

## REPORT: FALCONER MUSEUM & STORE, VISIT 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### FALCONER MUSEUM

**Environmental data:** please see the separate environmental report.

**Ground Floor Insect Traps:** All traps were checked and replaced with new traps.

#### GROUND FLOOR:

- All cases and displays were visually checked. No apparent additional changes were noted to any of the objects on display except for specific issues previously highlighted in earlier reports.

#### FIRST FLOOR:

##### Falconer Room:

The cases all appear stable and clean.

- The elephant skull was checked no new suspicious accumulations of dust were noted. No insects on the trap.

##### Mezzanine:

- All the case contents on the mezzanine and the open displays were visually checked, there are no obvious changes in relation to pests or other forms of deterioration associated with material type, except for specific issues previously highlighted in earlier reports
- The taxidermy in the cases was visually inspected using a torch, open display specimens were manually checked, they all appear to be stable. No new dust or frass, and no evidence of loose hair or feather fragments
- All the cases glass shelves look clean, with no extra debris

#### ACTION: Next visit

- Maintain a check on the environment and the pest monitoring of the gallery spaces.
- Monitor the Elephant skull, Aurochs skull, Shark jaw for any further deterioration

## MUSEUM STORE

### GROUND FLOOR

#### Current visit:

The ground floor store was checked.

- Selected geology / paleontology trays were examined.
- Drawers A were checked for softening, A7 and A9 have had plastazote placed under the objects to reduce potential friction damage.



A7 tray with plastazote placed underneath the contents



A8 tray with foam placed underneath the contents

#### ACTION: Next visit

- Continue cleaning the trays to remove incidental insect debris
- Add silica gel sachets to the pyrite affected specimens
- Add softening to reduce physical damage where necessary
- General clean to remove residues and dust accumulation

## GROUND FLOOR FOYER AREA OPPOSITE OFFICE

Large, incised stone in case. Acc. No. 1992-16



Monitored and photographed – no change this visit

## FIRST FLOOR STORE

### FIRST FLOOR STORE

A walk-through visual check was made for all the stacks and shelving bays.

- Taxidermy, stacks 14 & 15 appear stable no evidence of live moth or beetle. Minor surface dust on the shelves and broken hair fragments from the mounted trophy heads but otherwise in fair condition.
- A mountain Hare on shelf 15.4.1 has evidence of previous moth attack, as noted in previous report 1<sup>st</sup> May. Have placed in freezer as a preventative measure as recommended in previous report.

The hare has been double bagged, to be frozen to remove any chance of any infestations; the hare will be retrieved during our next visit.



Mountain hare placed in freezer, double bagged as a preventive pest measure



- Stack 12: Herbarium collection checked and stable 12.1.1 – 12.5.1

Art work on shelves stable. Recommended to place soft interleaving between artwork on shelves 12.11.1 – 12.11.4, 12.10.1, 12.10.4 and 12.9.1(3?) as recommended from previous report. I think 12.9.1 was an error, no artwork on that shelf. Shelf 12.9.3 has had soft interleaving placed between artwork. This will be a work in progress, actioned for the next visit.



12.9.3 artwork interleaved with soft interleaving

- Art Racks: The racks were pulled out and the frames/artworks checked.

#### **ACTION: Next visit**

- Maintain a check on the environment and the pest monitoring of the gallery spaces.
- Add more interleaved softening to separate the framed prints shelves 12.11.1 – 12.11.4, 12.10.1 – 12.10.4
- Specimens and shelving require ongoing basic housekeeping to remove dust accumulations.
- Change the silica gel for the archaeological metalwork.
- Check all highlighted objects/ specimens

Jeanette was unavailable during this visit for health reasons

#### **Richard Aitken ACR**

High Life Highland Conservation Service  
Highland Archive & Registration Centre

Next scheduled visit 21<sup>st</sup> August