

Quarter 1



Social Media Guide

As part of the MuBu project we have developed a guide to social media. The guide has been specifically written for the museum sector and looks at how you can use the internet to communicate with users and engage new audiences. A range of social media options are introduced with essential information to help you assess which will best help you to achieve your objectives. The guide will also give you the skills you need to start blogging, podcasting, or unravelling the mysteries of Twitter. [Click here](#) to download the guide.



Website Changes

MuBu.org.uk has gone under a few changes since the launch of the programme and we are now delighted to show you the new, improved www.MuBu.org.uk with the focus on the projects happening in museums across the region. Visit now to see what is going on as more is being added all the time. If you've not added your project avatar picture for the front page, or your project description please do so as soon as possible, the website is being marketed nationally and we want as many people as possible to know about our work.



MuBu Website Training

We held the first sessions in training for the MuBu online hub earlier this month. Rob from the Digital Learning Agency led the session with brief tasters in Twitter and Flickr and an introduction to blogging on the MuBu site. The comments from participants were all very positive:

- I was inspired by 'seeing how exciting MuBu looks'*
- I am particularly proud of 'being part of MuBu'*
- 'A well rounded session - very much enjoyed it'*
- I was inspired by 'how easy it seems'*

If you've not already attended please get in touch with bryony.robins@leicester.gov.uk for further dates.

Research Opportunities

One of the MuBu project objectives was to create three research opportunities that will test the viability of digitally lead research projects linking collections and audiences. We are pleased to have our three research scholars in place.



Mining - David Amos

David is an ex-miner completing an MPhil at the University of Nottingham. David worked for 24 Years in the coal industry, he also worked as a teaching assistant, at DH Lawrence Museum and on the [Selstonia](#) Living History Project. David plans to enhance the interpretation of mining collections and pull in local communities for recollections and stories.

Please contact David if you would like to be involved or have collections and/or expertise in this area: david.amos99@ntlworld.com

Food - Cynthia Brown



Cynthia is a Regional Network Co-ordinator and accredited trainer for the oral history society and local historian. Cynthia will consider documentary sources, oral histories and museum collections as part of the Food Scholarship. Topics might include farming, regional specialities, markets, shops, wartime rations and grow your own.

Please contact Cynthia if you would like to be involved or have collections and/or expertise in this area: cib2@leicester.ac.uk

Climate Change - Lucy Veale



Lucy has just completed a PHD at the University of Nottingham around 19th Century Theorisation of Climates. Lucy will consider changes in weather through evidence in museum collections and archives. Research will include local narratives on climate change and responses to unusual weather events, such as the Louth Flood of 1920 and the role of scientists, amateurs and enthusiasts in weather recording. Hayman Rooke of Mansfield and Colonel Henry Mellish of Hodsock will be considered.

Please contact Lucy if you would like to be involved or have collections and/or expertise in this area: lucy.veale@nottingham.ac.uk



Focus on Projects

Dinosaur & Geology Video Podcasts

Leicester Museums & Galleries are working with Glass Page, a Leicester based film company, to develop 8 video podcasts that introduce our 'star objects' and their hidden stories from the Dinosaur and Geology galleries at New Walk Museum & Art Gallery.

The Dinosaur and Geology galleries are currently closed for refurbishment and re-display, due to re-open in 2011, so the video podcasts will maintain a presence for the galleries and collections during this time and will also provide additional interpretation for the galleries once they re-open to the public.

The podcasts will each be targeted to different audiences to provide more in-depth content in addition to the more traditional interpretation on view in gallery.



Factory Voices

[Mansfield Museum](#) are creating a digital time-capsule of the The Metal Box Company factory. Metal Box have been producing tins in Mansfield for over 150 years and is about to move production to a brand new site still within the town.

Mansfield Museum has been working with the factory over the last few months to help preserve some of the paperwork, tins and artwork that still occupy large areas of this Victorian factory.

The museum is working with [Sound Delivery](#) and Metal Box employees past and present to collect oral history recordings, videos, and audio slideshows to ensure the memories of the Metal Box Company are preserved. This result will serve as a lasting reminder of the Metal Box and the major part it played in the industrial development of Mansfield.

Audio Trail for Young People



Sound Delivery are also working with [Crich Tramway Village](#) and a local specialist performing arts school to develop an audio trail for the museum site. The trail will spark discussion about the museum's collection of street furniture, exploring the why, what, how and when. The collection is currently not interpreted and this project will enable young people to research and develop interpretation of the objects.



MuBu Museum Trainee

Mandeep Kaur-Lakhan has recently started working with Renaissance East Midlands as a Museum Trainee. Her role is to work with Bryony and Caroline in supporting MuBu. She is looking forward to seeing how all of the projects develop. Her academic background is in Film Studies and the Visual Arts which she studied in Leicester. Previous to working with Renaissance East Midlands, Mandeep worked at the Media Archive for Central England. Her role was to edit, encode and upload video clips to the MACE website. One of the MuBu projects that Mandeep is currently working on involves the refurbishment of the Dinosaur and Geology Galleries at New Walk Museum in Leicester. This includes the production of video podcasts, something which Mandeep has some previous experience of and a keen interest in developing.