

25 March 2008

## **Dr Olga Kennard OBE FRS Reappointed to the Board of The British Museum**

Margaret Hodge has reappointed Dr Olga Kennard OBE FRS to the Board of the British Museum with effect from 1 April 2008 for a period of four years.

### **Biographical Details**

**Dr Olga Kennard OBE FRS (Lady Burgen)** is a crystallographer, Fellow of the Royal Society and former Director of the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. A Research Fellowship of the Royal Society was established by the Trustees of the Centre to mark her retirement in 1997. After graduating from Newham College, Cambridge, Olga Kennard started research at the Cavendish Laboratory, with Max Perutz on human haemoglobin. In 1948 she moved to London and worked first at the Vision Research Unit and subsequently at the National Institute for Medical Research. In 1963 she returned to the Department of Chemistry in Cambridge as External Staff member of the Medical Research Council. There she established the Chemical Crystallography Group working on the structures of increasingly complex molecules with biological relevance. She also started, in 1965, one of the first scientific data bases which eventually evolved into the independent Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, affiliated to the University. She was awarded the Cambridge ScD degree in 1973 and the Honorary LL.D in 2003.

### **Notes to Editors**

1. The British Museum holds in trust for the nation and the world a collection of art and antiquities from ancient and living cultures. Housed in one of Britain's architectural landmarks, the collection is one of the finest in existence, spanning two million years of human history. The Board of Trustees of the British Museum has statutory duties under the British Museum Act 1963 and Museums and Galleries Act 1992 for the general management and control of the Museum and for the appointment of the director.
2. The posts are not remunerated. Reasonable expenses can be claimed.
3. This reappointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appoints are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Olga Kennard has not carried out any political activity in the last five years