

Esmée Fairbairn Collection Fund Projects

Round One

Successful projects in the May 2011 funding round

Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading, £81,702, for 'A Sense of Place' a project to use collections information to build a series of innovative interpretive tools for use in the galleries and online. The aim is to turn the traditional museum catalogue into a more flexible and interactive resource.

Pitt Rivers Museum, £78,212, for 'Reel to Real' is a project to digitise the Museum's 20th sound collection which ranges from British children's songs to the sound of earth bows being used in the rainforests of central Africa. The project will work in partnership with the British Library and Oxford e-research centre and will find new uses for the collection to enhance visitor experience of galleries and museum events.

Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), £68,912, a project to put their fine and applied art collection online in order to facilitate loans. The project will recruit a registrar and conservator who will seek to create a business model for corporate loans and a conservation service that could be used by museums and artists in the region.

Paxton House, £56,700, for 'Threads of Power' a project which will conserve, research and develop the use of a unique 18th century costume collection.

Museum of the Manchester Regiment, £53,031, for 'Man behind the medal' a project to research the stories behind the medals on display. The stories will be brought to the public through new displays and a series of events.

Creswell Heritage Trust, £49,857, Creswell Crags is an Ice Age site that has been the focus of excavation work since the 1870s with the result that many of the objects excavated are spread across 40 different museum departments worldwide. This project seeks to create a searchable web portal for the Creswell Crags collection and archive.

Social History Curators Group, £26,000, to create a new and improved version of firstBASE, a web- based resource for all staff working with social history collections.

Round Two

Successful projects in the October 2011 funding

Abingdon County Hall Museum, £23,346, to conserve, and develop the display and interpretation of, a mid-sixteenth-century tempera on parchment map of the Thames.

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council Arts and Museums Service, £62,400, to research and develop use of Barnsley's archaeological collections to allow research of the collection in partnership with Sheffield University and add to skills sharing across the region for caring for archaeology collections.

Horniman Museum and Gardens, £50,450, to review the museum's natural history collections. Subject specialists and enthusiast groups will be brought together to identify and find significant specimens during a series of bioblitz workshops.

Kirklees Museums and Galleries, with Calderdale Museums, Wakefield Museums, Bradford Museums and Galleries, and Leeds Museums and Galleries were jointly awarded £72,768 to review and reinterpret the textile collections of the partner museum services and to create the West Yorkshire Textile Heritage Trail.

Museum nan Eilean and Archaeology Service (Western Isles), £85,000, to research the Udal archaeological collections and investigate potential for an Archaeological Resource Centre on North Uist.

The National Media Museum, £78,800, to research and develop the use of the Ray Harryhausen Collection.