

# Leeds Museums & Galleries

## Building on Success

Annual review 2017-18



# Newly acquired



**Mary Gillick, 'Adam', 1933 and 'Eve', 1934, painted plaster**

'Adam' and 'Eve' are the only surviving sculptures by Mary Gillick (1881-1965), who is more well-known for her designs for coins and medals. They were presented to the collection by the family.



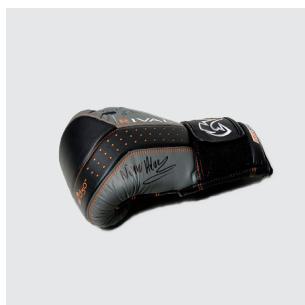
**Rebecca Appleby, 'Connection', 2016, slip-decorated ceramic**

This vivid example of contemporary ceramic sculpture by Rebecca Appleby, referencing the industrial heritage of Leeds was purchased with the assistance of the Friends of Leeds City Museums.



**Mickey Sharpz Tattoo Machine, before 2014**

This tattoo machine was donated by Ultimate Skin Tattoo & Piercing of New Briggate, Leeds. It reflects strongly on contemporary Leeds and the vibrant and growing tattooing community in the city.



**Potts & Sons of Leeds, Roundhead fusee clock, c.1907**

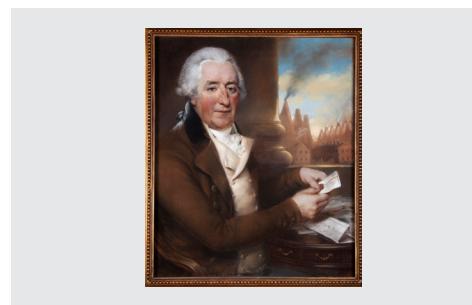
This clock from the Midland Railway's Morecambe Promenade Station, is one of many clocks Potts of Leeds supplied to railway companies. The clock would have been seen by millions of visitors on holiday and day trips from the wool towns of Yorkshire.

**Giant copper kettle displayed outside Hick Bros store on Leeds Bridge**

A giant copper kettle displayed outside Hick Bros store on Leeds Bridge. The shop was used by Louis Le Prince to film Leeds Bridge in 1888.

**Nicola Adams' boxing glove**

This signed boxing glove was donated by Leeds-born Olympic gold medallist boxer Nicola Adams.



**John Russell, Portrait of Savile Green Senior, 1793-1803, pastel and chalk on prepared paper**

Savile Green (1743-1805) was an important figure in the Leeds Pottery partnership. This new acquisition is on display at Temple Newsam and was purchased with the assistance of the Arts Council England / V&A Museum Purchase Grant Fund, Leeds Art Fund, and Friends of Leeds Museums.

# Thank you to

The Association for Cultural Enterprises for shortlisting us for the Best Product Award: Range under £1 million.

AIM, the Association of Independent Museums for giving accreditation to our conference facilities.

Visit England, whose VAQAS scheme awarded Kirkstall Abbey with a Welcome 2017 accolade for providing an outstanding welcome.

The White Rose Awards, which shortlisted Visit Leeds and Art Gallery Shop for best Tourist Information Centre

The Sandford Award, which assesses education programmes at heritage sites, museums, archives and collections across the British Isles for endorsing our work at Abbey House Museum, Kirkstall Abbey, Leeds City Museum and Lotherton Hall.

The National Learning Disability and Autism Awards who shortlisted us in their Not For Profit category.

The Child Friendly Leeds Awards who shortlisted Leeds City Museum for Inspiring Creativity Through Arts and Culture.

The Max Reinhardt Literacy Awards for recognising Leeds Art Gallery for its work with Stanningley Primary School.

The Museums and Heritage Awards 2018, which highly commended us in their Educational Initiative category for our Exceed Expectations programme with pupils and teachers in SEND settings.

The Constructing Excellence Yorkshire & Humber Awards 2018, which shortlisted the Leeds Art Gallery refurbishment in two categories: Project of year under £5m and Collaborative Working.

As well as to the Friends of Leeds City Museums, the Leeds Art Fund, the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society and all the staff, volunteers, partners, sponsors and funders who have helped make this great year possible.

## Did you know...?

### Supporting home educators



Since their launch in April 2017, our monthly workshops for home educating families have been growing in popularity. The sessions offer a mix of interaction with the collections, meeting and socialising with other home educating families and specialised topics linked to permanent displays and special exhibitions.

We have had some great feedback this year, with one parent complimenting the perfect mix of accessible information and level of challenge, and another how inspiring their son had found it after negative experiences in traditional classrooms. The sessions have also been great for our front of house, learning and curatorial staff too as we become more aware of the variety of needs of home educators.

### An egg-straordinary achievement



With the help of a zoology project placement, we have been documenting our collection of more than 10,000 bird eggs.

Ranging from the huge egg of a Madagascan elephant bird to the tiny egg of a goldcrest, we now have a clearer picture of what we have, where it's come from and how old some of the examples are. We can also review the condition of the eggs to see if we can improve their storage and make them more accessible to researchers.

Although it's a time-consuming job, cataloguing and recording the collection helps us to monitor the impact we have had on different types of birds so we can play our part in protecting and preserving vulnerable species around the world in future.

### Helping solve mystery of the Tasmanian tiger's tale



The extinction of the Tasmanian tiger or Thylacine has puzzled generations of scientists and naturalists from around the world.

Now an international research project led by the University of Adelaide may have finally solved the riddle of what happened to the enigmatic Tasmanian tiger- thanks to three specimens from Leeds Museums and Galleries collection.

The researchers from Australia have been painstakingly analysing DNA from animals, taken from collections around the world, in an effort to determine why they vanished from the Australian mainland 3,000 years ago.

Along with 48 other specimens, our Thylacines helped the experts determine that their extinction was most likely due to extreme weather and drought rather than wild dogs or hunting by Aborigines, as previously thought.

### Artspace - engaging communities and imaginations in Leeds Art Gallery



Artspace, our family-friendly creative room within Leeds Art Gallery has been running successfully since 2008, bringing together people of all ages and abilities to interact with our exhibitions in creative ways.

Whether it is during Adult Learners Week, or holiday clubs, nursing mothers or supported visits with social services, Artspace is proving a great way of supporting our collections and engaging with a wide range of audiences.

This year, artist-led activities were connected to Joseph Beuys, JS Cotman and the Big Draw took place in the main entrance. As well as fantastic creative play approaches for families, we have engaged more 18+ participants than ever before.

### Leeds Industrial Museum inspires disabled artists in new sculpture

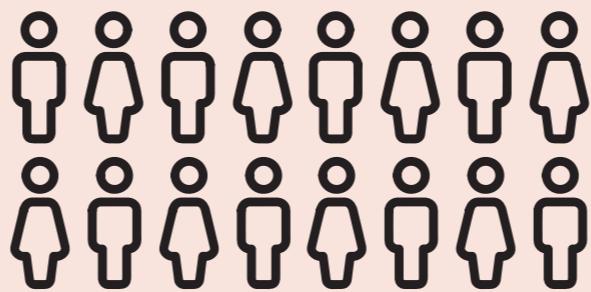


We have been working with the Pyramid of Arts' High Rise visual arts group to produce a great new sculpture for the grounds of Leeds industrial Museum, Armley Mills.

The sculpture features a series of ceramic tiles which have been inspired by the museum and its collections.

The High Rise project provides creative opportunities for adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities.

### Our museums are popular

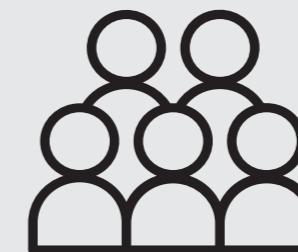


In **2017/18** Leeds Museums and Galleries were visited by **1,381,802 people**

That's nearly **twice** the population of **Leeds**

\*Leeds Art Gallery reopened in October 2017 after closing in January 2016 for essential repairs and refurbishment.

### We have a great staff team



**We employ 187 staff (FTE)** researching, preserving and celebrating our collections, providing great experiences for visitors and working with all our communities.

### Our museums contribute to community health and wellbeing



Our **189 volunteers** contributed **8119 hours**, worth **£142,309.83**

**33,903** people took part in our programme of community activities.

### Our museums support our schools through inspiring work with young people



In **2017/18**, we were visited by **43,927 pupils** and **6,111 teachers**.

**135,165** children and adults participated in our family activities.

We provided training for **1,470 teachers**.

### Our museums and galleries cost relatively little to run



**£8,458,225** gross

**£4,528,198** net

### Our museums and galleries contribute millions to the economy

Visitors to our sites contributed **£22,676,722** to the **Leeds economy**,



Supported **66 external jobs** directly or indirectly.

Generated a further **£548,438** through the direct impact of their spending on local goods and services.\*

\*Using the AIM Economic Impact of the Independent Museum Sector Toolkit 2014.

### Our museums are working actively with virtual visitors and audiences



Our main Leeds Museums and Galleries website attracted **2,384,803 visits**

MyLearning.org\* which hosts free learning resources from arts, cultural and heritage organisations had a further **1,493,807 unique page views**

In addition, we have **231,953 followers on social media**.

\*MyLearning is managed by Leeds Museums and Galleries.

### Our museums bring in significant external funding



**£7,326,369**

[£1,831,592 per year]

2014/15-2017/18

### Our shops and commercial services are proving ever more popular with customers



Our seven shops generated an income of **£384,271**: an increase of **£45,904** from **2016/17**.

Our new cafes generated income of **£431,465** from opening in June 2017.

Fees from room hire at our nine sites brought in **£203,422**.

# A year of great exhibitions

## Abbey House Museum

- Fairy Tales and Fantasy
- Comics Unmasked
- Protest
- A Woman's Place?
- Remembrance

## Leeds City Museum

- For All Seasons
- Dying Matters in Leeds Display
- Leeds Sound Bites
- Skeletons: Our Buried Bones
- Thomas Chippendale 1718-1779: a Celebration of British Craftsmanship and Design

## Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills

- Women Work War
- Flood Response
- Queens of Industry
- Interwoven Histories - a partnership exhibition with arts organisation Pavilion

## Lotherton

- Fashionable Yorkshire: Five Centuries of Style
- Himalayan Fashion
- Yorkshire Pots and People

## Temple Newsam House

- Showstoppers: Silver Centrepieces
- Beer: A history of brewing and drinking

## Leeds Art Gallery

- Offsite project at the Atrium Gallery, Bexley Wing. St James University Hospital - Looking Back, Looking Forwards: Leeds Art Gallery (1888-Today)
- Shelter from the Storm: John Sell Cotman
- Hondartza Fraga: Archive Blues
- ARTIST ROOMS: Joseph Beuys
- The Sculpture Collections
- Anne Hardy
- Lothar Götz, Xanadu, 2017