

**West Dunbartonshire Council**

**Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services**

**Corporate Cultural Sub-Committee: 13 December 2011**

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**Subject: Update on Exhibitions Planned by Libraries & Museums**

**1. Purpose of this Briefing Paper**

- 1.1** To inform committee of forthcoming exhibitions promoted by the Libraries and Museums Service.
- 1.2** To advise committee of current work relating to forthcoming exhibitions which are in the planning stages for 2012/13.

**2. Background**

- 2.1** This report was requested by the Corporate Culture Sub-Committee at its meeting of 13 September and will form a series of regular updates to committee.
- 2.2** The newly amalgamated Libraries & Museums Section sits within Educational Services and is comprised of three integrated teams: Library Services, Arts & Heritage and Learning & Access. These teams work together to promote a wide range of public events, exhibitions and activities across the library network, and in schools.

**3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** In 2011 two new local heritage centres have been established in Clydebank & Dumbarton Libraries. These facilities provide permanent exhibition space promoting public access to exhibits, archives and artefacts from the local history and museum collections.
- 3.2** Clydebank Heritage Centre - has been developed in the Local History Section of Clydebank Library, it offers two temporary exhibition spaces and features interpretation panels and artefacts relating to the history of Clydebank. Forthcoming exhibitions at Clydebank Heritage Centre are shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.3** Dumbarton Heritage Centre - opened in Dumbarton Library in March 2011, this new heritage centre includes exhibition space resulting in substantially increased visitor figures. Forthcoming exhibitions at Dumbarton Heritage Centre are shown in Appendix 1.

- 3.4** The Backdoor Gallery is based within Dalmuir Library and is the councils only purpose built visual arts gallery in West Dunbartonshire. The gallery promotes both local artists work, and a regular programme of high quality national touring exhibitions attracting over five and a half thousand visitors per year from both within and out with the authority. Forthcoming exhibitions are shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.5** Whilst Clydebank Town Hall is closed for refurbishment significant efforts are being made to refurbish and revitalise the museum and exhibition space. These are detailed in the committee paper 'Refurbishment of Clydebank Museum' submitted to the Corporate Culture Sub Committee on 13 December 2011.
- 3.6** Current work includes developing a partnership with the National Galleries of Scotland where Clydebank Museum will be the National Portrait Gallery's 'Partner in the West of Scotland (one of only three partners selected nationally). Through this partnership National Portrait Gallery exhibitions will be loaned to the museum at minimum or no cost. The opening exhibition planned for the main museum is shown in Appendix 1.
- 3.7** The Link Gallery is a new small gallery space located in the south east of the Town Hall between the main foyer area and the former Bruce Street Baths. This will house a changing programme of exhibitions featuring high quality community exhibitions such as local art clubs, art competition winners and high quality local artist work. Exhibitions planned for 2012 – April 2013 are shown in Appendix 1.

#### **4. People Implications**

- 4.1** There are no personnel issues.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1** Dependant on Scottish Government funding, announced in December /January, exhibitions from the National Galleries will be loaned to the museum at minimum or no cost. In the eventuality that no government funding is received, the relationship between Clydebank Museum and the National Galleries will still continue, with high impact loan requests being granted to the museum before requests from other bodies are considered. Similarly external funding sought from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the refurbishment of Clydebank Museum is required to ensure the full enhancements planned. Should bids not be successful then the proposed programme of exhibitions will require be reviewed and scaled down.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

- 6.1** There is no increased risk to the Council associated with the contents of this report.

## **7. Equalities Impact**

7.1 No significant issues were identified for potential equality impact in this report.

## **8. Strategic Assessment**

### **8.1 How will this help make best use of our money?**

The planned events identified within this report have been approached in line with Best Value. A number of planned events have already achieved or aim to achieve match funding through external agencies thereby maximising the potential of WDC investment.

### **8.2 How does it make better use of our physical and human assets?**

In addition to the resulting Best Value use of existing budgets, the planned exhibitions are devised with the aim of being accessible to all members of the community, enhancing facilities through capital investment.

### **8.3 How does it change or impact on service provision?**

The enhancement of Clydebank Museum will result in a Museum and Gallery suitable for exhibitions from national and international institutions which will appeal to local, and national audiences, increase tourism and improve the museum's performance in Statutory Performance Indicator reporting. The programme of exhibitions is a strategic initiative which makes best use of resources.

## **9. Conclusion and Officer's Recommendation**

9.1 The committee is asked to note the contents of this report in relation to the planned exhibitions being promoted by Libraries & Museums and to note the significant efforts being made to increase visitor figures through enhancement of existing heritage venues, increased exhibitions programmes in partnership with National agencies.

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**Appendices:** Appendix 1 - Planned Exhibitions 2011-2012

**Wards Affected:** All Wards

## Appendix 1. Planned Exhibitions 2011-2012

Venue	Description	Dates
<b>Clydebank Heritage Centre</b>	<b>Clydebank 'The Risingest Burgh':</b> Celebrating 125 Years History of the Burgh of Clydebank.	Nov 2011- Feb 2012
	<b>Sports Exhibition – 'The Clydesdale Harriers':</b> Extended exhibition on history of the Clydesdale Harriers marking National Local History Week.	23 Feb – 8 Sep 2012
	<b>Open Art Show:</b> Open Art Exhibition featuring works from contemporary artists including works for sale.	1 Nov – 8 Dec 2012
<b>Dumbarton Heritage Centre</b>	<b>'A View of Dumbarton Through the Fine Art Collection':</b> Featuring landscape paintings and prints from the WDC Fine Art Collection.	Until Jan 2012.
	<b>Sports Exhibition:</b> Exhibition on the history of local sports organisations and clubs marking National Local History Week.	1 Mar – 31 Apr 2012
	<b>Turkey Red Quilts:</b> A visual history and display of Turkey Red dying industry and fabrics relating to the Vale of Leven Dying industries.	3 May – 7 Jul 2012
	<b>William Strang:</b> Featuring works by William Strang from the WDC Fine Art Collection.	12 Jul – 20 Oct 2012
	<b>Open Art Show:</b> Open Art Exhibition featuring works from contemporary artists including works for sale.	1 Nov – 8 Dec 2012
<b>The Backdoor Gallery</b>	<b>'Surprising Times' - Paul Slater:</b> National touring exhibition from Graphicus Touring featuring works by Paul Slater described by the Independent on Sunday as one of the <i>"ten leading illustrators in Britain"</i> .	10 Dec – 14 Jan 2012
	<b>'Solo Exhibition' - Anne Marshall:</b> Exhibition featuring recent works by this West Dunbartonshire based artist.	28 Jan – 25 Feb 2012
	<b>Solo Exhibition - Chick McGeehan:</b> Solo exhibition by this award winning artist raised in Clydebank.	10 Mar – 5 Apr 2012
	<b>Solo Exhibition - Jody Kelly:</b> Exhibition of work by Scottish figurative painter Jody Kelly, whose work has been exhibited in galleries across Glasgow and Edinburgh.	14 April – 12 May
	<b>'Alice in Wonderland':</b> Featuring John Tenniel's illustrations to Alice in Wonderland as part of Booked! West Dunbartonshire's Festival of Words.	19 May – 16 Jun 2012
	<b>'Toy Story':</b> An eclectic history of childhood toys across the years.	23 Jun – 28 Jul 2012

	<b>'Sisters':</b> Exhibiting recent art work by sibling artists the Shaughnessy's.	1 Sep – 22 Sep 2012
	<b>Art Group 25:</b> Running for over 15 years, Art Group 25 is a group of 25 artists which has exhibited in many venues including the Royal Concert Hall, RSMD and the Peoples Palace.	29 Sep – 27 Oct 2012
	<b>Open Art Show:</b> Open Art Exhibition featuring works from contemporary artists including works for sale.	1 Nov – 8 Dec 2012
<b>Clydebank Main Museum</b>	<b>'20<sup>th</sup> Century Scottish Art'</b> This major exhibition will feature important 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Scottish art works from the West Dunbartonshire Council Fine Art Collection and the following significant works on loan from the National Galleries: <i>'The Lament' by Benno Schotz - 'The Bereaved One' by John Bellany - 'A Man Perceived by a Flea' by Steven Campbell - 'Vanessa Bell' by Duncan Grant - 'Sabine' by Alison Watt - 'The Heroic Dosser' by Peter Howson - Mr Cruickshank' by Eduardo Paolozzi (Sculpture) - 'Jimmy Reid' by Kenny Hunter (Sculpture) - The Music of the Woods' by E A Hornel - 'Rescue Party, Kilmun Street' by Ian Fleming</i>	2012 exact date TBC marking the re-opening of Clydebank Town Hall
<b>Link Gallery</b>	<b>West Dunbartonshire Photography Competition -</b> Open photography competition winning entries to be exhibited in the new gallery link space within Clydebank Town Hall.	2012 exact date TBC on reopening of CTH.
	<b>Open Art Show</b> Open Art Exhibition featuring works from contemporary artists including works for sale.	1 Nov – 8 Dec 2012
	<b>Linda Morrison Photographer</b> <i>Provisional date.</i>	12 Dec 2012 - 27 Apr 2013
<b>National portrait Gallery /Schools</b>	<b>UCS project</b> Joint visual and performing arts initiative with St Peter the Apostle High School and the National Portrait Gallery based on the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders. Work produced will be exhibited at National portrait Gallery in 2013.	during 2012/13