

Sources of Funding for Natural Science Collections

This list is a resource for people looking for funding for natural science collections and is not exhaustive. The funding bodies listed have not necessarily funded natural science collections or even museums before. If you have any comments/edits/experiences/improvements to add to this document then please let NatSCA know. Apologies for any repetitions.

The PRISM Fund (the Fund for the PReservation of Industrial and Scientific Material)

A major funder of scientific acquisitions and conservation projects. Have funded new taxidermy in the past.

<http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/support/grants/PRISM>

The PRISM fund does not extend to Scotland. There try the National Fund for Acquisitions administered by the National Museum of Scotland although this does not cover conservation work.

http://www.nms.ac.uk/national_connections/national_fund_for_acquisitions.aspx

The Curry Fund

exists to support a variety of causes:

- geological publications, including film, video and television productions
 - geological conservation, including the purchase, clearance and recording of sites
 - other initiatives approved by the Council, including awards to individuals
- and very limited assistance with travel costs for overseas visitors engaged in geological research

<http://www.geologists.org.uk/awards.html>

NatSCA

- annual award of up to £2,000 for natural science projects
- <http://www.natsca.org>

Museums Galleries Scotland

<http://www.museumsgalleriescotland.org.uk/how-we-help-members-2/grants/our-grant-schemes/>

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

- have been known to fund a diverse range of projects including collections research and the Museums Association's 'Effective Collections' programme.

<http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/>

The Pilgrim Trust

- have funded natural science collections in the past

<http://www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk/>

Wellcome Trust

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/>

Museums Association

<http://www.museumsassociation.org/>

The Leverhulme Trust

[http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants awards/](http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/)

<http://www.wolfson.org.uk/>

Welsh Assembly Government: Museum Grants

<http://education.wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/museumsarchiveslibraries/cymal/grants200910/2778989/;jsessionid=pQbpKXhb5SmNY5hlfFmWTT58l090dypvynrlwnSDQGHyn4LyVG3p!-692465818?cr=2&lang=en&ts=3>

The Heritage Lottery Fund

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/>

Alice McCosh Trust

<http://www.thealicemccoshtrust.org.uk>

Museums, Libraries and Archives Wales (CyMAL)

<http://www.cymal.wales.gov.uk>

City Bridge Trust

- London only

<http://www.citybridgetrust.org.uk>

Clore Duffield Foundation

<http://www.cloreduffield.org.uk>

DEFRA: Darwin Initiative

- Assists economically poor but biodiversity rich countries

<http://www.darwin.defra.gov.uk>

Derry – Council Grants

- Derry only

<http://www.derrycity.gov.uk>

Devon, East – Natural Environment Awareness

- Devon only

<http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/countryside>

British Ecological Society
<http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org>

Ernest Cook Trust
<http://www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk>

Essex Environment Trust
- Essex only
<http://www.essexenvironmenttrust.org.uk>

February Foundation
<http://www.thefebruaryfoundation.org>

Field Studies Council
<http://www.field-studies-council.org/>

Garfield Weston Foundation
• For UK registered charities only
<http://www.garfieldweston.org>

Laing's Charitable Trust
<http://www.laing.com/LCT.htm>

Laura Ashley Foundation
<http://www.lauraashleyfoundation.org.uk>

EC Life Plus
<http://www.betatechnology.co.uk>

Countryside Council for Wales
<http://www.ccw.gov.uk>

Mercers' Charitable Foundation
<http://www.mercers.co.uk>

Northern Ireland Museums Council
- includes a specific fund for purchasing specimens
<http://www.nimc.co.uk>

Museums and Galleries Improvement Fund
<http://www.culture.gov.uk>

Scottish Government: National Fund for Acquisitions
http://www.nms.ac.uk/national_connections/national_fund_for_acquisition_s.aspx

Russell Trust

- you need to be a registered charity to apply but they consider all sorts of projects

russelltrust@trg.couk

Sir John Cass's Foundation

- inner London only

<http://www.sirjohncass.org>

Sita Tayside Biodiversity Action Fund

- Tayside only

<http://www.taysidebiodiversity.co.uk> <http://www.pkgrantsdirect.com>

Scottish Natural Heritage

<http://www.snh.org.uk>

Waterloo Foundation

<http://www.waterloofoundation.org.uk>

Yorkshire Forward

- Yorkshire only

<http://www.yorkshire-forward.com>

Aggregates Levy Fund

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.1315>

BBSRC (in partnerships with universities) -

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/apply/index.html>

Grantfinder

- useful search engine
- you need to pay for subscription

<http://www.grantfinder.co.uk/>

Heritage Link

- run the Heritage Funding Directory
- e.g. a search under 'Museums' comes up with (ctrl+click to follow link):

[The Art Fund](#) [Arts & Business Association of Charitable Foundations](#) [Association for Heritage Interpretation](#) [Association of Independent Museums \(AIM\)](#) - [Pilgrim Trust Conservation Grants Association of Independent Museums \(AIM\)](#) - [Sustainability Grant Scheme](#) [Big Lottery Fund - Awards for All](#) [William Adlington Cadbury Charitable Trust Campaign for Learning through Museums & Galleries \(CLMG\)](#) [Winston Churchill Memorial Trust](#) [City Bridge Trust](#) [Clockmakers' Museum & Educational Trust](#) [Clare Duffield Foundation - Clare Leadership Programme](#) [Clare Duffield Foundation - Main Grants Programme](#) [The Clothworkers' Foundation - Grants Programmes and Bursaries](#) [Collections Trust](#) [The Costume Society](#) [The Craven Trust](#) [Cultural Heritage National Training Organisation \(CHNTO\)](#) [The Drapers' Company - The Drapers' Charitable](#)

Fund The Drapers' Company - Henry Dixon's Foundation for Apprenticing
Dulverton Trust John Ellerman Charitable Foundation Essex Heritage Trust
Europa Nostra - European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa
Nostra Awards Esmee Fairbairn Foundation - Strand Programmes Headley
Trust - Museums Archaeological Acquisition Fund Heritage Lottery Fund
Heritage Lottery Fund - Heritage Grants Heritage Lottery Fund - Young
Roots Heritage Tourism Executive for the Northwest - Heritage Tourism
Improvement Scheme Idlewild Trust Leche Trust The A G Leventis
Foundation Manifold Charitable Trust Museums Association Museums
Association - The Beecroft Bequest Museums Association - Daphne Bullard
Trust Museums Association - Kathy Callow Trust Museums, Libraries and
Archives Council Museums, Libraries and Archives Council - Portable
Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Museums, Libraries and Archives Council -
PRISM Fund Museums, Libraries and Archives Council - V & A Purchase
Grant Fund National Heritage Memorial Fund The Normanby Charitable
Trust Pilgrim Trust Royal Historical Society Sainsbury Family Charitable
Trusts Society of Antiquaries Summerfield Charitable Trust The Veneziana
Fund Voluntary Arts Network (VAN) Waterways Trust - Small Grants
Scheme Wellcome Trust - Research Resources in Medical History Scheme
Wolfson Foundation Worshipful Company of Paviers - Livery Trust for
Charities Worshipful Company of Plumbers - Plumbers' Museum and
Workshop Trust WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited)

<http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/fundingdirectory/main/fundinghome.php>

Arts and Humanities Research Council

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

Leverhulme Trust

<http://www.leverhulme.org.uk/>

British Entomological and Natural History Society

<http://www.benhs.org.uk/portal/>

J Paul Getty Trust

<http://www.jpgettytrust.org.uk/>

American Museum of Natural History

<http://research.amnh.org/vz/ornithology/grants-and-funding>

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

<http://www.gulbenkian.org.uk/>

Thomas Wiedemann memorial fund

<http://www.thomaswiedemann.org.uk/>