



Agenda for Arts and Culture Forum Wednesday, 8th November, 2023, 10.00 am

Members of Arts and Culture Forum

A Mendham, R Doorbar, L Wakefield, L Goudie, Burrough,
O Davey, P Fernley, N Hookway, V Johns, J Whibley, Sneller,
I Barlow, S Gazzard and T Olive

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Tuesday, 31 October 2023

Meeting of the Arts and Culture Forum

- 1 Appointment of Vice Chair
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting (Pages 3 - 9)
- 4 Declarations of interest
Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making [declarations of interest](#)
- 5 Public speaking
Information on [public speaking is available online](#)
- 6 Matters of urgency
Information on [matters of urgency](#) is available online
- 7 Confidential items
To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded. There are no items which officers recommend should be dealt with in this way.
- 8 Arts and Culture Forum constitution update (Pages 10 - 13)
- 9 UK Shared Prosperity Fund Cultural Programme (Pages 14 - 28)
- 10 South West Museums Development (Pages 29 - 38)
- 11 Villages in Action presentation (Pages 39 - 42)

- 12 UK Shared Prosperity Fund Culture and Leisure programme update
Verbal update.
- 13 Thelma Hulbert Gallery presentation (Pages 43 - 56)
- 14 Manor Pavilion theatre update
Verbal update.
- 15 Wild East Devon update
Verbal update.

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[Decision making and equalities](#)

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EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting of Arts and Culture Forum held at online via Zoom on 1 March 2023****Attendance list at end of document**

The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 12.10 pm

18 Public speaking

There were no members of the public registered to speak.

19 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 October 2022 were agreed.

20 Declarations of interest

6. South West Museums - Vic Harding and Joanna Cairns.
Councillor Andrew Moulding, Affects Non-registerable Interest, Trustee of Axminster Heritage Centre Museum.

21 Introductions and update from ACED network - Sarah Elghady, Cultural Producer

The Arts Development Manager, Ruth Gooding introduced the newly appointed Cultural Producer, Sarah Elghady to the meeting. She also welcomed the ACED member champions present and invited them to introduce themselves. The first ACE meeting in Exmouth was hosted earlier in the week, where the Cultural Producer shared her plans for the network and cultural development across the district. Members of the network meeting were asked what they most enjoyed about being part of the ACE network and how the network could be improved. General feedback was that it was an incredibly helpful way to connect, collaborate and share best practice. They were also asked what the current biggest challenges were to their cultural industry and what specific areas of training would be useful. There would be three ACE network meetings a year, to be held at different venues across the district.

The Cultural Producer would be delivering the Council's ambitious 10 year culture strategy. She was an experienced fund raiser. Funding had been received from the Government's shared Prosperity Fund which would enable the delivery a three year cultural programme strengthening and supporting people.

One of the Cultural Producer's priorities was to launch an ACE website in June which would include a search directory for individual or organisational creative practice and enable better connection and collaboration. Another priority was delivering a three year training programme to include fundraising, marketing and volunteer recruitment training.

The Cultural Producer reported that the communications manager from East Devon Excellence had been commissioned by EDDC to establish and run the East Devon tourism network, which would include maintaining an online what's on listing of visitor

and cultural events across East Devon. ACE network members could promote their events.

The Chair thanked the Cultural Producer for her update. The Assistant Director – Countryside and Leisure wished to formally recognise the work of the Cultural Curator and Marketing and Fundraising Officer for all their work with the Shared Prosperity Fund and ambitious three year programme.

22 **South West Museums - Vic Harding and Joanna Cairns**

The Arts Development Manager introduced Victoria Harding, Programme Manager and Jo Cairns, Devon Museum Development Officer, South West Museum Development to the Forum. The Programme Manager began the presentation by giving the Forum some context and key regional museum statistics:

- The South West had the highest proportion of independent museums at 67% of museums in the region.
- 66% of museums were independent charities.
- 43% of museums were 'micro' with fewer than 10,000 visitors annually.
- 44% of museums were wholly volunteer run.
- Visitor numbers were still down 43% in the region on 2019/20 level.
- 36% of museums reported an annual turnover of less than £25,000 in 2020/21.

The Programme Manager explained that South West Museum Development was a team of museum and heritage specialists working with the museum and heritage sector in the South West to create positive, lasting change and deliver public value. It was an Arts Council England funded Sector Support Organisation and had been an Arts Council's National Portfolio Organisation since 2018. It was one of nine Museum Development (ONS) providers across England.

Last financial year 227 museums had benefitted from South West Museum Development Programme support. It had provided targeted grant application support as well as in person training and online workshops with specialist officers. A 40% increase in investment from the Arts Council grant had been generated, increasing value for the sector to £758,300 in 2021/22.

The Devon Museum Development Officer explained that she helped museums achieve and maintain accreditation status. Between November 2022 and February 2023 museum accreditation support had been provided to Ottery St Mary Heritage Museum and Sidmouth Museum. She had also organised Devon Digital Engagement workshops and was the Arts and Culture East Devon (ACED) Museum and Heritage Champion.

The Programme Manager outlined investment in East Devon's museums, which was comprised of:

- Local authority investment.
- Museum Development Officer provision.
- South West Museum Development (SWMD) specialist services.
- Value of SWMD grants.
- Training and skills.
- Special projects.

She also explained that investment in East Devon's museums had been broken down over four years and the museums had benefitted from a range of support services and good levels of engagement. Five museums had received over £48,400 of development services:

- Whimble Heritage Centre.
- Sidmouth Museum.
- Fairlynch Museum and Art Centre.
- Allhallows Museum.
- Axminster Heritage Centre.

At the end of the presentation the Programme Manager explained 'The Great Escape' which was an exciting programme being led by the Art Fund with funding by Arts Council England. Thelma Hulbert Gallery and Honiton Museum had been awarded £6000 for the programme which was aimed at bringing museums, schools and families together to engage young people with the UK's natural environment, drawing inspiration from the art and objects in museums and the creative and learning opportunities they could offer.

On behalf of the Forum the Chair thanked the Programme Manager and the Devon Museum Development Officer for their presentation.

23 **University of Exeter, Creative Peninsular - Dr Tom Treavor**

The Arts Development Manager introduced Dr Tom Treavor, Director of the new MA at the University of Exeter, on curation, contemporary art and cultural management. He was also the director of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded Creative Peninsular 'knowledge exchange' project, which explored collaborative approaches to place-making and culture led regeneration in Devon and Cornwall. The project focussed on increasing access and exchange between urban and rural communities, celebrating the region's distinctive landscape and Atlantic coastline whilst exploring its complex histories, through socially engaged arts programming.

Creative Peninsula aimed to establish a network of partners across Devon and Cornwall and to create a platform with local communities for re-telling the 'stories of place', working to overcome barriers to social inclusion, wellbeing and environmental sustainability. The AHRC were particularly keen that the university worked with local authorities, museums and arts organisations to establish a network of partners around the area to help influence policy, as well as creating platforms with communities for retelling stories of place.

The south west peninsula was defined by the relationship to the sea; geographically, culturally and economically. It was noted that the south west had really pronounced levels of deprivation. The Creative Peninsular project built on some work being done with Exeter City Council. The Creative Arc was a knowledge exchange partnership acting as a catalyst for culture-led regeneration and economic development in the City of Exeter. The three themes were:

- Health and wellbeing.
- Heritage and place.
- Environment

Thematic strands of the Creative Peninsular were:

- Atlantica/Black Atlantic – Reimagining the South West's relationship with the Atlantic and its histories, including Plymouth's maritime history.
- Ruralities – dispersed communities and intergenerational support networks.
- Queer Peninsula – map revealing Britain's gay capitals, with rural Devon and Cambridgeshire almost as popular as London, Brighton and Manchester. The South West was an area rich in LGBTQ+ history and culture.
- A Parliament of Waters - local communities giving a voice to their waters, for example Salmon Run; a community relay run of 50 miles along the river from the coast at the

mouth of the River Exe to Exmoor, following the migration of Atlantic Salmon, through the city of Exeter..

- Outdoor Cultures – examining the cultural identity of the South West and its relationship to the outdoors, for example sea swimmers and Exmouth beach rescue club.
- Digital Coast.

The Forum agreed that it was a very interesting presentation, with great potential and endorsed further developing relationships with the University of Exeter.

24 **Villages in Action - Mair George and Wendy Van Der Plank**

The Arts Development Manager introduced Mair George, Programme Manager and Wendy Van Der Plank, Community Animator from Villages in Action (VIA) to the Forum.

The Programme Manager explained that VIA was a charity enabling and promoting engagement in the arts, working largely with volunteer promoters, but since January they had also been working on a national lottery funded project called Village Exchange, between Membury, Honiton and Ottery St Mary.

VIA aimed to empower communities to develop, organise and sustain their own cultural activity, enhancing quality of life, social inclusion, self-confidence and enterprise. The VIA ongoing work enabled community participation in the arts through activating or presenting creative work at grassroots level, building a network of people engaged and identified as artists, art enablers and supporters. VIA acted largely as a broker, facilitating links. She demonstrated some East Devon events and participation highlights from October 2022 to February 2023 to the Forum, and shared some positive feedback.

From April 2022 to present date over £3500 had been taken in box office income from 12 local events, with additional money made on bar takings and refreshments. Over 620 audience members had experienced a VIA show in East Devon, with another few hundred taking part in creative workshops or other engagement activity. VIA were piloting how they were working in East Devon, which was advancing quickly, mainly due to support from the district council.

25 **Wild Honiton - James Chubb**

EDDC Countryside Team Leader, James Chubb, gave the Forum a presentation on Wild Honiton. He began by explaining that Wild Honiton was a partnership project led by EDDC's Wild East Devon team that was aimed at improving the green space and residents' connection to green spaces. It had been developed from experience with the previous Wild Exmouth project. The two themes were nature recovery and nature connection, along with two flagship species; hedgehogs and beavers.

The project had 10 public events programmed through the year aimed specifically at a Honiton audience. The first event was a family fun day at Honiton Bottom Community Nature Reserve on 1 May. Four practical volunteering sessions were also planned for a younger family audience. The hope was to continue to recruit new volunteers from within the local community as well as tapping into existing groups.

A discovery trail had been commissioned for six sites around the town, leading people from one to another. The Countryside team were likely to be taking on responsibility for the Woodland Education Centre at Offwell, with Forestry England acting as a volunteer

group. Local schools would be approached, with environmental education sessions linked to the Wild Honiton project starting in September.

The Countryside Team Leader explained that part of the ethos of the wild towns project was to breakdown silo thinking, engaging more with district council and town council colleagues and bringing in volunteers to help with bigger tasks. He had also been discussing with the Arts Development Manager and the Thelma Hulbert Gallery ideas for a creative arts trail around Honiton and nature through the arts and culture.

The Countryside Team Leader stressed the importance of marketing and publicity, to ensure the correct target audience. There was a newsletter that went out to 3000 people, social media platforms and good connections with local media outlets.

The Forum noted that the intention was that the project would roll out to other towns and the work already undertaken would be embedded in the participating towns, rather than being a stand-alone one year event. The Forum thanked the Countryside Team Leader for his presentation.

26 **Update on ACE NLPG - Wild Escape/Create Our Space - Ruth Gooding and Anna Aroussi**

The Forum received an update from the Arts Development Manager and the Engagement Officer on two projects that had been launched this year; Wild Escape and Create Our Space. Wild Escape was a national project with the premise of connecting schools to heritage and nature using museums and artists. It was funded by Art Fund. The Thelma Hulbert Gallery (THG) had partnered with Allhallows Museum in Honiton and the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and 28 children across years 4 and 5 in Honiton Town primary school would be taken out into the Blackdown Hills, to the museum and to the gallery. The children would be working with an artist to create a kinetic sculpture. The project would culminate with a procession from the primary school to the THG garden on Earth Day on 22 April 2023, with additional activities planned.

The Arts Development Manager explained the Create Our Space project, which was designed to create inclusive opportunities to engage with arts, culture and climate, responding to the needs of East Devon's young people, aged 7 to 25. It was the first time specific focus had been on that age range and there were some high profile partners. The project was being co-delivered and funded with the University of Exeter, Honiton Community College and Allhallows Museum. There were four pillars in the project. The first was the appointment of an intern. Working with the University of Exeter and their business partnership scheme an intern was being hosted for 15 hours a week for 10 months. Training opportunities were being developed by young people for young people of all different ages at the THG.

The first exhibition a part of Create Our Space was a called Paradise Found and would open on 18 March 2023. It was an ambitious project and included a workshop programme for the gallery.

The Arts Development Manager informed the Forum that funding was available to keep the creative cabin going and it would be present at various festivals across the district and the cabin now had a dedicated culture vehicle. In addition to working with South West Museums and the Arts Council, work could now be done with Cranbrook. It would

also help deliver the Wild Honiton commitment, going to the housing estates in East Devon and also working with the refugee communities.

Following this, Brian Knox, ACE music champion gave the Forum an update on core music activities. The idea behind 'live music at the king of clubs' in Ottery St Mary was to increase access to experience and participate in the arts. The venue was self-funded, with door money paying the artists and hire fees. Last year there had been 20 shows, with opportunities for 60 local musicians, including PR exposure. The Kabins band was an example of success. The focus this year was shifting to emerging artists, with 'Battle of the Bands' and there was involvement in the Ottery Project with Villages in Action. Brian Knox was thanked for his update.

Attendance List

EDDC Councillors present:

J Whibley (Chair)
O Davey
B De Saram
A Moulding
N Hookway (Vice-Chair)

Community representatives:

Town Representatives

C Buchan, Cranbrook Town Council
J Walden, Axminster Town Council

Officers in attendance:

Ruth Gooding, Arts Development Manager/Curator THG
Charles Plowden, Assistant Director Countryside and Leisure
Anna Aaroussi, Project Co-ordinator
James Chubb, Countryside Team Leader
John Golding, Director of Housing, Health and Environment
Sarah James, Democratic Services Officer
Alethea Thompson, Democratic Services Officer
Sarah Elghady, Cultural Producer

Also Present

P Arnott, EDDC
A Huskisson, Axminster Town
J Astley, ACED Champion
J Cairns, Devon Museum Development Officer, South West Museums Development
V Harding, Programme Manager, South West Museums Development
M George, Programme Manager, Villages in Action
D Knox, ACED Music Champion
J Magill, Arts Development Manager, Exmouth Town Council
T Treavor, Creative Peninsular, University of Exeter
W Van der Plank, Community Animator, Villages in Action

Apologies:

E Rylance

Chair

Date:

Report to: Arts & Culture Forum



Date of Meeting 8th November 2023

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Arts & Culture Forum constitution

Report summary:

The report proposes some minor amendments to the original Arts & Culture Forum Constitution which were agreed by the Council in 2013. The amendments are intended to reflect the increased activities brought about by the adoption of East Devon's Culture Strategy 2022-2031 and the need for the Arts & Culture Forum to have oversight of its delivery plan. The appointment of East Devon DC's Cultural Producer to drive the delivery of the Culture Strategy has meant there is now increased project activity which requires reporting on. Also, there will be funding bid applications moving forward which will require comment and support from the Forum before they are submitted. This may require a decision from the Forum to agree and support an allocation of funding to enable the funding bid to succeed. The report also highlights the development of the ACED Network since 2021/22 which now brings together East Devon's creative communities and organisations and has provided a much stronger and more visible platform for our communities to proactively engage in our creative arts and cultural programmes. This therefore has meant there is no longer a specific need for community representatives on the Forum as that was their original intention to provide a community platform for arts and culture.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

That the Arts & Culture Forum recommends to Cabinet the proposed changes in the constitution of the Arts and Culture Forum.

Reason for recommendation:

These changes will update the Forum's constitution to reflect since it was last reviewed in 2013 the adoption of East Devon's Culture Strategy 2022-31 and the creation of the ACED Network which now represents the activities and networking of the district's cultural and creative arts communities.

Officer: Charlie Plowden, Assistant Director – Countryside & Leisure; tel: 01395 515616;
cplowden@eastdevon.gov.uk

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergencies
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Culture, Tourism, Leisure and Sport

- Democracy and Transparency
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; .

Links to background information .

Link to [Council Plan](#):

Priorities (check which apply)

- Outstanding Place and Environment
- Outstanding Homes and Communities
- Outstanding Economic Growth, Productivity, and Prosperity
- Outstanding Council and Council Services

Report in full

1. The current constitution for the Forum:

- 1.1 It is proposed that the areas highlighted in **green** are removed and those in **yellow** are added.
- 1.2 There is only one area being considered for removal in green and that is the election of two community representatives. The current and only community representative has signalled that he wishes to step down with immediate effect. Despite advertising the roles over the years we have been unable to fill the second representative. A major step forward has already happened with the engagement of our grassroots and community cultural organisations with the creation and setting up of the ACED Network. This now has over 200 members and meets regularly as well as having an ACED website to share information. So, it is felt this where our community representation from across the district is best located rather than within the Forum.
- 1.3 The additional text in yellow recognises that since the constitution was agreed we have a new 10-year Culture Strategy for East Devon 2022-31 and a Cultural Producer who has been appointed to help drive the delivery of the Strategy.
- 1.4 There is also reference to the adoption of the East Devon Tourism Strategy and the need for the Forum to receive regular updates on the delivery of this strategy as within it and also the Culture Strategy there are a number of ambitions and objectives to mutually support each other's delivery plans.
- 1.5 Finally, the addition of South West Museums recognises the importance of the work this organisation carries out in supporting all of the district's museums and its volunteers as well as the annual contribution the Council makes to help support their work in this area.

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSTITUTION OF THE ARTS & CULTURE FORUM

The Membership of the Forum shall consist of:

One Cabinet member and two Assistant Portfolio Holders
(Portfolio Holder Coast, Country and Environment
Assistant Portfolio Holder Coast, Country and Environment
Assistant Portfolio Holder Democracy and Transparency)
Culture Champion
Three other East Devon District councillors
Two community representatives

A district or town councillor representing each of the towns of Axminster, Budleigh Salterton, Cranbrook, Exmouth, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth

Officers of the Council, other invited guests and invited members of the public are able to attend meetings of the Forum in an advisory capacity.

Meeting agendas will indicate in advance whether any part of the meeting is to be open to the public.

- 1) The Forum shall make recommendations to the Cabinet of East Devon District Council on matters relating to Arts & Culture in East Devon. This remit includes:

Providing oversight on the delivery of the Culture Strategy for East Devon 2022-2031 receiving updates on progress against the Delivery Plan. Also, to consider any requests by Officers for funding to help support the delivery of the Culture Strategy 2022-31.

Future plans and proposed strategies of towns and surrounding villages and arts and culture organisations within East Devon, as well as achievements of the following:

- a) The Manor Pavilion
 - b) The Thelma Hulbert Gallery
 - c) Countryside Team's events
 - d) East Devon Tourism Strategy activities and events**
 - e) East Devon and Blackdown Hills AONBs events**
 - f) Villages in Action
 - g) **South West Museums**
- 2) The Forum shall make recommendations to the Officers on other relevant matters relating to Arts and Culture in East Devon.
 - 3) There will be an annual election for the Vice-Chair position. The Chair will be the East Devon District Council Culture Champion and the Vice-Chair can be any member of the Forum.
 - 4) Any Member may resign or in the case of those Members appointed by named bodies may be removed by the appointing bodies. The Advisory Forum must be advised in writing of any changes.
 - 5) The two community members will be appointed for an initial four year term by Full Council, which can be extended for a second four year term with a maximum of 8 years in total. Therefore after the first four year term the Forum will have the ability to approve a second four year term so that their experience and knowledge could continue to be used for the benefit of the Forum. They may resign or be removed by the District Council.**
 - 6) Town representatives will be appointed by the Town Councils. Substitutes are permitted.

- 7) The meetings of the Forum will be quorate if at least a quarter of the membership is present.
- 8) Every recommendation from the Forum shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the Members present (including community members) voting on the matter, the Chairman of the meeting, in the event of a tie, having a second or casting vote.
- 9) The Forum shall meet at least twice each year and at other times if business warrants it. The Forum may set up smaller working groups if necessary to deal with particular issues. The Chief Executive may and shall at the request of one quarter of the Members of the Forum, convene a special meeting.
- 10) If the Chairman of the Forum is not present at a meeting of the Forum, the Chair shall be taken by the Vice-Chairman and in the absence of both, the Forum shall elect a Chairman for the meeting.
- 11) The minutes of the Forum shall be open to inspection, and a copy of the minutes will be sent to East Devon District Council following each meeting of the Advisory Forum.
- 12) Nothing stated or implied in this Constitution shall be construed as giving power to the Advisory Forum to incur any expenditure or liability on behalf of the District Council.

Financial implications:

There are no financial implications identified within the report.

Legal implications:

As indicated in this report, changes to the Forum's Constitution will require the approval of the Cabinet.

Report to: Arts & Culture Forum Choose a meeting

Date of Meeting 8th November 2023

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A



UK Shared Prosperity Fund cultural programme

Report summary:

The report provides a summary of the first year of outputs of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UK SPF) cultural programme. This is a three year funded programme which will help to both support the delivery of East Devon's Cultural Strategy 2022-2031 as well as deliver funding into our district's diverse and distinctive creative communities and help to support their activities and events. The three year Cultural Programme will also help to enable the delivery of the Council Plan 2021-2023 strategic aim to 'develop a stronger commitment to and offers in arts and leisure through the development of a Culture Strategy and an Events Strategy for our own land'. It is therefore a significant programme that will benefit the whole of the district.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

That the Arts & Culture Forum:

- endorses this report and the successful delivery of the year one outputs of the UK SPF cultural programme.

Reason for recommendation:

To ensure that the Forum is informed and updated annually on the progress of the three year UK SPF cultural programme in the most reliable and transparent manner. The cultural programme year one outcomes will feed into the overarching monitoring and evaluation being reported to DHLUC by the Economic Development team as the UK SPF programme co-ordinators.

Officer: Sarah Elghady, Cultural Producer; tel 01395 515616. Sarah.Elghady@eastdevon.gov.uk

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergencies
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Culture, Tourism, Leisure and Sport
- Democracy and Transparency
- Economy and Assets
- Finance

- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk; .

Links to background information .

Link to [Council Plan](#):

Priorities (check which apply)

- Outstanding Place and Environment
- Outstanding Homes and Communities
- Outstanding Economic Growth, Productivity, and Prosperity
- Outstanding Council and Council Services

Report in full

1. Arts and Culture Summary Report – Year 1 Evaluation of Cultural Programme

- 1.1 The three year Cultural Programme, funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund, aims to build a more resilient, inclusive and community focussed cultural and creative sector in East Devon. Empower more local people to shape and get involved with culture at all stages of their lives, drawing on and reflecting upon the diversity of contemporary society and the variety of activity that takes place in East Devon.
- 1.2 The Cultural Programme will amplify how culture enhances, inspires and engages people with the countryside, coast and climate whilst bolstering civic pride and a renewed sense of community
- 1.3 The Cultural Programme will increase the attractiveness of East Devon as somewhere younger professionals (20-29 year olds) want to live and work. Therefore targeting support and opportunities to help more young adults to feel that they have a voice, something to do and take an active role in their community; drives local community spirit and builds upon our existing cultural assets
- 1.4 One of the identified projects will help build capacity for volunteers and community groups through training in governance, business planning, digital transformation and fundraising, and collections management. We will also explore the potential for promoting and diversifying volunteering opportunities through a central digitised portal.
- 1.5 In addition, the programme will seek to enhance the quality and appeal of collections, and the sustainability of local museums, through a programme of shared capital investment in display and interpretation.
- 1.6 Finally, celebrating East Devon's volunteers through recognition and rewards will help to foster a sense of achievement and community spirit within our towns and parishes, with the aim to motivate other local residents to step forward and take part.

2. The main activities and milestones in Year 1 (Jan – March 2023) delivery were:

2.1 Arts and Culture East Devon (ACED) website: www.aced.org.uk

The Cultural Producer commissioned Cosmic to develop create new website to better connect the creative communities of East Devon

2.2 ACED Training with delivery of sessions in fundraising and marketing delivered

2.3 The THG's Creative Cabin with new areas of delivery enabled by the hire of a vehicle to transport the Creative Cabin to increase cultural engagement across East Devon making specific provision to support those from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds; including young people, older people, people with dementia, caregivers, rurally isolated communities, both coastal and inland

3. Response to Cultural Programme:

3.1 The growth and development of the ACED Network, where we also share other opportunities such as cultural funding, has been of interest to surrounding areas. For example we received this email from a Senior Lecturer (MA Arts, Health and Wellbeing) at Plymouth Marjon University:

"I'd been meaning to get in touch with ACED for a while - you have such a brilliant newsletter, featuring so many great training opportunities, which I will definitely be sharing with our students, and telling them to sign up to your mailing list too!"

3.2 Our ACED Training has also been received positively:

*"The ACED Essentials in Fundraising workshop was fantastically put together and delivered. I had some previous experience in fund-raising but came away with new skills and ideas that enabled me to secure funds in the following weeks from sources that I had previously not known about. David from Cause4 was so knowledgeable and engaging, fund-raising can sometimes feel like a daunting prospect but I came away with a renewed sense of purpose. Thank you ACED for creating this great day!"*The Cultural Producer recently sent out a 6 month follow up survey to the 19 participants of this fundraising training, where the majority of survey respondents said they had been able to develop a more focused case for support which had led to successfully obtaining grants since the training.

4. Alignment with Council objectives:

4.1 The ACED website and network development, as well as the Creative Cabin project connect with the wider strategic ambitions of the Council in the following ways:

- Better homes and communities for all - a portfolio has been introduced to cover culture, leisure and tourism, recognising the importance of these sectors for our local economy, our communities and health and wellbeing.
- A greener East Devon – a section on sustainability will feature on the ACED website with links to various resources specific to decarbonisation of cultural activities. We will also be running Carbon Literacy Training in Year 2. The Creative Cabin also promotes links between arts and culture and climate change – raising awareness of the public and seeking to change behaviours.
- A resilient economy – we're supporting the creative industry by providing training opportunities, for example in fundraising and marketing to increase income streams. We recognise the economic as well as the social value of tourism, art and culture to the local economy and the wealth that is generated in those sectors.

5. Plans for Year 2:

5.1 Activity for Year 2 of the programme is now underway. The ACED website is now live, with over 100 ACED Members listed in the Directory. The website promotes our training programme which covers: volunteer recruitment and retention, carbon literacy, collections management, governance and public speaking. A small grant scheme, Creative East Devon Fund, has also been set up accepting applications which align with our East Devon Cultural Strategy and our goals that by 2031:

- East Devon's cultural offer is perceived by residents as high quality, interesting, fun, relevant, accessible and well-promoted
 - Residents who have taken part in cultural activity feel that their health, happiness and wellbeing have improved as a result
 - Children and young people across the district feel they have ample opportunities to take part in cultural and creative activities
 - More people work in the cultural and creative industries in East Devon, backed up by more training, skills and pathways to employment
 - Cultural organisations, artists and creative businesses feel connected, resilient and creatively ambitious (professional and voluntary sectors)
 - Investment into arts, museums and heritage through earned income, grants, sponsorship and philanthropy has increased
 - The number and diversity of visitors, audiences and participants in culture and creative activity in East Devon has increased
 - Culture is helping to tackle the climate emergency
-

Financial implications:

There are no financial implications identified within the report.

Legal implications:

There are no substantive legal issues directly arising from this update report.

CULTURAL STRATEGY

2022 - 2031

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ARTS &
CULTURE
EAST
DEVON

THE STRATEGY

OUR VISION

Our vision is for East Devon to be a **VIBRANT CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM** whose distinctive communities and outstanding natural environment are enhanced and enriched through creativity, curiosity and collaboration.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to balance the unique identities, independence and quirks of each East Devon community with the need to work together on ambitious, shared initiatives that transcend any one organisation, artform or place. This will include partners from within and beyond our district.

OUR VALUES

Our values underpin the strategy. We will be:

RESILIENT

We will build resilience of the creative and cultural sector by connecting, supporting and securing investment in local artists and practitioners, and attracting new investment

COLLABORATIVE

Local community spirit drives much of our current cultural activity. This will be a strategy that empowers more local people to shape and get involved with culture at all stages of their lives, delivered with and for local people from all parts of the district

DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE

We will draw on and reflect the diversity of contemporary society and celebrate the variety of activity that takes place in East Devon, ensuring an inclusive approach and equality of opportunity

CONNECTED WITH NATURE

East Devon has an abundance of opportunities to connect nature, culture, wellbeing and people in mutually beneficial ways. We will use culture and creativity to enhance, inspire and engage people, to support our goal of carbon neutrality by 2040 and help mitigate against the threats of climate change on our communities





OUR CULTURAL STRATEGY THEMES

There are eight core themes to the strategy:

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

Support the unique, community-led cultural organisations whose efforts enhance the high quality of life and wellbeing in East Devon's towns and villages

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Establish East Devon as an innovator and regional beacon of culture-led environmental protection, enhancement and activism

GROWING CULTURAL TOURISM

Establish new cultural products, partnerships and promotional activity to mutually benefit and grow the creative and visitor economies

CREATIVE ENTERPRISE AND SKILLS

Build inspiring talent development pathways for the current and next generation of East Devon creatives

NEW PLACES FOR CULTURE

Ensure all East Devon residents, especially children and young people, can experience high quality culture and creativity in their local areas

CONNECTIVITY

Support the sector to connect, work collectively, share best practice and lever investment through greater joint working

CULTURAL LEADERSHIP

Be ambitious and drive change by bringing together a diverse range of partners to drive forward and advocate for the Cultural Strategy and secure inward investment

CAPTURE VALUE

Ensure continuous learning and improvement by monitoring and evaluating the change that creativity and culture has on people and place

THEME 1

STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT THE 'PEOPLE-THAT-DO'

OBJECTIVE

Support the unique, community-led cultural organisations whose efforts enhance the high quality of life and wellbeing in East Devon's towns and villages

ACTIONS	POTENTIAL WORK PROGRAMMES	TIMESCALE
1.1 Invest in and strengthen our many thriving, often volunteer-run cultural venues and programmes across East Devon	1.1.1 Build post-Covid confidence and capacity for volunteers and community groups in our towns and parishes through training in governance, business planning, digital transformation and fundraising, and reducing carbon impact, as well as training in core creative skills, such as producing live events, interpretation, collections management	SHORT/MEDIUM
	1.1.2 Enhance the quality and appeal of collections, and the sustainability of local museums, through a programme of shared capital investment in display and interpretation	MEDIUM
	1.1.3 Explore the potential of a new network that supports more community asset transfers and sharing of policy support and good practice for village halls and other cultural venues, to ensure their place at the heart of our communities	MEDIUM
1.2 Support and champion volunteering	1.2.1 Celebrate East Devon's volunteers through recognition and rewards	SHORT
	1.2.2 Explore the potential for promoting and diversifying volunteering opportunities through a central portal, such as Volunteer Makers	MEDIUM



EAST DEVON HAS MORE THAN **100** PUBLIC VENUES FOR CULTURE INCLUDING

- MUSEUMS
- SMALL-SCALE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRES
- THEATRES
- VILLAGE HALLS
- LIBRARIES
- HERITAGE SITES
- AN ART GALLERY



HOME



ABOUT



DIRECTORY



OPPORTUNITIES



RESOURCES



NEWS



EVENTS



CONTACT



WELCOME TO ARTS AND CULTURE EAST DEVON

East Devon enriched through creativity, curiosity and collaboration

ACED is a network connecting the creative communities of East Devon and provides a central platform to engage, promote and talk about arts and culture across the region.

ABOUT ACED





ACED DIRECTORY

Filter by category or view all members below.

[Become a member today.](#)



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ACED MEMBERS

Join the ACED Network to make local connections and collaborate with other creatives.

[EXPLORE THE DIRECTORY](#)



ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

[View members](#)



CREATIVE EDUCATION

[View members](#)



DANCE

[View members](#)



DIGITAL (FILM, TV, GAMING)

[View members](#)



FESTIVALS

[View members](#)



LIBRARIES AND LITERATURE

[View members](#)



MUSEUMS & HERITAGE

[View members](#)



MUSIC

[View members](#)



OUTDOOR SPACE

[View members](#)



THEATRE

[View members](#)



VISUAL ARTS & CRAFTS

[View members](#)



ALL ACED MEMBERS

[View all members](#)



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

ACED is committed to supporting individual creatives and cultural organisations and creatives in their development, as part of the **cultural strategy**.

Our free training courses help strengthen our many thriving, often volunteer-run cultural venues and programmes across East Devon.

Previous training sessions have covered fundraising, marketing, volunteer recruitment, carbon literacy and collection care for museums.



NOV 13:00 - 16:00
1 GOVERNANCE 101



FEB 10:00 - 13:00
13 PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP



MAR 10:00 - 12:00
6 MENTORING TRAINING

“

The ACED Essentials in Fundraising workshop was fantastically put together and delivered. I had some previous experience in fundraising but came away with new skills and ideas that enabled me to secure funds in the following weeks from sources that I had previously not known about. David from Cause4 was so knowledgeable and engaging, fundraising can sometimes feel like a daunting prospect but I came away with a renewed sense of purpose. Thank you ACED for creating this great day!” Sarah White, Co-Artistic Director, Four of Swords.



HOME



ABOUT



DIRECTORY



OPPORTUNITIES



RESOURCES



NEWS



EVENTS



CONTACT



CREATIVE EAST DEVON FUND FAQS

What is the Creative East Devon Fund?

The Creative East Devon Fund provides discretionary financial support to local art and culture initiatives and projects that can demonstrate a commitment to developing the East Devon Cultural Strategy. This scheme is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

[APPLY TODAY](#)



POWERED BY

**LEVELLING
UP**



Funded by
UK Government

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

A set of indicators, measured using quantitative and qualitative data, will track progress and help us understand what impact the strategy is having.

OUR GOAL IS THAT BY 2031:

- East Devon's cultural offer is perceived by residents as high quality, interesting, fun, relevant, accessible and well-promoted
- Residents who have taken part in cultural activity feel that their health, happiness and wellbeing have improved as a result
- Children and young people across the district feel they have ample opportunities to take part in cultural and creative activities
- More people work in the cultural and creative industries in East Devon, backed up by more training, skills and pathways to employment

- Cultural organisations, artists and creative businesses feel connected, resilient and creatively ambitious (professional and voluntary sectors)
- Investment into arts, museums and heritage through earned income, grants, sponsorship and philanthropy has increased
- The number and diversity of visitors, audiences and participants in culture and creative activity in East Devon has increased
- Culture is helping to tackle the climate emergency

SURVEY RESPONDENTS FELT THAT CULTURE COULD CONTRIBUTE "VERY WELL"



TO ATTRACTING TOURISTS (75%),
PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING (66%)
AND BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES (64%)
IN EAST DEVON



South West Museum Development Programme

East Devon Arts & Culture Forum
8 November 2023

page 29

Vic Harding, Programme Manager,
SW Museum Development



Agenda Item 10

Context: Key regional museum statistics 2022/23

The South West has the highest proportion of independent museums at 67% of museums in the region

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67% are **Independent Charities**
(58% nationally)

57% are **'micro'** fewer than 10K visitors annually
(46% nationally)

Visit numbers **still down 8%** in the SW on 2019/20
(18% nationally)

42% are wholly **volunteer run**
(31% nationally)

37% reported an **annual turnover** of less than 25k in 2022/23
(29% nationally)

Data Source: [Annual Museum Survey 2023](#)



What is Museum Development?

South West Museum Development

We are a team of museum and heritage development specialists working with the museum and heritage sector in the South West to effect positive, lasting change and deliver public value.

- Is an Arts Council England funded Sector Support Organisation
- An Arts Council's National Portfolio Organisation since 2018
- 1 of 9 Museum Development (ONS) providers across England

Key Services

- Specialist Officers – Collections, Volunteering, Audiences
- Local, place-based Museum Development Officers across the region
- Primary Training Provider for the sector in the region
- Distribute a small grant programme
- Provide Technical Accreditation Service
- Develop and deliver projects with cohorts of museums



Delivering trusted, local and relevant development support services for museums across 2022/23



201 museums have benefitted from our support during 2022/23



Provided targeted grant application support

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In person training and online workshops with specialist officers reaching **529** delegates in 2022/23



We have generated a 40% increase in investment from our Arts Council grant increasing value for the sector to **£820,800** in 2022/23 (up from £758K)

Additional funding and investment in year of over £150,000 from partners:

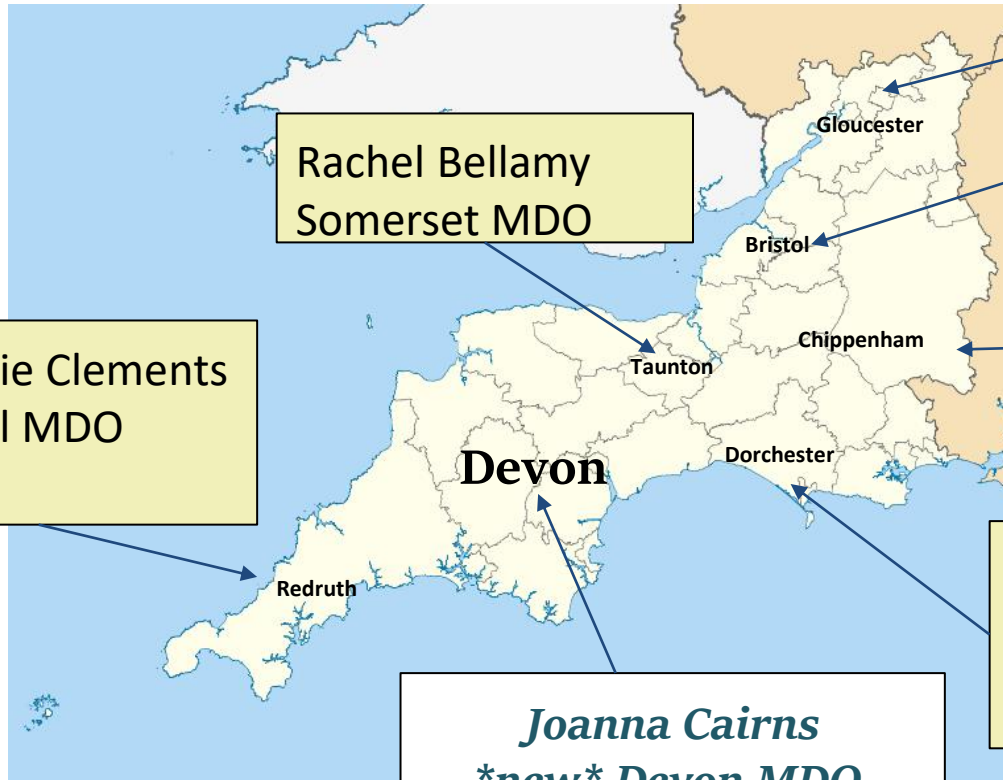


Art Fund_



Museum Development Officers

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Jenni Orme
Gloucestershire MDO

Alex Gibson
West of England MDO &
Accreditation Advisor

Heather Perry
Wiltshire MDO

Vicky De Wit
Dorset and Bournemouth,
Christchurch & Poole MDO

Stephanie Clements
Cornwall MDO

Rachel Bellamy
Somerset MDO

Joanna Cairns
**new* Devon MDO*

Museum Development activity in East Devon

March 23 – Oct 23 to date...

General support and advice offered to all museums with regular updates on SW Museum Development programmes and activities



Organisation of **East Devon Museums Group Meetings** in March 2023 at Allhallows, Honiton and October 2023 at Axminster Heritage Centre

page 34 **Museum Accreditation support** given to Ottery St Mary, Exmouth Museum and Whimble Heritage Centre on eligibility process.



Successful submission of Accreditation Return for Sidmouth Museum achieved in October 2023

Support and advice with **grant applications** provided to Fairlynch Museum, Exmouth Museum, Allhallows Museum and Whimble Heritage Centre

Arts & Culture East Devon (ACED) Museum and Heritage Champion



The Wild Escape - exciting new project success!

Bringing museums, schools and families together to engage young people with the UK's natural environment, drawing inspiration from the art and objects in museums and the creative and learning opportunities they can offer.

Delighted to have awarded Thelma Hulbert Gallery and Honiton Museum, only one of two consortia across England, £6000

£373,000 funding for small grants across England

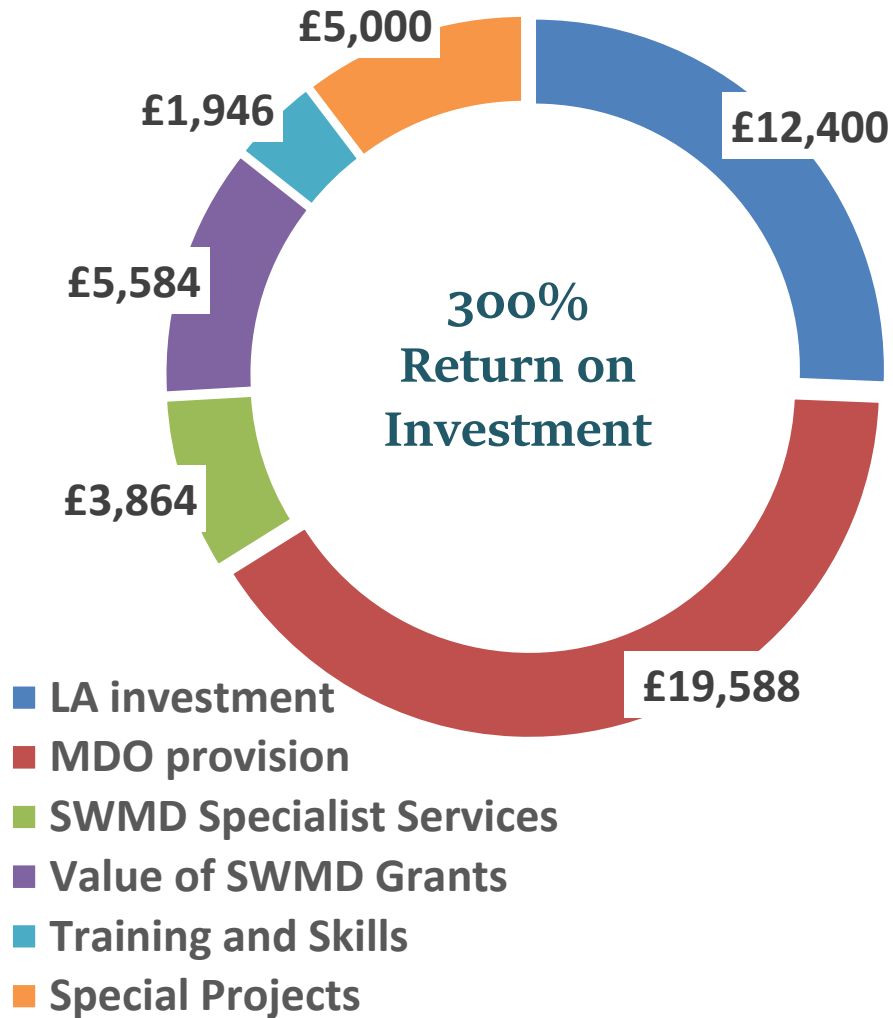
Art Fund_



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Investment in East Devon's Museums



page 36

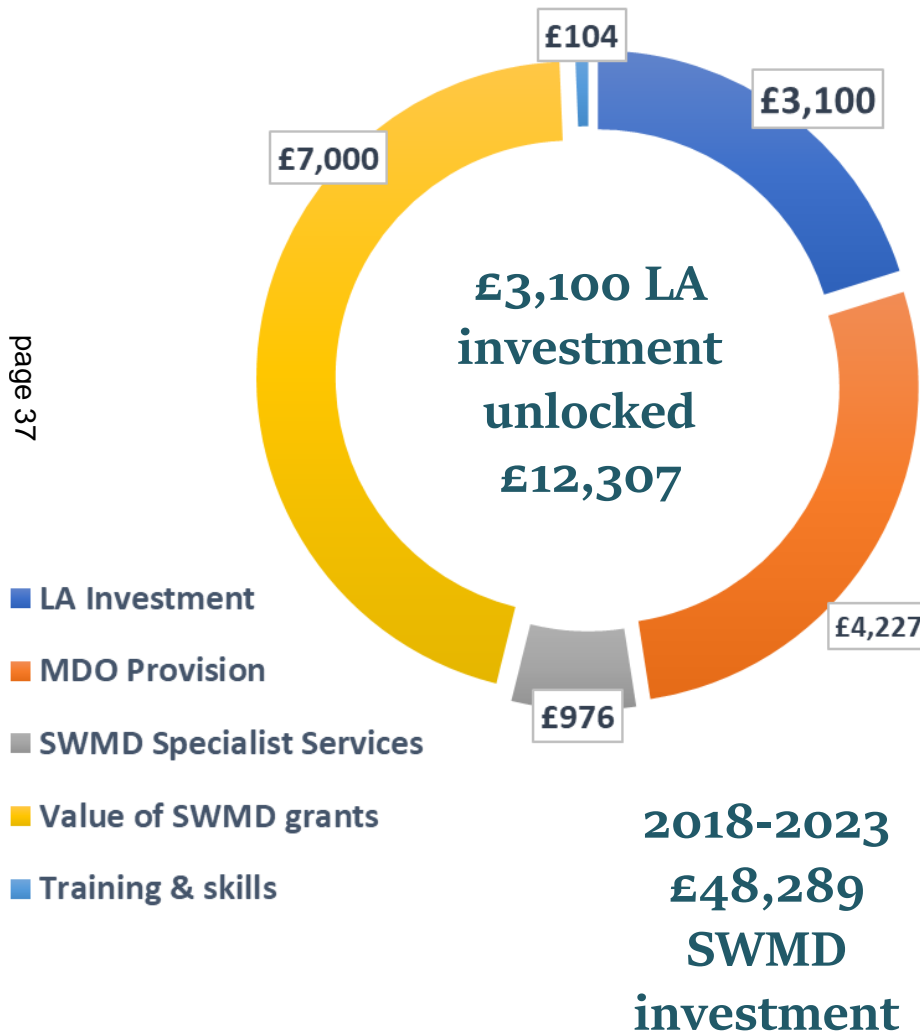
2018/19 – 2021/22 – four years
East Devon District Council £1,500
Sidmouth Town Council £800
Budleigh Salterton Council £800

Local Authorities investing
£12,400 over the four years since
2018/19, SWMD delivering
£36,000 of bespoke support and
grants

The five museums receiving over
£48,400 of development services
delivered to:
Whimble Heritage Centre
Sidmouth Museum
Fairlynch Museum & Arts Centre
Allhallows Museum
Axminster Heritage Centre

Investment in East Devon's Museums –2022/2023

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2022/2023 LA investment:

East Devon District Council £1,500

Sidmouth Town Council £800

Budleigh Salterton Council £800

Local Authorities investing £3,100 over the past year since, SWMD delivering £12,307 of bespoke support and grants

The five museums accessing development services, alongside Thelma Hulbert Gallery includes:

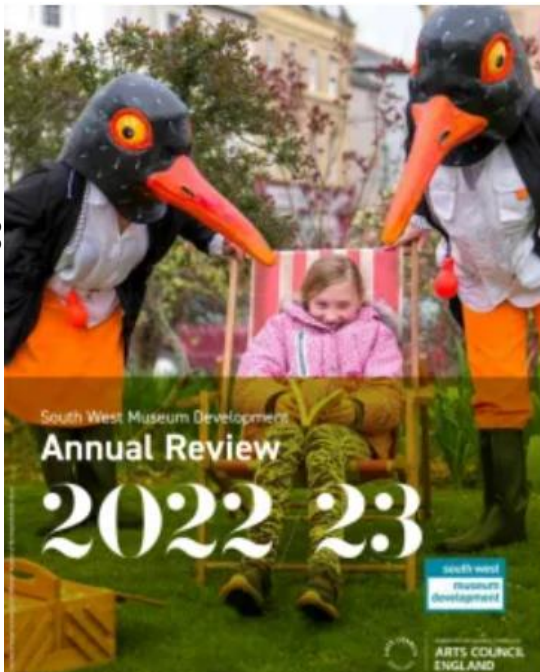
- Whimple Heritage Centre
- Sidmouth Museum
- Fairlynch Museum & Arts Centre
- Allhallows Museum
- Axminster Heritage Centre

Finally,

We've successfully secured Arts Council England funding for the following two years 2024-2026! More updates to come soon....

Any questions?

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Jo Cairns
Devon Museum Development Officer

Victoria Harding
Programme Manager

South West Museum Development
www.southwestmuseums.org.uk
Museum.development@bristol.gov.uk
[@swmuseums](https://twitter.com/swmuseums)

[Our Annual Review - South West Museum Development \(southwestmuseums.org.uk\)](http://www.southwestmuseums.org.uk)



Arts and Culture Forum East Devon

Mair George, Creative Director

8 November 2023

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East Devon Performance Highlights

March '23 - October '23



KINDLE
BY HATTIE COLLINS
STOCKLAND VICTORY HALL
3RD JUNE, 7.30PM

ORIGINS AWARD
WINNER
2022

★★★★★
"Poignant storytelling & slick choreography"
- Fringe Biscuit

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Village Exchange

Ottery St Mary - Honiton - Membury



Memory Cafe Celebrates Coronation

MEMORY CAFE

The Devon arts charity Villages in Action has been producing a community connecting project in Honiton and part of it was a wonderful Coronation crafting session held on Thursday 8th May at the Memory Cafe.

As a celebration for King Charles' Coronation, the tables were adorned with gorgeous red, white and blue flower arrangements made by Georgina. Many of us wore red, white and blue too - with a few sporting a regal crown as well. The hall was beautifully bedecked with Union Jack bunting.

There was a wonderful slide show of the Queen's Coronation, compiled by Ian our projectorist and many fond memories were relayed by some who brought in personal memories from that day in 1953.

Weron was our official photographer and Claire did all the preparation and demonstrated how to make our special Coronation brooches with various additional ribbons and sparkles according to our taste.

By the time the wonderful volunteers served tea and Dave and Avril had cut the amazing Coronation cake and shared it with everyone we had all made our very splendid brooches.

As a fantastic finale to the afternoon Claire from The Library Sisters trio came to sing some fabulous numbers from the 40s and 50s encouraging us to join her, which we enthusiastically did.

One thing is for sure the Honiton Memory Cafe crowd really know how to celebrate!

Villages in Action

FACTS AND FIGURES, from March to October 2023...



£12,597
box office
takings

- £4385 in East Devon



1250
audiences

- 503 in East Devon



20
events
hosted

- 6 in East Devon



Thelma Hulbert Gallery

Gemma Girvan – Gallery Manager and Curator

Highlights of 2023

Awarded significant Arts Council Grant – COS project

Art Fund – The Wild Escape

Paradise Found – record sales and pre pandemic visitor figures

Autumn Workshops sold out

4 Exhibitions in a row in the Guardian

BBC coverage of Summer Workshops

Record breaking applications to OPEN 2023

Carbon Literacy Training

62% increase in Gallery Sales

17% increase in Donations

5% Increase in Gallery Visitors

Outreach engaged with over 3700 adults and young people

Gallery Sales / Donations/ Visitors

	Total Gallery Sales				Donations				Gallery Visitors		
Month	Exhibition		2019/2020	2023/2024		2019/2020	2023/2024		2019/2020	2023/2024	
April	PARADISE FOUND		£1,409.95	£2,340.85		£190.56	£229.76		772	1013	
May	PARADISE FOUND		£1,319.90	£3,817.35		£400.79	£373.56		776	929	
June	CORINNA WAGNER		£1,652.51	£1,362.35		£65.99	£63.2		659	503	
July	CORINNA WAGNER		£916.54	£848.25		£156.20	£92.26		690	621	
August	CORINNA WAGNER		£1,825.32	£3,012.13		£101.11	£267.85		954	674	
September	OPEN		£902.12	£1,656.05		£74.80	£140		596	941	
October	OPEN		£1,464.63			£536.58			1140		
November	PRESENT MAKERS		£6,494.82			£162.36			1079		
December	PRESENT MAKERS		£5,226.96			£29.60			605		
January	MIKHAIL KARIKIS		£3,348.23			£223.08			1040		
February	MIKHAIL KARIKIS		£3,111.63			£195.46			573		
March	SWAc		£845.61			£63.15			358		
	TOTALS		£28,518.22	£19,436.98		£2,199.68	£1,166.63		9242		



Landscapes in Time

This year we explored the change in natural landscapes and land use, revealing a multitude of stories and connections which cut through time, challenging our perception and posing environmental and social questions.



THG Exhibitions 2023

Leonie Hampton – A language of Seeds

Paradise Found – New Visions of the Blackdown Hills

Corinna Wagner – TerraOceanus

THG OPEN 2023

Present Makers 2023



Next Exhibition

Present Makers 2023 -Christmas selling exhibition

- Open on Saturday with a Christmas shopping event, demos and music.
- Grows in popularity each year.
- This year we have collaborated with the Contemporary Glass Society to shine a spotlight on glass.
- Co-ordinating workshops **sold out**.



Awarded Funding for Art Fund - The Wild Escape and Arts Council – COS project

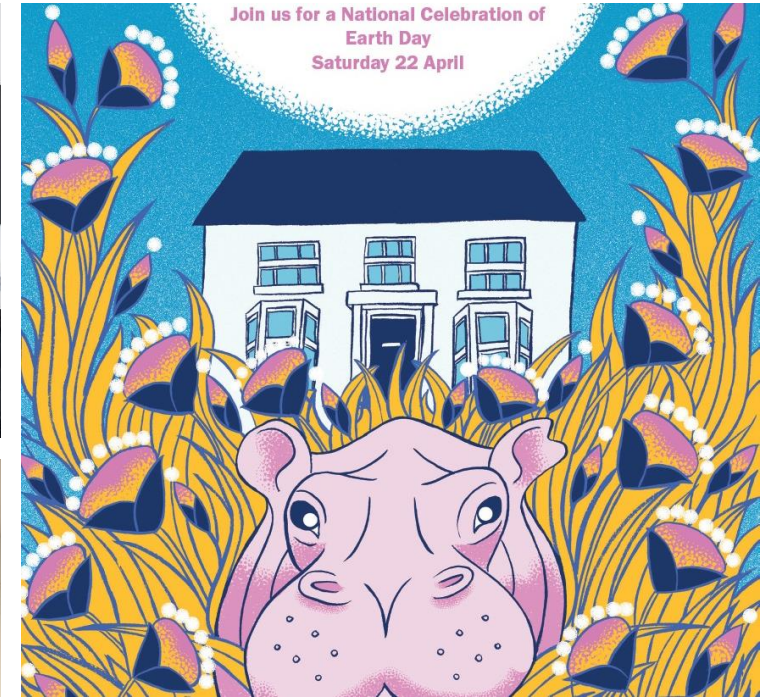
The Wild Escape –

- The largest ever collaboration between UK museums.
- Supported by Arts Council England, the project aimed to inspire children to visit museums.
- Children responded creatively to the threat to the UK's natural environment by looking for animals featured in museum collections to create their own wildlife artworks.

COS (Create Our Space)

- Aimed to create opportunities to engage with arts, culture and climate, responding to the needs of East Devon's young people 7-25
- Grow a New Youth Network.
- Engage a coordinator student intern.
- Produce projects and exhibitions with the creative network.
- Young person-led training, events and workshops.
- Transformed THG's engagement programme and strengthened relationships to East Devon communities i.e. schools and other groups including.

- Honiton Community College and Honiton Primary + 6 East Devon Primary schools, Blackdown Hills AONB, University of Exeter, NHS Devon Recovery Learning Community.



Funding Highlights so far

The Wild Escape's collaboration with SW Museums engaged with 600+ children directly, ending with an Earth Day event which saw over 200 visit the gallery.

COS has already delivered a comprehensive programme of workshops and events and is on track to continue this year. Figures so far:

Network meetings – 3

Workshops – 13

Festivals and Events – 7

THG Events – 3

Summer Art week spanning 5 days of art activities.

Engaged with over 3700 adults and young people.

Our partnership with Honiton Community College, Honiton Primary and other ED Primary schools have seen us deliver 9 school's workshops with more scheduled and engaged with over 500 school children.

THG is aligned to the East Devon Cultural strategy and a vital partner delivering against the strategy for East Devon communities.

How we have delivered against some of the core themes of the strategy:

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

- Delivering exhibitions, workshops and events to East Devon communities to enhance their quality of life and wellbeing, especially hard-to-reach groups e.g. NHS Devon Recovery Learning Community

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Spearheading innovation in climate action through art with exhibitions and events including 4 Climate Conversations events to date and this year's exhibitions:
- Leonie Hampton: A Language of Seeds – Léonie's work captures the beauty of the natural world while attending to the urgent climate crisis through the tender relationships she creates between human hand, body and mouth, and the food she grows.

page 50 Corinna Wagner: featuring landscapes reflecting the sadness and anxiety about environmental damage to homes, lands, rivers and seas but also highlight the possibility of biodiversity recovery via these rewilded and resurrected landscapes. including Professor Corinna Wagner's work with the Time and Tide Bell Project, supported by the UK Climate Resilience Programme and the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC).

CREATIVE ENTERPRISE AND SKILLS

- Build inspiring talent development pathways for the current and next generation of East Devon creatives through COS programme and supporting emerging artists by exhibiting for the first time in the THG Open 2023 and recognising their talent through prizes.

NEW PLACES FOR CULTURE

Ensuring East Devon residents, especially children and young people, can experience high quality culture and creativity in their local areas:

- By providing a rich cultural programme of exhibitions and events both in Honiton and across East Devon with the mobile Creative Cabin. This has included taking the cabin out and engaging with new housing developments such as Cranbrook.
- Creating the COS project to allow 11-25 year olds to connect with other young creatives, collaborate and get involved with varied workshops and training opportunities.

CONNECTIVITY

- Supporting the sector to connect, work collectively, share best practice and lever investment through greater joint working by setting up the original ACED network and attending and hosting the ACED network meetings.



2024 Programme – Process and Place

This year we are exploring creative process through time and place;

- Art in the form of climate care and action.
- Supporting and showcasing local South West artists.
- Considering human engagement with the earth, art and artefacts.
- Researching our cultural heritage.
- Engagement and reviving of forgotten craft techniques.





Mikhail Karikis – Acoustics of Resistance

13 January – 9 March 2024

- The first ever UK showing of Acoustics of Resistance, a new project by Mikhail Karikis focusing on the climate emergency and exploring listening as a form of climate activism.
- *The Weather Orchestra*, a 3-channel video installation will transform the gallery space into an indoor weather system. Our relationship with the weather will be revealed through singing and vibrations.
- Mikhail will work with local pupils from Honiton Community College as part of the COS project (funded by Arts Council England). The artworks from these workshops will be displayed alongside the exhibition.

South West Academy 23 March to 11 May 2024

- Work by members of the South West Academy of Fine and Applied Arts.
- The exhibition will feature new works by academicians and associate members of the South West Academy and include original paintings, sculpture, and limited-edition prints.
- All work will be for sale and a catalogue will accompany the exhibition.

Rebecca Partridge 23 March to 11 May 2024

On display in our new Lower Gallery:

- Rebecca Partridge born in Devon, now based in London, exhibits nationally and internationally.
- Is in receipt of an Arts Council grant and learning Japanese woodblock printing.
- Exhibition includes large-scale watercolours of skies made from memories of observing dusks and dawns, to miniature studies of wildflowers at night, from time spent in the Devon countryside local to the gallery.



THG OPEN Winners' exhibition

25 May - 6 July 2024

Supporting and promoting South West artists

Sharon James – Overall Winner

- South West-based artist, whose work explores her identity as an artist/mother.
- Paintings of her children are an extension of her self-portrait and heritage bodies of work.
- Sharon has been visually documenting her children to capture them for posterity outside of pictures on her phone.

Kyle Baker – Under 25 winner

- East Devon-based photographer and film maker who photographs local scenes including Jacob's Ladder, Sidmouth
- Emerging artist who set up his business in 2016 with the help of the Prince's Trust.
- Specialises in seascapes alongside his range of landscapes and nightscapes.



Seam Collective

20 July – 31 August 2024

- Seam Collective is a contemporary textile collective of 15 emerging and established textile artists, designers and researchers based in Bath.
- They share a commitment to pushing the boundaries of craft and making high quality objects realised in the hands and thoughts of the maker.
- This is a fully-funded exhibition which will deliver both engagement and exhibitions.



Philippa Lawrence

14 September – 2 November
2024

- Bristol-based artist from Spike Island.
- Philippa considers human engagement with the earth, art and artefacts. Her on-going research looks into our cultural heritage and engagement with the last practitioners of traditional craft skills.
- Exhibition includes a new commission in cut vinyl which is a creative response to the life and work of Thelma Hulbert.



PRESENT MAKERS 2023



Maggie Hamlyn Williams

**Christmas
selling exhibition
of contemporary
craft and design**

Opening event
Saturday 11 November,
10am–5pm

Exhibition continues
until 23 December

THG
Thelma
Hulbert
Gallery

Saturday 11 November, 10am–5pm

Please join us for the launch of Present Makers 2023, featuring hand-crafted gift ideas showcasing the talent and innovation of contemporary designer makers in the South West.

This year, we are shining a spotlight on glass through our collaboration with the Contemporary Glass Society (CGS).

Enjoy demos from featured makers throughout the day, mulled wine and mince pies. 10% discount on gifts.

Coordinating events

Natural dyes workshop

Sun 12 Nov,
10am–12.30pm or
1pm–3.30pm
Explore how to grow
plants for natural dyes
and how to use the dyes
to colour textiles/yarn.
£90 / £80 THG Friends/
free places 15–25 years*

3D paper craft workshop

Sat 18 Nov,
11am–3.30pm
Learn techniques to
create intricate 3D
forms out of paper.
£40 / £35 THG Friends /
free places 15–25 years*

Gifts and garlands

Thu 7 Dec, 3pm–6pm
Family crafts and
after-hours shopping.
Create a mini wreath,
enjoy mince pies and
cookies, plus 10%
discount on gifts.
Free drop in.
Donations welcome.

* Limited places.
Booking essential at
thelmahulbert.com



CGS Contemporary
Glass
Society



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm
Elmfield House, Dowell Street, Honiton, EX14 1LX
01404 45006
thelmahulbert.com

TH0035