

MUSEUMS LIBRARIES ARCHIVES

# **PRISM Grant Fund Annual Report 2003/04**

Museums, Libraries and Archives Council  
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## Introduction

The PRISM Fund supports the acquisition and conservation of material relating to all fields of the history of science, technology, industry and medicine. The Fund was managed by the National Museum of Science & Industry on behalf of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) until 31 March 2003, but since then has been managed solely by MLA. However, MLA continues to take expert advice from the staff of the Science Museum, National Railway Museum and National Museum of Photography, Film and Television, as well as other national museums.

The Fund was established in 1973 in response to the growing public concern that technological change was burning away all trace of Britain's industrial heritage. Since 1973 PRISM has helped over 400 museums and preservation groups in England and Wales acquire or conserve over 2000 objects of industrial or scientific importance.

The Fund aims to support the variety of institutions entrusted with the care of our industrial and scientific heritage and show the ways in which local and regional collections combine to map the detail of the nation's industrial and scientific past.

The PRISM Fund awarded 56 grants during in 2003-2004, worth **£343,237.13**. **This sum includes the significant under-spend carried forward from the period 2002-2003**. The MLA allocates £250,000 each year to the PRISM Fund. Acquisitions represent approximately 40 percent of the number of awards, though they account for only 30 percent of the total spend.

The demand for grants towards conservation and restoration projects was significantly higher than in recent years.

## Changes to the Fund

No changes in the way the Fund operates were made during the year but from 1 April 2004, the maximum award for a conservation grant will be reduced from 70% to 50% of the total project costs. Applicants will also have to demonstrate compliance with Equal Opportunities legislation.

### Summary of PRISM Grant Fund Awards and Expenditure for 2003-2004

| <b>PRISM Category</b>  | <b>Number of grants</b> | <b>Total grant amount (£)</b> | <b>Paid Amount (£)</b> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Archives               | 7                       | 25,361.00                     | 17,319.50              |
| Aviation               | 5                       | 27,196.00                     | 11,785.20              |
| Buildings              | 2                       | 32,500.00                     | 0                      |
| Horology               | 1                       | 6,055.00                      | 6,055.00               |
| Industry               | 11                      | 99,874.50                     | 19,879.39              |
| Miscellaneous          | 5                       | 15,212.00                     | 12,823.00              |
| Natural History        | 3                       | 24,771.53                     | 2,446.52               |
| Photography            | 1                       | 1,700.00                      | 1,700.00               |
| Rail                   | 4                       | 24,558.00                     | 16,558.00              |
| Road                   | 10                      | 52,736.10                     | 49,736.10              |
| Scientific Instruments | 4                       | 18,523.00                     | 14,523.00              |
| Trams                  | 1                       | 10,000.00                     | 0                      |
| Water                  | 2                       | 4,750.00                      | 4,750.00               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>56</b>               | <b>343,237.13</b>             | <b>157,575.71</b>      |

### Summary of PRISM Grant Fund Awards for 2003-2004 by Type

| <b>Type</b>              | <b>Number</b> | <b>Grant Amount (£)</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Acquisitions             | 24            | 104,361.50              |
| Conservation/Restoration | 32            | 238,875.63              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>56</b>     | <b>343,237.13</b>       |

## **Full list of PRISM grants awarded in the financial year 2003/04**

The information for each award includes the ID reference number, project title, organization name and the grant amount. Projects with a GIA reference are those that were initially submitted to the Science Museum but where the grant was offered by MLA (previously Resource: The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries). The grant amounts that are marked as (in progress) refer to awards that have not yet been paid but the project, either acquisition or conservation, is in progress and these funds are 'ring-fenced' for the particular project.

ID 1389

Acquisition of Birmingham Mint's archives and collection of artefacts illustrative of minting operations

Birmingham City Museums and Art Gallery

£5,000.00

ID 1456

Acquisition of archives of FJ 'Jeep' Cable

Helicopter Museum

£5,000.00 (in progress)

ID 1125

Purchase and transportation of the DC.3 aircraft

South Yorkshire Air Museum

£2,571.20

ID 1656

Acquisition of Supermarine Swift aircraft built in 1956

R J Mitchell Memorial Museum Ltd.

£15,000.00 (in progress)

ID 964 (GIA/2003/0002)

Purchase of Percival Sea Prince T1 '575' WF122

South Yorkshire Air Museum

£2,000.00

ID 1052

Purchase of the Edwards Mine winding gear

The Trevithick Society

£4,575.00

ID 1027 (GIA/2003/0017)

Purchase of a watercolour of the astronomer Margaret Bryan and her daughters

William Herschel Museum

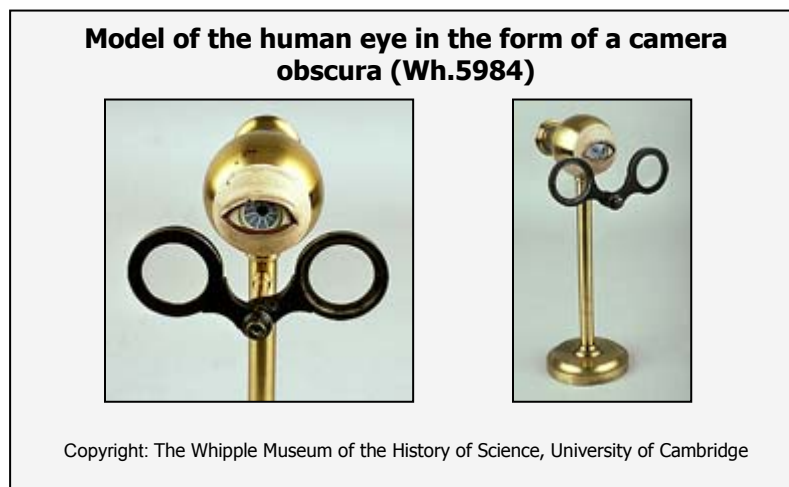
£1,250.00

ID 1298

Acquisition of a model of human eye manufactured c. 1870

Whipple Museum of the History of Science

£4,000.00



ID 1689

Acquisition of a 'celestial indicator' (improved armillary spheres)

Whipple Museum of the History of Science

£4,000.00 (in progress)

ID 980 (GIA/2003/0010)

Acquisition of artifacts and archival material relating to James Watt

Birmingham City Museums and Art Gallery

£4,770.00

ID 1528

Acquisition of entomological collection of Dr N.L.Birkett

Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle

£2,560.00 (in progress)

ID 1033  
Purchase of Lantern Kromskop Projector (Ives' Patent)  
Hove Museum & Art Gallery  
£1,700.00



ID 1082 (GIA/2002/0025)  
Purchase of large format photographic negatives, showing industrial and transport scenes  
Bristol Industrial Museum  
£1,500.00

ID 1236  
Acquisition of the Cornwell Collection of photographs of North Somerset coalfield  
Radstock Museum  
£2,365.00

ID 1627  
Purchase of 3340 negatives photographs of buses in Sheffield and adjacent areas  
Sheffield Bus Museum Trust Ltd  
£668.00 (in progress)

ID 1635  
Acquisition of collection of 2100 photographs and ephemera of Churnet Valley Railway  
North Staffordshire Railway Company (1978) Ltd  
£750.00

ID 1056  
Purchase of 30 HP Thornycroft 4-seat open tourer car  
Hampshire County Museums Service  
£10,000.00

ID 1071

Acquisition of 16 hp double phaeton motorcar, built by Seaham Harbour Engine Works (SHEW)  
Beamish, the North of England Open Air Museum  
£6,343.50

ID 1072

Purchase of 1929 Singer Junior motorcar  
Coventry Transport Museum  
£3,250.00

ID 1073

Purchase of 1923 Swift 12hp tourer motorcar  
Coventry Transport Museum  
£3,125.00

**1923 Swift 12hp tourer motorcar – Coventry Transport Museum**



The 1923 Swift Tourer was first owned by a Mr Hamish Annand of the Seafield Hotel at Banff in Scotland. Priced new for this four seat version would have been £595. Its 1,944cc engine produced 12hp, giving a top speed of between 40 and 50mph. Fuel consumption averaged 25 - 30 miles per gallon.

One of the earliest british car builders Swift made its first conventional car in 1902. Expansion was fairly rapid and a new factory was acquired to meet increased demand. a 7hp 972cc model was introduced in 1909 and was sold by Austin as their first Seven. World War One saw Swift build Hispano-Suiza and Renault aircraft engines as well as aeroplane fuselages for the Vickers bomber. An ill-fated merger with another company after that war was not a success and the firm was in some difficulty. It was the 12hp model, like the one the Museum has, that was largely responsible for saving the company and around 1,500 were built.

ID 1091

Purchase of Sunbeam Sprint 350 cc motorcycle  
Carmarthenshire County Museum  
£8,000.00

ID 1094

Acquisition of SS 1 helmet wing motorcar  
Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust  
£5,000.00

ID 1260

Acquisition of objects, documents and photographs, including two royal medicine chests, a medicine case, a balance, and two glass bottles in wooden cases one of which is labeled 'Coronation oil prepared April 1937'  
The Thackray Medical Museum Company Limited  
£6,000.00

ID 1299

Acquisition of electrical apparatus, manufactured c. 1870-1880  
Whipple Museum of the History of Science  
£4,523.00

ID 1124

Conservation of aero engine collection  
Yorkshire Air Museum  
£2,325.00

ID 970 (GIA/2001/0031)

Towards the re-erection of Boulton and Paul (Norwich) hangar of 1937  
Norfolk & Suffolk Aviation Museum  
£4,889.00

ID 938

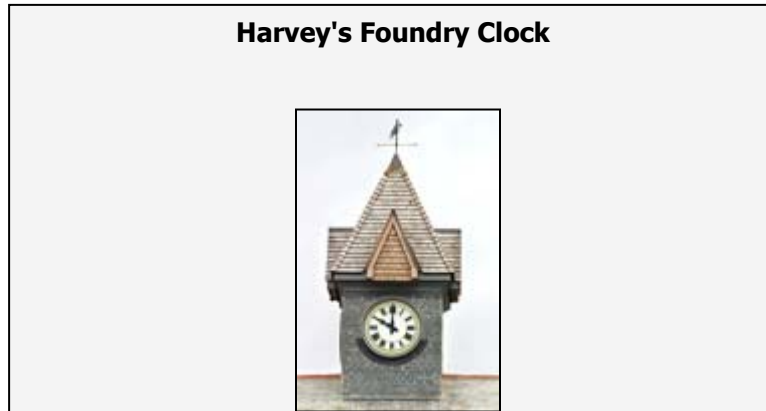
Towards the re-erection of the Mortlock Building  
Museum of East Anglian Life  
£20,000.00 (in progress)

ID 939 (GIA/1998/0016)

Restoration of tile facade of the Wood Lane underground station  
London's Transport Museum  
£12,500.00 (in progress)

ID 940 (GIA/2003/0005)

Conservation of Foundry Square clock (Harvey & Co, Hayle, Cornwall)  
Penwith District Council  
£6,055.00



ID 1032  
Conservation of calipers (1889), two Vernier calipers (late 19th C) and other items from the Royal Arsenal  
Greenwich Borough Museum  
£2,152.50

ID 1057 (GIA/2003/0014)  
Conservation of two items of blowing room machinery made by Plat Brothers of Oldham and used in cotton mills  
Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester  
£5,247.00

ID 1088 (GIA/2003/0016)  
Conservation of machinery at Force Crag Mine, Cumbria  
The National Trust (North West Region)  
£20,000.00 (in progress)

ID 1235  
Conservation of Doxford marine oil engine  
Tyne and Wear Museums  
£5,500.00

ID 1380  
Conservation of 'Peace' - 500 hp tandem compound condensing steam engine - the main drive steam engine for Queen Street Mill, Burnley  
Lancashire County Museum Service  
£13,680.00 (in progress)

ID 1633

Conservation of Bull Engine manufactured by Harvey & Co, Hayle in 1857  
Kew Bridge Steam Museum  
£8,000.00 (in progress)

ID 1657  
Conservation of an overhead travelling electric crane  
Kidwelly Industrial Museum  
£7,000.00 (in progress)

ID 941 (GIA/2002/0038)  
Restoration of waterwheel at Coldharbour Mill  
Coldharbour Mill Museum  
£20,000.00 (in progress)

ID 971  
Conservation of the 'Bull' Cornish Pumping Engine by Harvey & Co, Cornwall, 1857  
Kew Bridge Steam Museum  
£4,000.00

ID 992 (GIA/2002/0009)  
Conservation of four electric Topolis patent crank level-luffing dockside portal cranes by Stothert & Pitt, Bath, 1951  
Bristol Industrial Museum  
£3,922.89

ID 1480  
Conservation of three 18th century globes  
Museum of the History of Science, University of Oxford  
£864.00 (in progress)

ID 965  
Conservation of portrait in oils of Edith Cavell, artist unidentified, c. 1915  
Royal London Hospital Archives and Museum  
£850.00 (in progress)

ID 981  
Conservation of three excavated glass vessels  
Royal Albert Memorial Museum  
£6,803.00

ID 1196

Conservation of 60 large-sized zoological specimens preserved in fluid (alcohol, formalin)  
Grant Museum of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy  
£2,446.52

ID 1662  
Conservation of the Dale Entomological Collection  
Museum of Natural History, University of Oxford  
£19,765.00 (in progress)

ID 944  
Conservation of Crown Agents Railway photographic albums (670 pages with 1600 photographs)  
The British Empire and Commonwealth Museum  
£10,069.50

ID 1018  
Conservation of a Thompson-designed LNER Coach (corridor third). built York Works, 1950  
LNER Coach Association  
£2,000.00 (in progress)

ID 1691  
Conservation of Kerr Stuart locomotive 721/1901 (Dundee Gas Works engine)  
The Narrow Gauge Railway Museum Trust  
£6,000.00 (in progress)

ID 954 (GIA/2002/0023)  
Conservation of 2-8-0 W D locomotive 907333  
The Keighley & Worth Valley Railway Trust  
£7,000.00

ID 973  
Conservation of 'Wissington' 0-6-OST locomotive, built by Hudswell Clarke of Leeds in 1938  
Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway Society  
£9,558.00

ID 1186  
Conservation of a Sociable Barouche  
Isle of Wight Council Museum Service  
£3,000.00 (in progress)

ID 925 (GIA/2000/0049)

Conservation of London Transport Wartime Utility Bus - G351  
Cobham Bus Museum  
£9,567.00

ID 966 (GIA/2002/0011)  
Conservation of a living van, manufactured by Charles Burrell & Sons Ltd - 1900 - 1910  
Charles Burrell Museum  
£1,300.60

ID 968 (GIA/2002/0033)  
Conservation of the leatherwork of a 1899 Panhard Levassor motorcar  
Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service  
£3,150.00

ID 942 (GIA/2002/0010)  
Conservation of Leeds electric tramcar No 345  
National Tramway Museum  
£10,000.00 (in progress)

ID 1136  
Conservation of compartment boat or 'Tom Pudding', A  
The Waterways Museum and Adventure Centre  
£2,500.00

ID 1137  
Conservation of compartment boat or 'Tom Pudding', B  
The Waterways Museum and Adventure Centre  
£2,250.00

For further information on the PRISM Grant Scheme please contact:

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