

## About the Friends

The Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery (FSMAG) is a voluntary organisation which promotes and publicises the museum and its activities to as wide a public as possible, raises funds to purchase new items for the Museum and encourages sponsorship for the improvement of the collections and facilities. We are a registered charity (Charity No. 1050267) and were launched in July 1993 with a talk by our patron, the Surrealist painter and zoologist, Dr Desmond Morris.

If you are interested in the well-being of the Museum and Art Gallery, we urge you to become a member and help build and improve on its success.

You can access up-to-date information about the Friends by looking at our blog on [www.friendsofsmag.blogspot.com](http://www.friendsofsmag.blogspot.com) and on Swindon Museum's website at <http://swindonmuseumandartgallery.org.uk/>

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- ◆ *A practical way for you to support our unique Museum and Art Gallery*
- ◆ *A programme of lectures and trips*
- ◆ *Three issues of the Friends' Journal every year*
- ◆ *Invitations to Private Views and social events*
- ◆ *Reduced price entry to talks*
- ◆ *Opportunities to become involved in specific museum projects.*

## Swindon Museum and Art Gallery

Swindon Museum and Art Gallery is the home of the internationally important Swindon Collection, which contains works by some of the most significant British artists of the twentieth century, including Henry Moore, L.S. Lowry, Lucian Freud, Ben Nicholson, Richard Hamilton and Gillian Ayres. The art collection is paralleled by a collection of studio ceramics including works by Lucie Rie, Hans Coper and David Leach.

The Museum is part of Swindon Borough Council. It is accredited as a museum by the Arts Council of England, which means that it is the co-ordinating body for all archaeological projects within the area.

In 1930 the Museum moved to Apsley House, its current home, to house the collections of Charles Gore who for many years was the honorary curator. It is a local studies museum and features in its collection items relating to the story of Swindon over the last 250 million years, with fossils from local Old Town quarries. Displays include items from the Neolithic period through Roman, Saxon, and mediaeval times to the present day. Two of the most impressive objects are the Roman glass funerary urn from Purton, unbroken after 1700 years in the ground, and the Highworth Pot, a large earthenware container broken 1700 years ago and then mended by the Romans with lead staples. The most popular exhibits are 'The Croc', a three-metre-long Indian Gharial (one of the ten most endangered species in the world) and the Egyptian mummy, a boy called Hatemiu.

## Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery

### Membership Application

I/We wish to become a member/members of the Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery.

Name/s .....

*title*

Address .....

*title*

Postcode .....

Phone number .....

email address .....

Annual Subscription rates (please tick one):

Individual £10.00

Joint £15.00

If you would like to find out about corporate or schools membership, please contact the Membership Secretary.



*continued overleaf*

If you are a UK taxpayer and select Gift Aid, we will be able to increase your gift and all future gifts by up to 25% by reclaiming tax, at no extra cost to you.

To select Gift Aid, please tick this box:

To pay by Standing Order, please complete the enclosed form.

Alternatively please enclose a cheque payable to "Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery"; or of course you can pay cash at the reception desk in the Museum.

I/We enclose my/our subscription   £ \_\_\_\_\_

plus an optional donation           £ \_\_\_\_\_

Total £ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your completed membership application with your standing order form or cheque to:

Friends' Membership Secretary  
c/o Swindon Museum and Art Gallery,  
Bath Road, Swindon SN1 4BA

We will reply with your membership card, details of forthcoming events and a copy of the Friends' Journal.

Thank you for joining the Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery.

*The Friends of Swindon Museum and Art Gallery are dedicated to the development, maintenance and enhancement of the best possible museum and art gallery for Swindon, for the benefit of both Swindon residents and visitors from elsewhere. We act as local champions, providing input to management and ensuring formal community involvement in Council decision-making.*



**Friends of Swindon Museum  
and Art Gallery**

**Membership Application**

Registered Charity 1050267

*Cover drawing by Tim Carroll*