

Museum update

Exhibitions

The B(u)y Me for Christmas exhibition opens on November 14 – 10 Jan. The exhibition showcases the work of makers – including ceramics, jewellery, glass and textiles.

The B(u)y Me craft fair held at the museum on October 31 was successful.

Father Christmas will be visiting the museum on December 12 and 19.

Education

A new Roman Newcastle session has been launched focusing on the local Roman sites and the lives of people who lived in this area 2000 years ago.

Collections

The 2016 Museum Calendar will be available next week ready for Christmas. The calendar uses images from the museum's collections.

A new Collections volunteer has been inducted and is assisting the collections officer. The museum now has 17 volunteers in its team

Building

The exterior of the museum building is currently being painted and should be completed before the end of the month and the winter sets in.

Projects

The museum is a founding member of the Astley Committee. The committee is a partnership between the Borough, Staffordshire University, Keele University, the New Vic Theatre, Newcastle Library, Newcastle BID, Staffordshire Film Archive and a local, professional circus practitioner. The committee exist to deliver a project to celebrate the life and contribution of Phillip Astley, the inventor of the modern circus, who was born in Newcastle in 1742. The groups are preparing a Stage 1 HLF bid to deliver a series of activities leading up to and including 2018.

West Midlands Museum Development Programme Small Scale Capital Grant Scheme

After submitting an expression of interest application for the above grant the Museum has now been invited to submit a formal application. The purpose of the grant is to improve museum/gallery facilities and environment to enable smaller institutions to host/loan objects from national collections. There is a hope that in 2018 as part of the Astley project the museum will loan items from the V&A and having tighter security measures in place will assist with this process. The grant applied for will be in the region of £11k and will cover items such as high specification cases, CCTV improvements, environmental controls, security screws and a security shutter.

HLF Projects

The museum is involved with both the successful HLF projects at both the Maxim's site and St Giles' Church. The museum will be assisting the CLS group with site interpretation and reminiscence. The St Giles' includes a permanent display at the museum and a possible temporary exhibition dependant on the result of the excavations.