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BULLETIN

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

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NEWS

Save the Date: 24th CHRC Symposium

The Cambridge Heritage Research Centre will hold its 24th annual Cambridge Heritage Symposium 19-20 June 2024. The theme of this year's symposium will be ***Heritage Expertise: Paradigm or Platitude?***

Online registration for the event will be open soon so check the link to the [CHRC website](#) in the coming weeks for information about how to join the event.

COVER STORY

Cambridge Museum of Technology awarded National Lottery Heritage Fund grant

Cambridge Museum of Technology has [received a grant of £99,932](#) from The National Lottery Heritage Fund for an exciting heritage project, Full Steam Ahead. Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the project will allow the Museum to increase capacity and reach more audiences. The Victorian sewage pumping station is a scheduled monument on Historic England's At-Risk Register, and some of the (working) technologies on display are the last of their kind.

Cover photo: View of one of the Museum's Hathorn Davey pumping engines. Image: Kieran Gleave

EVENTS

Being with Water Otherwise: Sacred Knowledge and Sustainable Water–Human Relations

Cambridge Interfaith Programme, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge: 15 & 16 April 2024

The Cambridge Interfaith Programme is pleased to host 'Being with Water Otherwise: Sacred Knowledge and Sustainable Water–Human Relations', a conference at the University of Cambridge's Faculty of Divinity on 15 & 16 April 2024.

As we grapple with the pressing issues of water management and its impact on ecosystems, economies, and societies, this conference seeks to explore a transformative perspective. Can diverse religious philosophies and practices offer lessons for sustainable water use? How can sacred knowledge inform water regulation, challenge existing legal frameworks, and raise public awareness about water scarcity? Can we turn to forms of sacred knowledge, old and new, to think water 'otherwise', as a way out of the global grip of consumerism, expressed through a pervasive utilitarian perception of the world, in which water is but an instrumentalised resource to be efficiently extracted and absorbed? Could religious orientations, in their diversity, offer us conceptual and practical tools of being with water beyond 'usage' and 'efficiency', in ways that do not progressively deplete the earth and impoverish all that it holds?

The conference will be of particular interest to the heritage experts interested in sacred practices and forms of knowledge that nurture sustainable relations with water.

For more information about registration, about our keynote address by Professor Veronica Strang, and our ten exciting panels and workshops over the two days, see the full conference programme at <https://www.interfaith.cam.ac.uk/conference-being-water-otherwise-15-16-april-2024>.

This two-day educational event is supported by a collaborative project exploring water efficiency in faith and diverse communities, funded by the OFWAT Innovation Fund. Delegate fees are set at £50 (standard rate) and £20 (low income). For any other questions, please contact the convenor, Dr Safet Hadži Muhamedović (sh639@cam.ac.uk).

EVENTS

All Inclusive: Championing Accessible Museums

Museums Association: 8th May 2024, 1000-1500
Online, Zoom

Ableism – prioritising the needs of non-disabled people over disabled people – remains pervasive across the museum sector. Disabled people still face barriers in our buildings, policies and structures, and are chronically unrepresented in our workforce and collections.

All Inclusive is our annual one-day conference exploring how museums can become anti-ableist in everything that they do. Anti-ableism recognises abled privilege and actively looks to challenge and dismantle it through theory, actions and practices. Through provocations, case studies and panel discussions, the event explores what an anti-ableist museum might look like in practice.

We will elevate the perspectives of D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people as part of this event.

Programme highlights:

- An interactive and practical discussion on how to turn advocacy into organisational change
- A panel of disabled museum workers share what it's like to be disabled in the sector – and what museums can do to support wellbeing and access in the workplace

- Practical advice on low-cost ways for small museums to become more anti-ableist
- Best practice guidance on creating inclusive learning programmes
- How to take an anti-ableist approach to creating exhibitions

Please note that this event will be recorded and available exclusively to delegates for three months. After that time, it will be made available to members on the Museums Association website.

Follow this event on X: #MuseumAccessibility

Event fees:

- Concessionary Member – £35
- Member (Essential, Full, Institutional and Commercial members) – £45
- Non-member – £65

For additional information about this event, the schedule and details on how to book your place, please use the [following link](#).

EVENTS

Steam Weekend: Cambridge Museum of Technology

Cambridge Museum of Technology: 6th—7th April 2024

Saturday 6th: Warming up the boiler, chimney and the engines is critical if we are to have good performance. By the afternoon we should have some of the smaller engines in operation and may even turn over the mighty Hathorn Davey in preparation for Sunday.

Sunday 7th: A great day out for all the family. Have all your senses stimulated by our magnificent steam engines running in public again following an extensive restoration program. This has been made possible by many thousands of volunteer hours and over £100,000 funding from local donations, Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England and Architectural Heritage Fund.

The North Hathorn Davey engine will run throughout the day, while a variety of smaller engines across our site will also be running. Be sure to check the timetable when you arrive to ensure you don't miss anything!

Engineers house will be serving craft beer, wine and pizza. Kerb Collective will provide best coffee in Cambridge

For additional information on the event and booking instructions, please visit the [Cambridge Museum of Technology website](#).

EVENTS

Collecting Africa

**V&A South Kensington, The Lydia and
Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre**

Friday, 12 April 2024: 18.30 – 19.30

Tickets cost £10.00 - £12.00

Join textile collector Karun Thakar and V&A East director Gus Casely-Hayford for an exciting discussion on Ghanaian Asafo Flags

World renowned Asafo Flags (frankaa) made and used by Fante people of coastal Ghana have had a huge impact on global art and design scenes in the Last few decades.

The earliest written mention of the Asafo flag is in the 19th Century. Translating to 'war people', the 'Asafo' flags are boldly appliquéd and embroidered cloth banners used for parading on festive occasions by what began as 'military' companies but would become crucial social bodies.

The flags were created by specialist artists and now serve as a textile-centric artefact that ingeniously borrows from European national flags. They are symbols of pride that vividly capture periods of change and transition for the Fante people. The Asafo company tradition dates to at least the 16th Century and the use of flags might be that old.

Karun Thakar has been collecting early and fragmented Asafo flags for over 35 years during various trips to Ghana, which have been exhibited at the Brunei Gallery in London.

Join him in conversation with inaugural director of V&A East, Gus Casely-Hayford, who wrote his PhD on the history of the region where the flags are made, to delve into the dynamic art form with global impact and how the Asafo flags hold wider implications of collecting from the continent.

For further information about this event and booking instructions, please use the following link: [Collecting Africa](#)

PUBLICATION

Wicked Heritage Problems: Rethinking Critical Heritage Theory with Contemporary Liminality

[Dr. Alicia V. Stevens](mailto:aliciavstevens@me.com) (aliciavstevens@me.com)

Abstract: Since the turn of the twenty-first century, an anxious presentism has taken hold of our social and political reality. This condition rejects the lessons of the past, fears the future, and amplifies crises in the present moment, suspending whole societies in uncertainty. These extraordinary times demand innovation of heritage critique, which lacks a core framework for understanding how heritage interacts with the uncertainty of transition. This paper offers an innovative approach to the problem, arguing for transferring the paradigm of contemporary liminality from political anthropology into heritage studies.

Contemporary political anthropologists have adapted liminality's ritual structure to large-scale phenomena like war, revolution, and extreme

transition to understand these experiences at the level of the communities living through them. With an epistemology free from the constraints of secular rationalism, contemporary liminality provides a framework for understanding heritage amid transition that sheds new light on core investigations into the politics of memory and identity. It also leads to the concept of a liminal heritage, heritage that takes on characteristics of its liminal context such as ambivalence, ambiguity, imitation, danger, deception, violence, and creativity.

To view this article, please visit the following link: [Wicked Heritage Problems: Rethinking Critical Heritage Theory with Contemporary Liminality](#)

CALL FOR PAPERS

24th CHRC Heritage Symposium Heritage Expertise: Paradigm or Platitude?

24th CHRC Heritage Symposium

Heritage Expertise: Paradigm or Platitude?

The criticisms of the Authorised Heritage Discourse (AHD) by Laurajane Smith highlighted the significance of marginalised communities and the need to include their voices in heritage-making processes (2006). Smith's argument, which focused on the socio-political underpinnings of heritage, expanded the limits of our understanding. More importantly, she highlighted that what we choose to select from the past is always subject to the values and the needs of the present. Her approach, together with the participative turn in the social sciences, initiated a dialogue about the significance of different participants beyond experts in the heritage-making process and the different modes that this participation requires. The increasing support for the global role of Indigenous people in heritage practice and the demands for the decolonisation of heritage knowledge and practice are manifestations of the need for widening participation in the heritage sector.

The 2005 Faro Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society marked the crucial step towards thinking differently about the roles to be discharged in heritage if we want to fulfil the promises of inclusion, sensible dissemination and education. A decade ago, John Schofield posed some pertinent questions about the 'key skill sets'

that those who work in the heritage sector need to guarantee wide social engagement (2016). Schofield's interrogation about the required skills for heritage highlights that although the participative turn brought forward the significance of wider engagement within the heritage process focusing on marginalised communities around the world, we still need to understand the roles that participation requires from heritage, and the necessary skills to exercise participation and respond to the demands of participation. This Symposium responds to Schofield's thought-provoking questions and will provide the first constructive attempt to critically interrogate the skills and roles of those working and researching within heritage spheres. More importantly, the symposium makes an innovative and significant contribution to heritage theory, practice, and methodologies by focusing on skills and roles, some of which have been overlooked by the participative turn in heritage theory and practice.

Submission guidelines: We welcome proposals from cross-disciplinary backgrounds which address the unique challenges and opportunities that accompany reframing the role of expertise in heritage. We welcome contributions which aim to address the following types of questions:

- How do we define heritage expertise?
- What kinds of skills are necessary for heritage expertise?

CALL FOR PAPERS

24th CHRC Heritage Symposium Heritage Expertise: Paradigm or Platitude?

- How can ethical values shape our understanding of heritage expertise?
- How does decolonisation challenge Western concepts of heritage expertise?
- What are the epistemological and ontological implications of challenging established concepts of heritage expertise?
- What opportunities can digitisation and globalisation afford for heritage expertise?
- Can the role of communities and/or grassroots movements in heritage interpretation expand the boundaries of heritage expertise?
- Do current heritage methodologies respond to the demands of inclusive participation in heritage expertise?

Please submit expressions of interest, including an abstract of no more than 300 words by Monday 22nd April 2024 to the organisers at acamhs24@gmail.com. Successful submissions will then be invited to present their work at the Symposium, which will take place between the 19th and 20th of June 2024 in the [McDonald Building, Downing Site, University of Cambridge](#).

Organisers: Sofia Bourantoni, Oliver Moxham and Kieran Gleave.

References:

Smith, L. 2006. *Uses of Heritage*. London: Routledge
Schofield, J. (ed.) 2016. *Who Needs Experts? Counter-mapping Cultural Heritage*. London; Routledge

OPPORTUNITIES

PhD Studentship: Colonial Natural Historical Collecting in the South Asian Indian Ocean

University Museum of Zoology & The University of Cambridge

- Start date: 1st October 2024
- Pre-application online information session for interested applications: 16th April, 10am BST (UTC+1) [Register your interest](#)
- Application Deadline: 12 May
- Interviews will take place online on Tuesday 11 June

The University of Cambridge and its Museum of Zoology are pleased to announce a fully-funded collaborative doctoral studentship from October 2024 under the AHRC's Collaborative Doctoral Partnership (CDP) Scheme.

The University Museum of Zoology and Cambridge University Herbarium have exceptional collections from South Asia and the Mascarene Islands (taken to include Mauritius, Réunion and Rodrigues). These collections have underpinned scientific research into evolution, extinction and natural history, but their human social stories have yet to be explored. Together with the team of supervisors, the successful candidate will develop a project to interrogate the history of these collections or some parts of them with respect to colonialism and Indigenous, local and indentured practices and contexts. This region is of massive importance to the European colonial story. It has some of the world's most celebrated animals and plants, from tigers to dodos and rhododendrons and tea. Such specimens in our collections represent how colonial histories and environmental histories became tied to the same

processes, and how natural history practices reinforced and were reinforced by the workings of empire. This project will shed light on the entwined human and environmental costs of the colonial project.

This project will be jointly supervised by Professor Sujit Sivasundaram and Jack Ashby together with Dr. Charu Singh and Professor Sam Brockington. The student will undertake research at both the University Museum of Zoology and the Faculty of History at the University of Cambridge, while also having access to the Department of History and Philosophy of Science and the University's Herbarium. They will become part of the wider cohort of CDP-funded students across the UK.

Applicants should ideally have or expect to receive a relevant Master's-level qualification, or be able to demonstrate equivalent experience in a professional setting. Suitable disciplines are flexible, but might include History, Archive Studies, History of Science/Natural History, or Geography.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate an interest in natural history and the museums, archives, library, and heritage sector and potential and enthusiasm for developing skills more widely in related areas.

All applications will need to be made through the University Graduate Application Portal (for which we provide guidance in the [further details document](#)).

OPPORTUNITIES

PhD Project: A taste of home: Exploring migrating food heritage and food information practices

University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

**Self-Funded PhD Students Only,
Applications accepted all year round**

This PhD research will consider the nature of food traditions and authenticity in relation to how selected iconic ingredients and recipes are recorded, curated, shared, and reperformed in offline and online environments. Grounded in emergent Information Science studies in recipes, health, nutrition, and Human Food Interaction, the project will expand to situate cross-country and cross-community food traditions and authenticity within a framework of Information Behaviour, Cultural Heritage, and Human Computer Interaction.

The study will contribute to increasing understanding of how to support food heritage traditions, food information needs, and human food interactions of migrant and diasporic communities in a physical and digital world.

Essential requirements:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree (2:1 or above) in relevant fields such as Library and Information Studies, Heritage Studies, Digital Humanities, Human Computer Interaction, or related disciplines
- English language proficiency. For international students IELTS (Academic) requirements should be 6.0 overall (no individual band less than 5.5).

- Strong communication skills.
- Understanding of and familiarity with qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.

Desirable:

- Prior experience in intangible cultural heritage and/or information behaviour research.
- Experience of ethnographic research approaches
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively in an interdisciplinary environment.
- Creative problem-solving skills and a passion for exploring an interdisciplinary topic.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates should email [Dr. Perla Innocenti \(perla.innocenti@strath.ac.uk\)](mailto:perla.innocenti@strath.ac.uk) to express interest and discuss their proposal, including the following attachments:

1. Cover letter detailing contact information, motivation, background, and proposed research direction (max 3 pages).
2. Up-to-date CV

Suitable candidates will be invited to formally apply for a PhD via <https://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/research/computerinformationsciences/>, submitting an agreed research proposal, CV, Transcripts and certificates of all degree; two reference contacts of which one academic.

OPPORTUNITIES

[Programme Manager, Legacies of Enslavement Project](#)

GUARDIAN NEWS AND MEDIA, London

Salary: £55,000 - £65,000 p.a.

Deadline: 14 Apr 2024

The Guardian News and Media looking for a Programme Manager to lead in the delivery of the [Guardian and Scott Trust's programme of restorative justice](#) in response to [links between the founders of the Manchester Guardian and transatlantic slavery](#).

This pivotal role will see you project-manage and lead on specific areas of the programme, including community engagement and partnerships in Greater Manchester. This role is a 2 year fixed term contract or staff secondment, based in the Guardian's Manchester office.

About the Role

- Manage an active portfolio of engagement and influencing work across Greater Manchester's Black and other diverse communities, civil society organisations, city council and Combined Authority institutions, and cultural and heritage organisations
- Develop and maintain a series of impactful partnerships to advance knowledge and awareness of Manchester's connections to transatlantic enslavement, including in collaboration with cultural and heritage organisations, and through educational engagement
- Provide high-level strategic and operational support to the programme director in relation to restorative

justice elements of the programme in Jamaica and the Sea Islands region of the US

- Research, analyse and document developments across the restorative and reparative justice space to inform programme development, implementation and learning

About You

- Extensive experience in programme strategy and implementation, and with a strong track record of impact
- Experience in community engagement or development work in the UK
- Empathetic and confident communicator and advocate with experience of engaging communities, civil society partners and government officials alike
- Proven experience of designing, monitoring and evaluating project plans, budgets, and other tools
- Knowledge and experience of Greater Manchester and its Black communities would be desirable
- Ideally you'll have a demonstrable ability to bring a diverse perspective to this role
- We actively encourage applications from candidates who are Black, Asian, minority ethnic or from other groups traditionally underrepresented in the UK media.

How to Apply

To apply, please upload your latest CV and a cover letter which outlines why you'd love to take on this role, and why you're a great match for what we're looking for. To apply, please use the following link: [Programme Manager, Legacies of Enslavement Project Apply](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

[Office Manager : The Heritage Alliance](#)

**The Heritage Alliance Office, St Martin
Ludgate, London, EC4M**

Salary: £27,000 pa (pro-rata)

The Heritage Alliance is looking for a part-time Office Manager for its small friendly office based in Ludgate Hill. This is an excellent opportunity for someone, who would relish the opportunity to work within a dynamic heritage membership and advocacy organisation, to build experience across a wide range of tasks and activities. The role is a split one designed to:

- ensure the smooth running of the physical office space, ensuring all necessary equipment and supplies are maintained;
- provide PA support to the organisation's CEO
- manage third party office service provision such as the IT services, and lead on maintaining key internal policies;
- support the delivery of event-related tasks necessary for the successful execution of our programme of events;
- take a significant role in the delivery of external projects designed to support the Alliance and its membership.

Key Competences

- A team player able to manage administrative processes for a small team.
- A responsible, reliable and well organised self-starter with great attention to detail and the ability to prioritise and manage tasks from start to finish.
- Well-developed IT skills, particularly in Microsoft Office Word, Excel and Outlook. Knowledge of Microsoft Office 365 and SharePoint would be a benefit.
- Experience of CRM systems (e.g. Salesforce) would be a benefit.
- Experience in Event administration would be a benefit. Office Manager Job Description
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal.
- Ability to manage complex diary scheduling for CEO.
- Ability to work in a flexible manner, to work well on own initiative and within a small team.
- Ability to build strong relationships both internally and externally.

Please complete our standard application form and return, with accompanying CV, to finance@theheritagealliance.org.uk

Application closing date: 6pm on **Friday 12 April 2024** Interviews: TBC – Week commencing 22 April 2024

OPPORTUNITIES

Events and Communications Coordinator

Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge

Salary: £25,742 - £29,605 Per year/Pro-rata

The Centre for Latin American Studies is inviting applicants to join our enthusiastic and professional team. This role is a great opportunity to use and develop administrative skills, while also having a big impact on the research and teaching conducted in an academic centre. The successful applicant will be based at the Centre's administrative home in the Alison Richard Building working alongside researchers and students to provide support for different tasks. The Centre of Latin American Studies is a lively environment where PhDs work and MPhil students receive tuition. The successful applicant will work closely with the Centre Administrator on a daily basis providing general assistance and fielding enquiries. Within the Centre, the post-holder will play a pivotal role, working together with the Centre Director, to ensure the smooth running of open seminars, lunchtime events and other academic, course-related or social events.

This will include scheduling, liaising with event speakers, arranging refreshments and publicising these events. The Centre also hosts several academic visitors each year and an annually appointed notable academic from Latin America, the Simón Bolívar Professor. The post holder will

provide all visitors with general support on arrival when required, but will mainly assist the Simón Bolívar Professor providing pre-arrival advice and secretarial support throughout the year. The general working hours are between the hours of 9am and 5:30pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the year. Attendance at the Monday evening Open Seminars during term-time is required. Exact working hours are to be agreed between the appointee and the Centre Administration. We particularly welcome applications from candidates from a BME background for this vacancy as they are currently under-represented at this level in our department. Click the 'Apply' button below to register an account with our recruitment system (if you have not already) and apply online. Informal enquiries are welcomed by Chriselia de Vries (admin@latin-american.cam.ac.uk). Please quote reference UE40720 on your application and in any correspondence about this vacancy.

The University actively supports equality, diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from all sections of society. The University has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK .

For additional information about this role, please consult the [guidance document](#) .

OPPORTUNITIES

World Cultures Curator (Arabic and Persian)

The University of Edinburgh - Information Services Group - Heritage Collections

Salary: £37,099 to £44,263 Grade UE07, per annum

This post sits within Heritage Collections, Research Collections team working within the Centre for Research Collections in the Main Library in George Square. It reports to The University Archivist and Research Collections Manager. The working hours and pattern are usually 35 hours a week with much of this on campus working with the collections.

What the job involves:

- Provenance research on manuscripts and collection items, with dissemination of this in catalogue data
- Development of specialist collection knowledge working with academic, cultural and community partners, developing interdisciplinary projects.
- Collections based professional sector research with curatorial development, upholding of professional standard

A bit about you:

- Experience of historical research on South East Asian, Persian and/ or Arabic Manuscripts
- Ability to apply relevant knowledge, skills and techniques in research, discussion and dissemination
- Palaeographic skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Excellent communication skills, including the ability to form and cultivate strong relationships with people from a wide variety of backgrounds based on credibility, trust and mutual respect
- Excellent written and oral communication and presentation skills, including the ability to explain complex topics simply and compellingly to non-specialist audiences

Key dates to note:

To apply, upload a CV and cover letter **before 4 April 2024**. Unless otherwise stated the closing date for applications is 11:59PM GMT. If you are applying outside the UK the closing time on our adverts automatically adjusts to your browsers local time zone. Interviews will be held in April (In-person/virtually/both).



CONTRIBUTE

We would be especially interested in hearing from you about events and opportunities. Contributions in the form of short reviews of conferences, exhibitions, publications or other events/material that you have attended/read are also welcome. Please note that advertisements for any non-CHRC events, jobs, or programs do not imply endorsement of them.

Bulletin Editor

Kieran Gleave (*PhD Researcher*)
Cambridge Heritage Research Centre
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SUBSCRIBE

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive our bulletin, or if you have a notice to post, please contact the editor (heritage-bulletin@arch.cam.ac.uk). For more information about the Heritage Research Group, visit the CHRC website: www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk

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