

Meeting Date: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Culture, Heritage & Leisure Portfolio Holder's Report –  
Councillor Stephen Higgs**

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## **TULLIE HOUSE (October – December 2019)**

### **Award Wins**

Two national awards from the Society of Museum Archaeology:

'Best Exhibition, Display or Interpretation Project' for our new Prehistory display *Origins*

'Best Collections Research' for our partnership with Sapienza University in Rome, exploring our Roman collections

In Cumbria Award for 'Best Tourism & Hospitality Business'

Achieved an outstanding rating of 88% in our annual VAQAS Assessment for the quality of our visitor experience.

### **Exhibitions & Events Highlights**

#### *Two World Class Exhibitions*

On 18<sup>th</sup> October we opened our two major Autumn exhibitions, each focussing on one of the great masters of the art world: Rembrandt and Turner.

Both exhibitions include displays championing the work of our local community. The Rembrandt exhibition features a display of etchings created by adults from Making Space, a group for aspiring artists living with mental health issues. The Turner exhibition features a display of fantastic landscapes created by local primary schools as part of our Turner Art Competition: over 150 pupils entered from schools across the county, with the winner's prize giving ceremony taking place next week. 150 pupils have taken part in a Turner Art Week at the Museum, where they explored the exhibition with Tullie House staff and learnt new skills in landscape watercolour painting.

### *The Costume Collection at Tullie House*

Two new galleries will showcase the Museum's stunning costume collection, featuring outfits donated by local families dating from 1700 to the present day. These pieces reveal fascinating stories about Cumbrian women, from prominent local names to working individuals whose histories are rarely told. Items to be displayed include three stunning eighteenth century dresses thought to have belonged to 'Carlisle Miser', Marjorie Jackson, homemade childhood outfits of the wine-journalist Jancis Robinson, and a recently acquired Cracker Packers uniform from McVities (formerly Carrs Biscuits). The new galleries will celebrate Carlisle's historic and present-day textile industry, including businesses such as Linton Tweeds and Stead McAlpine.

## **CULTURE AND EVENTS**

**Fireshow.** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November the 32<sup>nd</sup> consecutive Fire Show was held in Bitts Park which this year celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. This year's event was done in collaboration with some of the media students from the University of Cumbria who designed the amazing projections that were part of the show. Around 35,000 people enjoyed the show.

**Christmas Light Switch On.** The annual Christmas Lights Switch on was held on Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November. Around 10,000 people joined the Mayor and guests Max George and East 17 for the countdown. The event was a great success with East 17 reporting it was one of the best events of its kind they have ever attended.

**Christmas Market.** The Carlisle Christmas Market was held in the City Centre between Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> November and Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December. This year the market featured stalls in wooden chalets. Local producers were given first refusal on the stalls. On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December the monthly Farmers' Market joined the Christmas Market which added to the event. On Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December the Market was the end point for the annual Eden Valley Hospice Santa Dash.

**Old Fire Station.** The Old Fire Station has had a busy couple of months, with increased footfall and a variety of events from a Puppet Theatre to Hyde Park Brass Band.

### **2020 events:**

**City of Lights.** An exciting line up of events, displays and installations is being planned for the first ever 'City of Lights' project in Carlisle. The event will take place between Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February.

The project, a partnership between Carlisle City Council and Cumbria County Council alongside a range of local partners (including Story Contracting and the Railway Heritage Trust), will be delivered under the 'Love Carlisle' brand. The aim of Love Carlisle is to organise and promote events, opportunities and activities that raise the profile of Carlisle and celebrate the variety of cultural and creative talent in the city.

The centre-piece of the City of Lights event will be a stunning visual spectacle in Carlisle Cathedral on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February. The Cathedral will host 'The Great

Exhibition – SPACE: God, the Universe and Everything,’ inspired by the 1969 Moon landings. Created by the award-winning Luxmuralis artistic collaboration, it will take people on a walking journey through the Cathedral, revealing the universe, galaxies, space, creation and light through a variety of sound and light installations that will transform the internal space of the Cathedral. Tickets to all sessions are available in advance from Carlisle Tourist Information Centre and the Old Town Hall.

**Little Mix outdoor concert, Bitts Park.** The ever-popular girls’ band ‘Little Mix’ is returning to Bitts Park on Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020 as part of their 21-date nationwide tour.

## **TOURISM / DISCOVER CARLISLE**

So far this year the Discover Carlisle website has been visited by 96,243 users with 253,100 page views. The Discover Carlisle Facebook page currently has 3,273 likes and 3,479 followers, Twitter has 4,562 followers and Instagram has 1,109 followers.

## **EVENTS ACROSS THE CITY & DISTRICT DURING DECEMBER**

Below are just some of the many and various events that took place across our district in the run-up to Christmas.

<b>Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December – Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	Homemade Festive Afternoon Tea at Talkin Tarn Country Park
<b>Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	News & Star’s Christmas Concert for the Community at The Sands Centre
<b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	The Carlisle Creative Pop Up Shop at 29 Scotland Road
<b>Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Dick Whittington at Harraby Community Centre
<b>Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Tullie Toddlers: Winter Wonderland at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Geno Washington at The Old Fire Station
<b>Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Carols in the Manor at Morton Manor Community Centre
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Martin Stephenson & The Daintees at The Old Fire Station
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	City of Carlisle Orchestra’s Winter Concert at St John’s Church, London Road
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Carol Concert at Netherby Hall
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Coffee Morning at Wigton Road Methodist Church
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Carlisle Community Choir Christmas Concert at St Cuthbert’s Church
<b>Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Santa’s Christmas Countdown at Harraby Community Theatre
<b>Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Carlisle Community Choir Christmas Concert at

	Austin Friars School Chapel
<b>Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Royal Northern Sinfonia present Christmas by Candlelight at St Cuthbert's Church
<b>Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Half A String Theatre presents Under The Frozen Moon at The Old Fire Station
<b>Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Palestine Solidarity Group Carlisle & District presents a film screening of Open Bethlehem at The Church of Scotland
<b>Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	The Big Festive Quiz in aid of Carlisle MenCap at The Old Fire Station
<b>Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Cathedral Choirs Christmas Concert at Carlisle Cathedral
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Market Hall Festive Fun Day
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Film Screening: It's A Wonderful Life at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Carlisle Crematorium's Annual Christmas Remembrance Service in the Crematorium Chapel
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Tearfund Christmas Concert at The Border Kirk
<b>Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	A Not So Silent Night ! by Rocket Theatre Group at Cosmic Studios CIC, Atlas Works
<b>Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Langholm Concert Orchestra at the Longtown Community Centre
<b>Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	The Abbey Singers present A Ceremony of Carols at St James' Church, Denton Holme
<b>Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Tullie Toddlers; Sensory Christmas at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	A Christmas Celebration with Carlisle St Stephen's Band at Wigton Road Methodist Church
<b>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Chris Difford at The Old Fire Station
<b>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Market at Kirklington Hall
<b>Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	Hardwicke Circus at The Brickyard

## **FUTURE EVENTS ACROSS THE CITY & DISTRICT**

<b>Friday, 10th January 2020</b>	One Night of Elvis at The Sands Centre
<b>Thursday, 16th January</b>	Solem String Quartet at St Cuthbert's Church (Presented by the Carlisle Music Society)
<b>Saturday, 18th January</b>	One Night of Queen at The Sands Centre
<b>Friday, 24th January</b>	Beethoven 2020: The Next Generation (Royal Northern Sinfonia - RNS) at St Cuthbert's Church
<b>Saturday, 25th January</b>	Chinese New Year Celebration at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Thursday, 30th January</b>	Woes at The Brickyard
<b>Friday, 31st January</b>	That'll Be The Day at The Sands Centre
<b>Sunday, 2nd February</b>	Nathan Carter The Sands Centre
<b>Tuesday, 4th February</b>	Lunchtime Talk: Treasures from the Archive at Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
<b>Friday, 7th February</b>	Rockmantic Festival at The Brickyard
<b>Friday, 7th February</b>	The Chicago Blues Brothers - A Night at the Movies at The Sands Centre
<b>Saturday, 8th February</b>	Pork Pie at The Old Fire Station
<b>Sunday, 9th February</b>	The Legends of American Country at The Sands Centre
<b>Wednesday, 12th to Saturday, 15th February</b>	Love Carlisle 'City of Lights'
<b>Friday, 14th February</b>	Sinderella at The Sands Centre
<b>Friday, 14th February</b>	Clinton Baptiste at The Old Fire Station
<b>Saturday, 15th February</b>	The Magic of Motown at The Sands Centre
<b>Sunday, 16th February</b>	Pop Divas Live! at The Sands Centre
<b>Tuesday, 18th to Friday, 21st February</b>	Touching History guided tours at Carlisle Citadel
<b>Thursday, 20th February</b>	Emmanuel Bach and Kumi Matsuo at St Cuthbert's Church (Presented by the Carlisle Music Society)
<b>Thursday, 20th February</b>	The Boys Are Back - A1, 5IVE, Damage & 911 at The Sands Centre
<b>Friday, 21st February</b>	Fascinating Aida at The Sands Centre
<b>Friday, 28th February</b>	Paddy Steer at The Brickyard
<b>Saturday, 29th February</b>	The Hostiles / Codename Colin at The Brickyard