

York Museums Trust Performance Report: April – September 2010

Executive Summary

1. The last 6 months our work has been dominated by the £2 million refurbishment of the Yorkshire Museum. The museum closed in November 2009 and reopened on 1 August, Yorkshire Day. The City of York Council funded the project with £800,000 which we matched with other funds largely from Trusts and Foundations, the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) and monies we raised ourselves with volunteer help. The CYC contribution was part of the dowry that CYC allocated to YMT in 2002 to help with levering in additional investments.
2. Our ambition with the refurbishment was to double visitor numbers to 150,000 per annum. The additional admission income would add to our sustainability but also we wanted to raise the awareness of the Yorkshire Museum with local residents. We knew that few local people visited the museum, retaining their interest largely with the Castle Museum. We worked on a marketing campaign with Your Local Link magazine that offered free Golden tickets exclusively for local residents the day before the grand opening. We had over 2,229 visitors and there were queues outside the museum all day. Another 7,664 York Card holders visited in August, so just short of 10,000 York residents came to see the museum in the first 32 days.
3. We have also been building up income streams in anticipation of public sector cuts. We know that MLA will be abolished by 2012. There will be a transitional year in 2011-12 but it is quite unlikely that any regular revenue funding will be available to YMT from this source from 1 April 2012. As we currently receive more than £600,000 per annum the loss of this income will be equivalent to a 38% cut in CYC's funding to YMT. We clearly need to think carefully about our future costs and programmes.
4. Over the summer we have invested in a new café and shop at the Castle Museum which so far have both been very successful. We have also rebalanced our York Venues business plan concentrating on our successful wedding business rather than the declining conference market. Our current work is focussed around the refurbishment of the York Art Gallery's Burton Gallery, the large first floor gallery, which will reopen in January 2011 on Residents First weekend. This will complete the cycle of gallery refurbishment.
5. We are also taking the lead in a regional project called *Art in Yorkshire* - supported by Tate, which is a year long celebration of the visual arts in 19 galleries throughout Yorkshire. Works from Tate's magnificent historic and contemporary collection will be showcased through a compelling programme of exhibitions and events. York's contribution will include David Hockney's *Bigger Trees* near Watter and a major exhibition on the famous York artist William Etty.

6. Our longer term future plans are largely about:
 - Developing a capital project for York Art Gallery in preparation when the City Archives leave the building in 2012, along with expanding the public and display spaces into the Victorian 'hidden gallery' above the main gallery;
 - Planning on the next major investment in the Castle Museum as we need to keep visitor interest fresh and stimulated;
 - Storage is also needed so that we can improve collection care and have suitable stores in which to keep collections during capital projects;
 - Extending the Museum Gardens up behind York Art Gallery and improving the horticulture of the gardens which has been so well received by the 1.3 m visitors who enter them over the year;
 - Developing the Strategic Plan 2013 – 2020 with Trustees and Partners, building on the Forward Plan 2006-2013.

Analysis of Performance

7. The Partnership Delivery Plan (PDP) sets out a number of key targets relating to the Council's core objectives. The following paragraphs summarise the progress towards the 7 major targets outlined in the PDP.

a) Stabilising visitor figures

8. During this period the Yorkshire Museum has mostly been closed and consequently this has had an impact on the visitor numbers. However since the Yorkshire Museum reopened on 1 August we have had record visitor numbers (see detailed figures below). The very proactive marketing campaign aided by Welcome to Yorkshire seems to be working in getting the museum embedded in the city for both residents and tourists.
9. As can be seen by the visitor numbers, we are on an upward trend across YMT. The newly revamped concourse area at the Castle Museum, with the pavement café operating in good weather and the active programme in the Studios and continuing interest in the Prison Experience, have all contributed to attracting more visitors. We were successful at the Visit York Awards on April 22, jointly winning the Best Marketing Campaign for **York Castle Prison**. York Art Gallery had a good response to **China: Journey to the East** which was a touring British Museum exhibition; this was built on our established links with the Chinese community in York.
10. Continued investment and effective marketing are crucial to increasing visitors and encouraging repeat visits.

b) Delivering new income streams

11. **Renaissance in the Regions** is an important income stream from Central Government, administered by the MLA. With the announcement of the abolition of MLA by the Coalition Government in 2012, we are now waiting to hear how central funding for regional museums will be distributed. Arts Council England

is a possible organisation that will administer funding of the Renaissance in the Regions. Without this funding the staffing and delivery of YMT's learning service will be greatly reduced as will curatorial capacity. To give an idea of the hole the demise of Renaissance funding would create, the funding over the years has amounted to the following: In 2006/7 funding was £229,000; in 2007/8 it totalled £606,200 and in 2008/9 it was £593,382 and 2009/10 it totalled over £800,000. The funding has supported not only staff but capital investments that have been so crucial to the success of YMT in improving the visitor experience in all areas such as the Castle café and shop, and the refurbishment of the Yorkshire Museum. Our current funding agreement is due to stop in March 2011 and with the demise of MLA we expect there will be a transition year 2011-2012 but at the moment the detail is unclear.

12. Changes to the funding procedure and criteria of Arts Council England are soon to be announced now that the CSR settlement has led to a reduction in arts funding by nearly 30% over the next four years. As we have received at least £70,000 over the last 6 years we are uncertain as to what the impact of these changes will have on our possible funding. So far we have supported the contemporary art displays including York St Mary's in this funding stream and have successfully applied for additional funding for projects such as ***Territories*** and the touring exhibition ***Sashiko Japanese Textiles***.
13. The Development Group's first major fundraising event, the Yorkshire Dinner that saw four top Yorkshire chefs produce a unique dinner on May 20, raised £17,526.67 for the Yorkshire Museum development. The Development Group will meet again soon to explore new ways of supporting YMT.

c) New exhibitions and interpretative service

York Art Gallery

14. ***100 Years of Gifts: the Centenary of the Contemporary Art Society***

6 February – 3 May 2010

This exhibition celebrated the 100th anniversary of the CAS and was organised by York Art Gallery. We included works acquired for York by the CAS over the last 100 years and had other important works on loan from other public galleries across Yorkshire.

Total visitors: 45,969

15. ***An English Country Garden***

14 May - 26 September 2010

The second exhibition in the newly refurbished Gallery of Pots, ***An English Country Garden***, was developed as a family-friendly display of ceramics drawn from YMT's collections. The exhibition featured pieces by internationally renowned potters including Kate Malone and Rosemary Wren, ceramics depicting garden scenes and an array of animals, plants and birds found in an English garden. Highlights included a pumpkin and a butternut squash stool, by Malone, a Whieldon-ware Cauliflower teapot and sweetcorn jug and a watering can teapot by Wally Keeler. Events included a Pottery weekend with Penny

Phillips (12 adults), Studio Saturday with Kirstie Briggs Bateman (13 children and 20 adults), Meet the Artist – Kate Malone (10 children and 6 adults), Northern Potters talk – Kate Malone (15 adults), CYC Adult Ed Ceramics with Fiona Khan (7 adults), School visits with workshop (50 adults and 6 children), and **Territories** groups including Age Concern, Adults with learning Difficulties and Young Travellers (6 adults and 17 children in all).

Total visitors: 75,570

16. ***China: Journey to the East***

22 May – 5 September 2010

This was a major touring exhibition from the British Museum which highlighted the impact of Chinese history and culture has had on our lives. We also built on the links with York's Chinese community which began with the Chinese exhibition at the Castle Museum two years ago. Alongside the objects from the British Museum, we displayed ceramics and social history objects from YMT collections. There was a lively programme of events and activities, with 305 children participating in our 'Discovering China' workshops, 427 primary school children attending through self led visits and 651 secondary school children on self led visits.

Total Visitors: 55,527

17. ***Hats***

18 September 2010 – 23 January 2011

This main gallery exhibition explores the etiquette of wearing hats and some of the social rules and trends which have influenced headwear in the last 400 years. Featuring over 30 oil paintings, works on paper, ceramics and sculptures from York Art Gallery's collection, the display is an opportunity for us to show some of the most popular works from the collection during the refurbishment of the Burton Gallery. In the centre of the gallery is a 'hat walk' featuring 19th and 20th Century hats from YMT's social history collection, including bonnets and bowler hats. Some of the highlights on display include Dame Barbara Hepworth's *Surgeon Waiting*, William Etty's *The Missionary Boy*, Spencer Gore's *The Balcony at the Alhambra*, Roger Bissiere's *Woman in a Straw Hat* and Jacques-Émile Blanche's *Knightsbridge from Sloane Street*, collapsible opera hats and collector Bill Ismay's beret.

In addition to the works of art and hats from YMT's collection, we have also secured the loan of a hat and ephemera by one of the world's foremost hat designers Stephen Jones (b.1957). His 'Anna T' Hat, on display at York featured in the exhibition 'Hats: An Anthology', his 2009 collaboration with the V&A.

18. ***Yorkshire Mystery Plays***

3 April – 8 September 2010

This was an exhibition in the Little Gallery in collaboration with York Guild's Mystery Plays who perform the plays at 12 points around the city. We were

delighted to be able to display one of the original mss from the British Library for part of the exhibition run.

York St Mary's

19. **Flood** by Susan Stockwell

18 June – 31 October 2010

For the past 6 years, York St Mary's, has been a venue for site specific commissions by contemporary artists and has been funded by Arts Council Yorkshire. This year we worked with artist Susan Stockwell who produced a new work, **Flood**, made from four tonnes of recycled computer components. The installation explored the theme of communication, provided by religion in the past and by computer technology today. It looked at the nature of our consumer society, exposing the insides of the machines we take for granted and use every day, then dispose of when they are finished with.

A key aim of this project was to engage young people and students with contemporary art. Ten students worked as volunteers to help install the work, and members of SAASY (the student branch of the Friends of York Art Gallery) were invited to the opening event and artist talks.

Total visitors to end of October: 23,292

20. The **Treasures of Medieval York** from the Yorkshire Museum continued to be on show until 22 June at the British Museum. It was a tremendous success and has brought a great deal of interest to newly reopened Yorkshire Museum. It was also very helpful in cementing the newly formed partnership with the BM on which we want to build future displays through loans as well as research projects and CPD opportunities for staff.
21. Work in the **Museum Gardens** continues: this spring saw all the new bulbs planted last year flowering for the first time: over 30,000 tulips, crocus and narcissus. We also created a **China Trail** in collaboration with the department for Asian Studies at the University of Leeds to complement the **China: Journey to the East** exhibition at York Art Gallery. It featured traditional Chinese garden plants and their importance in Chinese culture. The work of the Garden Guides is paying off; several people and local residents have commented on the better atmosphere in the Gardens and there is a significant increase in the number of young families and parents with babies and toddlers. We have continued to liaise with the police, and local stakeholders to coordinate approaches to managing behaviour. The five year plan for the Museum Gardens has been presented to Trustees and CYC; we have had some positive comments back and are making a start with implementing the first year. The plan can be found on our website. The Gardens have successfully hosted a number of events including: the Really Wild Wednesday, Brassed On, a two day brass festival; Royal Gun Salutes; an online organised (spontaneous) pillow fight between young people, the Naked Bike Ride and the Open Weekend of the Cultural Olympiad.

22. The **Learning Team** has seen a steady increase in all school audiences including an increase in secondary schools (see complete figures below). Links with York schools are very important and 1,963 York school children came to all our sites, many bringing whole year groups, for example Park Grove Primary School brought all of KS2 (over 130 children) to the York Art Gallery where they looked at paintings by William Etty. We have worked in partnership with a number of York schools including St Barnabas School to develop 'Keep Calm and Carry On', a WW2 workshop that explores the home front and features incendiary bombs, stirrup pumps and make do and mend. Another new primary school workshop this year was 'Medieval Castle Life'. The Victorian special week for schools was a success and featured Victorian education, cookery and domestic life. We have hosted some very successful internships from York St John University with students working alongside the Learning Team.
23. We opened the **Learning Level** in the refurbished Yorkshire Museum and we now have an excellent facility for visiting groups including two workshop rooms, lunch rooms, historic library, reading room, and improved toilets. We completed the formal learning schools offers ready for the reopening of the Yorkshire Museum and the start of the new academic year. This work involved reworking some popular favourites, as well as a number of new workshops including, 'Roman Masks', 'Egyptians', 'Incredible Dinosaurs', and 'Dynamic Digestion, Poo Through Time'. Before we opened the Yorkshire Museum we ran a programme of **outreach workshops** for local schools and over 650 young people have taken part.
24. With regards to **Informal Learning** we have laid on special events on all our sites for all the holiday periods. The **Studios** programme at the Castle Museum has been very busy and some of the highlights looked at making your own chocolate treat to take home, inspired by chocolate packaging in the collection, gingerbread, knitting and knitting sheaths, VE Day celebrations, the soldiers of the Duke of Marlborough, hats, and a soldiers life in Afghanistan today. Drop-in family workshops remain as popular as ever. Over the Easter holidays 336 children and 222 adults took part trying out portraiture and landscape activities in York Art Gallery inspired by the **100 Years of Gifts** exhibition. A further 155 children and 137 adults joined us for the half term making Chinese shadow puppets.
25. **Adult Learning** continues to be a major part of our learning programme for example York Art Gallery has held 6 workshop events for adults including an extremely successful pottery weekend run by local potter, Penny Phillips. We have worked in partnership with the Open College for the Arts, Adult and Community Education and the Centre for Lifelong Learning.

e) Increase use and involvement by residents

26. The Travellers' Education Support Team's YorKash project proved hugely inspirational to the young people involved in the **Territories** project. As a result of their enthusiastic reports back at school, Burnholme Community College are now sending more children from their behavioural support class to work with

the gallery and the YMT collections to create artwork inspired by Crown Derby Porcelain.

27. **Creative Personalities** is a service user led group for adults with personality disorders. They have begun delivering a series of 6 art workshop sessions at York Art Gallery with a view to running further sessions in the autumn. This partnership creates a sustainable option for offering ongoing support through creative involvement, to a vulnerable community.
28. Our Renaissance in the Regions funded community project for young people, **Precious Cargo**, has got off to a flying start. We attended the Youth Summit in Leeds and worked with Leeds Young Authors to deliver a Slam poetry workshop. Feedback from the day was very encouraging: *"Inspirational"*, *"What a brilliant day!! Very inspiring"*, *"Wow...phew...long day but so exciting thanks everyone!"* So it seems we now have a group of people really keen in taking this further forward on their own.
29. We have also delivered some pilot workshops as part of the CYC youth volunteering programme. This programme enabled us to contact young people aged 14 to 16 in York and offer them the chance to join some of the longer term projects and groups. Some of these opportunities include making a film or biomation, joining with the Theatre Royal Young Actors (19-24) and creating a piece for Feb 2011 to coincide with the anniversary of the death of Septimius Severus (to be filmed). Other opportunities included working with Xtra Curricular Group at York College (16-18) to create a Severus inspired fashion show. Work will continue with Leeds Young authors and the Leeds Black History Group on slam poetry, etc.

The idea is the content from each of these programmes will be featured in the Yorkshire Museum as part of the content for the Septimius Severus Celebrations in the Eboracum Exhibition as well as used on the web, and blogged, etc.

30. At the Castle Museum we have worked in partnership with City of York Council to offer opportunities for adults with learning disabilities. We have focused on hands on activities including; making butter, looking at seaside holidays in the past and investigating toys in the collection, all of which were really enjoyed by all with some excellent feedback. There have been monthly sessions to develop a committed group and to gauge the interest for some longer term opportunities at the Castle Museum and across the Trust for adults with learning difficulties.
31. We helped St Barnabas school celebrate St Barnabas' day at their school by taking Victorian schoolroom objects out and running 3 sessions of immersive nineteenth century schoolroom experience. The school had recently discovered a Victorian time capsule buried underneath the school, and wanted to mark the occasion with appropriate activities; 90 children took part.
32. The **Pocket Money** project is under way based at the Yorkshire Museum and we have our first workshops booked with CYC's homeless resettlement team

and a group of currently homeless people who have experience of begging on the streets. We are also working with the Peaseholme Charity who jointly run the Peaseholme resettlement centre with CYC. The project explores the place of money in society.

Volunteers Scheme

33. At the end of this half year we have 193 active **volunteers** across all sites, with projects including working in the Yorkshire Museum library, Raindale Mill, York Observatory, York St Mary's, Castle Museum Studios as well as behind the scenes roles across all sites. The mill, library and observatory are now solely run by volunteers.

34. York Art Gallery enjoyed much support from local Chinese student volunteers over the summer months on activities based around our **China** exhibition. Volunteers engaged visitors with handling boxes on the galleries as well as other individual activities in the gallery and Museum Gardens.

Our garden volunteer, from the North Yorkshire Supported Employment scheme, has recently increased his input to 2 days per week in the Museum Gardens.

35. We were very pleased to be able to put a volunteer team together to work with artist Susan Stockwell on the installation **Flood** at York St Mary's recently. Susan worked with 10 volunteers who helped from day one with the delivery and unpacking of the computer components, sorting and preparing them and then assisting Susan with building the installation. Opportunities such as these, for volunteers to work so closely with established artists, are few and far between and we are very grateful for Susan's generosity with her time and expertise.

36. We were able to work with a number of volunteers in the final stages of the Yorkshire Museum refurbishment project, when around a dozen volunteers rolled up their sleeves and helped us to clean, sweep, mop and polish the whole building. We were also able to offer some great opportunities to work with curatorial and learning staff on populating the new cases and display areas. We have provided a great deal of training to support them in their work including customer care training for all public facing volunteers, health and hygiene, object handling, book and archive conservation, and a host of subject specific training on the collections. Our current number of Volunteers at Yorkshire Museum are 52, and we have worked with 88 in total so far this year. Projects include the Library, Observatory, Portable Antiquities Scheme, Archaeology, Community Payback in the gardens, and U3A research for new displays.

f) Achieve high visitor satisfaction

37. In September we commissioned exit surveys at the Yorkshire Museum and York Castle Museum asking visitors for their views on their visits. The surveys were very encouraging, and included that 86% of Yorkshire Museum visitors would visit again, 94% would recommend to a friend, and 92% stating that they

were very satisfied or very satisfied with their visit. At York Castle Museum 92% would visit again, 100% would recommend to others, and 100% were very satisfied or satisfied with their visit.

38. We have successfully gained the Visitor Quality Assurance Standard at York Art Gallery, York Castle Museum and the Yorkshire Museum, with improvements being noted in staff/visitor engagement at the Castle Museum.
39. York Castle Museum also received a positive review from the White Rose Tourist Awards inspection scoring an overall 92.3% with a customer satisfaction rate of 90%. Staff was rated at 100%, along with the Gift Shop and Tourism experience.
40. The British Museum touring exhibition, China: Journey to the East had 55,527 visitors and we received 175 visitor comments, 19 of which were in Chinese. Here is a selection:

"Exhibits were well explained – good that you have children's activities."

"Stumbled across this beautiful and brilliantly informative exhibition when popping in to the gallery. I absolutely loved the photos and the books in the reading corner. The children enjoyed smelling the spices...but enjoyed the shadow puppets most of all. The video was informative and the wall hangings have been beautifully displayed too. Thanks for making a morning memorable!"

"Brilliant really evocative of everyday life and history. Brought back memories of living in China."

"It's amazing to find this exhibition in York - so happy and so proud!"

"I came from Edinburgh especially to see this. It was worth the effort!"

g) Ensure the cataloguing of the collection

41. The cataloguing of the collection continues. Retrospective Documentation has included:
42. **Archaeology Team**
The temporary Documentation Assistant has added 914 records to Adlib for ceramics and items which went on display at the Yorkshire Museum and added images and improved information to records for a further 1,787 objects.
43. **Art Team**
Fine Art – 329 records created for works on paper, 224 of them by the temporary Documentation Assistant who is employed until end of March 2011.
Decorative Arts – 18 pots added to Adlib.
44. **History Team**
3,244 records added to Adlib, a combination of those objects being recorded for the first time as part of the retro where they are being used in activities for

the Studios and the work being done by the Documentation Assistant in clearing a backlog of paper records. A further 637 records have had enhanced information added. Costume and textile collections have had 575 records added to Adlib and 179 paper records for caps and ribbons created by volunteers

45. **Science Team**

The temporary Documentation Assistant created 921 new records for objects being recorded for the first time and enhanced and cleaned information in 1,894 records which were corrupted when imported from an access database. This project has been ongoing for a couple of years. In addition, curators added extra information to a further 330 records for specimens going on display at the Yorkshire. She has also updated locations for 2,130 records for birdskins and entomology which have recently moved into Birch Park from St Mary's Lodge.

46. **Collections Management Team**

The Registrar has been working on cleaning and standardising object names so these are consistent; she has also been cleaning location names so that the terms used for storage locations are consistent across the teams – she has cleaned terms in 62,885 records so far this year. The Head of Collections Management has been cleaning text to eliminate abbreviations in military records and has edited 533 this quarter.

47. The Collections Management co-ordinator has been checking and cleaning records created by the DCF cataloguers and inking images to them and has completed 1,202 this year.

48. YMT was invited by MLA to take part in a pilot for the new Accreditation standard, which will be launched early in 2011. This is because we are a multi-site organisation and a charitable trust; they have also asked a local authority (Stockton Museum) and a national museum (the National Museum of Wales) to take part for comparison. The Head of Collections Management has therefore been working with Robin McDermott of MLA and we have given feedback on the new format forms and drafting policies and creating new documents to meet the new standard, both of which should provide us with useful experience when we complete the process for real.

Janet Barnes
Chief Executive
York Museums Trust
November 16 2010

Detailed Visitor Numbers

Visitor Numbers

6 months from April to September 2010

(excluding conference visitors)

	Actual	Last year	% Change
Castle Museum	188,878	155,507	+21%
York Art Gallery	101,539	82,402	+23%
York St Mary's	18,734	22,073	-15%
Yorkshire Museum	34,361	32,358	+6%
Grand Total	343,512	292,340	+17.5%

Notes:

Yorkshire Museum was closed from November 2009, until August 2010. York St Mary's was open from May in 2009, and from June in 2010.

Financial Stability

49. The statutory accounts show that YMT made a small surplus in 2010-11 and continues to be financially stable. As we have already alluded to, the future is far less certain.
50. 2011-12 will see a cut of around 20% in the Renaissance funding to YMT which currently is £635,000 during 2010/11.
51. As highlighted above, from 2012-13 this funding stream cannot be relied upon to provide any revenue funding at all. This is going to be a real challenge for the organisation to deal with, though we have the benefit of a little time to make the necessary changes. Also, being able to rely on CYC funding until 2013 will enable a smoother transition to the new environment.
52. YMT has also benefitted from an average of £250k per annum in capital funding from CYC over the last 8 years. We have to recognise and deal with the fact that from next 2011 onwards this will not be available and consequently attracting additional funds from trusts and foundations will be more difficult to achieve.

Knowledge & Learning Figures

April 2010 - September 2010	Castle Museum	Yorkshire Museum *	York Art Gallery	Observatory	York St Mary's	Total all sites	Figure s from same period last year
Visiting children in York school groups (Ages 0-16)		(including outreach workshops)		(Schools included with YM)			
• Nursery	27	0	2	0	0	29	90
• Primary	481	494	539	0	0	1,514	1,691
• Secondary	341	0	40	0	0	381	138
• Other	19	0	20	0	0	39	6
Total	868	494	601	0	0	1,963	1,925
Visiting children in non-York school groups (Ages 0-16)							
• Nursery	49	20	10	0	0	79	106
• Primary	4,846	418	988	0	0	6,252	5,901
• Secondary	4,175	225	900	0	0	5,300	3,883
• Other	1,473	0	157	0	0	1,360	267
Total	10,543	663	2,055	0	0	13,261	10,157
Student Educational visits HE + FE (Ages 17+)	33	0	0	0	0	33	39
Students on a general visit HE + FE (Ages 17+)	655	30	100	0	0	785	1,746
Events (Extra activities taking place on site for the general visitor)	49	12	44	0	0	105	92
Number of visitors to events	19,511	1,960	1,079	1,776	0	24,326 **	82,380
Outreach events (does not include outreach workshops)	7	2	2	4	0	15	24
Number users of outreach events	5,304 ***	564	2,343 ***	118	0	8,329	5,587
Educational Activities (Workshops)	104	29	51	0	0	184	181
Informal Learning Groups on site (For example Territories etc...)	17	8	54	1	0	80	97
Users of informal Learning on site	5,960	342	1,565	157	0	8,024	1,354
Number of instances of teachers in contact with museums, excluding visits with school parties	32	2	4	0	0	38	30

* Yorkshire Museum was closed until August.

** New method of counting visitors to the Castle Museum Studios from 2010, to try to record more sustained visits. Finding a perfect method of recording these visits is ongoing.

*** Includes Great Yorkshire Show.

April - September 2010

	Transactions	Objects	Notes
Acquisitions	13	30	<p>An electric copper kettle dating from the 1920s was acquired. It is stamped 'Property of York Corporation Electricity Dept No1009' and is representative of a change of lifestyle – the introduction of electrical power in our homes. In order to encourage the use of electricity the Corporation Electricity Department had a scheme to hire out appliances for a weekly rent which was collected either through a pre-payment metre or via a quarterly electricity account. The scheme operated from the 1930s (and possibly earlier) until it was phased out in the 1950s, and applied to cookers, wash boilers and kettles.</p> <p>Archaeology: Medieval silver cross fragment; Anglo-Scandinavian gold finger ring; two Iron Age staters, one of Cunobelin (AD10-40) and one inscribed VEP CORF, approximately AD20-40; a styca of Wigmund, Archbishop of York (837-854) from the moneyer Hunlaf.</p> <p>Art: Two mixing bowls by Isaac Button from Soil Hill Pottery, Halifax, 1961; an untitled sculpture by Maurice Jadot, 1967-69, presented through the Contemporary Art Society; 'Landscape' by Roger Fry.</p> <p>History: A pack of 'Faraway Tree' playing cards (Enid Blyton), 1950s; nine items including feeding bottles, teething rings, clothes and books for the activity session 'Bringing Up Baby'; a stirrup pump, 1939-1945.</p> <p>Science: Several new taxidermy specimens were purchased to ensure safe use in handling sessions: taxidermy – hedgehog, mole, duck, mouse; skeletons – vole, shrew, mouse; skulls – parrot, duck.</p>
Archaeological sites	11	TBC	<p>Accession numbers have been issued to York Archaeological Trust for work to be carried out at City Walls, Lord Mayors Walk, Chainage 2100-2240, York, Tythe Farm, Hemingbrough near Selby; Lansdowne Terrace, York; St Mary's Church, Bishophill Senior, York; Church View, East End, Sheriff Hutton and land to the rear of Festival Flats, York; Allen Archaeology Ltd for Ivy Cottage, Boltby; Northern Archaeological Associates Ltd for Holy Cross Church, Swainby and to Ed Dennison Archaeological Services for work at Bolton Percy Gatehouse, Bolton Percy, Sheriff Hutton Castle and Brayton Church, near Selby. One number was issued to CS Archaeology for Barker's Yard, Borogate, Helmsley.</p>
Disposals	2	2	<p>One ceramic slipware mug by Ray Finch was disposed of following damage during a handling session. The mug was donated in 2002 along with several other ceramic objects. They are all low value 'everyday' pieces and were donated specifically for the purpose of handling in the knowledge that it is possible they will be damaged. A powder flask (YORCM : CA1888) had to be disposed of as it was found to contain black powder and could not be opened to remove the contents. The Firearms & Explosives Licensing Officer advised us to check that all powder flasks had been emptied as black powder should be stored in Home Office approved containers, which we comply with under the terms of our black powder licence. It was not possible to open this flask to empty it and it therefore posed a risk of exploding in the event of a fire. The flask was removed and safely disposed of by the Firearms & Explosives Licensing Officer.</p>
Loans In	13	160	<p>Incoming loans have been arranged for the following exhibitions/activities:</p> <p>'An English Country Garden', six ceramic pieces by Kate Malone;</p> <p>'Mystery Plays', the British Library (one item), the Merchant Adventurers (two items) and York Archives (two items);</p> <p>a projection work 'Growing Zeros' (digital clock) by Torsten Lauschmann;</p> <p>'China: Journey to the East', 121 items were borrowed from the British Museum, two from Leeds Museums and one from an individual lender;</p> <p>'Knitting Sheaths', two items were borrowed from an individual lender to support this Studio Activity.</p> <p>Archaeology - 'Yorkshire Museum' - the British Museum loaned 14</p>

			<p>objects including a bust of Caracalla, a Corinthian capital, figures, gems and oil lamps; the National Museums of Scotland loaned a tortoise brooch from Bedale and a stocking from Micklegate.</p> <p>'Hats' - a hat and accompanying material was borrowed from Stephen Jones Millinery.</p> <p>Science - 'Yorkshire Museum' - Leeds Museums lent two specimens - a Thylacine skull and a Carolina parakeet.</p>
Loans Out	12	137	<p>Eight objects were loaned to the British Museum from the Archaeology collection to support the current exhibition 'Treasures from the Yorkshire Museum'.</p> <p>Two paintings have been loaned to the Bowes Museum for their exhibition 'British Sporting Art', 11th May to 10th October 2010: 'Sir Mark Sykes with the Sledmere Hunt' by an unknown artist and 'Gulliver reprimanded and silenced by his Master, when describing the horrors of War' by Sawrey Gilpin.</p> <p>'The New Walk Terrace, York' by Nathan Drake has been loaned to Fairfax House along with five objects from the Costume collection for their 'Dress to Impress' exhibition, 18th June to 21st November 2010.</p> <p>'Nocturne in Blue and Gold' by Walter Greaves has been loaned to the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Australia for their newly opened exhibition 'Paths to Abstraction 1867-1917', 26th June to 19th September 2010.</p> <p>The Harley Foundation, Welbeck has borrowed an 18th century wine bottle and a Delft charger for their long exhibition 'Dinner with a Duke: Decoding Food and drink at Welbeck 1690-1910', 13th March 2010 to 18th March 2012.</p> <p>The Hans Coper retrospective exhibition transferred to Shiodome Museum in Tokyo and the Sashiko Textiles exhibition opened at Plymouth Museum and Art Gallery. Six works are on loan to Beverley Art Galley form 'John Edward Champney: Philanthropist and Art Lover'. Five ceramic pieces by Bernard Leach were loaned to Penlee House Gallery & Museum in Penzance for 'Sea Change: Art in St Ives Between the Wars'. The Henry Moore Institute in Leeds has recently borrowed 20 pieces of studio pottery for 'A Rough Equivalent: Sculpture and Pottery in the Post-War Period'. 'Tall Vessel' by Elizabeth Fritsch is included in an exhibition at the National Museum Cardiff 'Dynamic Structures: Painted Vessels by Elizabeth Fritsch'.</p> <p>History - Three items were loaned to the Quilter's Guild in York for their exhibition 'Sewing in Wartime'.</p>
Conservation	10	136	<p>65 pieces of stained window glass have been sent to the University of York for conservation work.</p> <p>One Chinese dish was cleaned by a conservator prior to inclusion in the China exhibition. Two pieces of glass painted by William Peckett have been sent to York Glaziers Trust for preparation of condition reports. The frame for 'Nocturne in Blue and Gold' was treated by a conservator prior to despatch to Australia. The frames of nine paintings have been treated for active woodworm.</p> <p>Art - Works on paper have been sent for mounting; paintings have gone for conservation and framing and for frame conservation in preparation for the following exhibitions: 'Hats', 'Once Upon A Time', William Etty and the Burton Gallery refurbishment.</p>

Fundraising

We have been successful in securing funds between April 2010 and September 2010 for the following:

Funding Body	Reason for Application/funds	Amount
Friends of York Art Gallery	contribution towards the catalogue for the forthcoming William Etty exhibition	£10,000
Marc Fitch Fund	contribution towards the catalogue for the forthcoming William Etty exhibition	£2,500
Gabo Trust	to coat two sculptures with wax as a conservation treatment so visitors can touch them	£277
Friends of York Art Gallery	contribution towards the conservation of paintings for the Burton Gallery redisplay	£6,200
Daphne Bullard Trust	to fund preparation, mounting and installation of C18th Indian costume worn by Captain John Foote in portrait in collection by Reynolds	£1,000
Community Action Pilot grant (CYC)	Pilot project to work with young people to gain new interpretation and reinterpretation of the collections	£12,000
MLA Hub Diversity Funds	Better access to collections for blind and partially sighted people	£3,000
Arts Council England	Art in Yorkshire digital commission	£40,000
	Total Funding	£92,977.00