

## March 2009

### **Sir Robert Crawford & Mrs Nisha Katona are appointed Trustees of the National Museums Liverpool**

Barbara Follett, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Sir Robert Crawford and Mrs Nisha Katona have been appointed Trustees of the National Museums Liverpool (NML). Their terms of appointment will run from 16 March 2009 to 15 March 2013.

#### **Biographical notes**

##### **Sir Robert Crawford CBE**

From 1995 until 2008 when he retired, he was Director-General of the Imperial War Museum (IWM). He joined the IWM as a research assistant in 1968. Subsequently, he held the posts of Head of Research and Information Office, Keeper of the Department of Photographs, Assistant Director and Deputy Director-General. During his career, he has overseen major projects including the redevelopment of the Main Building of the Imperial War Museum (1979 to 2000), the opening (1984) and extension (2003 to 2005) of the Cabinet War Rooms, the dry-docking of HMS Belfast (1999), the creation of the IWM's Holocaust Exhibition (2000), and the founding of Imperial War Museum North (2002). He was a Director of the Imperial War Museum Trading Company, (1999 to 2008), and Chairman of the UK National Inventory of War Memorials (1995 to 2008) and the National Museums Directors Conference (2000 to 2006). Currently, he is a Trustee of the National Maritime Museum, the National Museum of the Royal Navy, the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, the Greenwich Foundation for the Old Royal Naval College and the Horniman Museum & Gardens. He was awarded a CBE in 2002 and knighted in 2007. He has not undertaken any political activity in the past five years.

##### **Mrs Nisha Katona**

Nisha Katona is a Barrister at Law with Chavasse Court Chambers, Liverpool dealing with a range of legal issues (1996 to date). She was called to the bar as Miss Nisha Biswas. She is a member of the Family Bar Association, and a member of the Northern Circuit. She has undertaken no political activity during the past five years.

## **Background**

The National Museums Liverpool (NML) is one of the world's great museum services, with outstanding collections, buildings and galleries. The NML is the largest cultural sector employer in the North West of England; it is the only national museum service in England based wholly outside of London. The NML has charitable status and its collections are placed in the care of a Board of Trustees.

The NML's Board of Trustees provides advice, on business and management issues, to its board and executive team. Trustees are expected to actively raise the profile of the organization and assist in achieving fundraising targets. NML Trustees give their services on an honorary basis. Travelling expenses, incurred by them in the performance of their duties, are reimbursed.

These appointments have been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.