

Your Power to Amaze

SCOTTISH
MUSEUMS
COUNCIL

Workshops to familiarise SMC's membership and key partners with *A national learning and access strategy for Scotland's museums and galleries*



Thursday 8th December 2005, 9.30am – 4pm

Venue: The Town House, High Street, Inverness IV1 1JJ

Programme

- 9.30 Registration and coffee
- 10.00 Housekeeping and programme for the day: *Helena Gillis, SMC*
- 10.10 Welcome, scene setting and introduction to the National Learning and Access Strategy: *Helena Gillis, SMC*
- Case studies and discussion sessions, linked to the objectives of the National Learning and Access Strategy:
- 10.20 Learning and Access Strategy, objective 1: Make quality access and learning policies and practices an integral part of museum delivery.
- Case study: 'Privies and other filthiness' was part of the HLF and Historic Scotland-funded 'Environment of Medieval Aberdeen' project. The over-arching aims were to undertake scientific research on soil samples from 25 years of excavation within Aberdeen's outstanding City Archives – to provide information on aspects of the environment within the 12th century and later burgh. The public 'front-end' was composed of an exhibition at Aberdeen Art Gallery, a 'hands-on' archaeology and drama project for schools and a CD-Rom which will go out to schools in January 2006. *Judith Stones, Aberdeen City Council*
- 10.35 Learning and Access Strategy, objective 2: Promote museums as a central part of citizen's cultural entitlements and widen and integrate public access.
- Case study: Journeys, a partnership project between the National Museums of Scotland and five groups of artists with learning disabilities from across Scotland. *Christine McLean from the National Museums of Scotland* will discuss the project and screen a film by Iain Piercy, charting its progress.
- 10.50 Morning tea and networking

Case studies continued

- 11.15 Learning and access strategy, objective 3: Work closely with other education, community and voluntary sector partners to ensure greater integration of services.
- Case study: Exhibitions and Education Programme – Lifelong learning. This project, involving all the Scottish Borders Council's museums and galleries achieved collaboration across the region and offered access to museums to diverse audiences to support the Scottish Borders Council's lifelong learning and social inclusion agendas. *Fiona Colton, Scottish Borders Council*
- 11.30 Learning and access strategy, objective 4: Enhance the profile of museum learning and access and consolidate resources.
- Case study: Lorna will talk about a DVD film, created by children, that uses museum objects to tell a story of Aberdeen in the 20th Century. The film is to be supplied to schools as a local history resource. *Lorna Dey, Arts Education Team, Aberdeen City Council*
- 11.45 Learning and access strategy, objective 5: Support museum staff, volunteers and other educators to undertake access and learning work.
- Case study: Rhona will present on the 'Outreach Long and Wide' work, with a focus on museum projects and how they support staff in the Highlands. *Rhona Hamilton, The Highland Folk Museum*
- 12.00 Q&A - Case study presenters field questions from the delegates.
- 12.30 Lunch break and networking
- 13.30 Amazing feature: new eyes.
Elaine Allison, site-specific installation artist presents on projects involving heritage sites that illustrate partnership for creative learning outcomes.
- 13.45 Breakout sessions
Each self-facilitated group will agree a learning or access issue to consider, and will be asked to present a strategy for its resolution, with reference to the learning and access strategy.
- 14.30 Feedback
Representatives from each discussion group present a strategy for resolving the issue which their group was asked to consider.
- 15.15 Questions and evaluation forms
- 15.30 Tea and networking
- 16.00 Close