

CULTURE DURHAM PARTNERSHIP UPDATE MARCH 2018

Delivering Culture Durham Partnership Vision and Action Plan

Events Forum – met in January and is meeting again in April. Partners share information about advance programmes, are identifying scope for collaboration in marketing and ‘themed years’. As group matures intention is to consider scope for collaborative planning.

Evaluation methodology group – meeting for the first time in April to explore potential for joint approach to evaluating cultural events – economic impact, audience experience etc.

Audience/Programme Development for Different Art Forms – new group meeting for the first time on 13th March. Very broad starting point so first step is a workshop to agree scope and priorities.

International – work currently in development.

County Durham Cultural Education Partnership

Operates effectively as a ‘sister’ to the CDP and reports into the CDP Board to provide information but also seek guidance. Determines own direction but in line with the education strand of the CDP Vision and Action Plan.

- **Research project** underway to map schools engagement in cultural activities across multiple art forms and organisations to develop a more accurate baseline picture of current schools engagement to enable application of critical thinking to what the barriers and opportunities may be and how best to target investment and resources.
- **Creative Learning Week 2018** – 11th – 17th June. Will encompass creativity in its broadest sense, covering all art forms as well as museums and heritage. 2018 campaign is a pilot, with a focus on celebrating the great work that’s happening already than initiating new activity. If successful, intention is to run the campaign in future years, building in greater levels of scale and interactivity. Target audience groups for the campaign are teachers working in formal education settings, school governors, families living in County Durham, key stakeholders/ decision-makers, and the wider cultural sector. Key priority is inspiring teachers and educational professionals to get involved with the campaign. Good initial response from members of the CDCEP who are involved with schools and school governors.

Cultural Uses for Underused Heritage Buildings this work stream is developing slowly. Discussions underway to pilot use of underused/disused buildings in Teesdale/Weardale working with Northern Heartlands partnership.

Professional Development Workshops for Artists/Creative Practitioners

This programme of free workshops has been specially designed for visual artists looking for insights into how to generate income from their practice. Artists can be working in any medium including painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture, digital, sound, film or installation. The workshops are being delivered by successful practitioners with considerable experience in their fields. The sessions are practical, informal and very interactive. They are delivered through the Durham Creatives programme which is funded by Durham County Council and Business Durham. Forthcoming events include:

Commercialise Your Creativity - 20th March, Seaham (in partnership with East Durham Business Service)

Applying for Funding for the Arts - 21st March, Durham City (in partnership with Durham County Council)

Valuing Yourself, Costing and Pricing Your Work - 22nd March, Durham City (in partnership with Durham County Council)

Fresh Approaches to Commissioning Opportunities - 28th March, Bishop Auckland (in partnership with Durham County Council)

Business Planning for Creative People - 17th April, Seaham (in partnership with East Durham Business Service)

Winning Customers and the Art of Selling Art - 24th April Seaham (in partnership with East Durham Business Service)

The Bowes Centre for Art, Craft and Design, part of The Bowes Museum is collaborating with Durham Creatives to offer 10 commissions of up to £2,250 to artists, designers and makers to create site and collections responsive work in any media, culminating in a **Festival of Ideas** exhibition held at The Bowes Museum, winter 2018. Two information workshops about the commissions and the application process are being held at The Bowes Museum on 13th and 15th March

Cultural Engagement – high profile projects exploring what works (and doesn't)

- East Durham Creates – now entering phase two of funding and headed up by East Durham Trust – funded by Arts Council England's Creative People and Places fund
- Northern Heartlands, which is about heritage, landscape and place in Teesdale, Weardale and the Three Towns AAP area – with the added challenge of influencing policy and decision-making through culture. Jointly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council England plus Historic England.

New Heritage Action Zones - confirmed by HE in Durham

- Stockton Darlington railway
- Bishop Auckland

Partners Events/Activities/Information

Durham Cathedral – Festival of Remembrance – 10th November. Exhibition in Open Treasure – *Armistice: Living with Peace*. Potentially, final performance of *Durham Hymns* that weekend. Exhibition programme includes Tudors in February, Mining Exhibition in the summer (25 years since the Miners' strike). Working on plans for a return exhibition of the Lindisfarne Gospels in 2020. Choir - St John Passion with the Avison Ensemble, Messiah for 2018 Christmas concert, St Cuthbert Festival to include a lecture by Max Adams; looking at how to develop St Bede celebration. Scottish prisoners in collaboration with other partners. The Tony Robinson Channel 5 cathedrals series is also picking up on Scottish soldiers. Cathedral tower reopening 2019, new stained glass window 2019. Working with partners on Northern Saints. Vote 100 – women at war – first person interpretation interviews debate set 8-10th March – link to International Women's Day – working with local women's charity and WEA. University/Cathedral Parry Concert 10th March – Parry's wife was a suffragette.

The Bowes Museum – new Bowes Centre for Art Craft and Design has opened.

- Queen Victoria in Paris - 24 March - 24 June 2018
- Jonathan Yeo: Skin Deep - 10 March – 17 June 2018
- Joséphine Bowes – The Woman Of Fashion - 26 August – 10 June 2018
- Catwalking: Fashion through the Lens of Chris Moore - 7 July - 6 January 2019
- The BFG in Pictures - 14 July 2018 - 30 September 2018

Beamish – during 2018 some events will be themed around WW1 rather than 1900s e.g.

Horses at War rather than *Horses at Work* and steam will also be refocused. Special events will include women at war, star gazing and pedal power alongside usual programming.

- Remaking Beamish – construction over the next 3-4 years – total £18m of which £10.9m HLF.
- Will include: 1950s Town will feature a cinema – being moved from Sunderland – community centre, homes, shops, cafe, bowling green and fish and chip shop. Aged miners' homes will provide a dedicated centre for older people, including those living with dementia. Artist Norman Cornish's former home will be recreated, including the studio he donated to the museum. Spain's Field Farm, from Weardale, has been deconstructed and will be rebuilt at Beamish to tell the story of rural life in the 1950s.
- Expansion of the 1820s Landscape will include a coaching inn where visitors can stay overnight, and a recreation of murdered Joe the Quilter's cottage.

- A trolleybus system and restored buses will transport visitors, while a Northern General bus depot will support Beamish's work to pass on heritage engineering skills.

Durham County Council - Adventure Festival – New venture for DCC, working in partnership with **Kendal Mountain Festival**. Three-day festival from 27th – 29th April celebrating adventure and wilderness. The aim is to curate and deliver an entertaining programme of outdoor adventure inspired by stories and events from around the world through film screenings, talks, and free Basecamp sessions. Adventure, exploration and endurance will be showcased to encourage more people to explore and enjoy outdoor adventures. Climbing, mountaineering, biking, surfing, skiing, caving and more will be included.

- Bishop Auckland Food Festival 21-22 April.
- Brass Festival 13-22 July (Miners Gala 14th July).
- Durham Book Festival 6-14 October.
- New gallery space opened at the Gala Theatre – Matisse lithographs exhibition on loan from the Hayward Gallery.

TIN Arts – in partnership with **Yorkshire Dance**, launched a two-year programme called the **Talent Hub** on 1st March. The project is supported by **Inclusion North**. For two months, the Talent Hub will be accepting applications from dancers living in Yorkshire and the North East of England. It aims to provide a step change for the sector, enabling dancers with a learning disability, autism or both to progress professionally into dance companies or emerge as independent dance makers.

- Best Foot Forward – 20th March - 19th annual celebration showcasing dance created and performed by artists with a learning disability, autism or both.

Auckland Project - Zurbarán series of paintings, were on display at the Frick Collection in New York for the first time at the end of January. Mining Art Gallery opened in November 2017. Castle re-opens on 1 December 2018 following completion of restoration work – in the interim, behind the scenes tours available to follow progress of the project. Auckland Tower due for completion in 2018. Spanish Gallery and Faith Museum opening in 2019.

Eleven Arches – Kynren – 17 performances between 30th June and 15th September telling the story of the shaping of the North East and the country from the Roman occupation to WW2 through depiction of characters and events.

Theatre Hullabaloo - October - Festival - festival of theatre for children and young people. Week-long festival of shows, workshops and family fun for children in venues across the North East.

Ushaw – has developed significantly as a cultural and heritage destination since 2015. Cultural programme has grown and opening hours increased. Visitor numbers grown from

7,000 in 2015 to 26,000 in 2016 and 40,000 in 2017. Projects to convert the convent into artists' studios and the infirmary into a music education centre.

Locomotion – now part of the Science Museum Group. Bringing activity in line with the Science Museum Group's mission to inspire the next generation of scientists, inventors and engineers. Will continue to offer an engaging and inspiring programme of special events and exhibitions throughout the year, but the nature of the events is changing. Will do more to: tell the unique stories of Shildon, the world's first railway town; showcase and tell the stories of its unique collection of railway vehicles; inspire visitors to get involved in science, technology and engineering. There will be fewer of some of the events visitors have enjoyed in the past, but Locomotion will continue to deliver a vibrant programme which promotes railway heritage, model railways, science and engineering, and local history. Will also continue to benefit from items on tour from across the wider Science Museum Group as it did with Tim Peake's Spacecraft and Flying Scotsman.

Future Years

2019 – Cathedral tower reopening 2019 and new stained glass window, Cricket World Cup, Lumiere, Auckland Project opening Spanish Art Gallery and Research Centre, Faith Museum.

2020 - Northern Saints – cathedral funding a coordinator for trails, VCD bid for digital signposting, Regional engagement. Lindisfarne Gospels.