new case studies for work we have planned next year and for conference? We are keen to hear from our members if they have:

- \*Used the recent AIM admission charging research to review their admission policy or pricing
- \*Worked with universities
- \*Have used new approaches to recruiting, retaining and working with volunteers
- \*Had success with an enterprising business approach that others could benefit from

We are keen to hear from our members in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, so please get in touch if you would like to contribute either by supplying a written case study or by being a guest speaker on any of these subjects at AIM National Conference 22-24 June 2017. Please email: [sassy@aim-museums.co.uk](mailto:sassy@aim-museums.co.uk)

AIM Membership Renewals

We are currently updating our membership systems and website, so there will be a delay in members receiving their renewal notices for 2017 membership due to these updates. This will not affect the length of membership or any member benefits. Members will receive their renewal notice at the end of January 2017. If you have any questions about your membership renewal, please email: [helenf@aim-museums.co.uk](mailto:helenf@aim-museums.co.uk)

Further Update On Museums And Galleries Tax Relief

Following the Chancellor's announcement in the Autumn Statement that the government had [listened to the campaign initiated by AIM and supported widely by museums and sector organisations](#), and was extending the Museums and Galleries tax relief to permanent exhibitions, the government has now published more information about how the new tax relief will operate, including some more changes [Further Update On Museums And Galleries Tax Relief](#)

Regulators Issue Joint Alert About Compliance With Data Protection Law

The Charity Commission, the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales, and the Fundraising Regulator, have issued a compliance alert to all charities. This is in response to fines issued to two national charities for data handling breaches relating to wealth screening. The alert reminds

trustees that they must, in addition to following charity law requirements, ensure that there are systems in place at their charity to identify and comply with any data protection laws and regulations that apply to its activities. There will be further information in the next AIM Bulletin. [Alert About Compliance With Data Protection Law](#).

Largest National Programme On Future Of Volunteering For Museums Launches In London And North West

A two-year Arts Council England funded programme to help museums attract the next generation of volunteers is launching with two regional seminars in London and the North West in January. Volunteer Makers is a model developed with museums to meet the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing volunteer landscape. The seminars are aimed at museum leadership, marketing, curators and volunteer managers. Further seminars are to be announced Further information and seminar dates: [Volunteer Makers](#)