

PERSONAL STATEMENT – TAMLYN SMITHERS

Introduction

I am socially oriented and motivated to embark on the role of Trustee for the Society. I would look to collaborate with the skillful staff and Trustee teams, to strengthen our education offers and increase accessibility for all audiences. As a local parent I represent working families looking for inclusive and fun heritage leisure sites to enjoy time outside of term and for educational enrichment. I offer this role:

- Museum qualifications 2yrs + experience 7yrs
- Teaching qualifications 2yrs + experience 13yrs
- Arts qualifications 4yrs + experience 3yrs

Education & Heritage background

I have dual career strands in education and heritage & throughout both, I have been concerned with access and inclusion of contemporary and potential audiences. As a classroom teacher & museum educator I developed and delivered projects and events around the curriculum, cultural dates & collections. This includes family activities, teacher support and outreach museum events. I particularly enjoyed writing Collection Use Review reports, evaluating audience access and potential to develop community access to specific collection provenance.

Masters & Management

I have expertise and passion in bringing communities and heritage collections together. Most recently, as Rustington Museum Manager this role involved overseeing day to day operations, collections management, recruitment and HR, developing a public service program, curating exhibitions, collaborating with local community groups, delivering and sourcing adult and family activities and outreach.

My Masters: Curating Collections & Heritage course enabled me to consolidate my heritage practice with conservation and wider practice updates. I gained a Distinction for my thesis report, researching theory, practice, social data, via case studies as well as developing my own data. I offer the following museum knowledge:

Sussex museums

- lived in Sussex for 22yrs, studied & worked at unique historic heritage sites
- Worked across Royal Pavilion & Museums citywide sites
- Singular Sussex museum sites: Arundel, Horsham, Rustington, The Keep
- Sussex Museums Group membership 15yrs