

Cyfeillion Amgueddfa Cymru
Parc Cathays, Caerdydd CF10 3NP

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Friends of National Museum Wales
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP

SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER 2016

At 10.30am in the Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre, National Museum Wales, Cathays Park,

PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION AT NATIONAL MUSEUM CARDIFF - A TALK BY CHRISTIAN BAARS

Have you ever thought about the constant care and protection that valuable objects need to protect them from damage? At home, old photographs fade in their frames, moths invade clothes in the wardrobe, silverfish find homes in bathrooms and precious silver items need constant polishing to prevent tarnishing.

The challenges faced in the home are writ large when looking after three million objects at National Museum Cardiff. Colours in textiles and paintings may fade through exposure to light and objects may get dirty when handled by many people. On top of that humidity fluctuations, pests and indoor pollutants pose perpetual threats to our collections. This talk will introduce the idea that preventing damage is far better for valuable objects and more cost effective, than spending time and resources repairing damage, which often turns out to be impossible. It will show you some gruesome images of what may go wrong in museum collections as well as, reassuringly, some very positive examples of what National Museum Cardiff does to avoid the same happening to our national collections.

Christian Baars has held the post of Senior Preventive Conservator at Amgueddfa Cymru since May 2014 and he undertakes research on improving the security and care of collections. He holds a PhD in Geochemistry and Palaeontology, and an MSc in Care of Collections. He started working for Amgueddfa Cymru in 2004 in the Geology Department as a fossil preparator and researcher. In 2012 he became Project Manager for the Welsh Museums Federation on a project to audit collections in twenty local museums and then enhance access to them before returning to Amgueddfa Cymru in his present post.

The admission charge, to include post-lecture coffee and biscuits in the Oriel Suite, is £8 for tickets ordered in advance, and £10 at the door.

To take advantage of the concessionary rate, please complete the slip below and send it with your cheque, made payable to Friends National Museum Wales, to

Diane Davies, 9 Cyncoed Rise, CARDIFF CF23 6SF. Tel: 029 2075 2464

Preventive Conservation at National Museum Cardiff: A Talk by Christian Baars on Saturday 15th October 2016

Names(s) _____

Address _____ Post code _____

Tel _____ Email _____

Please reserve ___ places for the above event. I enclose a cheque for £ ___ in favour of Friends of National Museum Wales.