

The **Mercer Art Gallery** in Harrogate is giving young scientists the opportunity to flex their scientific muscle in the exhibition '*Treasures of Ancient Egypt*'. Using the **Gallery Explorer Pack** children can look at **replica and fake objects, handle papyrus** and get **up close and personal** to a **three-thousand year old mummy case!**

The exhibition highlights the **scientific research** that has been carried out on objects from the collection, including the testing of samples from **canopic jars** and **cooking pots**. The exhibition also highlights **conservation projects**, and a recently conserved **mummy mask** is displayed alongside **pre-conservation photographs**.

Janine Taylor, Audience Development Officer said 'Through the Gallery Explorer Packs the science of the exhibition is brought to life. A cartoon character called Huy encourages children to think about how we find out about his life over 3,000 years ago.'

Admission to the Mercer Art Gallery is free, and the packs are available throughout science week from 12th-21st March.

The **Royal Pump Room Museum** is also joining in the Science Week fun, and has teamed up with **Eureka! The Museum for Children** in Halifax to run a competition that's sure to **cook up** some interest!

Using the 1950s exhibition '*New Elizabethans*' for inspiration, visitors are invited to **design a kitchen gadget** that will help ease the strain of the modern kitchen. Prizes include **science books** and **science based games**. Entry forms can be picked up from the **1950s kitchen** in the Royal Pump Room Museum from 12th-21st March!

For more information on these activities call **Harrogate Museums and Arts** on **01423 556 188**. A searchable database of all events taking place during National Science Week is available on **www.the-ba.net/nsw**.

Ends

For more information and photo opportunities call Janine Taylor on 01423 556 188

Notes:

Harrogate Museums and Art is part of the Department of Leisure and Amenity Services at Harrogate Borough Council. Harrogate Museums and Arts operate the Mercer Art Gallery, the Royal Pump Room Museum and Knaresborough Castle and Museum.

National science Week is co-ordinated by the BA (British Association for the Advancement of Science). Established in 1831, the BA aims to engage and inspire people directly with science & technology and their implications.

