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World Heritage UK

September 2025 newsletter



World Heritage UK's 10th anniversary

Dear Trustees, Members and Friends,

On the first of September 2015 World Heritage UK replaced the Local Authorities World Heritage Forum (LAWHF) which had been in existence since 1995. This was at a time when the role of local authorities was somewhat reducing in our individual World Heritage Sites and new models of governance were being developed. The new WHUK Charitable Incorporated Organisation gave an independent mouthpiece to the World Heritage community in its widest sense and has grown to be a respected and influential body working with government and the four home nation's heritage agencies at the highest levels. There remains much to do and much of the agenda, as set out in our

on the last 10 years achievements and find time this autumn to join WHUK for its 10th Anniversary Conference on the theme of “Engagement with World Heritage”, back where it all started in Saltaire, Bradford on the 9th & 10th of October.

With my very best wishes, Paul Simons, Chair of Trustees, WHUK

To celebrate not just 10 years of WHUK, but also celebrate the UK’s amazing wealth and depth of World Heritage, WHUK teamed up with [Big Picture Charity Films](#) to produce a short film that we hope will build awareness and appreciation of this country’s World Heritage.

Click [here](#) to watch.



WHUK 2025 Annual Conference - book now!

This year's WHUK Annual Conference will be held in Saltaire WHS, on **Thursday 9th & Friday 10th October**.

The theme will be "**Engagement with World Heritage**", exploring how communities, tourists, politicians, transport providers, artists etc, do or don't engage, or help to support engagement with, World Heritage and World Heritage Sites. Details of the programme are almost all confirmed and tickets are now available. Go to [World Heritage UK 2025 Annual Conference | World Heritage UK](#) to see the latest.

more.

Tickets available include WHUK member and non-member options, and online and in-person. Click [here](#) to book.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The 2025 Annual Conference is kindly supported by the National Trust and North Yorkshire Council.



Opportunity – New Chair role at Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site

This is a prestigious voluntary opportunity to play a key role in the governance of [Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site](#) and contribute to protecting the WHS for current and future generations.

Could you be the first independent Chair of the Expert & Stakeholder Group? This is a new role in the WHS Partnership, supporting the group of 30 local and national partners to carry out its role effectively. Working closely with the independent Chair of the Executive Board, the Expert & Stakeholder Group Chair will facilitate effective discussion and encourage a broad range of participation.

governance.

For the Candidate Pack and full details, please go to:

<https://www.stonehengeandaveburywhs.org/new-opportunity-chair-of-expert-stakeholder-group/>

Closing date: Tuesday 30 September 2025, 5pm

To apply: please submit a CV and covering letter to stonehengeandaveburywhs@wiltshire.gov.uk



World Heritage Webinars - Europe

The next series of webinars will introduce the **European Network of World Heritage Associations** (ENWHA) and focus on a handful of their Sites from across Europe. The series will comprise 5 webinars.

World Heritage UK is a member of the ENWHA which is a union of associations and initiatives that regularly exchange information and experience about the World Heritage. The aim is to raise general awareness of European World Heritage, to advocate its protection and conservation, and to discuss common issues and topics using an open and transparent approach.

WHUK hopes this series will be the first of many highlighting WHSs from across the ENWHA membership and will allow attendees the opportunity to discover World Heritage outside of the UK.

- Tuesday 23rd September - An introduction to [ENWHA](#) with WHUK's President Chris Blandford OBE

- Tuesday 21st October – [Hanseatic Old Towns of Wismar and Stralsund](#) on the Baltic Sea in Germany, with Miles Spohr
- Tuesday 11th November – [Western Norwegian Fjords](#), with Katrin Blomvik
- Tuesday 25th November – Italy's [Historic Centre of Florence](#), with Dr Valentina Ippolito and Dr Carlo Francini

Webinars run 6 to 7pm GMT (or 7 to 8pm CET), and are held on Zoom. Zoom details are usually sent out the Monday before the webinar.

Single webinar tickets are £5 each. A series ticket for all 5 webinars is £20. Tickets are available up to 4pm the day before.

Each webinar is recorded and uploaded to WHUK's private YouTube channel. All ticket holders will be sent a link to the video, to revisit or catch up if the live talk was missed. Series ticket holders will have access to all five videos.

To book, please click [here](#).

Images: Sully-sur-Loire, AXP Photography; Wismar, Lobo Studio Hamburg; Western Norwegian Fjords Silvia Dovega; Florence Ilse Orsel – all Unsplash

Please support the work of World Heritage UK

WHUK is a small but unique charity. We're always looking for new members or donations.

If you aren't a member, or know someone who would like to be a member, please go to our [Membership page](#) to join.

If you or a friend or colleague would like to make a donation to WHUK, please go to our [Donation page](#), to help us support the UK's WH community.

Thank you!



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