

Tales by Rail- The Three Rs- Reading, Risk and Restorationq Mark Kennedy

The focus of this presentation was on the exhibit of a Newsagents Kiosk in the Irish Railway Collection at Cultra. This was combined with a local Library Board initiative to encourage young children to read and learn with a parent. Mark discussed how a museum specimen in poor condition, with little provenance, can be turned into an asset with a social purpose in today's museum, through a little creative thinking, a little finance and a little help from friends.

Digital Engagement at Carrickfergus Museum, Shirin Murphy

For some in the museum sector, using iPads and other digital technology to engage audiences are core museum work, for others, it's a terrifying leap into the unknown. Many of us are just somewhere in between. At Carrickfergus Museum a number of initiatives have been undertaken to enhance their offerings to the schools market and to family audiences. In this presentation, Collections Access Officer Shirin Murphy discussed how the museum developed a digital gallery tour using iPads and how they have incorporated apps into their education programmes. The Museum has also taken the step of creating the 17th century walled town in the popular game, Minecraft, as a means of engaging younger audiences with the history of their town.

Exploring HMS Caroline's Story through Creativity, Ruth Osborne

This presentation looked at the restoration and opening of HMS Caroline as a museum and heritage site and approaches to making the history of this First World War ship accessible and widely engaging through creative approaches. The presentation explored the creative projects and programmes that have been piloted for a range of age groups, consider the outcomes and reflect on further development of creative interpretation and engagement.

The Scientific Approach: when is making it+a sensible protective strategy?, Frances Bailey

The National Trust normally favours displaying originals over facsimiles, but sometimes this may lead to the loss of the original work. This presentation explored some of the pitfalls and learnings from a recent project at Castle Ward which set out to create facsimiles of important watercolours by 19th century scientist Mary Ward.