

Report to: Museums Committee

Date of Meeting: 12 March 2018

Report Title: Cuartor'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, with visitor figures and information on exhibitions and events

Recommendation(s)

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

Reasons for Recommendations

Curator's Report

1. Attendances

The number of visitors attending between October and December 2017 was 8,279. This compares to 9,507 for the same period last year. The total number of visitors for the calendar year 2017 was 45,695 compared to 43,651 for 2016.

There were 347 pupils in organised groups, from Language Schools, All Saints Nursery Bexhill, Guestling Bradshaw Primary School, St Leonards Academy, Sussex Coast College, Tonbridge School and University of Brighton. This compares to 435 for the same period last year.

2. Social media. As of 21 February the Museum has 1598 followers on Twitter and 1861 on Facebook. The Museum has a 4.8/5 rating on Facebook and 4.5/5 on TripAdvisor.
3. Weddings and Civil Ceremonies: there were no ceremonies in this quarter, compared to one in the same period last year.
4. Exhibitions in Quarter 1: the next exhibition in the art gallery will be a 50th anniversary memorial exhibition celebrating the work of Vincent Lines, Head of Hastings School of Art. In the Upper Walkway there will be 19th century topographical watercolours by Evacustes Phipson, which will be followed by work by students from the School of Art and Design, Sussex Coast College, responding to the Vincent Lines exhibition.
5. Events: there will be three Family Activity days in this period, based around print, toys and insects. Three events will mark the centenary of Votes for Women, with a talk by Ann Kramer about her new book 'Turbulent Spinsters', and two sessions with Women's Voice making banners, sashes and hats to be used in a parade. Blooming Green are returning with an adult workshop making foliage crowns and Fiona Pienkowska is leading a lino print workshop. Happy Harold the trolley bus is celebrating his 90th birthday on 1 April with a day of tours and rides arranged by the Museum Association with the Hastings Trolleybus Restoration Group. Edward Preston will begin a new series of talks in June.

Wards 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	No
Environmental Issues	No
Economic/Financial Implications	No
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No
Anti-Poverty	No

Additional Information

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Officer to Contact

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