

m onumentum

SPRING - 2015

 WORLD
MONUMENTS
FUND 50TH ANNIVERSARY



LOST TREASURE ROUNDEL RETURNED TO STOWE

Plus the special 50th Anniversary projects that represent our past, present and future

EVENTS REVIEW



- 1 Our *Architecture & Food* event took place on 26th November at the May Fair Hotel. Our speakers were L-R: Food Historian, Marc Meltonville, Julie Humphries (Director of Archer Humphries Architects), Jonathan Foyle and Richard Burr (runner-up from the 2014 *Great British Bake Off*). The relationship between food and architecture was discussed by our expert panel who also welcomed many interesting questions from the audience. The event was kindly supported by The May Fair Hotel.
- 2 On 19th November we welcomed best-selling author, Jung Chang to the Royal Geographical Society to talk about her new book *Empress Dowager Cixi: The Concubine Who Launched Modern China*. To the delight of the audience, Jung's charming delivery brought this complex woman to life. We thank Symm for their kind sponsorship of this event.



BEYOND BESPOKE

*Discover the very best of
British luxury*

www.beyondbespoke.co

REMEMBER WMF BRITAIN IN YOUR WILL

HELP US TO SECURE BRITAIN'S HERITAGE

A gift in your Will to WMF Britain will create a lasting memoriam. For more information, please contact Andrew Rye, WMFB Development Manager

andrew@wmf.org.uk
+44(0) 20 7251 8142



Spring 2015

World Monuments Fund Britain Ltd
70 Cowcross Street
London EC1M 6EJ
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7251 8142
Fax: +44 (0)20 7490 4795
Email: enquiries@wmf.org.uk
Website: www.wmf.org.uk
Charity number: 1126578
Registered company number: 6730565

Staff

Ewa Manias Finance Director
Andrew Rye Development Manager
Melissa Marshall Project Director
Sarah Meaker Events and Membership Manager
Sophie Buchanan Project and Publicity Officer

Trustees

Mr Pierre Valentin, Chairman
Ms Susan Daniels
Dr Peter Frankopan
Mr William Loschert
Mr Richard Mansell-Jones
Dr Christopher Tadgell
Mrs Catrin Treadwell

The Viscount of Norwich, Chairman Emeritus

Monumentum is generously supported
by **The Paul Mellon Estate**

Cultureshock Media

Art Direction & Production
www.cultureshockmedia.co.uk

WORLD MONUMENTS FUND BRITAIN CHIEF EXECUTIVE, DR JONATHAN FOYLE DEPARTS



On my departure it is easy to look back with pleasure over the last eight years of tremendous project work founded by the Robert W. Wilson Challenge to Preserve our Heritage. It was a privilege to curate this work alongside a superb team

backed by the trustees' governance, the expertise of the Architectural Advisory Committee, and generous co-funders.

Robert Wilson was an exceptional man, whose passing at Christmas 2013 marked the conclusion of a vast philanthropic legacy through WMF. Our challenge was to match his contribution and develop his philanthropy while upholding professional standards to achieve an imaginative, research-led, public-spirited legacy.

Some of these projects, like St George's Bloomsbury and Strawberry Hill, were partnerships established by my predecessor Colin Amery. Stowe had many contributors, and each site knew a committed group of trustees or staff in need of support whether through guidance, funds or both.

Other sites came beyond the Wilson Challenge, such as John Knill's monument at St Ives and Coventry Cathedral's revitalisation through conserving its medieval glass and ruins, each supported by the legacy of Paul Mellon.

Those who joined us, sponsored events, contributed and shared the stories at various sites, have been instrumental to these successes. Thank you all. In its 50th year, World Monuments Fund has much to look forward to with your support.

— Jonathan Foyle

MESSAGE FROM WMFB CHAIRMAN, PIERRE VALENTIN



On behalf of the Board, WMFB staff and all of our supporters, I would like to express our gratitude to Dr Jonathan Foyle for his leadership and commitment to the organisation over the last seven years.

During his tenure, WMFB

oversaw the preservation and presentation of numerous iconic sites including Strawberry Hill; St Paul's Cathedral's 'Oculus'; Stowe House, the great 18th century house and gardens in Buckinghamshire; and Coventry Cathedral and its salvaged stained glass.

He will be greatly missed.

We are actively looking for a new Executive Director. The appointment will be announced later this year.

IN THIS ISSUE...

FEATURES

50th Anniversary
Priority Projects



Our five selected sites reach from Rome to Cambodia

REGULARS

Watch days



Hundreds of local people enjoyed special heritage events in the UK this autumn

Profile

Trustee William Loschert has a passion for built heritage and seeing it enjoy a new lease of life

Project update



Progress in Zanzibar, Tectons at Dudley Zoo and the story of a missing ceiling painting as Stowe's restoration continues

Events

Study Day series and other events this spring and summer

50TH ANNIVERSARY

WMF PRIORITY PROJECTS

WMF Executive Vice President, Lisa Ackerman reports on the sites selected for support in this anniversary year

Today the cherished ancient cities of Rome, Beijing, Angkor, Lima, and Agra are thriving economic and tourism hubs that inspire visitors. World Monuments Fund's five priority projects will help celebrate 50 years of dedication to conserving the world's heritage

While five sites cannot adequately represent all of WMF's work in the field, those we have chosen share several themes of great importance to WMF. They represent extraordinary past achievements, have the potential for greater community benefit and engagement, and intrigue residents and visitors who enjoy and use the sites today.

WMF has worked in Italy since its founding and its work in Rome has resulted not merely in completing conservation projects but in returning cultural resources to the public by improving access and site interpretation. WMF has worked at Angkor for more than 20 years and has contributed significantly to conservation at several sites, but has also importantly provided valuable training for conservation architects, engineers, conservators, and site workers.

In Beijing, WMF has worked in close partnership with the Palace Museum to develop a comprehensive program of conservation, training, and interpretation. The program emphasises international exchange and has created permanent resources for increased research and conservation of the extraordinary treasures of the Qianlong Garden. At Agra, WMF's focus is research, conservation and interpretation

of the Mughal Riverfront Gardens across from the Taj Mahal. The project is in its early stages but is already revealing much about the design and beauty of the gardens.

WMF has worked on several projects in Lima, most notably a small exhibition on the architectural treasures of this historic urban center. What started as a small local presentation then travelled to Ecuador, Cuba, Italy, France, and Spain. It was clear that Lima's extraordinary history resonated strongly with the public and including Quinta de Presa in the roster of 50th anniversary projects is a reflection of how much there is still to discover about this city – one that has complex layers of habitation from ancient settlements to Baroque colonisation to the fascinating 21st century cultural centre.



QIANLONG GARDEN, CHINA

With its stunning design and furnishings, the Qianlong Garden complex in Beijing's Forbidden City includes 27 pavilions and structures, courtyards, and elaborate rockeries.

Occupying almost two acres in the northeast quadrant of the Forbidden City, the Qianlong Garden was built by the fourth emperor of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1912) to serve as a part of his planned retirement complex for use following his 60-year reign. He designed the garden as a private retreat, and the buildings contain decoration and furnishings from what is widely considered to be one of the boldest and most extravagant periods of interior design in China's history.

Work began on one building in 2001, but in 2004 the Palace Museum and WMF undertook a comprehensive review of the entire Qianlong Garden site and developed a master plan for its conservation. This is being carried out in four distinct phases, all to be completed by 2019. The first large-scale garden project, completed in 2008, was the conservation of Juanqinzhai (Studio of Exhaustion from Diligent Service). Intended to be used for relaxation and entertainment, the studio's exquisite interiors include a private theatre and a receiving room.

Funds raised from the 50th Anniversary appeal will support conservation work and will help train a new generation of craftspeople and conservators.



Top
The Farnese Aviaries and nymphaeum seen from the north.

Left
A view of several buildings and pavilions within the Qianlong Garden complex.

FARNESE AVIARIES, ITALY

Millions of visitors arrive at Rome's ancient forum and marvel at the historic ruins that have attracted tourists for centuries, but only a small percentage of tourists venture to the top of the Palatine. Those who do are treated to an introduction to the Renaissance legacy of the Farnese family and their occupation of the Palatine in the sixteenth century. WMF completed the conservation of the Casina Farnese, a small building on top of the Palatine. In 2014, the Farnese Aviaries, another remnant of the Renaissance period, was placed on the World Monuments Watch to call attention to the conservation needs of the structure. The aviaries are twin square pavilions originally decorated using *sgraffito*, a technique employing different layers of plaster, popular in Italy at the time.

With the completion of Casina Farnese and work launched on the Farnese Aviaries, the project will provide an opportunity to understand the Renaissance Farnese Gardens more fully and provide visitors with another layer of interpretation of the Forum. For those who walk up from the ancient forum to the top of the Palatine, there will now be a way to understand the strong connection that existed between the ancient ruins of Rome and the Renaissance patrons who were inspired by the city of Romulus and Remus.

Funds raised from the 50th Anniversary appeal will assist with the full conservation of the interior and exterior of the Farnese Aviaries.

FEATURE

QUINTA DE PRESA, PERU

Decorated in elaborate rococo motifs, the eighteenth-century villa Quinta de Presa is a premier example of secular Spanish architecture.

Located north of Lima’s Rímac River, the unique suburban villa has been recognised for a century as an important cultural asset. Quinta de Presa was placed on the 2012 World Monuments Watch to draw attention to the extraordinary opportunities presented by the location and significance of the site that was falling further into disrepair, often being abandoned and unused for many years. The complex is named after Isabel de la Presa Carrillo de Albornoz, widow of a Knight of Santiago and officer of the Viceroyalty of Peru. Built in a late rococo style, Quinta de Presa reflects the refined history of the Spanish-Creole aristocracy of Lima during the Age of Enlightenment, who used such villas for weekends and parties, as well as for cultural and scientific pursuits.

The Peruvian State purchased the complex in 1920 with the aim of establishing a museum to the Viceregal Period, but restoration efforts were never completed. Only five minutes from the main square of Lima, a successful project will provide the often overlooked district of Rímac with a vehicle for promoting tourism, cultural events, and economic opportunities.

Funds raised from the 50th Anniversary appeal will repair the estate's historic structures and develop a plan for viable uses of the complex.



50TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECTS



THE MUGHAL GARDENS OF AGRA, INDIA

One of the most important historic features of the city of Agra are the gardens that line the banks of the Yamuna River. Sanctuaries of respite from the city’s heat and sites of veneration to honour the deceased, the gardens were created over a period of more than 100 years. The Taj Mahal, across the Yamuna River from the gardens, is thus part of a larger cultural context that represents an important example of Mughal landscape traditions. Today, more than 40 Mughal gardens survive in varying states of conservation, all having been significantly changed over time. These gardens may not be as well known to travellers as the Taj Mahal, but they are open to the public and represent an extraordinary ensemble of Mughal heritage, as well as providing recreational spaces in a bustling urban environment.

The surviving gardens now face challenges such as urban development, pollution, traffic congestion, and a lack of visitor amenities. Highways and bridges built close by represent

both a negative visual impact and an important new opportunity, since they make the gardens on the eastern side of the river, opposite the Taj Mahal, more readily accessible than they have been in the past. WMF, in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India, launched a programme in 2014 to restore these gardens to their original form, re-activate their water features, and present them in an improved state to the public. Over the next three years, WMF will focus on two of the most important of these gardens: Mehtab Bagh (the “Moonlight Garden”) and the Garden of the Tomb of I’timad-ud-Daulah.

Funds raised from the 50th Anniversary appeal will support the research, conservation and interpretation of this currently undervalued site.

Top
The garden of Mehtab Bagh is an ideal place from which to view the Taj Mahal.

Left
The main façade of Quinta de Presa awaiting repair and a new use.



PHNOM BAKHENG, CAMBODIA

A premier example of Khmer architecture, Phnom Bakheng is one of Cambodia’s most popular tourist destinations.

Among Angkor’s oldest temples, it was constructed between the late ninth and early tenth centuries by King Yasovarman as the centerpiece of his new capital, Yasodharapura, later absorbed into Angkor. The first mountain-style temple built there, Phnom Bakheng represents Mount Meru, home of the Hindu gods.

This spectacular site was well documented in the early 20th century. WMF began working at Phnom Bakheng in 2004 by undertaking a series of condition surveys, landscape studies, and developing a comprehensive master plan for conservation and site interpretation. In 2008, WMF launched onsite conservation activities and a significant amount of documentation and site work was completed. In close collaboration with APSARA National Authority, WMF expanded the scope of work in 2010 to include tourism management. As Phnom Bakheng is the highest point in Angkor Archaeological Park, many tourists arrive late in the day to view the site and enjoy watching the sun set over

Angkor. The breathtaking views from the highest level of the temple are greatly enjoyed by tourists, but the traffic on the temple’s terraces was contributing to instability of the monument. After careful studies and a site management workshop, plans to improve visitors’ experiences and better protect the temple were developed. Paths to the top of the temple were improved; viewing platforms were created so tourists could enjoy a variety of vistas over the archaeological park; and a system of limiting the number of tourists standing on the temple at any one time have greatly improved the safeguarding of Phnom Bakheng. While parts of the temple are closed during the ongoing conservation work, signboards explain the current activities so visitors can understand more fully that protecting the site is a collective effort.

Funds raised from the 50th Anniversary appeal will help complete the conservation of one of the greatest examples of Khmer architecture.

Phnom Bakheng is the highest point in the Archaeological Park and a popular vantage point for tourists.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

For the last 50 years WMF has helped over 100 sites in more than 60 different countries. WMFB has played a vital role in this success which has only been possible through the generosity of people like you. As a registered charity with no government funding, WMFB needs your help to continue our work.

Every donation we receive directly underpins what we do – through active conservation, advocacy, training and outreach we are partnering with international heritage sites and protecting their future.

Please do consider supporting us with a donation during our 50th anniversary, and help to secure our programme of work for the years ahead.

www.wmf.org.uk/involved/donate
or call +44 (0) 20 7251 8142

50TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECTS

WATCH DAY EVENTS

Thirty-five events across five continents: World Monuments Watch Days have been taking place across the globe this autumn. The days have helped local communities to engage with and enjoy the heritage that surrounds them through activities, talks and tours. Kindly supported by American Express, four Watch Day events took place in the UK at the 2014 sites to celebrate their distinctive architectural character and to explain the challenges they are facing in the years ahead. The days were attended by over 600 participants.



The young archaeologists gather round to showcase their ship building skills.

Deptford Dockyard, London

Members of the Young Archeologists Club convened at The Museum of London Docklands to learn about Deptford Dockyard through an explanation of Tudor ship building, trade and exploration helping to give the young participants context to understand the site. The youngsters were given the opportunity to make a Tudor ship from craft materials and had a guided tour of the museum by a Tudor costumed interpreter.



51 Harley Davidsons take up residence on Sulgrave's lawn.

Sulgrave Manor, Northamptonshire

Scheduled to coincide with Independence Day celebrations, The Manor's Watch Day on Saturday 5th July celebrated its American roots: visitors were treated to a cheerleader display, crafts, music, a live re-enactment and an authentic barbecue and buffet of all-American desserts. Tours of the Manor gave visitors the opportunity to learn more about the Washington family and life at Sulgrave.



The Battersea walkers pause outside the development's main gate in Kirtling Street to hear historian Colin Thom and engineer Stuart Tappin discuss the building.

Battersea Power Station, London

The Battersea Watch Day took in the sights and sounds of this London region which is changing by the day. From the old: the condemned Covent Garden Flower Market, Tideway Village and Battersea gas holder site, to the new: the Riverlight Development and American Embassy site. Participants were able to see for themselves how the area is taking shape following heavy investment, and see the impact this is having on its unique character and existing residents.

Grimsby Ice Factory, Lincolnshire

Representatives from the Great Grimsby Ice Factory Trust hosted an exhibition with talks and films to introduce the community to the history of the factory. Many visitors knew very little about the building, and the Watch Day helped to harness much valued local support for the trust's ambitious scheme for the Ice Factory.

Local children learn about the ice factory with a treasure hunt and activity packs.



Watch Day events around the world



From top to bottom

- 1 Watch Day activities at the Archaeology Museum of the Universidad Nacional de Trujillo Gran Pajatén in Peru included a painting contest that celebrated the site's decorative arts.
- 2 Watch Day participants in Sanro-Den of Sukunahikona Shrine in Japan had the opportunity to try some traditional methods of wood cutting.
- 3 Community members from the village of Urși in Romania celebrated Watch Day at the village church which is under restoration. Local children built models of the church which they show here.
- 4 Almost 8,000 people gathered for an event at Serra da Moeda in Brasil where members of quilombo communities in Brumadinho performed a traditional dance of sieves.

WILLIAM LOSCHERT

WMF Britain is delighted to introduce trustee William Loschert who joined the Board of Trustees in June 2013. Bill has been an International Council member since May 2010 and was a major contributor to the conservation programme at Stowe House.



Tell us about your background

I was born and raised in New York City, majoring in accounting and philosophy at Fordham University. Following a career in insurance underwriting, I left New York 30 years ago, moving to Bermuda for ten and a half years to start a new insurance company. In 1995 I relocated to London becoming the first American to sit on the Council of Lloyds.

At the age of 70 I chose to give up all of my company directorships and now work on a voluntary basis for the V&A, the Royal Academy of Arts and the Brompton Oratory as well as being Chairman of Fordham University London Centre.

How did you first hear about WMF(B)?

As a patron of the V&A, I was invited to attend a lecture given by now-departing Chief Executive of WMFB Dr Jonathan Foyle. I was fascinated by the range of activity undertaken by WMF – I have always been interested in historical art and architecture – and the organisation impressed me with its expertise in the field.

What does your role as a WMFB Trustee entail?

As a Trustee of WMF Britain I offer advice and guidance to the organisation based upon my personal business experience, and meet regularly to give input into which projects should be selected to work upon. I also personally believe that the role of a Trustee is to encourage people to support the work of the organisation and I like to lead by example.

You are a generous supporter of WMFB and gave a significant gift to Stowe – why do you choose to support the work of the organisation?

I believe that WMF Britain has a lot to offer to smaller organisations and institutions; expert advice and leadership, and the ability to fundraise on their behalf are just some of the reasons I choose to give through WMFB. With Stowe in particular, the use of the building was very important to me – I am a strong supporter of education.

Architecturally what sort of building appeals to you?

For me, the architecture of Rome, and notably the layout of the city, always stand out. In particular, the use of historic buildings for modern cultural purposes and once-private palazzi opened up to the public as museums. I am an enthusiastic supporter of utilising historic space in new and creative ways that connect with modern society and give a new lease of life to each building.

Is American philanthropy distinctive to British?

Absolutely. There is a far greater culture of giving in America, both on a large and smaller scale. Organisations are far less dependent upon the government to support them, and tax laws purposefully encourage giving. Philanthropy in the United Kingdom is something that will take time to develop, but I can see the tide changing and am trying to do my part to aid this cultural shift.

What do you like to get in return from a contribution?

For me, philanthropy is about helping other people. I want to know that any project I contribute towards will go on to support and benefit a significant number of people and leave a tangible legacy. It is that assurance that I look for.



STOWE HOUSE

Vincenzo Valdrè, *Dance of the Hours*: The rediscovered roundel is being conserved prior to its reinstatement in the Music Room

The very process of conservation breeds discovery, and for Stowe the reappearance of the original Music Room ceiling roundel was a particularly significant find. The lavishly decorated Music Room, with mural paintings by Italian artist Vincenzo Valdrè (1742-1814), underwent careful conservation treatment in 2012 after forensic analysis of painted finishes. Later the same year, Stowe School re-discovered the room's original circular ceiling painting, the *Dance of the Hours*, also by Valdrè, at a private residence.

The original painting had been sold in 1922 and replaced in the Music Room by an inferior copy by Benjamin Gibbons, c.1963. After negotiation with the current owner via Christie's auction house, the school successfully

purchased the original in March 2013. Conservation work by Kiffy Stainer-Hutchins & Co. has been underway throughout 2013/14, generously supported by The Paul Mellon Estate. It is anticipated that the reinstallation will be completed during spring 2015.

Valdrè's roundel was inspired by Guido Reni's c.1614 Roman ceiling painting *Apollo and the Hours*, sometimes called *Aurora*, and was completed before 1781. Valdrè re-envisioned *Aurora* to better suit a focal ceiling panel that could be viewed in the round. It was composed with the figures set around a central fictive light source, illuminated not by the depiction of a sun, but an ornate chandelier that once hung from the centre.

RESTORATION OF HISTORIC LIGHTING

In 2013, WMF Britain received a generous donation to support the restoration of historic lighting to the Music Room and State Library, allowing work to start on the final decorative features required to complete both rooms. Wilkinson Plc, the principal chandelier manufacturers and glass restorers, are creating a new Adam-style chandelier. When in situ this will hang from the centre of the newly-conserved *Dance of the Hours* in the Music Room, and the adjacent Library will be home to three new brass and glass lanterns.

One of the library lanterns is assembled in Wilkinson's studio: a pine finial is added to the top of the porcelain oil reservoir.



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL ZANZIBAR

Work continues apace at this 2014 Watch site



Conservation work is proceeding rapidly on site in Zanzibar and structural repairs to Christ Church Cathedral are set for completion in spring 2015. The team has now finished work on the apse, tower, south exterior façade and the organ loft. The rebuilding of the roof started in October 2014 and is nearing completion.

Highlights include master stone-mason Tony Steel discovering that the crenulated top of the apse was originally finished with bright white 'Neeru' plaster made from crushed marble dust, a material used on many finer buildings in Stone Town. A new layer has been reapplied and polished to restore the apse's original appearance. The organ loft houses the first organ in East Africa, and its ceiling was built using 'boriti' mangrove poles. These were badly affected by rot and insects, and so the team replaced them before reconstructing new plaster ribs and inseting small stones into the ceiling to

reinstate the original decorative finish.

We urgently need additional funds to ensure that the project can continue and complete the first phase of works. Additionally, significant areas of work remain unfunded. The stained glass windows are the oldest in sub-Saharan Africa, but were damaged in anti-Christian riots. The altar is said to have been built where the whipping post once stood and is decorated with fine arts-and-crafts inspired mosaics, but the surface is now cracked and in danger of disintegration. Please help us ensure the future of this historic monument in Zanzibar.

Development of the exhibit for the Heritage and Education Centre has moved forward with draft text already under review and graphic designs for the exhibit panels being produced. Folk memories of slavery collected on Unguja (the main island of the Zanzibar archipelago) and Pemba will form an important element of



the exhibit. WMF is working closely with Zanzibar Stone Town Heritage Society to identify individuals who have personal experience of the legacy of slavery.

In summer 2015 WMFB will launch a travelling exhibition in the UK to raise awareness of the project and its important link to the story of slavery and its abolition. Further details about the launch event and the tour venues will be announced soon.

Top left
The exterior of the cathedral was cleaned thoroughly with lime water; the southern elevation is shown with timber scaffold still in place.

Top right
Small stones are inset by hand into the plaster ceiling of the organ loft.

CAN YOU HELP?

To find out more, or to pledge your support please contact WMFB's Development Manager Andrew Rye on +44 (0)20 7251 8142 or email andrew@wmf.org.uk



Dudley Zoo, West Midlands 2010 Watch update

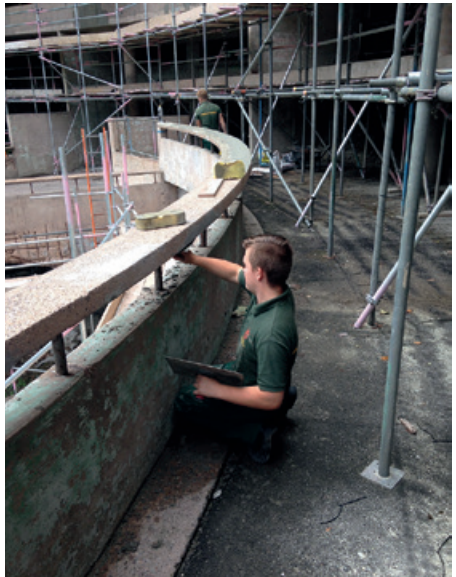
A major project is underway at Dudley Zoo to restore and regenerate four reinforced concrete Tectons, the revolutionary design of building pioneered in the 1930's by Berthold Lubetkin and his modernist practice, Tecton.

The 2010 Watch brought these unique Grade II listed structures international recognition and helped to secure a £1.5 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The first phase of the project has focused on the iconic wave Entrance, Safari Shop, Bear Ravine and Kiosk One, and the refurbishment of the region's only chairlift, built in 1958, which was re-launched in August 2012.

The old entrance building, with its distinctive series of S-shaped interlocking canopies, has been restored to its original sky blue paint scheme. Visitors can now also enter the Zoo via the restored shop, which reopened at Easter 2014. The 1937 interior was stripped back to expose circular overhead light panels and the original paintwork of concrete pillars, and part of the space now houses an exhibition telling the story of the iconic Lubetkin buildings.

Work is currently underway on the Bear Ravine, and dedicated building conservators are using methods and materials from almost eight decades ago. The HLF grant supports an apprenticeship scheme between DZG and Dudley College Construction and Building students for the repair of concrete using conservation methods, which is the first dedicated course of its kind.

The Bear Ravine has a shaped retaining wall and cantilevered terrace which affords views into the original enclosure.



Left
The restored entrance building: a row of five gates with eight turnstiles and ticket offices, through which 30 million visitors have passed since 1937.



Sheerness Dockyard 2010 Watch update

Earlier this year the Sheerness Dockyard Preservation Trust was awarded a Start-Up grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to begin the transformation of the currently derelict Dockyard Church into an exciting community space for the Isle of Sheppey.

The Grade II* listed church stands within Sheerness Royal Naval Dockyard and Blue Town Conservation Area, and was built in 1826-8 for dockyard workers and service personnel. It closed in 1970, and was used as a sports hall and store before suffering a devastating fire in 2001.

The new Trust celebrated the launch of the restoration project with a community open day on September 17th 2014 to introduce the people of Sheppey to the church and to involve them in the plans for its future. Local school groups and more than 400 general visitors came along to show their support and see inside the original 1828 interior of the church before restoration work commences.

Top
The derelict dockyard church, which has been fenced off for decades, is now under restoration.

SPRING/ SUMMER 2015

Study day series and other events
taking place this season

**STUDY DAY: St Paul's Cathedral
and the City churches**
Behind the scenes and walking tour

Tuesday 21st April, 10am-4pm
Revered architectural historian and good friend of WMFB, Gavin Stamp returns to lead an exploration of the work of Sir Christopher Wren, the presiding genius of post-fire London. The inventive spaces of the smaller churches and the magnificent St Paul's Cathedral with WMF and Amex-sponsored Oculus, are host to delightful details by some of the country's finest ever master craftsmen. We will spend the morning looking at some of the hidden gems in St Paul's, including Wren's original model, the Library and Triforium, followed by an afternoon tour of Wren's often overlooked City churches. Each beautiful, unique and with such different atmospheres, they show Wren at his very best. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

TICKETS
WMFB Supporters/Members £60
Full price £70

STUDY DAY DETAILS

All days include a hearty lunch and refreshments throughout. Admissions are included in the cost. All days include some walking between sites and are only suitable for those who are physically able. Please advise of dietary requirements in advance.

HOW TO BOOK
To book please call
+44 (0)20 7251 8142
or online at
www.wmf.org.uk/activities



STUDY DAY: Highgate Cemetery
Talk and Tour

Thursday 21st May, 10.30am-4pm

Join us for a day exploring the evocative surroundings of Highgate Cemetery, featuring some of the finest funerary architecture in the country. Opened in 1839, along with six others in the capital, Highgate soon became the most fashionable with the great and the good choosing here as their final resting place. Architecturally the cemetery remains unprecedented: a unique collection of design styles are evident from Egyptian to Tudor Gothic and Classical. The Cemetery went into decline in the 1970s before being rescued by the Friends of Highgate Cemetery Trust. Today the Trust is working on the restoration and conservation of the site taking it back to its former glory. Led by Dr Ian Dungavell, Chief Executive at Highgate, and funerary historian Julian Litten, this Study Day will put Highgate in its national context, exploring both the east and west sides of the site and looking at the issues facing 19th century graveyards in today's world. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day.

TICKETS
WMFB Supporters/Members £60
Full price £70



Project Review Seminar
Christ Church Cathedral,
Zanzibar

Tuesday 12th May, 7pm
The Gallery at 70 Cowcross Street, London

This year our annual event for Members focuses on the restoration of Christ Church Cathedral in Zanzibar, a site where WMFB has been working for the last 18 months. Situated in atmospheric Stone Town, the cathedral was built on the site of the former slave market. Stephen Battle, WMF Project Director for Sub-Saharan Africa will present on the unique challenges of the project, the craft training programme for local artisans and the plans for interpretation at the site. The seminar will also be the first opportunity to view a touring exhibition of the project before it begins its journey around the UK.

This free event is exclusively reserved for Members and Supporters, plus guests. To express interest in this event or to find out about becoming a Supporter please call Sarah Meaker on Tel: +44 (0)20 7251 8142.



Westminster Abbey
VIP Study Afternoon, tour,
Evensong and dinner

Thursday 14th May, 3.30-8.30pm (TBC)
International Council and Capital Supporters only

Westminster Abbey is a building steeped in layer upon layer of history. Combining a mixture of architectural styles, it remains largely a fine example of early English Gothic and boasts the highest Gothic vault in England. In 2009 WMFB was instrumental in the conservation of the rare 14th century sedilia, a seat for officiating priests next to the altar. Our VIP Study Afternoon and dinner will include an exclusive tour of the Triforium, soon to be the new Queen's Diamond Jubilee galleries, not currently open to the public. We will also enjoy a review of the conversation work on the sedilia as well as a behind-the-scenes tour of the abbey. The afternoon tour will end with Evensong, an opportunity to reflect on the building's beauty while listening to the emotive rendition performed by the Westminster choristers. This is followed by an early evening dinner.

TICKETS
£200 per head. International Council and Capital Supporters only. To find out about joining or upgrading to these groups please contact Sarah Meaker on +44 (0)20 7251 8142 or email sarah@wmf.org.uk

BECOME A SUPPORTER

ABOUT WORLD MONUMENTS FUND BRITAIN

World Monuments Fund Britain is a leading charity which conserves and transforms vulnerable buildings in the UK and abroad. We build partnerships with people committed to protecting sites in their care and create long-term public value for the community, whilst preserving built heritage for future generations to enjoy.

We have worked in the UK since 1995 and raised in excess of £18m to safeguard threatened architecture. But our impact goes far beyond this thanks to the biennial World Monuments Watch. The Watch draws attention to important historic buildings across the world which are facing a variety of challenges and have an uncertain future.

Today, as industrialised development, extreme weather and poor funding continue to threaten fragile historic sites, the work of *World Monuments Fund Britain* is more vital than ever.

You can help us build on our past successes by joining us as a Supporter.

WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A SUPPORTER?

Like us, you love old buildings but you're concerned that some still don't receive the help they need. *World Monuments Fund Britain* stands up for these important, and sometimes forgotten, buildings and gives them a better future. If we didn't have support from people like you we'd be less able to help.

WE DO MORE THAN JUST RESTORE OLD BUILDINGS

We believe that our distinctive architecture is a national asset, so it's important that communities are able to benefit from their restoration. When we get involved with new projects we make sure **visitor centres, charitable partnerships and on-site training programmes** are built into the plans right from the start. Every penny you give helps to secure the future of historic buildings for everyone's enjoyment.

WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE?

- Satisfaction at visible results
- Updates on our work through our magazine, seminars and visits
- Behind-the-scenes access
- Unique opportunities for learning
- Meet like-minded people

TO FIND OUT MORE GO TO WWW.WMF.ORG.UK/INVOLVED

