

News story: Ofsted websites maintenance work: Saturday and Sunday 19 and 20 August

Ofsted will be doing maintenance work on its websites on 19 and 20 August 2017.

There will be times when the sites will be unavailable or slow to use.

Over this weekend please do not log in to the sites.

The sites are:

- Ofsted Online
- Ofsted reports website
- Parent View
- Learner View
- Employer View
- inspector portals

We apologise for any inconvenience. We should resume normal service on Monday 21 August.

Press release: Interactive 'Forever Project' comes to the V&A

Visitors to the V&A display on the UK's new Holocaust Memorial can experience some of the latest technology being used to preserve the stories of British Holocaust Survivors, from today until 18 August.

Using state-of-the-art natural language processing and voice recognition software, The Forever Project will allow visitors to the museum to interact with a digital recording of Steven Frank, a survivor of Nazi persecution, and to ask him questions about what he lived through and why everyone should learn about the Holocaust today.

The Forever Project filmed 10 survivors who are now in their 70s and 80s. On average each survivor answered more than 1,000 questions, which were pre-recorded using ultra high definition 3d filming techniques. When a live audience asks a question, the technology matches this with the responses, enabling the audience to more deeply engage with the Steven's testimony than would be possible with a normal film – preserving the experience of meeting a

survivor of the Holocaust.

With the youngest Holocaust survivors now in their 70s, The Forever Project helps to make sure that their voices will still be heard for generations to come. It is led and developed by the National Holocaust Centre and Museum. It will be featured at the V&A in partnership with the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation as part of its ongoing display on the designs for the UK's new Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre. The wider display features shortlisted designs for a new national space for remembrance and an educational experience that will challenge visitors to stand up against all forms of hatred and extremism in the modern world, including the discrimination that underpins Antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and homophobia today.

Visitors will be able to experience The Forever Project from 14 – 18 August, at 11am or 2pm daily in the Raphael Gallery.

Sarah Coward from the National Holocaust Centre and Museum said:

Meeting a Holocaust survivor in person is a remarkable experience. It has a real impact on young people who need to understand that these horrific events happened in the all-too-recent past. It is wonderful that we have the opportunity at the V&A to give an insight into The Forever Project, which will preserve the experience of meeting a survivor and hearing their testimony for generations to come.

Sir Peter Bazalgette, Chair of the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation, said:

It is a sad reality that there will come a time when survivors will no longer be able to be with us to tell us their stories. Yet we need to hear these stories now more than ever – to understand what it is that can break society apart and how we can play our part in standing up to hatred, whatever form it may appear in.

One of the first acts of the Foundation was to recommend that government fund this project, which goes to the heart of our mission to support educational partners across the country in their work to preserve and share the stories of the Holocaust.

The Forever Project will be available for visitors to see and interact with at 11am and 2pm daily, from 14 – 18 August.

Visitors to the gallery will also be able to see the designs from ten shortlisted teams for the new Memorial and Learning Centre, to be built next to the Houses of Parliament and give their feedback on which designs they like and why.

Background information

1. About The Forever Project

The Forever Project uses advanced digital technology to enable the National Holocaust Centre and Museum to preserve the experience of meeting Holocaust survivors. The survivors are visualised as life-size 3D laser projections at the Centre, able to both give their testimony and answer the audience's questions. Dozens of survivors could eventually take part in the project should sufficient funds be raised.

The Forever Project was Highly Commended in the Museums and Heritage Awards "Innovation" category 2017, was included in the Nominet Trust's global Top 100 Tech for Good projects, and is a finalist in the National Lottery Awards 2017. The Centre worked with interpretive design company Bright White Ltd on the project, together with software developers d3T, film studio Pollen Studios and the University of Huddersfield.

The project has been made possible through the generous support of funders including Pears Foundation, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Association of Jewish Refugees, the Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust, the R&D Digital Fund for the Arts, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Audrey and Stanley Burton 1960 Charitable Trust, the Foyle Foundation and the Rachel Charitable Trust.

2. About the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation Exhibition

The Forever Project will be featured as part of the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation's international design competition exhibition, running until 22nd August. Ten shortlisted design teams are exhibiting, all competing to design the new UK Holocaust Memorial, to be built next to the Houses of Parliament in Westminster by 2021. It will honour the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and all the other victims of Nazi persecution. The Learning Centre will provide a world-leading educational experience that explains the facts of the Holocaust and challenges visitors to think about their role in standing up to prejudice in society today.

Ninety-two international design and architecture teams, including top global names, competed to design the project. The competition is now entering its final stages, with designs from the ten shortlisted teams displayed for the public to feedback on as part of their visit.

The UK Holocaust Memorial exhibition runs in Raphael Gallery at the V&A until 22 August 2017. Entrance is free and the Museum is open 10.00 – 17.45 daily (10.00 – 22.00 on Fridays). People across the country can have their say on the designs online at: <https://www.gov.uk/holocaustmemorial/feedback>

3. About the National Holocaust Centre and Museum

www.nationalholocaustcentre.net

The National Holocaust Centre and Museum, based in Nottinghamshire, is the UK's only accredited Museum and Centre dedicated to the remembrance of

victims of the Holocaust and to Holocaust education. As well as being a place of memorial, the Centre serves as an educational resource with the aim of teaching future generations about the causes and consequences of genocide.

Established in 1995 by non-Jewish brothers, James and Stephen Smith, the National Holocaust Centre and Museum promotes an understanding of the roots of discrimination and prejudice, and the development of ethical values, leading to a greater understanding within society. It is a global leader in primary education with the field and provides a range of facilities for people of all backgrounds to explore the history and implications of the

4. About the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation

The UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation was created to implement the recommendations of the Prime Minister's Holocaust Commission report – Britain's Promise to Remember – in 2015, including the delivery of the new Memorial and Learning Centre and the recording of British Holocaust testimony. The Foundation is an advisory board to the Department for Communities and Local Government. It has cross-party political support and is chaired by Sir Peter Bazalgette.

[News story: Come and work at DVLA](#)



As an executive agency of the Department for Transport, DVLA's role is to ensure that the right drivers and vehicles are taxed and on UK roads as safely and simply as possible. By joining DVLA you can help make a positive difference to our driving public in a dynamic and exciting environment.

We reward our employees

As an employer of around 6,000 staff, we understand that offering benefits and rewards to employees is important to keep them motivated and inspired to do a great job every day.

Along with a competitive salary and a leave allowance which increases yearly (up to 30 days pro-rata), employees are able to choose from an excellent range of pension schemes and have access to great on-site facilities such as

a gym, two cafes and childcare services.

There are even benefits you wouldn't expect, like free eyesight tests and glasses (depending on your role) and the option to have an advance of salary to buy a bicycle to travel to work.

We offer support

We support our employees in many different ways, whether they want to learn new skills or need help with health and wellbeing issues. We are also proud to have a diverse workforce with support networks in place for colleagues from all backgrounds.

Careers to suit everyone

Joining DVLA can be career changing. As part of the Civil Service, our staff can access a wide range of training programmes and career development schemes across a broad range of disciplines. From administration to finance, IT to communications, there's an exciting career opportunity at DVLA for everyone.

To find out more about working at DVLA and our vacancies, have a look [here](#).

See what it's like to work at DVLA by watching our video

[Working at DVLA](#)

Published 14 August 2017

Last updated 30 August 2018 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 30 August 2018 Added translation
2. 14 August 2017 First published.

Press release: Foreign Secretary statement on Pakistan Independence Day, 14 August 2017

The United Kingdom and Pakistan enjoy a close friendship thanks to the links between our people. I wish the people of Pakistan Jashan e Azaadi Mubarak!

On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, I wish the people of Pakistan the very best on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of independence. Muhammad Jinnah's founding vision of a progressive, inclusive Pakistan is still something worth cherishing and celebrating, and Pakistan should be rightly proud of its culture and history over the last 70 years.

The United Kingdom and Pakistan enjoy a close friendship thanks to the links between our people – particularly the 1.2 million British people who are of Pakistani origin. Whether on the cricket field, at Pakistani celebrations in the UK or through our strong education cooperation and support, the links between our two countries keep getting stronger. In 2017, the UK is celebrating these connections with a year-long programme of cultural events, exhibitions and visits.

As we celebrate our shared history together, and look forward to a future with more links, more trade and more cooperation between the UK and Pakistan, I wish the people of Pakistan Jashan e Azaadi Mubarak!

Press release: Call for Applications: Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge and Darwin Initiative

The British Embassy Manila is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for funding as part of the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund and Darwin Initiative run by the UK's Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department for International Development (DFID).

Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge

The Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund helps developing countries to tackle the illegal wildlife trade, by addressing demand reduction, strengthening enforcement and criminal justice, and providing alternative livelihoods.

The IWT Challenge Fund is already supporting 47 projects around the world, with a value of £14m. In its 4th Round, the priority areas we are looking to fund include:

1. Developing sustainable livelihoods and economic development, especially by:
 - supporting alternatives to engaging in the illegal wildlife trade
 - encouraging community led wildlife conservation, including retention of benefits within local communities
 - addressing the challenges of human-wildlife conflict
2. Strengthening law enforcement, especially by:
 - addressing corruption
 - building capacity to prevent illicit financial flows from the illegal wildlife trade
 - improving law enforcement and border control in key source, transit and destination countries

3. Reducing demand for IWT products by:
 - using evidence-based interventions to reduce demand for IWT products
 - working with businesses to keep IWT products out of the supply chain
 - establishing partnerships between source, transit and destination countries

The deadline for the first phase of the bidding process is 12 September.

Darwin Initiative

The Darwin Initiative is a UK government grants scheme that helps to protect biodiversity and the natural environment in developing countries. The initiative funds projects that help countries rich in biodiversity but poor in financial resources to meet their objectives under one or more of the following biodiversity conventions:

1. the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
2. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
3. the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing
4. the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

The Darwin Initiative has funded 1,055 projects from 159 countries, with a value of £140m, since 1992.

In its Round 24, the priority areas we are looking to fund include:

Projects expected to address key threats to biodiversity, such as:

- habitat loss or degradation
- climate change
- invasive species
- over-exploitation

In addition, applications that focus on:

- agro-biodiversity that generates alternative livelihoods
- food security and water security
- biodiversity and health
- integrating natural capital related data, information, and knowledge into policy development and decision making
- enhancing the extent and management of protected areas in the marine environment

The deadline for the first phase of the bidding process is 21 September.

Further information, including the guidance for applicants, the application forms and the timetable, can be found in the links below:

[IWT Challenge Fund](#)

[Darwin Initiative](#)

Contact Information

Applicants are encouraged to make early contact with the British Embassy Manila by sending their proposal via email. Please email Ms. Joy Anne Icayan JoyAnne.Icayan@fco.gov.uk prior to deadline of submission.