



TYNE & WEAR
museums

Annual Report 2008/09

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Our mission is to help people determine their place in the world and define their identities, so enhancing their self-respect and respect for others.

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This is Tyne & Wear Museums' Annual Report for 2008/09.

In April 2009, Tyne & Wear Museums merged with Tyne & Wear Archives Service to become Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums.

World Class Museums

Tyne & Wear Museums (TWM) is a collection of 12 museums and galleries across Tyne & Wear, supported by the five local authorities of the area. The partnership of the five local authorities represents their commitment to provide high quality cultural and heritage services to the people of Tyne & Wear and visitors to our region.

A sixth partner is Newcastle University, with whom we have worked to create the Great North Museum (GNM), along with two other partners, the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne (SANT) and the Natural History Society of Northumbria (NHSN).

TWM receives annual Grant-in-Aid support from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)

in recognition of its commitment to the successful delivery of services to new and diverse audiences.

Other funding partners include the Ministry of Defence, which funds a post to curate the collections of the 15th / 19th the Kings Royal Hussars and the Northumberland Hussars - now the *A Soldier's Life* gallery in Discovery Museum.

Discovery Museum also hosts the John George Joicey Museum in the form of the *Newcastle Story* gallery by arrangement with the Trustees of the John George Joicey Bequest.

Since 2003, TWM has led the North East Regional Museums Hub on behalf of its Hub partners, Beamish: the North of England Open Air Museum; the Bowes Museum and Hartlepool Museums.

The Hub is funded through the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) as part of the Government's Renaissance programme.

From April 2009, TWM will merge with Tyne & Wear Archives Service to create a new joint museums and archives body called Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM).

The Tyne & Wear Museums Development Trust exists to promote education and support the work of the museums and galleries administered by TWM by raising funds from charitable sources.

The Tyne & Wear Museums Development Trust is a registered charity. Charity number 1055974.



RENAISSANCE
NORTH EAST
MUSEUMS for
changing lives



MUSEUMS LIBRARIES ARCHIVES
COUNCIL



Arbeia Roman Fort & Museum.



About us

Our vision

Our vision for the future is for everyone in Tyne & Wear to have access to museum provision, to use this access and to value it for the significant and positive impact it makes upon their lives and to provide worldwide access to museums and collections using appropriate media.

Our commitment is to a world-class service that is innovative, imaginative, creative, totally inclusive, secure and sustainable.

Our achievements

- More than 1.5 million visits to our museums and galleries.
- More than 145,000 children taking part in organised educational activities.
- 528 volunteers contributing 23,760 hours of their time.
- Tyne & Wear Museums was named the Public Sector Organisation of the Year at the North East Business Awards 2008.
- The newly-relaunched Monkwearmouth Station Museum scooped a number of awards including the Green Apple Gold Award for Built Environment and Architectural Heritage and the North East Tourism Bronze Award for Access for All.
- North Face, a North East Regional Museums Hub project, was awarded the Renaissance Award at the Journal Culture Awards 2008 and a number of TWM's projects were also finalists in the awards, including Whispering in the Leaves at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens; Shipley Lates; Mind the Gap at Discovery Museum and Abercrombie's sponsorship of Shipley Lates.
- £1 million raised in grants, sponsorship and charitable giving.
- A 17% increase in income from venue hire.
- A growth in 50% of income from public donations, to more than £20,000, including £10,000 raised through the Great North Museum's *Be Part of It* campaign.
- 1,623 new objects and works of art acquired.

Foreword

Councillor Ged Bell, Chair of the Tyne & Wear Museums Joint Committee



Another year closed with both success and anticipation: once again we exceeded 1.5 million visits to our venues, but as we look forwards to the year ahead, we are excited at the prospect of the launch of the Great North Museum - not one venue but three (the Hancock Museum, the Hatton Gallery and a new Resource Centre in the basement of Discovery Museum) - surely next year's visitor figures will be nearer to 2 million!

There is so much to celebrate amongst the statistics - over

1,600 items added to the collections is a great achievement at a time when collecting is supposed to be in crisis, the country over! Along with the items acquired for the collections, we have also secured some significant loans of which my own particular favourite is the wonderful painting of *Mauretania leaving the Tyne* by Thomas Hemy. I was proud to receive it on behalf of TWM, on loan from Swan's, when the QEII visited the Tyne and then to see it installed in Discovery Museum.

Another important loan was the fabulous bronze head of Hadrian on show at Segedunum and kindly lent by the British Museum, one of our most important national partners: we are grateful for their enthusiastic and continuing support. Effective partnerships such as this will be essential to our success going forwards: luckily this is

something that I believe that we are very good at - it is little surprise to me that the year ends with us being named as the first museums service in the country to be asked, through the Regional Museums Hub, to manage two *Creative Partnerships* programmes in Northumberland and NewcastleGateshead.

As ever, I would like to thank our many supporters, our partners and our brilliant and hard-working staff and volunteers. I would particularly like to thank my colleagues on the Museums Joint Committee, some of whom will be leaving us as the new Archives and Museums Committee slims down to 15 members.

Introduction

Alec Coles, Director of Tyne & Wear Museums



What a pleasure it is to introduce our first completely 'electronic' annual report. If you miss the comfort of being able to flick through the pages just think of how we are saving both pounds and the planet!

This will be the last ever Annual Report from Tyne & Wear Museums because from April we become Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM) following a merger with the Tyne & Wear Archives Service. We look forwards to working with our new archives colleagues to develop a truly

integrated service which is, I am sure, what our public deserve and expect.

It is also the last of the three years that the Hancock Museum has been closed prior to metamorphosis into the Great North Museum: Hancock - we can hardly wait to unveil the transformation!

It was also the last year of the extremely fruitful series of exhibitions organised in partnership with the National Gallery and with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives and appropriate, perhaps that the final exhibition theme was *Love*. Let us hope that both the partnership and the sentiment live on!

Speaking of things, 'Great North', we were delighted to host Claire Morgan's stunning sculpture *Gone with the Wind* at the Laing Art Gallery as part of the Great North Run's

Cultural Programme. This piece graces our front cover.

The Laing also hosted Stephen Hannock's superb painting of Tyneside, *Northern City Renaissance*, commissioned by Sting.

We kept up our record of completing a capital scheme every year with the opening of *Changing Faces* at South Shields Museum & Art Gallery which comprised a new history gallery and a very welcome café.

As capital funds become harder to find, we will inevitably need to look at ways of making our existing buildings and collections work harder. One way of doing this is to provide a wider range of opportunities to visit. With this in mind it was gratifying to see the success of the *Late Shows* evening, in May, and the launch of the Shipley's regular and successful programme of evening 'Lates'.

North East Regional Museums Hub

As well as securing a further two years' of funding, 2008-09 saw the Hub take on a range of additional responsibilities following the restructure of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA). This included management of the regional museum development programme and management of the Max Card scheme, which provides free or reduced price admission for looked-after children and their carers to over 60 museums and heritage attractions in the North East. Nearly 500 Max Card holders attended a special event at Beamish to celebrate the access the scheme provides.

Some highlights

The Late Shows

The region's free culture crawl, *The Late Shows*, entered its second year with even more venues opening their doors to visitors after-hours. The events grew in popularity, with more than 11,000 visits, and new venues including Newcastle United Football Club and the Castle Keep.

Creative Partnerships

Tyne & Wear Museums, through the North East Regional Museums Hub, was successful in its application to become the Area Delivery Organisation for *Creative Partnerships* in Northumberland, Newcastle and Gateshead. Over the next two years we will work with over 70 schools to help embed creativity within their learning practice.

Bede and Beijing

A unique festival connecting the spirit of Anglo-Saxon Northumbria to Chinese culture was held across Sunderland and South Tyneside. Highlights included exhibitions and art installations, as well as a specially commissioned concert fusing Anglican Plain Chant with Chinese folk music.

A Public Catalogue

The Hub worked in partnership with the Public Catalogue Foundation (PCF) to produce three new catalogues containing colour images of paintings in the region, some of which had never been illustrated in print before. The catalogues, which together contain thousands of images, were made possible by the generosity of Renaissance North East, the Northern Rock Foundation, Fenwick Ltd and the Barbour Trust alongside many other donors.





Shipleigh Art Gallery

Following the launch of its new craft and design gallery, *Designs for Life*, in March 2008, the Shipleigh has had a busy and successful year, including a varied programme of high quality exhibitions from partners such as the British Museum and the V&A.

Some highlights

Shipleigh Lates

2008 saw the launch of *Shipleigh Lates*, the Gallery's successful series of free, themed evening events. Featuring artists' talks, music, activities, refreshments and a free bus service, the events have succeeded in attracting a diverse and new audience to the Shipleigh out-of-hours. *Shipleigh Lates* are supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, the Northern Rock Foundation and sponsored by Abercrombies.

Spectacular Craft

The Shipleigh continued to build on its reputation as a leading centre for design and contemporary craft by hosting *Out of the Ordinary*, an exhibition from the V&A featuring the work of artists who transform the ordinary into extraordinary works of art.

Design for Life

Previously known as *Image & Identity*, the serendipitously named *Designs for Life* (given the very similar name of the Shipleigh's new gallery) involved the V&A, London; NCH - the Children's Charity, and five regional museums and galleries including the Shipleigh. This year, the young people involved in the project produced artworks which were then sold in the Shipleigh's annual Christmas selling exhibition and at a Young Designers Art Fair.





Discovery Museum

As well as a packed schedule of exhibitions and events, Discovery has also catered for its youngest visitors with the refurbishment of *Mini-Maze*, an area specially designed for under fives and equipped with the latest in early years play equipment.

Some highlights

Mauretania

In October 2008, a formal handover of TM Hemy's painting of one of the region's most famous ships, *Mauretania*, leaving the Tyne took place on board the QE2. Captain Ian McNaught presented the painting on behalf of Cunard to Jaap Kroese, chairman of Swan Hunter (Tyneside) Ltd, who in turn presented it to Councillor Ged Bell, Chair of the Tyne & Wear Museums Joint Committee, on loan to Discovery Museum for an initial five year period. The painting was then unveiled in its new display at Discovery Museum in March 2009 where visitors can also see *Turbinia*, also shown in the painting.

ScienceFest 2009

Discovery Museum took part in *ScienceFest 2009*, with a range of exciting, science-themed activities taking place throughout the festival. A star attraction was *Titan*, a 2.5 metre high 'robot' which enthralled and terrified visitors in equal measure!

The Late Shows

The Museum once again enjoyed a successful evening on the night of *The Late Shows*, with more than 1,500 visitors through the doors. The Great Hall provided a spectacular location for a screening of Wallace and Gromit's *The Wrong Trousers*, while beer expert Alistair Gilmour led a tasting session of locally brewed connoisseur beers.

Laing Art Gallery

The Laing brought some exceptional art to the North East through working partnerships including with the Bupa Great North Run Cultural Programme, which saw artist Claire Morgan create a stunning sculptural installation, *Gone With the Wind*, which rapidly gained international positive feedback and recognition.

Some highlights

Love at the Laing

Love was the last in the series of the National Gallery touring partnership exhibitions and included outstanding masterpieces by Vermeer, Chagall and Raphael and an installation by Yoko Ono. The Laing held a range of love-themed talks and events including contemporary art installations as part of *The Late Shows* in May.

Northern City Renaissance

International rock star and native of Wallsend, Sting, paid a visit to the Laing in October to unveil a painting that he had commissioned by American artist Stephen Hannock. The large-scale aerial view of the Tyne celebrates the cultural and economic renaissance of Newcastle since the closure of the coal mines and ship yards.

Chinese Ink Painting

Work by contemporary Chinese artists using traditional Chinese ink painting techniques was shown alongside watercolours from the Laing's collection and an installation called *Water Memory* by renowned Chinese artist Song Dong to great effect.



Sting with *Northern City Renaissance, Newcastle, England* by Stephen Hannock.



Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum

As well as attracting a significant number of tourists, Segedunum continued its work with the local community, hosting an exhibition of work by Wallsend's Buddle Arts Group, on the theme of the Tyne.

The Museum also rolled out its new NE28 Residents' initiative, offering free season tickets to people resident in its locality. The scheme currently has more than 300 households participating.

Schools in the region also enjoyed the return of *Tudor Lives*, an exhibition designed specifically to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum.

The bust of Emperor Hadrian, featured in Face of an Emperor.

Some highlights

Face of an Emperor

Face of an Emperor: Hadrian Inspects the Wall was organised through The British Museum's Partnership UK Programme, supported by BP and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The exhibition centred on a unique cast bronze bust of the Emperor Hadrian found in the River Thames, now in the collection of the British Museum. It proved to be a huge success, with visitor figures showing an increase of 34% compared with the same time the previous year.

The Cavalry Return

Roman cavalry returned to Segedunum for the first time in 1600 years for the highlight of the summer programme. Members of *Comitatus* re-enactment group displayed cavalry tactics, weapons and equipment for visitors to the Museum.

Fireworks

TWM's Business Partners funded a free fireworks display at Segedunum on 5 November, which was attended by more than 500 people.

Stephenson Railway Museum

Visitors took part in events ranging from a Teddy Bears' Picnic to a Transport Extravaganza at the Museum, enjoying a range of activities such as storytelling and vintage vehicles.

Stephenson also went back in time to participate in North Tyneside's *Age Takes Centre Stage* celebrations with its Victorian Day Out event.

The Museum now faces an exciting future as a feasibility study by North Tyneside Council explores the potential for further development including an extension of the railway infrastructure.

Some highlights

New acquisitions

Two Mark 1 carriages were purchased from Crewe and transported to the Museum, to help sustain the passenger train service. The carriages will now be prepared for service by the Museum's team of volunteers and TWM's conservation experts.

Award-winning team

The volunteers of The North Tyneside Steam Railway Association were named Volunteer Group of the Year by the North East Regional Museums Hub at its annual awards ceremony.

Santa Specials

Stephenson's ever-popular Santa Specials train rides took place over three weekends in December and attracted more than 2,000 children and families.





Tyne & Wear Museums
Working in

South Tyneside



Arbeia Roman Fort & Museum

Arbeia's annual programme of events was expanded considerably this year, with new highlights including a flower festival and a theatrical performance proving popular.

Some highlights

Finding success - funding success!

The site was the successful recipient of major grants. The Royal Society Local Heroes Scheme awarded a grant of £2,500 to further research into the badly worn inscription on a Roman altar found on site and originally documented by Martin Lister in 1683. The SITA Trust awarded a grant of £50,000 to enhance the presentation and display of the archaeological remains and reconstructed buildings at Arbeia.

Arbeia Festival

The high point of the year's events was the Arbeia Festival. More than 2,500 people enjoyed a rare day of summer sunshine and the spectacle of a day long programme of activities, Roman re-enactments and demonstrations.

New discoveries

The ongoing archaeological work at Arbeia uncovered some exciting new discoveries in the form of an Iron Age settlement. The main areas of excavation were one of the barrack block sites and the road which led from the South gate to the 2nd century AD headquarters building.

South Shields Museum & Art Gallery

It was a significant year for South Shields Museum & Art Gallery, with the Museum's ten year development programme reaching completion, and a busy schedule of exhibitions.

Some highlights

Changing Faces

The opening of this new gallery, funded by the DCMS/Wolfson Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund, DCMS, South Tyneside Council and the Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust, marked the final stage of the Museum's development programme. The display was officially opened by writer and broadcaster John Grundy, and tells the story of the history of the borough from the Bronze Age until the end of the 19th century. As well as including many of the Museum's most popular exhibits, the new gallery also includes a café - a first for South Shields Museum & Art Gallery.

Ancient Greeks

Ancient Greeks: Athletes, Warriors and Heroes is a British Museum touring exhibition, co-produced with TWM and

supported by the DCMS, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and the Dorset Foundation. Constituting the largest loan of ancient Greek artefacts ever to be made from the British Museum's collections, the exhibition examined competition in politics, sport, drama and music in both social and military contexts. It also included loans from Newcastle University's Shefton collection and was accompanied by a lively programme of events.

A Park for the People

The summer saw the opening of this new exhibition, developed in partnership with South Tyneside Council and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, tracking the story of the town's South Marine Park. The exhibition coincided with the redevelopment of the South Marine Park in South Shields, due for completion later in the year.



Ancient Greeks: Athletes, Warriors and Heroes at South Shields Museum & Art Gallery.



Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

A busy year at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens included outstanding exhibitions drawn from TWM's collections as well as national partnership exhibitions.

The Museum also acquired several new works including one by Jeffrey Sarmiento, a Filipino American artist who explores his cultural identity through glasswork. Sarmiento is a Research Councils UK Academic Fellow in Glass at the University of Sunderland and his work, *Triple Self Portrait 1 & 2*, combines images of the artist, his father and his grandfather.

Some highlights

Boom Town

The Museum curated *Boom Town, Sunderland in the 19th Century* - a home-grown exhibition celebrating the city's economic growth in the 1800s and exploring how Sunderland expanded massively during the Industrial Revolution and became the land of opportunity for many Victorian entrepreneurs. The exhibition was assisted by a grant from the Northern Rock Foundation and TWM Business Partners.

Family Album

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens' productive relationship with the National Portrait Gallery continued into its fifth year and TWM staff took the lead in developing a new exhibition which explored representations of family life over the last 400 years. The exhibition was short-listed for the Best Touring Exhibition at the Museum and Heritage Awards 2008.

Gardens of Tranquility

In support of the Wearmouth-Jarrow World Heritage nomination, Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens hosted an exhibition on the theme of gardens which formed part of the *Bede and Beijing Festival*.

Monkwearmouth Station Museum

Monkwearmouth Station Museum enjoyed its first full year of opening after its £1 million refurbishment and was officially re-launched by HRH the Duke of Gloucester in May. The Museum's learning and community spaces were put to good use by groups including the University of the Third Age, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and other adult learning groups, and the Museum hosted a varied schedule of exhibitions created by TWM, cultural partners and the community.

Some highlights

Award success

Monkwearmouth Station Museum was the Bronze winner in the North East England Tourism Awards 2008 (Access for All category), a National Gold Award winner in the International Green Apple Awards 2008 for the Built Environment and Architectural Heritage and was a semi-finalist in the National Lottery Awards (Best Heritage Project category).

Success and Scandal

Success and Scandal: George Hudson the Railway King told the fascinating story of one of Sunderland's most notorious politicians and businessmen. The centerpiece of the exhibition was a letter of support for George Hudson, signed by the people of Sunderland and on loan from the National Railway Museum. The exhibition was assisted by a grant from the Northern

Rock Foundation and TWM Business Partners.

A Brush with Fame

Celebrities and sports personalities including Jon Snow and Richard Griffiths revealed their hidden talents in this exhibition of paintings, many of which were created especially for the exhibition. The exhibition was conceived and funded by Marjorie Barton, former High Sheriff of Tyne and Wear with support from Tolent Construction, The Sir James Knott Trust and Gentoo.

A young visitor at Monkwearmouth Station Museum.





Washington F Pit

Washington F Pit opened to visitors for two weekends over the summer, plus a week of activities for schools. The Pit's winding engine also benefited from some conservation work in advance of its opening and in preparation for the closing of the building over the winter.

Some highlights

Heritage Open Days

Washington F Pit became a hive of activity for the Heritage Open Day in September, with Houghton Brass providing traditional music and a vintage bus from the North East Bus Preservation Society travelling between F Pit, Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Fulwell Windmill and the Bowes Railway.

Family activities

A Holiday Fun weekend took place during the summer, and families enjoyed working with artist Mike Clay to create mining banners and models of F Pit.

Schools week

In a special week of activities for schools, pupils were able to explore the site, see the winding engine work, investigate a range of mining objects and spend time listening to stories and songs about F Pit and the region's important mining heritage.

Great North Museum: Hancock

The former Hancock Museum underwent the final stages of its transformation into the Great North Museum: Hancock, with the new Museum brand officially launched by Jonathan Edwards CBE in August 2008. Teams of specialists ranging from conservators and curators to ICT experts worked together to install more than 3,500 objects, plus interactive, film and audio displays in the new Museum.

The first - and largest - object to enter the new Museum was the life size *T. rex* replica, shortly followed by the life size model of an African elephant which was hoisted into the Museum through a purpose-

built opening in the special exhibition space, before being moved to its final home as the centrepiece in the *Living Planet* gallery.

Some highlights

Great accolades

Barbara Follett, Minister for Culture, Creative Industries and Tourism, paid a visit to the Great North Museum: Hancock in March 2008 to preview some of its star exhibits, and hailed it as a “must see attraction”.

Sparkie the Budgie

One of the new Museum’s most famous residents, Sparkie the talking budgerigar, hit the headlines as he traveled to Berlin to take part in a musical performance at the Berlin Festspiele music festival. Sparkie and his recordings were the inspiration for a new opera by the world-renowned musician Michael Nyman and

fellow artist and musician, Carsten Nicolai, aka Alva Noto. He returned to the UK in time to take up residence in the Museum’s spectacular *Living Planet* display.

The EYE Project

The *EYE (Exploring Your Environment) Project* had a successful year, with extra funding enabling the appointment of a new member of staff to work on the GIS (geographical information system) elements of the project. The project also continued to run its successful public events programme, with events ranging from a *Red Kite Safari* to exploration days in the region’s parks.



The African elephant arriving at the Great North Museum: Hancock.



Hatton Gallery: Great North Museum

In 2008, the Hatton Gallery joined the TWM family of venues and underwent a number of changes including the appointment of a full time Keeper of Art, and a team of museum assistants. The Gallery staff worked in close cooperation with colleagues at the Great North Museum: Hancock in preparation for the launch of the new venue, including taking the lead on the development of photographic exhibitions in the Museum's temporary exhibition space.

Some highlights

Audience development

The Gallery has introduced weekend and holiday workshops for children and has also developed a children's art cart which is facilitated by staff and can be used informally by family visitors at weekends and during holidays. The Gallery has also created a well-attended programme of afternoon workshops for adults.

Reaching out

As well as providing workshops for schools, the Hatton has continued to develop its work with community groups including home-educated children, young people with mental health issues, disability groups and young people not in employment, education and training. Outreach programmes have included work with a number of hospitals in the region and a

pupil referral unit (kindly supported in part by the Friends of the Hatton).

Exhibitions

Contemporary art shows included paintings by Hannah Maybank, featuring newly commissioned work in response to the Hatton's collection, and *Mass Damper*, an exhibition specially configured for the Hatton spaces by artist George Henry Longly. The Gallery also hosted *Something That I'll Never Really See: Contemporary Photography from the V&A*.

Our Contribution

Making a Positive Difference to all People's Lives

Reaching Out

TWM continued to promote community cohesion in the region, working with a range of groups and attending festivals throughout the North East.

The Engaging Refugees and Asylum Seekers (ERAS) project was awarded a further two years' funding, allowing TWM to continue its work with refugees and asylum seekers throughout the North East.

Some highlights

Portrait of a Nation

TWM worked with the Tyneside Cinema to deliver NewcastleGateshead's contribution to *Portrait of a Nation*, a nationwide campaign supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which enabled young people across the UK to identify and explore what is special about where they come from. Young people from the Northern Stars Young Persons' Film Academy worked with youth groups to create short films exploring their roots.

Portrait of a Nation concluded with a spectacular event that brought the curtain down on the Liverpool European Capital of Culture 2008 celebrations.

Culture Shock

Culture Shock is a two-year programme which will see more than 1,000 people, from a wide range of backgrounds create digital stories, allowing their personal histories to become a part of museum collections for the future. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Gillian Dickinson Trust, the project will connect with many people who currently find it difficult to relate to the objects they see in museums today.

Mind the Gap

This successful community project and associated temporary exhibition explored the history of mental health issues in the North East, informing, enlightening and dispelling myths surrounding the topic. *Mind the Gap* was curated in partnership by TWM and Northumberland, Tyne and Wear Services Users and Carers' Network.

Mind the Gap at Discovery Museum.



Increasing Diversity

During 2008-2009, TWM continued to make significant strides in delivering a high quality programme of events and exhibitions, which demonstrated our commitment to diversity. These included the launch of *Hidden Chains: the Slavery Business and North East England*, a book by John Charlton, which was jointly published by TWM and Tyne Bridge Publishing. *Hidden Chains* grew out of 2007's Remembering Slavery Project which commemorated the end of Britain's involvement in the slave trade which was led by TWM and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Northern Rock Foundation.

Some highlights

International Partnerships

As well as once again hosting placements for three international curators from India and Turkey as part of the British Museum's International Curatorial Training Programme, TWM has also formed a new partnership with Mandela Bay in South Africa. This will enable a series of new partnership projects including an exhibition on beadwork which is already planned for the Shipley Art Gallery.

New acquisitions

As a result of *Hello Sailor*, an exhibition at Discovery Museum which looked at gay life in the merchant Navy, TWM was able to add a number of objects to its collections, including digital stories, which represent the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities of Tyne & Wear.

A diverse workforce

TWM continued its ongoing commitment to the diversification of the workforce by recruiting another trainee to the Diversify Positive Action Trainee scheme, bringing the total trained at TWM to seven people. 2008 also saw the second year of the Arts Council-funded Positive Action Curatorial Fellowships with the Fellow curating two exhibitions of contemporary Chinese art at the Laing Art Gallery.



Miss Everton - featured in *Hello Sailor* at Discovery Museum.



Education and lifelong learning

Funding from the MLA Renaissance programme continued to support the delivery and promotion of learning activities for schools, raising significantly the quality of engagement for 0-19 year olds.

Some highlights

Encouraging Enterprise

A major theme in this year's work has been 'enterprise', with a number of events across TWM's venues encouraging enterprise in young people. These included Business and Enterprise Days and Young Apprentices at Stephenson Railway Museum and Roman Enterprise school sessions at Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum.

Key Exhibitions

Tudor Lives at Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum and *Ancient Greeks: Athletes, Warriors & Heroes* at South Shields Museum & Art Gallery were just two of the year's exhibitions which provided rich learning opportunities for schools from the region.

Visual Dialogues

At the Laing Art Gallery, Tracey Emin's installation *I Could Have Really Loved You*, on loan from Tate, formed the centerpiece of the year's *Visual Dialogues* project which encouraged young people to develop new ways of interpreting the art.

Volunteers & Friends

In September 2008, 170 volunteers and staff from North East Regional Museum Hub venues attended an event at Beamish Museum to celebrate volunteering in the region.

A team of TWM volunteers assisted with the cataloguing and installation of objects from the Great North Museum: Hancock into a new, permanent storage facility, the Great North Museum Resource Centre, which is located in the basement of Discovery Museum.

TWM has also worked with Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd on the Volunteer Heritage Guide project. Nine volunteers have been recruited to participate in the accredited guiding training programme and once trained, will offer guided tours at Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum and Arbeia Roman Fort.

February 2009 saw the start of the *Culture Track* project, which is working with 15 TWM volunteers as well as volunteers from partner venues including the Centre for Life, Dance City and the Sage Gateshead. *Culture Track* uses volunteering as a route to improve employability through work experience and accredited training.

Friends of the Shipley Art Gallery

An increase in membership numbers and collaboration with the Friends of the Hatton Gallery contributed to a full and varied year for the Friends of the Shipley. The talks programme included John Grundy's presentation on the region's unrivalled heritage, and talks on craft from speakers such as artist Felicity Aylieff. The Friends also assisted in the acquisition of items for the Gallery's collection and look forward to their involvement with the

future development of the Henry Rothschild Study Centre at the Shipley.

Associates of Discovery Museum

The outgoing Chairman Dr John Grant handed over the reins to Professor Kel Fidler FEng. A series of meetings to look at new directions for the Associates resulted in an agreement to focus on raising the public's awareness of engineering in modern society, through events, lectures and an engineering heritage trail. Events include the annual Northumberland Young Designer and Technologist competition, organised jointly with the Rotary Club of Hexham. Professor Fidler has secured a three year funding commitment from Northumbria University. The Associates have also helped the Museum to deliver science activities including the annual Science Works event.

Friends of the Laing Art Gallery (FLAG)

The Friends have continued to play an active role within the Laing, with members offering a new series of guided tours for visitors and staffing a welcome desk in the Gallery. FLAG's financial support has also contributed towards a number of acquisitions and conservation work on several paintings in the Laing's collection. The Friends have also contributed funds towards a number of successful exhibitions at the Laing including the hugely popular *Stanley Spencer* exhibition, and members have enjoyed a lively programme of talks, trips and events.

Friends of Segedunum

Membership of the Friends of Segedunum has continued to rise, and attendance at the programme of talks is very healthy. Linking closely with

events and activities at Segedunum, the programme included a talk from Professor John Derry on Hadrian during the display of Hadrian's bust at the Museum. The Friends are looking at holding additional events outside the Museum during next year's programme.

North Tyneside Steam Railway Association (NTSRA)

The North Tyneside Steam Railway Association continues to support the Stephenson Railway Museum both in workshop duties and in running the railway. The team played an active role in December's Santa Specials, which see approximately 400 passengers per day, over three weekends. Volunteers have also been working to reconstruct loco Ashington No 5, "Jackie Milburn", which we hope will be back on track in 2010.

A very proud event for the volunteers was the winning of the Volunteers Group of the Year Award presented by the North East Regional Museums Hub.

Friends of South Shields Museum & Arbeia Roman Fort

The Friends' programme of talks has again covered a wide variety of subjects. Summer 2008 saw the Friends sponsor a new event at Arbeia - *a Summer Flower Festival* which provided a riot of colour and earned rave reviews from all who attended. The Friends also contributed towards the cost of producing the PCF catalogue of all of the oil paintings held by Tyne & Wear Museums. In May the Friends were represented at the Museum's Local History Fair, while the Christmas Fair continues to provide a very successful fundraising opportunity.

Friends of Sunderland Museums (FOSUMS)

FOSUMS contributed funds towards exhibitions at both Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens and Monkwearmouth Station Museum. Members also organised two Fun Days for visitors to these venues, as well as the regular monthly programme of talks and meetings. FOSUMS members participated in two local history fairs and also organised two successful outings to Beninbrough Hall and to York.

Doxford Engine Friends' Association

Membership of the Association increased to a record 185, with members in Belgium, Canada, the USA, New Zealand and Australia. The Doxford engine preserved at the Regional Museums Store (RMS) continues to benefit from the attention given by members, and more than 450 hours' voluntary work was committed during the year. The group also helped with visits and tours at the RMS, and welcomed hundreds of people to its stand at the Sunderland History Fair.

Friends of the Hatton Gallery

The Friends group successfully met its principle aims of fostering friendship through artistic endeavour and education as well as raising funds for the Gallery. On three occasions per month a Friends art group meets. This year the annual drawing/painting week was held in Raasay, Scotland, and it was the subject of one of the Friends' regular lectures. A print workshop preceded the Annual Open Exhibition - the major fundraising event. This was held from November through to early January and 170 works were selected from around 280 submitted by 84 artists. Funds were contributed to support the Gallery's project to re-engage disaffected young people.



Tyne & Wear Museums' Business Partners

TWM is fortunate to work with many outstanding businesses and business people. This year, TWM's business partnership, *Connecting through Culture*, has increased to 27 members and the following companies have made a significant contribution to our work through their membership.

A total of 10 projects were supported in 2008-09, including the Tyne and Wear Museums PCF Catalogue and the *Portrait of a Nation* project.

Patrons



Supporters



Members



Archaeology

TWM continues to manage the largest archaeological field team in the region and in 2008/09 TWM Archaeology became an archaeological organisation registered with the Institute for Archaeologists - a national distinction that certifies a high level of professional quality and expertise.

TWM Archaeology works not only at TWM sites, but also contracts to undertake work funded by developers. Projects in 2008/09 included excavations in advance of development in Shotton, Northumberland, which revealed a previously unknown medieval village. The excavations produced the most detailed plan of a medieval village ever found in the region, with the especially rare survival of medieval pottery kilns.

The team also undertook research excavation in the East corner of Arbeia Roman Fort, bringing a 30-year campaign of excavation at the site to conclusion.

TWM Archaeology also worked collaboratively with the British Museum to provide a placement for an early-career professional archaeologist from Sudan and with the University of Reading and Cotswold Archaeology to provide expertise in an English Heritage-funded audit of reports on developer-funded Roman archaeology.

Who came - and what did they think?

- TWM continues to attract a large proportion of visitors from non-traditional museum-going groups, with 40% of visitors from socio-economic groups C2, D and E.
- 92% of visitors rated their overall enjoyment of their visit as 'excellent' or 'good'.
- Overall satisfaction was extremely high with 96% either very satisfied or satisfied with their visit.
- TWM venues continue to encourage repeat visits, with 58% of people having visited before, and 42% being first-time visitors.
- 2008-09 showed an increase in the number of visitors from outside the region, up to 25% as compared with 19% the year before.

Visitor and learning figures

Venue	Visitors over 12 months	Children taking part in educational activities over 12 months
Shingley Art Gallery	36,762	6,061
Discovery Museum	466,478	34,597
Laing Art Gallery	269,741	16,193
Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum	46,438	18,689
Stephenson Railway Museum	31,865	6,900
Arbeia Roman Fort & Museum	66,846	12,892
South Shields Museum & Art Gallery	162,516	7,595
Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens	315,937	21,354
Monkwearmouth Station Museum	31,134	6,599
Washington F Pit	989	430
Hatton Gallery	22,066*	4,125*

*over the eight months since the Hatton Gallery became part of Tyne & Wear Museums.

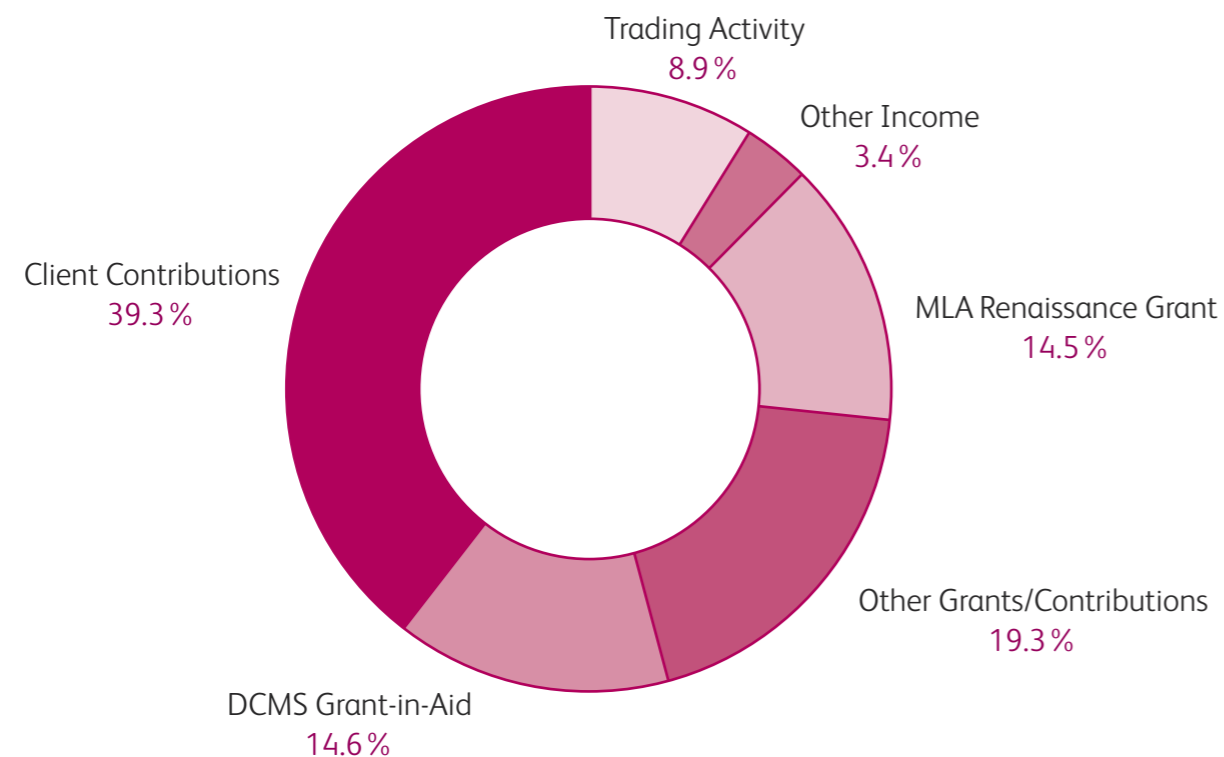
Summary of Financial Results

The principal financial results of the year 2008/2009 can be summarised as follows:

- Gross operating expenditure was £14,970,923, an increase of £1,201,387 (8.7%) over 2007/08.
- The expenditure on core activity was primarily financed by client contributions of £5,947,785 and a Grant-in-Aid (G-i-A) from the DCMS of £2,205,500. This is compared with client contributions of £5,604,232 and G-i-A from the DCMS of £1,796,017 in 2007-2008.
- In 2008/09, TWM received a grant of £2,187,450 from the MLA in respect of the Renaissance programme.
- The gross operating expenditure in respect of the Great North Museum (GNM) was £474,310. This was financed primarily by Newcastle University's contribution of £466,830. Any shortfall of income over expenditure incurred in relation to the GNM is 100% recoverable from Newcastle University.
- Gross operating expenditure on projects was £3,679,841. This was financed by grants and income generation.
- The turnover for external trading activity in respect of shop sales, gallery hire and café franchises was £652,161 while TWM Archaeology earned £687,799.

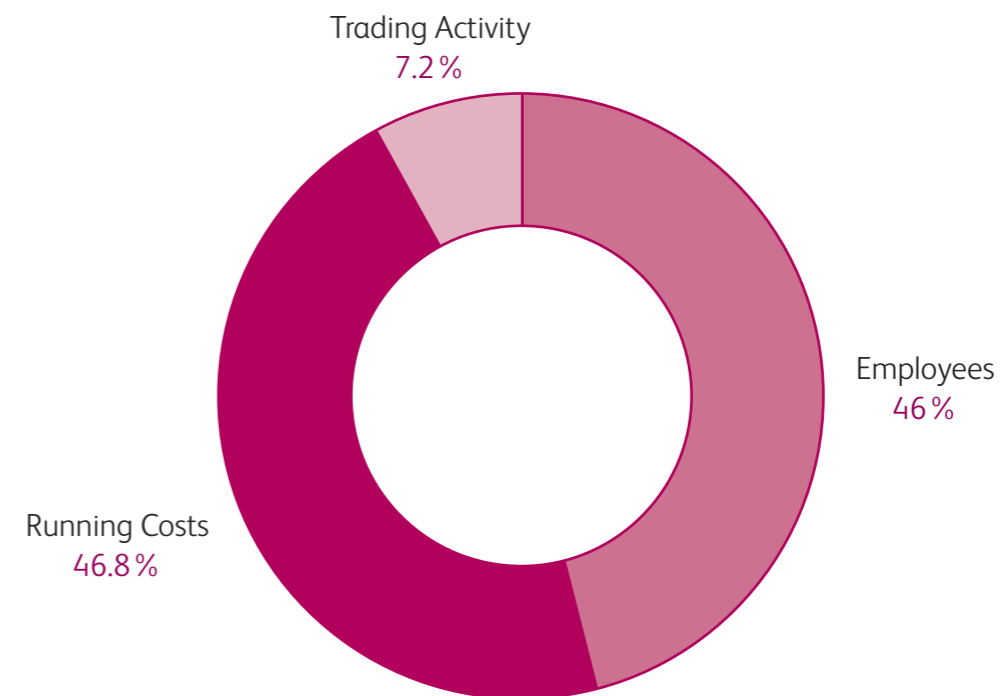
The full Statement of Accounts is published in the Draft Treasurer's Report and Accounts 2008/09 and is available on request from the Senior Manager: Corporate Affairs, Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, Discovery Museum, Blandford Square, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4JA or on the TWM website at www.twmuseums.org.uk

Where the money comes from



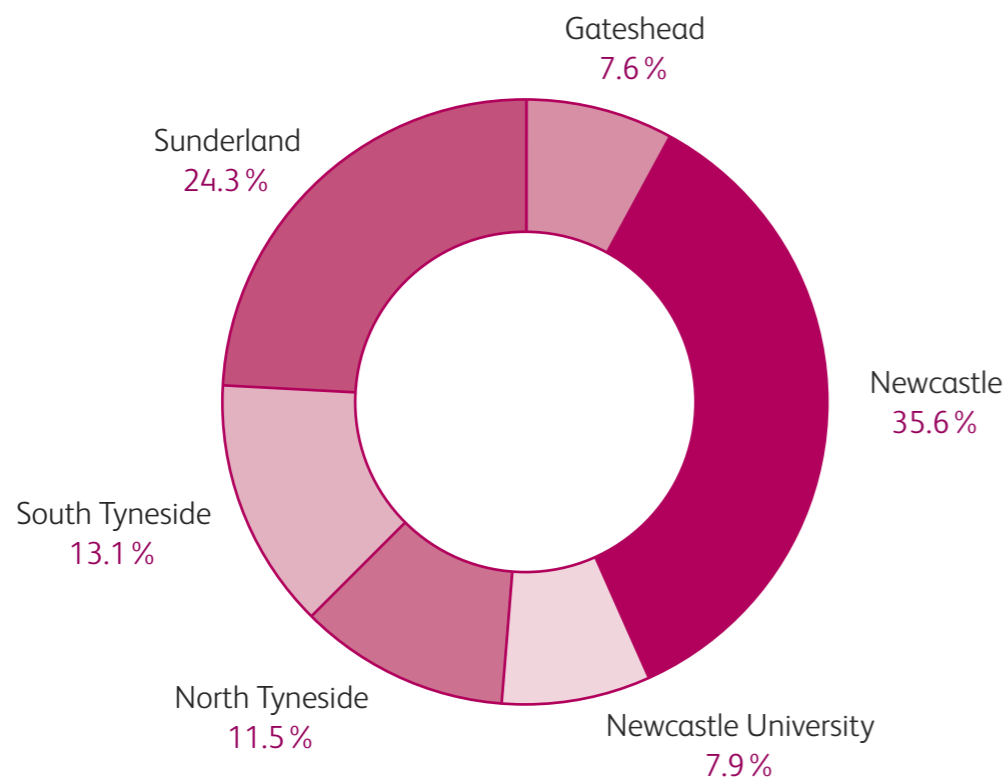
2007/08 £000		2008/09 £000	%	Change £000
(5,604)	Client Contributions	(5,948)	39.3	(344)
(1,796)	DCMS Grant-in-Aid	(2,206)	14.6	(410)
(2,549)	MLA Renaissance Grant	(2,187)	14.5	362
(2,331)	Other Grants & Contributions	(2,923)	19.3	(592)
(1,430)	Trading Activity	(1,340)	8.9	90
(456)	Other Income	(519)	3.4	63
(£14,166)		(£15,123)	100.0	(£957)

What the money was spent on



2007/08 £000		2008/09 £000	%	Change £000
6,529	Employees	6,888	46.0	359
6,046	Running Costs	7,002	46.8	956
1,195	Trading Activity	1,081	7.2	(114)
£13,770		£14,971	100.0	£1,201

Analysis of client contributions



2007/08 £000		2008/09 £000	%	Change £000
(430)	Gateshead	(455)	7.6	(25)
(2,104)	Newcastle	(2,120)	35.6	(16)
(673)	North Tyneside	(683)	11.5	(10)
(767)	South Tyneside	(778)	13.1	(11)
(1,412)	Sunderland	(1,445)	24.3	(33)
(218)	Newcastle University	(467)	7.9	(249)
(£5,604)		(£5,948)	100.0	(£344)

Our Supporters

Volunteers & Friends

Every year, literally hundreds of people give their time, skills and financial support to TWM.

More than 500 volunteers have given their time as part of our volunteers programme in the last year alone, undertaking tasks from leading guided tours and greeting visitors, to helping to catalogue and care for the collections. The Friends groups also provide vital funds towards exhibitions and the acquisition of key pieces for the collections.

In return we offer our volunteers the chance to learn new skills, meet new people and become an important part of the organisation.

Our Friends organisations are critical to our success, with thousands of people joined up as fully-fledged supporters of our museums and galleries.

Their support is vital in helping us to achieve our goals.

Thanks to

- The Associates of Discovery Museum
- Friends of the Hatton Gallery
- Friends of Sunderland Museums (FOSUMS)
- Friends of Segedunum
- Friends of the Shipley Art Gallery
- Friends of the Laing Art Gallery (FLAG)
- Friends of South Shields Museum & Arbeia Roman Fort
- North Tyneside Steam Railway Association (NTSRA)
- The Arbeia Society
- The Doxford Engine Friends' Association

To find out more about the Friends organisations, visit our website

www.twmuseums.org.uk

Grants, Donations and Partners

TWM would like to thank the following organisations for their support in 2008/09:

Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture & Heritage
Access to Work
Andrew Weir Shipping
Art Fund
Arts Council England North East
Association of North East Councils
Audi
BALTIC
Barbour Trust
Barker Langham
Bristol Museums & Art Gallery
British Museum
Browne Smith Baker
Bupa Great North Run Cultural Programme
Business Link North East
Campaign for Learning Through Museum and Galleries
Carbon Neutral Newcastle
Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust
CBI North East

Centre for Life
Charles Hayward Foundation
Chris Phipps
Cluny Studios
Community Foundation
Crafts Council
Cultural Cities Network
Culture 10
Culture 2000
Culture North East
Dance City
Department for Children, Schools and Families
Durham University
Earthwatch Institute
English Heritage
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
European Social Fund
Evening Chronicle
Fenwick
First Step
Futures Plus Youth Inclusion Programme
Gateshead Art Society

Gateshead Crossroads Caring for Carers
Gillian Dickinson Trust
Government Office for the North East
Hadrian School
Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd
Henry Rothschild and his family
Heritage Lottery Fund
Institute for International Research in Glass
Institute of International Visual Arts (iniva)
ITV Tyne Tees
James Wilson Fund
John Lewis
Live Theatre
Liverpool Culture Company
Lord Mayor's Fund
LSC North East
Mawson and Wareham (Music) Ltd
Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima)
MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund
Monument Trust

Museums Association
Museums Sheffield
Museums, Libraries and Archives Council
National Gallery
National Glass Centre
National Maritime Museum
National Museums Liverpool
National Portrait Gallery
National Trust
Natural England
Natural History Museum
NCJ Media
Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality
Newcastle City Hall
Newcastle College
Newcastle Gateshead Initiative
NEXUS
Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service
North East Chamber of Commerce
North East Council on Addictions

North East Cultural Diversity Arts Forum
Northern Cultural Skills Partnership
Northern Film and Media
Northern Lights Film Festival
Northern Potters Association
Northern Rock Foundation
Northern Stage
Northumberland Scouts
Northumberland Wildlife Trust
Northumbria University
Northumbrian Association
Nova International
One North East
PF Charitable Trust
Public Catalogue Foundation
Regional Youth Work Unit North East
Renaissance Designation Challenge Fund
Ringtons Limited
Royal Academy of Arts
Royal Armouries
Seven Stories

Shields Gazette
Shipley Trust
Sir James Knott Trust
Sponsors Club for Art
& Business
Stavros Niachos Foundation
Sunderland U3A
Sunderland Youth Offending
Service
Sting
Tate
The Journal
The Northern Stars Young
Persons' Film Academy
The Sage Gateshead
The Swallows Partnership
Theatre Royal
Tyne & Wear Archives Service
Tyneside Cinema
TyneWear Partnership
University of Leicester
University of Lincoln
University of Sunderland
V&A
W A Handley Charity Trust

Wolfson Foundation
Woodhorn Colliery Museum
World Headquarters Ltd.
Yipp Films
TWM would also like to thank
everyone who gave a donation
to the Tyne & Wear Museums
Development Trust in 2008/09.
Thanks to your generosity,
TWM has been able to support
a wide range of museum
activities that otherwise would
not have been possible.

For more information about
how you can help us make
a difference, please visit
our website at
**[www.twmuseums.org.uk/
supportus](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/supportus)**

*The Tyne & Wear Museums
Development Trust
is a registered charity.
Charity number 1055974.*



*June Holmes of the Natural History Society of Northumbria with Sparkie the Budgie
before he takes up his new home in the Great North Museum: Hancock.*

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Tyne & Wear Museums

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www.twmuseums.org.uk