

York Museums Trust Wikipedian-in-Residence Project

July 2014 - Pat Hadley

The York Museums Trust (YMT) Wikipedian-in-Residence project ran from October 2013 to April 2014 as a partnership between York Museums Trust and Wikimedia UK. Pat Hadley filled the role of resident, working to help YMT engage with Wikipedia and its sister projects.

This project was funded and facilitated by Wikimedia UK as part of their [Wikimedian in Residence](#) (WIR) programme. Residencies place a Wikimedia editor with an institution to enable a productive relationship between the Wikimedia movement and the institution through a range of activities, both internal and public-facing. They can work on facilitating content improvements on Wikimedia projects, but even more importantly serve as an ambassador for open knowledge within the host organisation.

This fits into the Wikimedia movement's global [GLAMwiki](#) programme which helps galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAMs) engage with Wikimedia projects and each other through open content and knowledge. As the mission of galleries, libraries, archives and museums is to collect, preserve and make available our common cultural heritage: Wikimedia UK has been working with a number of institutions to help them realise this commitment in the modern age. In essence Wikimedia UK is helping to make the sum of human knowledge available to all humanity. Many of the UK's cultural institutions have compatible aims and a remit to make their collections available to all.

The York Museums Trust first contacted Wikimedia UK about the WIR programme in November 2012, indicating their interest in being involved. WMUK accepted their application in Spring 2013, supporting the project on the ground of its regional importance and internationally significant collections. Further weight was lent by YMT's potential to affect several institutions in the area. In the meantime, YMT was focusing on specifying the types of tasks that the resident could be involved in, and developed a substantial list of possible activities. These included training (working with curators, overall YMT staff, regional partners, members of the public), facilitating content development (around digitised images collections, individually and via edit-a-thons), working with the Wikipedian community.

The project aims were finalised in August 2013, with recruitment completed in September - October. The residency was awarded to Pat Hadley, a very capable Wikimedian with commitment to supporting the institutions in Yorkshire.

The residency started in Mid October 2013 and ran for 6 months part time. Looking back on the

project from the perspective of Wikimedia UK, there were major achievements that could be flagged:

- Content improvement. Several of the Trust’s collections were targeted after consultation with the curators. Over 400 high-quality images were delivered to [Commons](#), many have contributed to the quality of Wikimedia projects.. Some of the collections were previously hardly used by the museum, so the uploads lead to them being known more widely. The programme originally aimed at a more extensive upload programme, however, the resident had to adapt to technical delays and obstacles.
- External partnerships. Committed to the idea of engaging with many cultural organisations in the region, YMT was exploring the possibility of scoping the project out and reaching more than just the institutions in the Trust. This resulted in an idea of a Yorkshire wide Wikimedia ambassador linked to the Museum Development Yorkshire, a project YMT have shaped and planned to run in second half of 2014 and beyond.
- Training and advocacy. All key curators at YMT were trained to edit Wikipedia. The resident also delivered a range of external talks reaching c. 80 people, including one to the Museum Development Yorkshire.
- Outreach and events. The resident delivered 3 training sessions for staff and volunteers, and a high profile public [editathon](#) - substantial content improvements to a range of articles was delivered.

It was the idea of external partnerships that resonated especially strongly with Wikimedia UK and YMT, and the institutions worked on setting up a ‘phase 2’ project that would take these ideas forward.

Timeline

Some key tasks and milestones in the course of the project. Most are given a fuller account below.

OCT 2013			Induction 19 Attended NRM Edit-a-thon	Initial assessment, building project pages
NOV	1 Talk at Department of Archaeology Initial assessment, building project pages	Work on Wade's Causeway - assisting a Wikipedian	Building project pages, planning content releases	Working with curators
DEC	Planning training session	12 First training session	----Christmas break----	----Christmas break----
JAN 2014	Upload Middleham Hoard images	Improve Middleham Hoard image metadata	Upload W.A. Ismay images	Publicise Middleham Hoard and Ismay content
FEB	Work with editors on Middleham Hoard and Ismay content	Work with editors on Middleham Hoard and Ismay content	Planning talks, training and edit-a-thon	27 Talk to Friends of York Art Gallery 28 Second training session

MAR	Upload Sydney Harold Smith images Planning edit-a-thon	Upload Tempest Anderson images 16 Edit-a-thon	Producing edit-a-thon report	Promoting Tempest Anderson and Sydney Harold Smith images on Wikipedia
APR	Project review and analysis	Planning Phase 2		

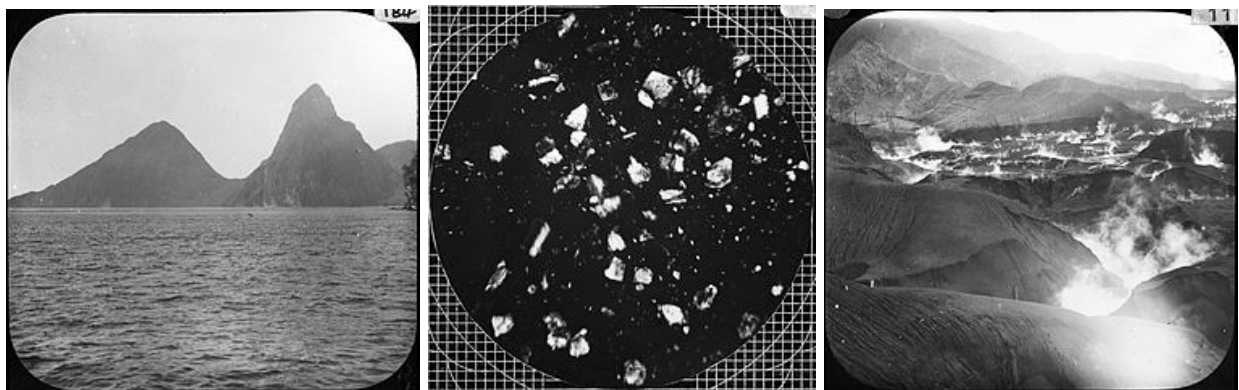
Success stories and analysis

The project has generated a number of excellent clusters of encyclopedic content. As is often the case with such projects, some of the planned elements were less successful than hoped but a number of unanticipated achievements balance this out. In each case there are lessons about the elements that are likely to be more successful in the future.

Tempest Anderson photographic collection

The project brief included an aim to upload content related to Tempest Anderson (1846-1913) a York-based ophthalmic surgeon who actually made his name as a volcanologist and explorer. Anderson's photographic collection of ~3000 glass lantern slides has seen very little exposition from YMT's archives. It was hoped that a new high resolution scanning programme would lead to several hundred of these images becoming available for upload to Commons and use on Wikipedia. There were also plans to improve content related to Anderson's life and travels.

Unfortunately, due to delays in the cleaning of the first batch of slides, they were only available for Commons in March and the rest of the selected slides have not yet been scanned. This effectively means that only [53 images](#) are currently available in high quality of which three are used on English Wikipedia and two on French Wikipedia.



The [Pitons of St Lucia](#), Microscopic dust from [La Soufriere](#) and the [Wallilabou River](#) - Anderson's images on English Wikipedia



The Commune of [Saint Pierre](#) and the church at [Morne-Rouge](#) - Anderson's images on French Wikipedia

[Anderson's biography article](#) was improved at the York Luminaries Edit-a-thon by new editors but remains very patchy. The hope that the image upload would lead to improvements of content related to Anderson's work is yet to be realised: for example none of his [public domain works](#) have been used as sources on Wikipedia.

One frustrating offshoot of the upload of Anderson's images related to images not taken by Anderson himself. Scientists of that era frequently swapped copies of slides (they had no email!) and Anderson's collection included images by Edmund Otis Hovey (eg, the Pitons and Wallilabou River above) and [Antoine Lacroix](#). Unfortunately, as Lacroix died in 1948 his images are not public domain and were [deleted from Commons](#) despite there being other [copies of his images](#) on Wikipedia with far less detailed provenance.

Plans to build links with other institutions connected to Anderson have not yet borne fruit. There was also a potential for the image release to be written up as a [Public Domain Review Curator's Choice](#) column but this fell through as the curator did not have time. It is hoped that a second (larger) batch of Tempest Anderson images will be released in the summer of 2014.

The W.A. Ismay Studio Ceramic collection



[William Alfred Ismay](#) spent his life building an enormous collection of [Studio pottery](#). It is now held by YMT and was subject to a [Google Cultural Institute](#) project in November 2013. Brand new high-quality photographs were taken for this and I was able to upload these images to [Commons](#). These have now been used on the biographical articles for 17 of the potters. One of Lucie Rie's pieces (left) has also been used on [Ismay's article](#), the main [Studio pottery](#) article and [Rie's biography on German Wikipedia](#). The Ismay article was created from

scratch by Wikipedia editor - [Theroadislong](#) and this user also added pictures to the potter's biographies.

One hope for this collection was to strengthen links with Japan through the works by [Takeshi Yasuda](#), [Shōji Hamada](#) and [Bernard Leach](#). Unfortunately, a [request on the Japanese Embassy page](#) has not led anywhere so far.

Middleham Hoard



An Elizabethan Shilling and a forged Spanish-American Real from the Middleham Hoard

Andy Woods, curator of numismatics provided images of 54 [coins from the Middleham Hoard](#). The hoard of 5,099 silver coins, is one of the largest English Civil War hoards ever found. The Yorkshire Museum has 54 of the coins, most of which are examples of interesting forgeries unique to the collection. Promoting the Middleham hoard material proved quite tricky. I began an article using *Articles for Creation* and left messages on various WikiProjects (pages for editors with topic specialisms) including Numismatics, Archaeology and Yorkshire. These proved less useful than posts on articles such as [List of hoards in Britain](#), which led to a partnership with Wikipedia editor [BabelStone](#). This led to email contact - sending scanned copies of a specialist book on the hoard. Fantastic work from this editor and a little help from others, created an excellent article: [Middleham Hoard](#) and eventually a *Did you know?* post on the Wikipedia frontpage which generated 6000 views for the article.

Subsequently, the images were used on a German Wikipedia article; [Albertustaler](#) (a coin from the Spanish Netherlands) and on a page about the [Jacobean debate on the Union](#).

Sydney Harold Smith photographic collection



Snowden Slights aims a punt gun, a lifting bridge at [Cottingwith](#) and the [Yorkshire Museum](#)

Sydney Harold Smith took photographs of local and domestic life in around York between around 1885 and 1915. Some of the most interesting images document Snowden Sights 'Yorkshire's Last Waterfowler' on whom Smith wrote a book. These images were found as high resolution scans but were hardly used by the museums. A rapid investigation of their copyright status revealed that they were public domain and so they were [uploaded to Commons](#). Though they have not seen a great deal of use on [encyclopedic content](#) it took very little effort to make this underused collection available to the world.

Results of the Edit-a-thon

The [York Luminaries edit-a-thon](#) generated a great deal of new encyclopedic content by new and experienced editors alike. The stand-out victory for the day was the creation of a biography for [Mary Ellen Best](#): a York-based Victorian artist with little public recognition. Two almost-beginner editors ([Gcbeale](#) and [Nicoleebeale](#)) worked with an experienced editor ([Samwalton9](#)) to create the article and a resulting *Did you know?* on the Wikipedia frontpage. This generated nearly 3500 views for the article.

Further improvements were made to around 20 articles including [Edward Simpson \(aka Flint Jack\)](#), [Tempest Anderson](#), [William Etty](#) and [Eboracum](#). YMT Volunteer Barbara Boize ([BZ4brbr](#)) began an article on the day with research help from Jim Spriggs ([2pianolas](#)). Although it was not completed on the day, the biography for [George Yeld](#) is now quite good and almost all Barbara's own work.

Blogposts and coverage

The residency has generated a number of blogposts documenting and promoting the project. These have been duplicated on the [YMT](#) and [Wikimedia UK](#) sites. The first of these to appear was promoting the launch of the project: [YMT partnership with Wikimedia UK launched](#) I then wrote a short post during the launch period: [Starting out as the Wikipedian-in-Residence](#) More significant was a post solicited by [Museums Development Yorkshire](#) as part of an 'Ask the expert' blog series. This post covered [10 Reasons \(small, or specialist\) museums should engage with Wikipedia](#) - and was posted a week in advance of a twitter and comment Q&A session in which those from other museums were invited to ask about working with Wikipedia. We didn't get a large number of questions but it was a very engaging piece to write and helped me boil down many of the issues involved in GLAMwiki projects.

The [Luminaries edit-a-thon](#) was promoted on the local media website [One&Other](#) and written up as [a blogpost](#) for YMT.

The project was featured in [YMT's report on it's last two years of activities](#). The report highlighted the residency as an integral part of YMT's open digital strategy and a means to get under-exposed collections into the public eye.

Just as the project was coming to a close the York Press decided to run an article covering the residency as part of YMT's general digitisation push. The piece [York Museums Trust team bringing historic collections to the web](#) provided excellent coverage of the project in York's most popular local newspaper.

Editors - new and old - involved in the project

The project engaged a total of 41 people as Wikipedia editors. Of these 12 had prior editing experience - including those only contacted through Wikipedia. A full table of those involved and their usernames and details has been created: [YMT Wikipedia Users](#)

The project ran two formal training sessions and several small group sessions for staff and volunteers. The [formal sessions](#) ran on 12 December 2013 and 28 February 2014. In total these sessions led to the training of eight members of staff and 13 volunteers.

The staff members were:

Martin Fell	Digital Team Leader
Stuart Ogilvy	Assistant Curator of Natural History
Sarah King	Curator of Natural History
Andy Woods	Curator of Numismatics
Adam Parker	Assistant Curator of Archaeology
Laura Turner	Curator of Art
Kirstie Blything	Volunteers Assistant
Amy Lang	Volunteers Coordinator

Adam Parker ([User:Zakhx150](#)) was already a Wikipedia editor and is the only staff member who has continued to edit regularly.

The project ran a public edit-a-thon on [York's Luminaries](#) ([report](#) - also see below) that was attended by 10 members of the public who were new to Wikipedia and four experienced Wikipedians.

Wikipedia editors [Theroadislong](#), [BabelStone](#) and [JohnBod](#) (John Byrne) provided the most significant help with the creation of encyclopedia content related to YMT image releases (see above). Further contact with [PocklingtonDan](#) and [GeoWriter](#) led to some progress with archaeological and geological material respectively though for various reasons this did not progress as far as was desired.

Talks and outreach

In connection with the residency I was invited to give talks to two York-based groups. The first was to the University of York's Department of Archaeology as part of their Research Forum series for staff and postgraduates; the second was to the Friends of York Art Gallery as part of their lecture series.

- *Wikipedia for Research, Teaching and Impact* - University of York, Department of Archaeology
November 1 2013
~50 attendees

This talk was aimed at academic archaeologists and covered three key areas in which Wikimedia projects provide effective methods to improve academic work. The links used in the talk have been saved as one of my [user subpages](#).

- *Sharing York's Art Collections in the 21st Century: Lessons from Wikipedia* - Friends of York Art Gallery
February 27 2014
~20 attendees

In this, I covered some of the key issues with Public Domain Art, the sharing of contemporary collections and the changing relationships with creativity, historic collections and originality brought about by Web 2.0. The focus was on York's fine art collections as a case study.

Through the course of the residency there were several opportunities to connect informally with other organisations in York that had an interest in knowledge sharing or open digital projects. These have not yet borne fruit but have potential to be used as part of Phase 2.

- [The University of York](#) - Tom Smith.
Tom runs the university's [collaborative tools project](#) and helps staff and students use online tools in teaching and research. This includes wikis and Tom would be an excellent contact for supporting any lecturers/departments interested in using Wikipedia in teaching or for research output.
- [York Explore](#) - Victoria Hoyle
Victoria is an archivist at the newly independent city library services (previously run by the council). She's interested in helping get the city's archive a higher online profile and helping residents use the web to enhance their research and IT skills (particularly older people).
- [Yorkshire Philosophical Society](#) - Jim Matthew
Jim is the YPS' president and keen on getting member's knowledge and the societies archives out online. The organisation is volunteer-run and lacks resources and particularly IT skills.
- [York Media City](#) - Stu Goulden
York is applying for UNESCO status as a Media City and Stu is helping with the bid and looking at opening up the City Council's data and helping organisations in the city connect digitally. The project is in the very early stages but it was good to ensure that Wikimedia was understood as a potential future partner.

Hosting a resident: thoughts from the YMT team

At a large institution such as YMT the resident crosses paths with a diverse range of staff and volunteers. Below, a volunteer and two staff members reflect on what the project brought to their work at YMT. The responses are all very positive. It was particularly heartening to hear the advantages of regular contact (over workshops/self-teaching).

Barbara Boize - volunteer with the Natural History team

Barbara attended the second training session on the recommendation of Sarah King - curator of Natural History. Barbara made initial edits to the history section of a village near her home ([Ellerburn](#)) and then was encouraged to work more ambitiously on a new article for [George Yeld](#). This was gradually worked up in her sandbox with a little face-to-face and online help from myself and was accepted without issue as an article.

- What was the most exciting about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

Making a real contribution to Wikipedia even though it was in a limited way.

- What was the biggest challenge or surprise about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

The amount of research I had to do.

- Did the residency change your ideas about how museums engage online?

Not really

- What effect did regular contact with a Wikipedian have? Would teaching yourselves or attending one-off workshops have been different?

It was really good that there was real person available to give training and help. A one-off workshop was OK as a start but, as someone who does not use social media or share stuff, I needed someone there to give me confidence to upload my pages. I am happy to add new information now.

- What would you most like to see happen with Wikipedia and YMT?

I would like to continue using my limited expertise to edit (and possibly improve) but I do not have expert knowledge. Contact with experienced editors to lead on what YMT would like to include in Wikipedia in the future.

Mike Linstead, Digital Marketing officer

Mike helped promote the residency internally and through YMT's social media channels. Directing Twitter and Facebook followers to newly available YMT content on Wikipedia or Commons. Mike also photographed and organised the W.A. Ismay collection, initially for release via the [Google Cultural Institute](#) and subsequently through Commons.

- What was the most exciting about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

It offers YMT another terrific opportunity to digitise our vast array of collections, through another World-renowned brand, thus increasing our profile and positioning online

- What was the biggest challenge about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

There wasn't a particular challenge to my involvement with Wikipedia as the outputs were generated directly on our websites, through the blog or as news items.

- What surprised you most!?

What actually surprised me most was the personal knowledge I gained about the history of our collections. This in turn sparked my thinking that this is a strong platform on which to spread knowledge of our collections to the world.

- Did the residency change your ideas about how museums engage online?

No it didn't change my ideas, just added to them. Being in a role responsible for communicating and engaging with people online, the residency re-enforced the value of having such a role and partnership within the trust.

- What effect did regular contact with a Wikipedian have? Would teaching yourselves or attending one-off workshops have been different?

It gave me insights into how we can develop stronger partnerships with organisations to achieve the aims of our digitisation strategy.

- What would you most like to see happen with Wikipedia and YMT?

I would like to see it continue and for the profile of the partnership to be raised as York Museums Trust strives to position itself as one of the leading cultural organisations in the world.

Andy Woods, Curator of Numismatics

Andy showed immediate enthusiasm for the partnership and provided lots of ideas. He arranged for the recently photographed coins from the [Middleham Hoard](#) to be donated to Commons, leading to one of the major successes of the project (see above). He also directed several of the volunteers in his team toward the training sessions.

- What was the most exciting about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

It was getting a previously unseen element of the collection out for public consumption. We have a hugely important/interesting hoard (From Middleham, Yorks) which we cannot display given our current gallery structure. Being able to put it online, and making people aware of it was very satisfying from a curatorial perspective. The fact that it also engaged a community who took ownership was great as well.

- What was the biggest challenge about working with Wikipedia/Wikimedia?

Time. I have an incredibly small amount of spare time in my calendar. I would love to edit personally but this is unrealistic given my workload. The ability to send volunteers to the WIR was great as it meant all the work they were doing had a publicly visible output.

- What surprised you most!?

The variety of people involved. The project attracted a much fuller range of people than I had (naively) expected. This was particularly the case with some of our older volunteers who I thought might not be particularly keen.

- Did the residency change your ideas about how museums engage online?

I have always been a firm believer in online collections. However, it has suggested to me that we should encourage/foster crowd-sourced projects, be they through Wikipedia or hosted by us. There is a huge amount of enthusiasm and expertise out there and we should do more as a trust to engage with this.

- What effect did regular contact with a Wikipedian have? Would teaching yourselves or attending one-off workshops have been different?

It bridged the link between our collections and the digital world in a new way. With the recent publication of our collections online this is something that is becoming increasingly important for us. It opened my eyes to a new community.

Crucially having someone as a cheerleader for the project made it happen. Without this, it would not have happened as no-one else has the time to focus on this. It is a great thing to do and having someone who can prove that it works, is readily and achievable and has outcomes which work both for the Trust and Wikipedia has been an important element.

One-off workshops or self-led would not have made anything like the impact that the WIR had. An institution of our size and complexity needed someone in post to get things off the ground and to standardise procedures across the various different departments.

- What would you most like to see happen with Wikipedia and YMT?

I would like to see the post continued, to build upon the solid foundations already laid. More importantly, I would like the post to become broader in focus, with more of a regional remit. There are a number of museums that we work with as a Major Partner Museum of the Arts Council and it would be great to have them engage with Wikipedia as we have. We provide curatorial and management support across Yorkshire and it would be good to do the same for some elements of our digital strategy too.

Next steps: Ideas for future development

For YMT

YMT have created the chance for this project to develop into a completely new project: Wikipedia Yorkshire Network Project. More on this project can be found below and on the project pages: [Wikipedia:GLAM/YNP](#).

In parallel to this, it's important for YMT to maintain its own relationship with Wikimedia and the editor community through staff/volunteer training, being open to requests from editors and the continued donation of public domain and collection images. The latter is being most proactively

pursued with a new image licensing strategy (that emphasises open licenses in all possible circumstances) and new image releases anticipated in the early autumn of 2014. It is also hoped that YMT will be the region's pioneer in terms of using the [Mass Upload Toolset](#).

The social history team at YMT had the least engagement with the project so it would be important to target their collections and work (particularly the current 1914/WWI exhibition) as part of any future projects. This may also facilitate links across the county or beyond.

For WMUK and the GLAMwiki programme

One of the major challenges the project faced was engaging Wikipedia editors with the content being released by YMT: across the complex networks of Wikipedians, it is not always easy to attract the right editors to the high-quality content being released by GLAMs. This issue is not unique to the YMT project and has been identified by the WiR review and will be discussed at Wikimania 2014. One proposal that will be piloted as part of the Yorkshire Network Project is a directory of GLAMs using standard templates to record their details and provide a 'one-stop-shop' where Wikipedians can find out the basics about their collections and make requests for images, information and so on.

Image uploading provided a number of significant technical glitches that may warrant attention from the GLAMwiki community. As no training was available, the [Mass Upload Toolset](#) was not used during this project, but shortcomings were found with the standard Wikimedia Commons upload tool. In particular, due to the fact that the upload tool implements the [Information template](#) and though the [Artwork template](#) (or others) can be pasted in WikiText, elements of the Information template still need to be manually deleted from each file after upload.

Assessing the original aims

The original agreement combined overall aims for the project and the detailed aims of the job description. Below, these have been reordered for clarity, synthesised and assessed

Aim	Phase one progress	Phase two opportunities
Build a strong relationship with museum staff and champion the use of Wikimedia projects across the trust	This has generally been a great success. I have had contact with the majority of staff and there has been enthusiastic support for the project's principles. Several curators have initiated the donation of image sets, for example the Middleham Hoard , Trace fossils and key paintings from the gallery. There was excellent staff attendance at the edit-a-thon (below).	The Social History team have had fewer opportunities to make use of the residency due to their workload and location. It will be important to give them extra opportunities to connect with Wikipedia as well as continuing to work with other teams; eg, numismatics are planning to integrate Wikipedia into a new project on Yorkshire hoards.
Develop and deliver a training programme for staff that runs for the duration of the placement and will	There have been one informal and two formal training sessions: Seven staff members and six volunteers have attended. Staff uptake has been mixed – due to workloads – but several	The project has now demonstrated key successes and gained senior supporters, this provides a chance to talk with key personnel about

<p>result in the creation of new Wikipedia content and content on sister projects</p>	<p>individuals who missed the previous sessions have requested further opportunities. It is challenging to tailor and timetable training appropriately.</p>	<p>strategies for engaging with Wikipedia: particularly ensuring department heads understand Wikipedia as part of exhibition planning and sharing collections. Further training in editing will be offered to relevant staff and volunteers.</p>
<p>Work with curators to identify assets that could be delivered to Wikimedia Commons and articles that would benefit from being updated: release text, images and other materials under free licences.</p>	<p>Images have been a great success, with over 400 high-quality images delivered to Commons. These span the diversity of YMT’s collections and were donated with consultation of curators. Highlights include: W. A. Ismay Studio Ceramics – 54 images, 21 in use Tempest Anderson's images – 56 images, 11 in use Sydney Harold Smith images – 151 images, 13 in use</p>	<p>In the next few months YMT’s collection records will be made available online. Potentially, thousands of the object images will be candidates for Commons upload via the GWtoolset. This includes Public Domain artworks, geological, archaeological and social history materials. Further, Book digitisation is in the early stages at YMT but WikiSource is a definite potential target as part of the trust's Historic Library strategy.</p>
<p>Make connections with relevant Wikipedia communities, e.g. via engagement with WikiProjects</p>	<p>This has proved a challenge and there has been very little response from WikiProjects even WikiProject Yorkshire. There has been far more success connecting with Wikipedians via messages on relevant article talkpages or direct contact with editors with interests in our materials/topics. This has led to fruitful but temporary partnerships with individual editors on key topics such as the Middleham Hoard or Studio Potters. There has only recently been one instance of an editor requesting particular material from YMT’s collections for Commons (fossil specimens).</p>	<p>The current strategy clearly generates very satisfactory results but it is hoped that there is scope to expand the impact of the YMT collections on Wikipedia through offline events and a review of the strategies for promoting the material to editors.</p>
<p>Facilitate content improvements on Wikimedia projects – e.g. via involving curators in reviews of Featured Articles candidates</p>	<p>Content improvements have mostly been made by developing contact with existing editors. Curators have had very little time to spare for editing themselves. All significant text improvements have been tracked in a table on the project pages.</p>	<p>Providing content that facilitates the improvement of Wikipedia has proved to be very easy: images in particular. Encouraging editors to use the material has been more challenging, as has providing text resources. There is a hope to establish a repository for formal</p>

		and informal research papers by staff that would act as source material for Wikipedia articles and other sites.
Run a Wikimedia event/events at YMT, bringing together staff, YMT volunteers, experts from other cultural institutions and members of the Wikimedia community to develop content around one of the museum's many collections	An edit-a-thon was run on March 16 th attracting 16 members of the public and supported by 8 staff. A report , and blog-post summarise the results of the day.	Further, smaller events, particularly with partner organisations (see below) are being investigated. The problems inherent in attracting large numbers of experienced editors are being investigated. Picking topics and providing resources and expertise are particularly important.
Develop an outreach programme that will engage other cultural institutions and stakeholders in the region, offering training, advice and hands-on workshops	A training session was run for members of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society attended by nine members. Museums Development Yorkshire asked for an ‘Ask the expert’ blog post on YMT’s site. There have been informal meetings with staff from other cultural institutions in York.	It is hoped that relationships with the Yorkshire Philosophical society can be strengthened and that the possibilities of working with the university, city library, local history societies and St Peter’s School can be investigated.
Work with the marketing team to raise awareness of the residency regionally and nationally. Promote digital engagement in areas related to YMT’s work	The marketing team have been very supportive, helping with the promotion of the edit-a-thon and sharing developments through blog posts and internal news; including a major internal review brochure. An opportunity with the local York Press was missed due to scheduling but the edit-a-thon was promoted on local media website One&Other .	With the successes of the first six months, it’s hoped that local promotion of the project will act as a springboard to future success: bringing in new participants and increasing awareness in the city’s cultural institutions.
Provide regular updates on the project's progress and successes	Reports were made monthly up to the edit-a-thon and final stages of the residency, at which point the needs for evaluation changed – partly because of the case for extension.	Monthly reporting will continue. Efforts will be made to broaden awareness of the project through This Month in GLAM and The Signpost
Undergo sector specific training during the placement	This has been conducted informally during encounters with curators and other staff.	
Develop a sustainable relationship between	This may be the hardest element to assess and may connect to issues with sustainability encountered with many	This will be addressed through continual review as discussed above and hopefully engagement

the Wikimedia community, Wikimedia UK and YMT	GLAMwiki projects. Clearly the extension of the project would enable the further examination of these issues.	with other Wikipedians at Wikimania in London will provide new ideas and opportunities.
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Spreading the net: What’s next for GLAMwiki in Yorkshire

One of the most positive elements of working at YMT was the opportunity to work in a network of museums with such diverse collections and breadth of knowledge among curators, staff and volunteers. This acted as a key inspiration in the design of a follow up project.

The [Yorkshire Network Project](#) with Pat Hadley as Regional Wikimedia Ambassador, is a unique chance to work with the region’s Museum Development Officers (MDOs) and offer Wikimedia partnerships and collaboration to the regions 150 registered museums. Wikimedia UK is funding a 12 month project at the equivalent of 2 days per week.

The diversity among these museums is staggering, ranging from the [National Media Museum](#) to the [Hornsea Museum](#) - with differences in size, funding, collections, staff and governances all creating opportunities and challenges. Museums Development Yorkshire is based at YMT and has four specialist MDOs that offer advice and support to the regions museums on everything from object conservation to retail displays. By capitalising on their contacts and expertise, this project should be able to offer many of these museums a selection of well-developed methods for engaging with Wikipedia - based on experiences at YMT and elsewhere.

It is particularly hoped that the project can pilot successful partnerships with smaller, specialist and local government museums as these have proved challenging for GLAMwiki in the past. Ultimately, it is hoped that building on the success and momentum developed at YMT will lead to a self-sustaining GLAMwiki community developing in the region with a network of Wikimedians, GLAM staff and institutions working together to open up cultural resources across Yorkshire.