

TITLE OF REPORT: Annual Update on Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums and Beamish Museum

REPORT OF: Darren Collins, Strategic Director, Corporate Resources

SUMMARY

This report provides a summary update on the work of Beamish Museum and Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums.

Purpose of the Report

1. To highlight how the financial contributions that the Council makes to Beamish Museum and Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums (TWAM) are used and the benefits to Gateshead. The report also provides an update on the new governance arrangements at TWAM.

Background

2. The Council provides financial contributions towards Beamish Museum and TWAM on an annual basis. Beamish is provided with a cash contribution of £5,000 whereas two separate amounts support the management of Shipley Art Gallery by TWAM on behalf of the Council. The Council holds a maintenance budget for Shipley Art Gallery which is used as required. In 2018/19 this budget was £25,972. The Council also provides TWAM with annual contribution to operate the gallery which was £174,770 in 2018/19 and is £159,770 in 2019/20.

Benefits

3. Beamish Museum has been asked to confirm the total number schools from Gateshead that visited in 2018. In 2017 Gateshead's contribution of £5,000 equated to £100 per school and allowed a significant proportion of Gateshead schoolchildren to visit Beamish. In 2017, 50 schools from Gateshead visited.
4. TWAM provides both an archives and a museums service to Gateshead Council, specified via an SLA. The archives service is part of a joint service provided to the five Tyne & Wear authorities and allows Gateshead Council both to fulfil its mandatory obligations in terms of archives and to provide for the care, preservation, interpretation and access to the documentary heritage of the borough. The centralised storage and management of archives resources is in line with current government policy. The museums service for Gateshead is delivered through the Shipley Art Gallery although residents of Gateshead also, of course, benefit from museums in the other Tyneside authorities managed by TWAM.

5. The financial contribution that Gateshead Council makes towards management of the Shipley Art Gallery is significantly multiplied by national funding brought in by TWAM. In particular this consists of Arts Council England (ACE) National Portfolio Organisation funding.
6. TWAM has indicated that from April 2018 to March 2019 there have been 24,649 visits to Shipley Art Gallery with 5,144 visits as part of school trips. Almost 50% of schools (17 out of 36) visiting are from Gateshead area. The Shipley is developing relationships with schools located within walking distance from the gallery with repeat visits from nearby schools.
7. Funding from Historic England has supported the free delivery of an Art and Heritage project with Oakfield Primary School. The aim of the project explored how teachers can use art in the classroom to explore local heritage. Using the Paul Scott Gateshead in a box piece school children investigated their local heritage and create their own Gateshead in a box artwork. The school have received Heritage School status.
8. The learning team are continually developing new projects and Learning through the Art Gallery - GCSE Art & Literacy project is a two-year project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). It is led by Dr. Claudine van Hensbergen at Northumbria University, in partnership with the gallery. The project will run between March 2019 and February 2021.
9. The Shipley Art Gallery is used by many groups as a space to meet and make and we offer a programme of art classes, talks and tours for public. Highlights in 2018_19 included:
 - Gateshead Arts Society 70 anniversary exhibition and opening Saturday 17 November over 200 attended
 - World Mental Health Day was attended by organisations from across Gateshead (358 people attended) who support people with their mental health. The day was focused around young people and mental health. Organised by Mish Lorraine from Gateshead Mental Health User Voice.
 - Northern Children's Book Festival Gala Day 2018 over 250 attended. Event organised by Gateshead Library including Dominic Wilcox and Little Inventors and storytelling sessions.
10. In 2018-19 TWAM's Community Outreach team facilitated 556 engagements with Gateshead residents / individuals from organisations based in Gateshead. This work is targeted at individuals in recovery, older people and mental health service users with a strong focus on how culture can improve health and wellbeing. Projects have included working with Change, Grow, Live Gateshead working with TWAM's Women of Tyneside project. The women are currently recovering from addiction with the support of CGL Gateshead and our time together focussed on the theme of women's health and wellbeing. TWAM's outreach work has been presented to the Newcastle Gateshead CCG at the Newcastle Gateshead Involvement Forum 2018.

TWAM is currently working to secure the benefits of the Government's Exhibition Tax relief for TWAM venues and following a Question raised by Rt Hon Baroness Joyce Quin, Chair of TWAM's Strategic Board in the House of Lords the following endorsement of the Shipley was given by Lord Bates.

One of the allowances referred to related to the issue raised by the noble Baroness, Lady Quin, whom I thank for giving me advance notice. She declared her interest as the chair of the board, but I should declare an interest as having been a beneficiary of the museums of Tyne and Wear as a child and as an adult. I am a frequent visitor to the Shipley Art Gallery, which is a fantastic treasure trove of different art, from old masters to modern, contemporary and regional art, as well as crafts and ceramics. I have enjoyed that since I was taken there as a child at school—education is a key part of it. Anything which enhances the wonderful town of Gateshead, which she and I care for, and its cultural heritage—which is not just the Shipley but the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, the Sage, a music centre and the Angel of the North—is welcome. It really is becoming a cultural centre.

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-02-07/debates/68322B96-3913-4AA4-B7E8-B5A7A71EB228/Finance\(No3\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2019-02-07/debates/68322B96-3913-4AA4-B7E8-B5A7A71EB228/Finance(No3)Bill)

11. Along with Baltic and The Sage Gateshead and Newcastle based cultural organisations TWAM is a member of NewcastleGateshead Cultural Venues (NGCV) who are currently leading City of Dreams - a 10-year vision to make NewcastleGateshead the best place to be young. Cllr Haley spoke at a young people's event at Live Theatre in March where young people gave their experience of growing up and engaging with culture in Gateshead and Newcastle. The director of TWAM is the current Chair of NGCV.
12. TWAM has secured a gift to the Shipley of 550 important ceramic pieces under the Government's acceptance-in-lieu scheme. Along with this gift of very valuable ceramics which will enhance Gateshead's reputation as a centre for ceramics comes a gift of £18,000 which is being used to catalogue and interpret and create new displays for the pots, providing a new and additional attraction within the Shipley.
13. The collection will sit alongside the Rothschild Collection, a generous donation to Gateshead and the Shipley from the late Henry Rothschild which is already a significant attraction at the Shipley and has created a very popular annual lecture event as well as a bursary for early carer ceramicists and a programme of community work.
14. This work will also help the process of creating galleries at the Shipley which are more suitable for corporate hire use enabling us to generate more income from additional activities to support the Shipley as a welcoming space for the people of Gateshead.

TWAM Governance

15. Following the establishment of the new Strategic Board for TWAM in September 2017 Cllr Angela Douglas and Cllr Neil Weatherley have been Gateshead representatives on the Strategic Board in 2018-19.
16. As recommended by TWAM's Governance Review a new trading company, TWAM Enterprises Ltd was established and began trading on 1 May 2018. Cllr Douglas is the Strategic Board nominee to TWAM Enterprises and is therefore a Director of TWAM Enterprises Ltd. TWAM transferred trading staff to the new company which is now responsible for TWAM's commercial operations. The Board includes Geoff Hodgson (Chair - Geoff has a strong background in the hospitality industry and is a very experienced Non-Executive Director), Cllr Douglas, the Director and Head of Finance, Governance and resources of TWAM, Nicola Short (marketing expert) and Amy James (senior manager and category expert Greggs).

Recommendation:

17. Communities and Place Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to comment on how the financial contributions have been utilised by Beamish Museum and TWAM.

Contact: Lindsay Murray.

Extension: 2794

Appendix 1

Shipley Art Gallery

<p>Performance</p> <p><i>In-person Visits:</i> 24,649</p>	<p>Community Groups</p> <p>Art Therapy Group</p> <p>Weekly art therapy sessions led by the NHS. These sessions support young people showing an increasing risk of hospital admission.</p> <p>Community Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weavers group • Knitters group • Creative textiles group • Gateshead Art Society • Gateshead Carers Group • Saltwell Park Model Boat Club • Heworth Art and Relaxation Group • Singin' Sistahs • Lacemakers group • Quilters group • Young carers group • Gateshead Evolve • Art therapy group • Creative Age • Gateshead Youth Theatre • Live Well Group • Mindfulness group • Lunar Group • Behind the Scenes Tour (U3A) on 3 dates • Newcastle College 	<p>Learning</p> <p>Exploring Heritage and Art</p> <p>The Shipley has received funding from Historic England to work with 60 year 3 children at Oakfield Primary school. They will use the art collections to research their heritage through creative making processes. The project aims to develop research, language and communication skills.</p> <p>Art and Literacy Workshop</p> <p>inspired by the illustrations of artist Laura Carlin, children made their own work communicating their identity through art.</p> <p>Digital Crafting workshop</p> <p>This E textiles workshop has proven popular with schools from across the region. Children used traditional sewing techniques with conductive thread.</p> <p>Digital Literacy Training Day</p>
<p>Acquisitions</p> <p>Margie Christiansen Collection</p>		
<p>Exhibitions</p> <p>Julie Cope's Grand Tour: The story of a life by Grayson Perry (5 May – 31 July 2018)</p> <p>Laura Carlin Ceramics (8 September 2018 – 19 January 2019)</p> <p>Gateshead Art Society 70th Anniversary Annual Exhibition (17 November – 22 December 2018)</p> <p>Paintings from the Shipley Collection (9 Feb – 27 April)</p>		

<p>Adult Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Age: Dementia work with Equal Arts – meet once a week for crafting in a sociable setting. For people age 55+ including those with dementia. • Grayson Perry Preview for stakeholders. • U3A behind the scenes tours continue to be well attended, giving people the opportunity to view paintings not on public display. • Tintoretto in the Spotlight provided the opportunity to drop in and hear live guitar music from the period in which Tintoretto was working. This was accompanied by volunteer tour guide John Thompson. • A wide range of community groups continue to meet at the Shipley, using the workshop and Maker Space. • Regular crafting groups include weavers, knitters, silk painters, quilters and Gateshead Art Society. There are also creative courses run in partnership with the Workers Educational Association, which have been well attended. • Equal Arts – weekly sessions have taken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow Museums run by Katherine Vero and TWAM Outreach team • Memory Protection Service • NHS is using the Shipley to deliver art therapy sessions for adults and children experiencing mental health issues. The therapists have commented that a non-clinical environment is beneficial. • Dingy Butterflies artist residencies – two artists, Dominic Smith and Toby Lloyd, have undertaken residences at the Shipley focusing on community, heritage and environment. • World Mental Health Day 10 October – 358 people attended this event which consisted of information stalls and workshops by local mental health services. The event also included the signing of a pledge to support workplace mental health, by Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums Director Iain Watson. • Creative Baby – sensory play amongst the exhibition gives an opportunity for parents and babies (newborn – 18 months) to relax and enjoy the gallery. • Anime Attacks – 623 people attended this event which was delivered in partnership with Gateshead Libraries. • Syrian Family Group has been meeting regularly at the Shipley, to engage in family learning activities and support English language learning. • Northern Children's Book Festival included author 	<p>As part of the digital making programme at the Shipley three makers were invited to the gallery to work with museums and gallery professionals, sharing practice and experience. This work will be used to inform a new digital making programme at the Shipley.</p> <p>Historic England Schools Project</p> <p>60 year three pupils from Oakfield School, Gateshead have used the Shipley collections to research their heritage through creative making processes. The resulting work was presented to the school in February with a celebration event for children and parents.</p> <p>Heritage & Art teacher event</p> <p>Historic England led a free training event for teachers exploring new ideas for teaching local history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorney Close Primary School booked a number of in-school sessions to develop their school's 'art gallery.' • Grayson Perry workshops delivered. • Monthly sessions delivered to Home Educated young people.
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<p>place for this artist-led, intergenerational project in partnership with Newcastle University.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <p>Adult Art Classes</p> <p>The Shipley has partnered with Gateshead Learning Skills and created a series of bespoke classes for adults.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing session</p> <p>Aroma therapist Louise Rea worked with participants at the Shipley to focus on their health and wellbeing, creating scent combinations to restore, revive and relax.</p>	<p>events. 260 people attended. This was a partnership with Gateshead Libraries and the Northern Children's Book Festival.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crafting groups using the Shipley include weavers, knitters, silk painters and quilters. The Gateshead Arts Society meet weekly at the Gallery. • Shipley Community Garden - Funded by Tesco Bags Community Fund and the Postcode Lottery, the Shipley now has a landscaped community garden space. The space will be maintained by volunteers. <p>Family Programme</p> <p>Creative Baby</p> <p>A sensory play session for children under 18 months takes place monthly at the Shipley.</p> <p>Get Crafty family programme</p> <p>A craft event for families in February half term. Using the Shipley paintings as inspiration, families were invited to create mix media landscapes.</p> <p>Dynamic Ceramic</p> <p>A large scale event for children 5-13 years old. Children are invited to participate in a number of making activities inspired by the ceramic collections.</p> <p>Gateshead Cultural Education Partnership (GCEP)</p> <p>Planning is underway for a series</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop developed linked with Laura Carlin artworks in advance of the exhibition in the autumn. <p>Gateshead Schools Engagement</p> <p>50% of schools visits are from Gateshead area with most making repeat visits. This is developing deeper relationships with Gateshead schools within walking distance from the Shipley.</p>
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	<p>of events which bring together cultural venues and schools offering a programme of activity for children and young people in Gateshead. The pilot activity will culminate in one large scale event held at the Shipley in July 2019.</p>	
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