

Member Champion – Culture

Name: Vivienne Ash

Key activities involved with since 2009 annual council/appointment

They have been:

- Supporting the expansion of the Thelma Hulbert Gallery
- Promoting and supporting a project for Cultural Animateurs in East Devon. These are skilled people who go into local areas and facilitate the creation of whole community, cultural events.
- Securing member involvement in the Jurassic Coast work
- Trying to ensure that the value of cultural activities in the community is fully appreciated and that Council policies and programmes reflect this where appropriate

Conferences/Workshops - if attended and their benefits

1. A SW Member Champions Network meeting - useful to share experiences
2. Questions about the Arts - a forum for discussing the benefit/future of the Arts at the Northcott Theatre with a panel of experts chaired by Jonathan Dimbleby - it was interesting to hear how the University of Exeter saw its role in the wider community and how some practitioners perceived it.

Partnership Working:

(This could include working with officer teams, other authorities, outside bodies).

- Collaboration between the Countryside and Arts Development teams to deliver the Honiton Bottom nature trail
- Attending LED and Active East Devon meetings, agencies set up to promote and deliver sports activities
- Trying to help local businesses wishing to set up gallery space/arts and craft ventures
- Discussion with the planning policy team regarding culture/leisure input into the LDF

Future plans – what are your aims/work programme for the year to come:

- To try and secure external funding for the Cultural Animateurs project
- To support initiatives for new ways of working which incorporate culture/leisure/countryside activities (ref. The Rationalisation Panel)
- To support the expanded Thelma Hulbert Gallery
- To commence building the Community Centre
- To help and support local communities wherever possible