

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**ASSET AND ESTATE MANAGEMENT,  
SPORT, LEISURE AND CULTURE  
CABINET MEMBER**

**RECENT ACQUISITIONS TO THE MUSEUM COLLECTIONS**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Cabinet Member of additions to the Museum Collections from January 2010 to December 2010.
- 1.2 The key points of the report are as follows:
- The Arts Council England (ACE) Accreditation scheme recommends that officers should report new acquisitions to museum collections to the Museum Service's Governing Body every year.
  - In line with this good practice, this report lists the number of new acquisitions. The most significant objects added to the North Lincolnshire Museums Service (NLMS) collections are also listed.
  - The service collects relevant objects to help tell the story of the area. Local people develop a sense of place and pride in the rich heritage of North Lincolnshire.
  - Museum staff have used many of these objects in exhibitions at North Lincolnshire Museum and Normanby Hall.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Museum staff have been actively collecting in the key areas outlined in the Forward Plan.
- 2.2 In 2010 we added to the core collections in Archaeology, Local History and Natural Sciences. We have also collected Social History and Decorative Arts items. We have focused this collecting on the post war period. This is in line with the plans to open a Post-War Gallery at the Museum in 2012.
- 2.3 Staff have added the following items to the collections over the last year.

Archaeology	24
Natural Sciences	4
Social History	54
Decorative Arts	22
Local History	24
Total	128

2.4 These numbers are entries in the Accession Registers. Some entries can include many thousands of objects as a single entry.

2.5 Some of the most important finds are:

- A silver medieval chape (metal scabbard mount or tip) from Alkborough.
- A Viking silver ingot from Barton upon Humber.
- A medieval silver-gilt lozenge shaped brooch from High Risby.
- A Roman silver finger ring from Winteringham.
- Metal detector users found these four items. The NLMS acquired them through the Treasure process.
- The finds and paper archives from the excavation of a small Iron Age to Roman settlement at the Timberlands development in Ashby.
- A number of documents and photographs relating to the Sheffield family and Normanby Hall. These include an accounts ledger for the Sheffield's London house and Normanby Estate in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. There are also photographs of the family and servants.
- Photographs and documents relating to Wilfred Dinsdale's service in the Royal Navy during World War 2.
- Framed apprenticeship indenture of George Henry Pittwood to George Pittwood as a shipwright in Gainsborough in 1865. George Henry was an ancestor of Alderman Edwin Pittwood.
- A 1959 Royal Navy uniform including a sash from HMS Jupiter and an HMS Neptune cap which belonged to Peter Wilkinson of Ashby.
- William Frank Mullard of Ashby's World War 2 Royal Navy uniform and an album of photographs taken by Mr Mullard.
- Mr White of Scunthorpe's 1966 Royal Navy Auxiliary Service uniform.
- A 1956 Princess Margaret style wedding dress, matching shoes and head-dress worn by Mrs Roberts of Broughton.
- Model of a Hornsby's bus transferred from Hull Museums.
- A painted wooden sign from 'Richard, Thomas and Baldwin's Ltd' brickworks in Crowle. The East Riding of Yorkshire Museum Service transferred this sign to us.
- A 1950s model of Scunthorpe Cattle Market. Cyril Cooper, Borough Surveyor, made the model.

- A zinc medical horse collar. This was used to heal sores on the necks and shoulders of workhorses at Holme Farm in Alkborough during the 1940s and 1950s.
  - Three ship models from Barton Boat House; model of the first steam ferry to sail between Barton and Hull during the 1820s; a model of 'Kiero' a Humber ferry; and a model of 'Verdun' a Humber ferry.
- 2.6 Most items are donated to the Museum by the owners. Some are bought either with grants or from the service's own small purchase budget.
- 2.7 The Museum is the county repository for material from excavations in the area. Planning guidelines recommend that developers donate these archives to the Museum.
- 2.8 The finder and landowner of the medieval silver-gilt brooch from High Risby waived their Treasure reward. They then donated the brooch to the Museum.
- 2.9 NLMS collects these objects to help tell the story of North Lincolnshire. Local people also develop a sense of place and pride in the rich heritage of the area.
- 2.10 Staff put on display the best archaeology objects. They are in the new gallery at the Museum. This display opened in April 2010.
- 2.11 Some owners turned their loan of objects for an exhibition into a donation. This was the case with some wedding dresses used for the 'Something Old, Something New' exhibition at Normanby Hall in 2009.
- 2.12 Others gave their service uniforms after seeing the 'Call of Duty' exhibition at Normanby Hall in 2010.

### 3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 **Option 1** - To accept the report in line with the ACE Accreditation scheme.
- 3.2 **Option 2** - Not to accept the report.

### 4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option.
- 4.2 Officers will include this report as part of the return to ACE in the Autumn of 2012.

## **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 There are no additional resource implications. Sometimes the service needs to buy finds under the terms of the Treasure Act. We use the agreed budget and/or grants from other bodies to fund this. Funders such as the Victoria and Albert Museum Purchase Grant Fund and the Art Fund help buy objects. The Friends of North Lincolnshire Museums have also helped buy objects for the service.

## **6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 These additions to the collections will be used in a variety of ways to tell the story of North Lincolnshire. This will enable local people to develop a sense of place and pride in the rich heritage of the area.

6.2 Many of the Post-War objects will shortly be put on display at the Museum in the new Post-War Gallery. This gallery is due to open in May 2012.

## **7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 Officers undertake detailed consultations with the owners prior to accepting objects as donations.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 That the report is noted.

8.2 That the donors be thanked for their generosity.

8.3 That the report forms part of the annual Accreditation return to ACE in the Autumn of 2012.

**DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

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**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: Nil**