

MUSEUM INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Budget	Variance Annual Total	% Spent
<u>Museum</u>				
Stationery	118	150	32	79%
Subscriptions	320	390	70	82%
Travelling Expenses	141	150	9	94%
Advertising Promotions	1,918	2,200	282	87%
Website	1,551	1,500	-51	103%
Museum Maintenance	173	500	327	35%
Events & Exhibitions	1,646	2,500	854	66%
Volunteer Support	419	600	181	70%
Total Expenditure Museum	6,286	7,990	1,704	79%

STATEMENT OF MUSEUMS EARMARKED RESERVES AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	Balance as at 1st April 2023	2023/2024 Budget Allocation	Spend 2023/2024	Balance as at 31st March 2024
Museum Equipment	1,216	0	1,216	0
Museum Acquisitions (Donations Received)	1,507	622	0	2,129
Museum Earmarked Reserves	2,723	622	1,216	2,129

Notes from the Responsible Finance Officer

1. Museum Equipment Earmarked Reserves utilised for the design, supply and installation of a bespoke acrylic screen to protect the Roman Mosaic.
2. Insurance claim for the replacement of the museum display cabinet damaged by a water leak was settled and the funds have been utilised to purchase a replacement cabinet.

Daventry Museum Annual Donations Report

Report for the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

A	Total Donations carried over from previous years	£1,507.21
B	Total Donations Income received for 2023/24	£622.20
C	Total Donations Expenditure for 2023/24 as listed below	£0.00
E	Total Donations Retained at year end (A+B-C)	£2,129.41

Summary of Museum Donations Expenditure during the year 2023/24

Item / Purpose	Amount Spent
Total Spent	£0.00

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024

REPORT ON: Treasure Cases – Post-Medieval silver gilt finger ring Report (Appendix 4)

REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)

REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024

Treasure Case – Early Medieval silver hooked tag from Dodford.

In November 2021 the Northamptonshire Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) put a call out for local interest for a treasure case of an early medieval silver hooked tag found within 10 miles of Daventry in the parish of Dodford.



A complete early medieval silver hooked tag, dating to the tenth to the early eleventh century.

Likely used as a fastener to secure clothing, small bags or purses.

As an accredited museum, Daventry Museum is given the opportunity to acquire Treasure via the Treasure Process and The Treasure Act 1996, on a first come, first served basis.

The DLO had submitted an interest in acquiring the treasure for Daventry Museum in November 2021.

In March 2024 the Treasure Valuation Committee valued the hooked tag at £230.

As per museum donations report (appendix 3) dated 31st March 2024, the museum has a balance of £2,129.41 in earmarked reserves for acquisitions with no committed expenditure.

Recommendation

Members to consider authorising the purchase of the early medieval silver hooked tag to enhance the museum collection and use as an educational tool for the community to learn about the early medieval period and links to the local area.

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024

REPORT ON: Treasure Cases – Post-Medieval silver gilt finger ring Report (Appendix 4)

REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)

REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024

Treasure Case Update – Post-Medieval silver gilt finger ring

At the Museum Committee meeting held on 23rd October 2023 it was resolved to purchase the post-Medieval silver gilt finger ring at the purchase price of £500 (M72.6.).



The finder of the ring waived his fee and therefore the museum were only required to pay £250 for the purchase of the ring. It is intended for the treasure to go on display at the end of May/early June and the finder of the ring will be invited to view the treasure and thanked for their gesture.

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024
REPORT ON: British Science Week 2023 Report (Appendix 5)
REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)
REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024

British Science Week 2024 Report

On Saturday 16th March Daventry Museum held its eighth annual British Science Week (BSW) event. Just over 260 budding scientists came to enjoy the museum’s fun, free, interactive scientific experiments and activities.

All interpretation and activities were created in-house by the DLO and included:

- Making moon craters in sand tray activity.
- History of the Universe – creating your own timeline.
- Our Solar System – learning about planets.
- Optical illusions - making a thaumatrope and making zoetrope paper animation strips.
- Understanding colour blindness by taking tests.
- Grow your own vegetable – learning about vitamins.
- Messy outdoor activities – bubble art and rainbow magic.
- Demonstrations outside – Skittles experiment and milk magic experiment.

Cummins Inc were invited to join in the science event and brought their interactive Lego Mindstorm robots, controlled by code, which were very popular. These activities were developed by student placements at Cummins who engaged well with visitors young and old.

Activity packs were created in-house and 80 visiting children completed the pack to be entered into a prize draw. There were four winners, pictured at the end of the report with their prizes and certificates.

Members were invited to help support the event but unfortunately the only members able to attend were the Daventry Mayor, Cllr Ted Nicholl and Cllr Mike Arnold. The Mayor, Cllr Ted Nicholl, did an excellent job of greeting visitors and participating in some of the experiments, whilst Cllr Arnold was busy in his role as a museum volunteer overseeing some of the experiments.

BSW Visitor figures

2016	114
2017	140
2018	154
2019	262
2020	280
2021	Closed – online resources
2022	80 Pre-booking & limited numbers
2023	293
2024	263

Volunteer Resource/Staff

X7 Museum Volunteers
X1 Councillor
x6 Members of staff
X2 Cummins reps

Daventry Museum wishes to thank Cummins Inc for supporting and carrying out the technical robotic activities, Daventry Town Council staff who helped prepare and coordinate all the activities on the day and lastly thanks must go to the team of volunteers, who supported the British Science Week event and helped make the event a huge success, enjoyed by all.

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024
REPORT ON: British Science Week 2023 Report (Appendix 5)
REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)
REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024



REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024

REPORT ON: Museum Engagement and Outreach Report (Appendix 6)

REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)

REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024

Museum Acquisitions

Members of the public continuously donate Daventry items to the museum collection and with the occasional purchase of items found on sale, that relate to the history of Daventry and comply with Daventry Museum's Collections Development Policy, the Museum collection is growing.

As the collection expands, numerous items have been received that require processing and although collecting is part of the museum's purpose, measures need to be taken to address the accumulation of work that needs to be done to ensure good management of the collection.

Recommendation

To approve a temporary hold on collecting items, except for any item of significant relevance to Daventry, to enable staff and volunteers to process outstanding accessions and ensure best practice in the management of the museum archive.

Note: Notices will be put up within the museum and on the website, and a pre-donation questionnaire (currently available on the museum website) will be updated, advising that the museum is undertaking work to care for and update its archive.

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024
REPORT ON: Museum Exhibitions Report (Appendix 7)
REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)
REPORT DATE: 8th April 2024

Exhibitions 2024

World War Two: D-Day 80 Years On **13th January to 14th June 2024**

Exhibition inspired by the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy. Poignant exhibits take you on a thought-provoking journey, starting with the events leading up to D-Day and the actions of Daventry servicemen who fought in 'Operation Overlord'. Displays also focus on what life was like in wartime for those on the front, and for those at home, whilst reflecting on the most significant victory of the Western Allies in the Second World War.

Local wartime enthusiast, Gerry Thompson, who has contributed many exhibits to the exhibition, has regularly attended the museum on Saturday open days with further displays about the Daventry Servicemen who fought and died in World War Two.

Northampton Museums and Art Gallery representatives (pictured below with the DLO and Gerry Thompson) commended the exhibition upon their visit in February, commenting on how they were particularly impressed with how the Homefront and D-Day were linked, and that Gerry Thompson's research was 'incredible'.



The museum has held 4 World War Two themed school visits so far, with one local school commenting on what they liked best about their visit:

"The knowledge of the volunteers, well organised, a variety of activities. Also that you were very accommodating with very specific time for the visit".

Volunteers from Weedon Ordnance Depot Visitor Centre visited the museum this April to see the D-Day exhibition and have a tour of the museum. Positive feedback was received after and during the visit, which referred to being made to feel 'so welcome', that the visit was 'very informative' and that the 'layout, display cabinets and the way the information was presented gave "food for thought" for us at the Depot'.

Discussions are ongoing with representatives from the Lord-Lieutenant's Office and Armed Forces Covenant Support, to organise the re-signing of the Armed Forces Covenant to coincide with D-Day commemorations in June.

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Daventry Retail Through The Ages (working title)
6th July to 29th November 2024

Shopping in Daventry from 20th to 21st century with a focus on retail on the High Street and Sheaf Street.

Entrance Hallway Visual Arts display update

The museum has hosted a visual arts display by students from Falconer's Hill Academy since May 2023. The artwork, inspired by 'The Great Wave off Kanagawa' by Japanese artist Hokusai, has been well received by visitors. A visitor's first impressions are often created at the entrance hallway and the artwork has intrigued visitors and improved the space, making it a welcoming environment.

The school artwork is due to be de-installed in April/May 2024 and a new display by artist, Val Hunt is due to be installed. Val Hunt recycles a diverse range of throw away items and using them to create artwork. The new installation will include exhibits from her Endangered and Extinct exhibition. Please follow the link below for more information on Val's artwork:

<https://www.arthunt.co.uk/>

Exhibition installation dates 2024

The museum will then close at 13:30 on Friday 14th June to deinstall the World War Two: D-Day 80 Years On exhibition and reopen on Saturday 6th July 2024 from 10:00 to 16:00 with a newly installed exhibition on Daventry retail through the ages.

REPORT TO: Museum Committee 22nd April 2024

REPORT ON: Museum Engagement and Outreach Report (Appendix 8)

REPORT BY: Sophie Good, Development & Liaison Officer (DLO)

REPORT DATE: 18th April 2024

Museum Update

Following the last update to the museum committee on 23rd October 2023 the museum has continued to attract and engage with the community via specific half term activities such as craft session and activities linked with the museum exhibitions. The museum continues to host Finds Days, where metal detectorists can bring their finds to the museum for the Northamptonshire Finds Liaison Officer to examine. As a result, some regular finders have kindly donated their items to the museum.

The museum's school and group visits are well promoted resulting in various visits as listed in the engagements below.

Community Engagement & Outreach (Update from October 2022 onwards)

- **October Half Term Free Halloween Craft Session** – Children and their families invited to drop in anytime between 10.30am and 12.30pm to create some scary Halloween decorations and take part in a Halloween themed scavenger hunt and other activities around the museum. The event was well attended with 203 visitors.
- **Work Experience Placements - October/December** – 2 further work experience placements from Northampton College (Daventry Campus) carried out various tasks including research for displays, storeroom work and creating engagement activities for children visiting the museum.
- **School visit January 2024** – 2 classes from Daventry Hill School visited the museum to learn about the museum as a service, to help with their BTEC studies about the local area. The students left positive comments in the visitor feedback book, please see visitor feedback section below.
- **School visit February 2024** – A class from Monksmoor Park CE Primary School visited with specific requirements to study the Romans. Activities included digging up and identifying buried treasure in a sand tray, designing a Roman coin and discussion in front of the mosaic fragment from Borough Hill. The following feedback was received after their visit via an evaluation form:
“The visit was well organized, thought out, planned and customized for our trip. Everything was laid out affording every child space and an opportunity to be included and engaged. The children enjoyed viewing the Roman coins, the Mosaic and digging for treasure – the real life experience was invaluable and brought to life some of the learning”.
“The experience of being in a museum was first for many of the children and they came away so enthused and motivated. Everyone was so kind, knowledgeable and accommodating, it made the experience truly wonderful for all the children”.
- **School visits Feb/March 2024** – 2 classes from Newnham Primary School visited the museum's World War Two: D-Day 80 Years On exhibition and presented the museum with their own evacuee letters they had written. Museum activities included packing your own evacuee suitcase, a quiz about the wartime displays and an interactive discussion with a volunteer on life on the Homefront and object handling. The following feedback was received after their visit via an evaluation form:
“The knowledge of the volunteers, well organised, a variety of activities. Also that you were very accommodating with very specific time for the visit”.

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- **Summer Solstice Borough Hill Guided Walk 2024** – A volunteer led walk of Borough Hill is due to take place on Friday 21st June to coincide with the Summer Solstice. This will be a free, ticketed event for which booking will be opened in May.
- **'Makes in the Museum' 2024** – the museum is due to host 2 paper craft workshops in August as part of the DTC Summer Activities programme.
- **Knitting and Crochet Projects 2023/2024** – Daventry Town Council knit and crochet drop-in sessions continue to be held at the museum, upcoming meet-up dates can be found on the Town Council website: <https://www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk/knitting-and-crochet-projects.html>

Volunteers

The team of volunteers attend the museum on a regular basis to steward the museum, carry out research tasks and administer the photo archive. Regular meetings take place to discuss and share ideas about upcoming exhibitions and events, and to allocate tasks.

A new volunteer joined the team who specialises in the Homefront during World War Two (WW2) and helped with WW2 themed school visits, providing object handling resources and specialist knowledge. Another new volunteer has also joined who has specialist knowledge in wartime rationing and has experience in collections management.

Social Media

The museum's established social media accounts have a core following which is being built upon with followers increasing each month:

New follower stats (since October 2023)

- Twitter – 1 fewer new followers, 964 followers in total
- Instagram – 16 new followers, 567 followers in total
- Facebook – 83 new followers, 1490 followers in total

Visitor Figures 2015 - 2024

Year (Jan – Dec)	Visitor Numbers
2015	1411
2016	1737
2017	2255 (theatre, BSW, more groups and school visits)
2018	3285 Empty Chair Display (1113)
2019	2220
2020	948 (open 11 th Jan – 13 th March)
2021	805 (since reopening 18 th May to Sat 4 th Dec 2021)
2022	2282
2023	2702
2024	981 (as of 19 th April)

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REPORT ON: Museum Engagement and Outreach Report (Appendix 8)

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REPORT DATE: 18th April 2024

Visitor Feedback

- Very stimulating. I love the model railway station.
- Very interesting visit. Especially liked the items related to the Civil War.
- Lovely, will be coming back again. Thanks.
- Lovely display for Armistice. God Bless them all. We will remember them.
- Very fun and cool.
- Learnt a lot, great experience, kind Mayor and Volunteers.
- Fascinating – thank you so much for all the hard work making it happen!
- Daventry Hill School – Thank you for talking to us about Daventry Museum, we all really enjoyed it.
- Daventry Hill School – Thank you for having us, it was very interesting.
- Really interesting displays both D-Day and the other artefacts and photos from Daventry.
- Thank you, interesting and welcoming.
- Very interesting and well worth the visit.
- Lovely museum thank you!
- Always meant to visit. Well worth the wait.
- Newnham Primary School - Thank you for such an enjoyable and informative morning.
- Great exhibition. Thank you.
- Great day again, thank you.
- My first visit here as adult my son's second, great adventure. Thank you, you are all great people, very kind.
- Thank you, we loved each and every science experiment and knowledge.
- I had fun with the experiments the most fun was the milk one.
- Brilliant! So nice to see snippets of history!
- We have learnt such a lot from our visit – thank you Mike for enlightening us. Our first ever visit to Daventry.
- Display awesome – well done!
- I liked the old radios!
- Super exhibition. Congratulations.
- Very interesting exhibition. Pleased I found it.

Comments
I am seeing lots of things from WW2
It was nice to see the history, it really is amazing
Very good exhibitions! Thank you!
This Museum is a very interesting place
This museum is AMAZING!
A beautiful walk through the past. Lovely to see the connection to Daventry. Thank you.