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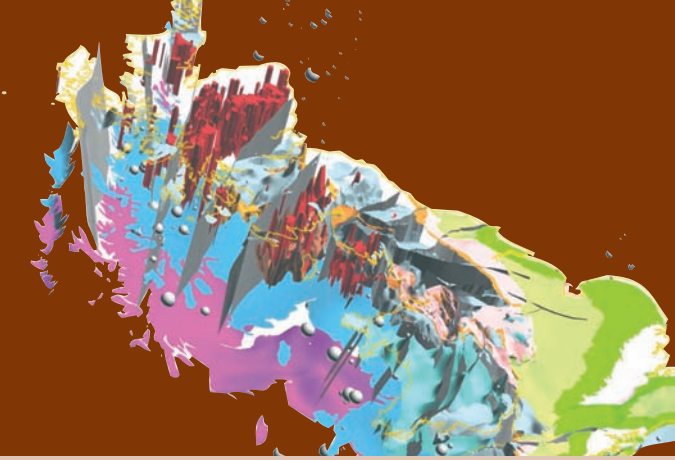

News

The well-wired gallery

Technology is everywhere. The McManus Galleries and Museum in Dundee is undergoing a multi-million pound redevelopment, and when it re-opens the entire gallery will be wired for WiFi: the technology that allows computers, games consoles and mobile phones to connect over a wireless network.

This opens up all sorts of potential for the future: the galleries might set up games based around the collections; visitors can surf the web for a biography of a painter while they look at their work; or they might just email a friend to meet them for lunch in the café. Whatever happens, thesystem will continue a long tradition of being at the forefront of technology: the Victoria Galleries, added in 1889, became the first building in Dundee to have electric light.

Heritage Education web resources

Learning Teaching Scotland have just created a **section on their website** for members of the Heritage Education Forum (HEF). HEF members include education representatives from national heritage organizations, many of which are Interpret Scotland members.

The aim is to provide better links for teachers to the heritage sector and its resources, and there are plans to provide links to more heritage information from the HEF site over time. The project is partly a result of work prompted by the Curriculum for Excellence to provide more opportunities for schools to use heritage resources.

Find images on the web

Getting hold of good quality images can be a nightmare for many interpretation projects. A new web-based **tutorial** should make it a lot easier.

The tutorial has been prepared by TASI, an advisory service about digital imagery funded by the **Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)**. Its remit is to support the Further and Higher Education communities, but some of TASI's services are also open to the cultural heritage sector.

The tutorial is free, and gives an easy to use and well-structured guide to finding good images without wading through the morass of a Google image search. Most importantly, it emphasises the need to respect copyright conditions, and explains the opportunities offered by **Creative Commons** licences, which can make millions of images freely available for non-commercial use.

Underground vision

A powerful new virtual reality system allows geologists to 'see' underground – and could have exciting potential for future interpretation projects. GeoVisionary is the result of a collaboration between the **British Geological Survey** and virtual reality developers **Virtalis.** It uses data about both surface and underground rock formations to visualise and interpret the landscape in ways that have never before been possible.

Using powerful computers and the most advanced graphics cards, the system can provide three-dimensional views of the land beneath our feet, allowing users to 'fly' through solid rock. You can see something of its potential in a feature on the BBC's **Britain From Above** series.

The system has been developed largely to help geologists and other scientists in their work. But with a little more development, it has great potential for giving the public a dramatic understanding of how the landscape works. Watch out for an underground flight at a visitor centre near you!

Our on-line Journal survey

Sue Atkinson reports on our survey about what you think of Interpret Scotland: One hundred people responded to the survey ... many thanks if you were one of them. And apologies if you tried to respond but were locked out! We used Survey Monkey to run the survey, and as a rookie I was unaware of the '100 replies for free limit' until it was too late.

The **survey** gave us lots of useful information and suggestions which will influence future issues. It was heartening to learn that the majority of respondents supported our enforced decision to end paper publishing of the Journal.