

So how do we actually do all this?

Hopeful futures and turning theory into practice
for big issues in natural history collections

AGM & Conference 27th & 28th April 2023
The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery,
Stoke-on-Trent Museums, Staffordshire



NatSCA

Natural Sciences Collections Association

Thursday 27th April

8.45 – 9.15 Registration and coffee
9.15 – 9.25 Introduction & Housekeeping
9.25 – 9.30 Welcome



First Session

9.30 – 10.15 **Lightning Talks** (5 minutes each)

1. **How to use object biographies to tell new and more diverse stories**- Lisa Winters, Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden
2. **Who uses our collection and what for? Part 1**- Diana Arzuza Buelvas, Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester
3. **How do you get the measure of a wet collection quickly?**- Amy Geraghty, National Museum of Ireland
4. **How to reimagine a 117-year-old diorama of seabirds which has been kept in open storage for c. 40 years for a 2021 gallery**- Patricia Francis, Gallery Oldham
5. **Down To Earth Exhibition: Problems and Solutions**- Patrick Roycroft, National Museum of Ireland
6. **How to say a good “last goodbye”**- Mathew Lowe, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge
7. **How to diversify collections usage using a biobanking programme on a shoestring budget**- Louise Gibson & Alex Thomas, Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London
8. **Sowing Seeds of Hope; Establishing the National Seed Bank at the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland**- Darren Reidy, Christina Campbell, Wu Kuang Soh, Matthew Jebb & Colin Kelleher, National Botanic Gardens of Ireland
9. **How to find ectoparasites on study skins and explore the ecological heritage shared between colonial and provincial museums**- John-James Wilson* and Jing Jing Khoo, World Museum, National Museums Liverpool

10.15 – 10.35 Coffee Break & Trade Stands

Second Session **Decolonization**

10.35 - 10.55 **How to Find Female Contributors in the Postcolonial Herbarium**

Kimberly Glassman, QMUL School of English and Drama and Kew Gardens

10.55 – 11.15 **Devolving restitution and natural science at Birmingham**

Museums

Lukas Large, Birmingham Museums Trust

11.15 – 11.35 **Telling honest stories about natural history collections**

Jack Ashby, University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge

Speaker

11.35 - 11.55 **Reimagining the museum of the Great White Hunter**

Rachel Jennings, Powell-Cotton Museum

11.55 – 13.00 Lunch, Posters, & Trade Stands

Third Session

13.00 – 13.40 **AGM**

Reports on the running of NatSCA and elections to the Committee.

13.40 13.50 Short break

Fourth Session **Collections and ethics**

13.50 – 14.10 **The DP Method: A Novel Semi-Quantitative Method for Surveying Heritage Collections**

Kathryn Royce, University of Oxford

14.10 - 14.30 **From the field to the collections: Developing protocols for the collecting and conservation of natural history collections**

Jan Freedman, Mohammed Darwish and Chris Collins, Royal Commission for AlUla, Alula, Saudi Arabia

14.30 - 14.50 **Bringing geothics into the museum: considerations for best practices in curation**

Erika Anderson, The Hunterian

14.50 – 15.10 Coffee Break & Trade stands

Fourth Session

15.10 – 16.00

Keynote Panel – Observations from a full career in the Natural Sciences

Oliver Crimmen, The Natural History Museum, London,

Nigel Monaghan, The National Museum of Ireland - Natural History

Maggie Reilly, Hunterian Museum, Glasgow

16.00 – 17.00 **Drinks Reception in Café of Potteries Museum**

17:00 – 18:30 **Continuation of welcome get together (location tbc) or freshen-up break**

18.30 – 20.00 **Conference meal at Mirchi**

Friday 28th April

8.45 – 9.30 Registration and coffee

9.30 - 9.35 Welcome & Housekeeping

First Session [Education/Outreach/Conservation](#)

9.35 – 9.55 **How to work with local communities to decolonise botanical collections; experiences of the Rights and Rites project at Amgueddfa Cymru**

Heather Pardoe and Nathan Kitto, Amgueddfa Cymru

9.55 – 10.15 **How to change vergency by urging divergency to inspire urgency in a climate emergency**

Wednesday Batchelor, Tullie House

10.15 – 10.35 **Co-creation between young emerging artists and museums: Inclusive Partnership, Courage to Disrupt, and Storytelling Beyond 'Neutrality'**

Isla Gladstone, Ella Trudgeon, and Euella Jackson, Bristol Museum & Art Gallery and Rising Arts Agency

10.35 – 11.05 – Coffee break & Trade Stands

Second Session [Education/Outreach/Conservation](#)

11.05 – 11.25 **Three Ways to engage visitors in the climate crisis**

Ellie King, Oxford University Museum of Natural History

11.25 – 11.45 **Taxidermy. Inspiring a new generation of STEM creatives**

Jazmine Miles Long, Independent Taxidermist

11.45 – 12.05 **Climate notes of hope: how to share positive stories of climate action through natural history collections**

Sarah Marden, The Box, Plymouth

12.05 – 13.05 Lunch, Posters, & Trade Stands

Third Session [Education/Outreach/Conservation](#)

13.05 – 13.20 How to co-design a creative and equitable engagement programme for wildlife conservation with refugees and asylum seekers

Lucy Brown, Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London

13.20 - 13.40 How to inspire and teach the naturalists of the future in a post-pandemic world

Stephanie Holt, Natural History Museum, London

13.40 -14.00 How to get your stakeholders to love bugs – the contribution of museum natural history to local conservation initiatives

Ian Beavis, The Amelia, Tunbridge Wells

14:00 - 14:20 So how do we actually get a whale through a window?

Paolo Viscardi, National Museum of Ireland

14.20 – Summary, Closing Chat and thank yous

14.40 – 16.00 Gallery Tours at Potteries Museum (Bookable)