

Meeting Date: 16 July 2013

Public/Private\*: Public

Title: **Culture, Health, Leisure & Young People Portfolio Holder's Report  
– Councillor Anne Quilter**

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## **SUBWAY**

The subway transformation project was completed on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013 with work at the Sands Centre, Bitts Park and Georgian Way. Community Pay Back Teams spent 9 days blanking out the old murals and over 90 volunteers worked tirelessly to install the new designs.

The project total cost was £18,000, £11,820 of which was covered by a grant award from the Dulux Lets Colour Campaign. Additionally Dulux also provided over 500 litres of paint and 60 litres of anti graffiti paint. The Bell Group UK kindly agreed to coat all of the subways with a specialist anti-graffiti coating free of charge.

## **EVENTS**

### **Carlisle Music City**

May 25<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup>

In Music City's second year we engaged with 119 bands & performers (in the first year it was 60). There were 42 individual events throughout the City using local pubs and clubs. We also used The Lanes, The Old County Court Room, Tullie House, The Sands, the Crown & Mitre & Platform 4 of Carlisle Station

BBC Introducing recorded the whole of our Main Stage on the Bank Holiday Monday

CFM radio linked up with a singing competition in The Lanes and ran Music City promotions throughout the week. Including links with a number of promoters, such as Classical Carlisle, the programme ranged Classical to Punk. The festival has gone from strength to strength and plans are underway to 'grow' the 2014 festival and attract more visitors.

### **Carlisle Pageant/Chester Midsummer Watch**

In preparation for Carlisle Pageant in August, an Arts Council England grant supported artists from Chester to hold a week of workshops in the Rickergate Fire Station. They shared skills and artistic methods with local artists and community groups. Three giant puppets were produced that will take part in the Pageant. Representatives from the City Council, the Heathlands Project and the Impecunious arts collective went to Chester to take part in the Chester Midsummer Watch on June 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. This was a great opportunity to witness the Chester event and have a 'dry run' with our giants and puppets.

Throughout June, July and August community workshops are taking place to build more puppets, flags, banners and costume. The workshops will take place in the Old Fire Station and at various community venues.

The Pageant day will begin at 10am on August 17<sup>th</sup> and last until 4pm with street entertainment and music. The Parade will start at 11am, touring through the city centre until it stops in front of the Old Town Hall where a short piece of 'historical drama' will take place. Throughout the following week there will be market stalls and local businesses are also planning to be involved through window displays and various promotions. The festivities will conclude with the annual proclamation of the Great Fair on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Youth Exchange**

During 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> July, Carlisle will play host to the 2013 Youth Exchange when students from both Slupsk and Flensburg will visit Carlisle. Plans are well underway to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Exchange Programme.

## **Tour of Britain**

The Tour of Britain will start from the city centre on Monday 16 September. We have offered 16 Carlisle schools the opportunity to start the race, before the professional cyclists. Adding excitement and a 'buzz' within the city centre.

## **SPORTS DEVELOPMENT**

Various activities relating to sport and physical activity continue to be developed across Carlisle and include:

- A £183,000 grant from Sport England from the Community Activation Fund. The total value of the project is worth £270,000 and will seek to engage young people age 14+, people with disabilities, young Mums groups and males age 25+.
- Club Development Projects supporting cycling, angling, badminton and trampoline
- Coach Development Projects supporting Netball, Gymnastics and canoeing.
- A successful student volunteer conference in partnership with the University of Cumbria. 60 Students attended from Carlisle College, Trinity School Sixth Form and the University.
- Volunteers signing up to the new volunteering scheme and actively volunteering. 22 young people have signed up to the scheme, one of whom came as a referral from the homeless team.
- Tennis development - Coaching taking place in local primary schools. Junior programme with Carlisle Leisure Limited going well.
- Athletics development - working with England Athletics to put a north Cumbria plan together. As part of this the Carlisle Parkrun goes from strength to strength. Weekly average so far is 119 runners with 15 volunteers helping to stage the event.

## **TOURISM**

### **Cumbria Tourism Awards**

Over 100 delegates from a wide variety of backgrounds attended the Carlisle Tourism conference. Feedback from the event will be advanced via the Carlisle Tourism Partnership.

Congratulations to Walby Farm Park who won Best Large Visitor Attraction and to Hall Hills, for winning the award for Best Self Catering Accommodation.

## **Cumbria Tourism AGM - 27 June at Rheged**

A presentation was given by Laura Thompson, TIC Manager on behalf of the Cumbria TIC network.

## **Food City Development**

Carlisle had been shortlisted from over 50 cities to become one of 12 to receive direct support and assistance from the Soil Association to develop the concept, following the positive work that has taken place so far. The next step will see us compete to become one of six Cities to receive funding to advance this work further. A steering group meeting has been held to advance the work of Carlisle as a Sustainable Food City, exploring key themes of Economy, Health and Wellbeing, Learning and Skills, Sustainability and Communities in a partnership approach. A draft Charter is currently being developed by a task and finish group. The concept links into the Carlisle Pageant offer, which looks to promote local food businesses, suppliers and producers. A replica cake of the Old Town Hall, to celebrate its restoration, will be one of the features as part of the Pageant celebrations.

## **Old Town Hall – Physical Refurbishment**

Councillors will be aware that the Old Town Hall, a two storey Grade 1 listed building, has been undergoing some major repair and restoration works to ensure that it is fit for continued use. Work started on site in January 2013 with Cubby Construction working with local architects Johnston and Wright to undertake the restoration which completed in June 2013.

The scheme has included a complete re-roof of the building including work to external walls, refurbishment of windows, fire alarm, lightning protection and boiler replacement, an insulation upgrade as well as some internal work to the Tourist Information Centre including plaster and timber repairs, a modified reception counter for customers with disabilities, new carpets, decoration and lighting.

The Tourist Information Centre relocated from their temporary home in the Cathedral Lodge as at the end of June with the re-opening at the Old Town Hall from the beginning of July 2013.

There is an opportunity for Members to see the refurbished Old Town Hall tomorrow morning, which I hope you will attend. However, this is not the end of the project, so we have now started putting plans together for the internal development

## **TULLIE HOUSE**

### **Kids in Museums**

Tullie House was long-listed in May for the Telegraph Family Friendly Museum Award 2013 for the second year in a row. This is excellent news as it is voted for by families visiting Tullie House and ranks us as one of the top twenty family friendly museums in the UK. The shortlist of six venues will be announced in July.

### **Outside In**

The Outside In exhibition (May-June 2013) featured a selection of works by artists living in North West England. All the artists face barriers to the art world for health and disability reasons. A number of workshops were run alongside the exhibition exploring how participatory arts can improve wellbeing.

### **Community and Adult Engagement**

Tullie House has recently developed a partnership with Cumbria County Council and the Alzheimer Society to deliver an internal programme of activity to support people living with dementia. This complements the existing outreach provision and working in partnership with the Alzheimer Society, it organised two activity sessions in support of Dementia Awareness Week.

### **Working with the Living Well Trust**

Inspired by the exhibition Transmitter/Receiver young people who were part of a local pre-exclusion group took part in a day of urban music, physical theatre and visual arts activities to explore and record ideas on what gives them hope and how, as a community, we can raise each other's expectations to achieve.

### **Percy Kelly Collection**

Tullie House has recently acquired a collection of over 100 works by Percy Kelly (1918-1993), a Workington born artist who trained at Carlisle School of Art. Kelly is an important

20<sup>th</sup> century Cumbrian artist who was not represented in the collection prior to this donation.