The eventization of movable religious heritage objects: The Lindisfarne Gospels A case study

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### Lindisfarne Gospels: History

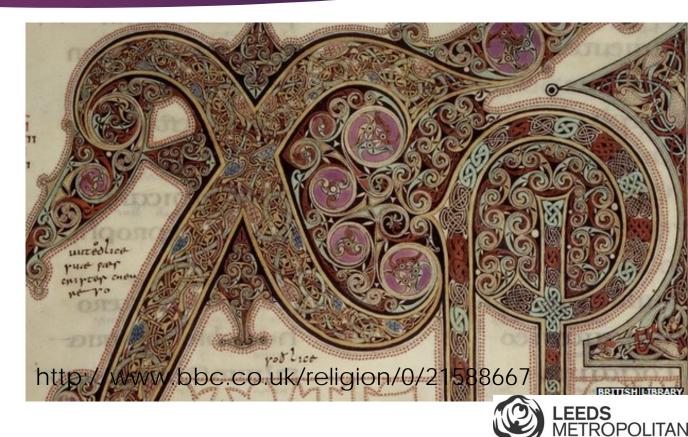
- ► Earliest fully illuminated English book
- 'Dark Ages' art work
- ► Holy Island Lindisfarne
- Produced 715-720AD by Eadfrith (illustrations and calligraphy) and Ethelwald (front cover) 518 pages
- ▶ In honour of St Cuthbert
- ▶ 1000 mile journey

http://bigbible.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/lindisfarne\_cat33-copy.jpg



#### 2003 – British Library

- ▶ Role of curator:
  - Custodian
  - ► Interpreter
  - 'Ensuring appropriate levels of access to ensure they <u>continue</u> <u>to exist</u> for future generations'
- Influence of technological change
  - ► Facsimile copies
- 'Same level of access... as <u>scholars</u> working in the British Library's reading rooms'



UK Centre for Events Management

## Lindisfarne Gospels Durham: one amazing book, one incredible journey







http://www.lindisfarnegospels.com/lindisfarne-gospels-durham-one-amazing-book-one-incredible-journey

- 3 months 2013 Durham
- 'To engage people with the story of the Gospels'
- 'To celebrate the rich heritage of culture, learning and artistry'
- 'To emulate the spirit of creativity'
- 'The exhibition had to be much more than a book in a case'
- Celebration
- Events
- Schools Outreach programme
- 95,000 exhibition tickets sold

### **Impacts**



- Durham University
  - World class exhibition facilities for artefacts
  - Exhibition planning expertise
  - Blueprint for outreach programmes for heritage, museums, libraries
  - Events management experience
  - ► Social Media
  - ► Gospels 'embedded' in National Curriculum of NE England region



# Eventization of movable religious heritage objects?



- Events role in society
- Links to other themes extends topic: science, print, paper
- Widening participation and engagement with religious heritage objects
- Target specific ages and interest groups
- Curation what next?
- Need Develop Future Use (
- ▶ Skills Facilities Processes

