

**Agenda Item No:** 5

**Report to:** Museums Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 12 January 2015

**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. The packing of archives, watercolours and other works on paper has started in preparation for their transfer from the store to The Keep for conservation. The first batch will be transferred in January 2015. Archive material housed in the store has not been available to researchers since 1 November, because of the possibility of cross-contamination with mould spores. It is anticipated that there will be a temporary closure of the Local Studies Room in 2015 as the space will be needed for storage.

Discussions on an alternative provision of research space will take place in January. The Keep may retain some of the more vulnerable material on deposit to safeguard its future, and decisions on the future collections management of the archives will be made following the conservation work.

2. The volunteers working on the 'Hastings Remembers...' project have now contacted over 40 members of the public who have local stories to tell. The exhibition attracted very positive comments and a total of 14,445 visitors during the course of the exhibition.

3. The application to the Esmée Fairbairn Collections Fund for research and public engagement with the Native American material was unsuccessful. However, a revised application will now be made in April 2015.

4. Permission has been given for the following requests for reproduction of images.

a) Three George Woods photographs for Jamie Oliver TV show on Fresh TV.

b) Fifty images of Hastings Pier for use by the Pier Charity in archive and education projects.

c) Image of Queen Victoria Jubilee portrait for Korean Broadcasting System documentary 'Food Odyssey'.

---

## 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	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No
Local People's Views	No

---

## Background Information

---

## Officer to Contact

Cathy Walling  
 cwalling@hastings.gov.uk  
 01424 451151

---