

visitors discover the answers to any military, local, family or social history question they might have.

- **Sally Hall, Wordsworth Trust:** Sally was 50 when she started volunteering as a guide at the Wordsworth Trust, and is still volunteering 20 years and over 14,000 tours later. She has also taken on responsibility for the cottage garden, researching how the garden was planted in the Wordsworths' time, and recreating it in a form that the Wordsworths would recognise.

Penelope, Viscountess Cobham, Chairman of The Museum Prize Trust said: "In this, the tenth year of the Prize for Museums and Galleries, the Trustees felt it was a timely moment to look at the wonderful achievements of individuals whose tireless commitment makes museums so special, in addition to celebrating the excellent achievements of the institutions themselves.

Choosing ten heroes from the nominations was unfathomably difficult, given the sheer volume of inspiring, surprising and delightful stories that we read. After much lively discussion we were able to settle on this list of ten brilliantly stalwart personalities who between them represent the rank-and-file of museum professionals and volunteers, without whom the cultural and heritage life of this country would simply cease to function."

-- Ends

Notes to editors:

The Art Fund Prize is administered by The Museum Prize, a charitable company created in 2001 by representatives of National Heritage, the Museums Association, the Art Fund and the Campaign for Museums and chaired by Lady Cobham. These organisations agreed to put aside award schemes they formerly ran (including National Heritage's Museum of the Year) and lend their support to this single major prize.

The Art Fund has sponsored The Museum Prize since 2008. The Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art, helping museums to buy, show and share art for all to enjoy. Over the past 5 years, the Art Fund has given £24m to help 227 museums and galleries acquire over £195m of art for their public collections. The Art Fund is funded by over 90,000 members who own a National Art Pass, which gives free entry to over 200 museums, galleries and historic houses across the country as well as 50% off many major exhibitions.

Find out more about the Art Fund and the National Art Pass at www.artfund.org.uk. The press office can be reached on 020 7225 4888 or media@artfund.org

The Clore Duffield Foundation is chaired by Dame Vivien Duffield DBE and has a strong focus on supporting cultural learning, particularly within museums and galleries and at heritage sites. www.cloreduffield.org.uk. It is one of the founding partners of the Cultural Learning Alliance, a collective voice working to ensure that all children and young people have meaningful access to culture in this difficult economic climate. www.culturallearningalliance.org.uk