



The Duke of Gloucester opens Vindon Scientific's UK HQ

If you would like to join in, the archaeological collections officers supervise hour long sessions in the Clore Learning Centre in addition to the gallery demonstrations. Both activities take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays until 10 December. More about this event or about any of the previous VIP projects can be found at: www.museumoflondon.org.uk/English/EventsExhibitions/, www.mymuseumoflondon.org.uk/blogs/blog/category/laarc/laarc-vip/

Royal visit for Vindon

Our faithful advertisers Vindon Scientific Limited received a royal visitation in October when the Duke of Gloucester officially opened Vindon's new headquarters in the newly redeveloped Kingsway Business Park in Rochdale. Vindon's directors gave the Duke a tour of the 29,000 sq ft state-of-the-art facilities, showing him the specialist products and services the company provides, including their heritage storage facility designed for the safe storage of acetate film and care of collections. His Royal Highness said of his visit: 'it was good to see that companies such as Vindon were investing in future technologies'.

Boyes will be Boyes

Flamboyant might be the word that comes to mind about a conservator who rides a motorbike; races his vintage mini in his spare time and throws a Cuban themed bash in his Edinburgh workshop to celebrate the tenth anniversary of his company Nicolas Boyes Conservation Ltd. But Nic Boyes was

Nic Boyes' 'skillful and dedicated' staff



Icon's Gillian Joyce (l) with architect Lisa Young

all serious professionalism in the recent BBC4 programme *The Rosslyn Chapel*, where he talked about the painstaking work undertaken by his team on the building's astonishing stonework.

Most readers will probably know that the chapel was hailed as the resting place of the Holy Grail in the blockbuster novel *The Da Vinci Code*. Although Nic and team did not find the Holy Grail, they did discover a mysterious six hundred year old beehive carved into the stonework of the chapel roof. Equally remarkable is that they managed to undertake the work over the course of the summer whilst the BBC crew filmed progress around them and 75,000 visitors tramped through the chapel doors. Look out for a repeat of the BBC 4 programme on BBC2.

Nic's company has had a decade of interesting projects. A

recent highlight was the conservation of La Pasionaria Monument in Glasgow, commemorating those who lost their lives in the Spanish Civil war and in May they had the honour of giving HRH Princess Anne a tour of their work carried out on the Buccleuch Monument on the Royal Mile. Then there was the contract for the installation of the lifesize statues of Faith, Hope and Charity in Inverness, a recent contract to restore and conserve the artefacts within the Argyll Mausoleum at Kilmun and an invitation from Historic Royal Palaces to inspect, survey and carry out laser cleaning trials to the 16th Century Da Maiano Terracotta Roundels at Hampton Court Palace.



Nic Boyes celebrating his company's first ten years

Echoing Nic's party toast, 'here's to their next ten years' but as to that party, let the last word be with guest Gillian Joyce of Icon's Edinburgh office: 'too many mojitos....'

Exploring conservation at Boston's MFA

Conservators at The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston (USA) are benefiting from the opening this month of a new wing designed by London architects Norman Foster and Partners and complementing the original 1909 Beaux Arts building. The new wing is the central component of the Museum's transformation and renovation, which also incorporates a