

September 2009

MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES COUNCIL (MLA) REAPPOINTMENTS

Barbara Follett, the Minister for Culture, has agreed to reappoint Helen Forde and Robert Wand for a second term of three years as members of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. Their second terms will run from 1st October 2009 to 30th September 2012.

Biographical Notes

Helen Forde BA, DAA, PhD, FSA

Helen Forde is an archivist and historian who worked at The National Archives from 1979-2001 in a variety of posts including Head of Conservation, Head of the Library and Museum, and Head of Preservation Services. Her earlier career was at Nottingham City archives, at the Council for British Archaeology and in the Library of the Society of Friends. She taught archives postgraduates at UCL (SLAIS) from 1989-2007 and also had an extensive teaching career in the extra-mural departments in Nottingham and London Universities. Helen has also served as Chairman (1993-2005), President (2002-2005) and Vice President (2005-present) of the Society of Archivists. She is also a trustee of the March Fitch Fund, Vice Chairman of the British Postal Museum and Archive, a member of the Northamptonshire Archive panel and Chairman of the Banbury Historical Society. Her publications include numerous articles on archive preservation and more recently wrote *'Preserving Archives'* (Facet 2006).

Robert Wand

Robert Wand was for many years the Director of Lifelong Learning and Cultural Services for Lancashire and, until March 2009 the Chairman of MLA North West. Robert is currently the chairman of Curious Minds which delivers 'Creative Partnerships', 'Find your talent' and other programmes for young people on behalf of CCC across Lancashire and Merseyside. He is also Director of the Storey Gallery and has a strong interest in contemporary Art.

Notes to Editors

1. Leading strategically, the MLA promotes best practice in museums, libraries, and archives, to inspire innovative, integrated, and sustainable services for all. The MLA engages with its sector across the UK and internationally, collaborating on measures that deliver improvement. MLA works particularly closely with partners in England, locally, regionally and nationally, to put museums, libraries and archives at the heart of lives and communities. It does so in the wider context of the cultural sector as a whole, through supporting learning and skills, and by adding value to social, economic and environmental objectives for renewal, regeneration and place-making. In particular, the MLA is responsible for leading and administering *Renaissance in the Regions*, the government's investment programme to build capability and capacity in England's regional museums.
2. The reappointments were carried out in accordance with the code of practice of the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Reappointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Helen and Robert have not undertaken any political activity during the past five years