

Personal Statement - Emma Long

I am greatly interested in the prospect of joining The Sussex Archaeology Society as a Trustee to help shape the future of its multiple historic sites and engage audiences with the rich local history these sites have to offer. I would be particularly interested in supporting the Lewes portfolio, as my local site, and working with the wider team, with the help of the volunteers, to share and engage the public with its collections, histories, and upcoming events and reviewing progress to help inform and influence the next chapter of this portfolio and the wider group.

In my career so far, I have had the pleasure of working in the museum and heritage sector, looking after historic buildings and collections and bringing stories and experiences forward for the public to enjoy. This has included working with charitable trusts locally such as the National Trust property, Scotney Castle, working with staff and volunteers towards the charitable aims of the organisation and bringing experiences that engage and inspire audiences. More recently, I have been working on collection storage projects, including at the V&A working as part of the management team organising the transfer of the V&A's collection of over 250,000 objects, 1,000 archival collections and 350,000 library books from Blythe House to its new storage facility at V&A East Storehouse. Currently, I'm working for the Science Museum Group as Head of Collections Management (Interim), leading the Consolidation project which includes vacating WW2 aircraft hangars and moving the collection to the newly built Hawking building, as well as a collection audit and managing the core Storage and Logistics team. I believe my experience working with collections and project management would be beneficial in supporting The Sussex Archaeology Society in the role of Trustee in advising on collections management and providing strategic oversight and working on targeted projects across the group.

I have a particular interest in Archaeology, having studied Classics and Classical Archaeology at University and would like to use this interest and passion to support this historic society in engaging the public with the fascinating archaeological collections and sites under its care. My skillset and experience of working in a heritage environment and visitor attraction, project management, health and safety, volunteer management and my ability to communicate with a wide range of people I feel would be beneficial in the role of Trustee and I would be highly interested in the opportunity share my passions for archaeology collections and undertake this exciting new challenge.