

Agenda Item No: 5

Report to: Museums Committee

Date of Meeting: 15 September 2014

Report Title: Curator's Report

Report By: Cathy Walling
Museum Curator

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on issues arising from previous meetings and confirmation of Curator's actions

Recommendation(s)

- 1. that the Committee accepts the report and are satisfied with the comments in the report**

Reasons for Recommendations

Introduction

This report updates members on matters carried over from previous meetings and other items not included on the agenda.

1. Work on dealing with conservation issues in the museum store continues. A quotation has been received from The Keep for dealing with works on paper, and other quotations are awaited.

2. A team of 11 volunteers has now been appointed to the WWI project and have started research and outreach. Four 'pop-up' events have taken place, at the Old Town Hall Museum and Hollington, Rye and Bexhill Libraries.

3. Culture Shift has announced that the Arts Connect programme is being funded by East Sussex County Council for a further 3 years, creating more opportunities for people with learning disabilities to take part in arts activities in their communities. ·Get Connected events offer a chance for people to get together and find out what is going on for learning disabled people, carers, service managers, artists and cultural organisations. The first event is at Hastings Museum and Art Gallery on Tuesday 21st October 10.30-1.00pm.

4. The Museum is part of the 'Uncovering Ethnography in Kent and Sussex' (Uniques) Project, a regional collections review and community engagement project with 5 partner museums in Kent and Sussex, and funded by ACE. Specialist curators have made their first visit to look at our collections.

5. A start has been made on transferring the Colin Taylor Collection donation to John's Place. This will be an ongoing process over the next six months, allowing time for record photography, basic cataloguing and storage to be completed. An application is being made to the Esmee Fairbairn Collections Fund (administered by the Museums Association) for a grant of around £90,000 to fund in-depth cataloguing, research, dissemination and public engagement with this collection, in partnership with Dr Max Carocci of the Royal Anthropological Society/University of London.

6. Permission has been given for the following items from the collection to be reproduced:

Photographs of 2 firebacks for a chapter 'Seeing Salvation in the Domestic Hearth in Post-Reformation England' in an academic textbook 'Sin and Salvation in Reformation England', by Dr Tara Hamling

Burton images for Burton St Leonards Society information panels.

Images of Fairlight for 'Fairlight: A Sussex Village by the Sea,' publication by Haydon Luke.

Portrait of Decimus Burton for 'Homes and Gardens' magazine.

Copies of painting of West Hill House by John Hornby Maw to Ben Simpson for family research publication in association with Wolfson College, Oxford.

Copy of receipt from local goldsmith John Goodman for University of Plymouth publication on Taunton businesses by Chris Hassel.

Image of Baston Cottage for 'The Idea of the Cottage in English Architecture', by Daniel Maudlin. Published by Routledge in association with the University of Plymouth.

Copy of watercolour of Elizabethan harbour to Fishermens' Museum for exhibition.

Wards Affected

None

Area(s) Affected

None

Policy Implications

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	No
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	No
Risk Management	Yes
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	Yes
Local People's Views	No

Background Information

Officer to Contact

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