

## ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet **Date:** 26 July 2011

**Subject:** Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Ricki Gadsby **Item:** 7 (f)

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### **Recommending:**

**That the report of the Leisure and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder be noted.**

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### **Community Services**

#### **Open Weekend 2011**

1. On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2011, Community Services, in partnership with Waltham Abbey Town Council, are holding a free event for young people at Town Mead, Waltham Abbey. The day will include a Skate and BMX jam, sessions with Tottenham Hotspur Foundation football coaches and freestylers, film screenings of "Street Dance" and the skateboard classic "Lords of Dog Town", dance workshops with Kofi Agyemang, star of "Street Dance", hair braiding, nail art and henna stalls, and DJs. (The Open Weekend is a national London 2012 initiative to celebrate one year to go before the start of the Games)

#### **Celebrate! Training**

2. In Autumn 2011, Community Services will be presenting free workshops around the district to encourage residents to put on community events and activities during 2012. The sessions will include practical advice and information on event management, licensing, publicity and fundraising.

#### **Exhibitions**

3. The museum's new summer exhibition, 'I Love Music' has just opened. The exhibition showcases the talent and influence of music artists, bands, radio and venues of the eastern region and features a 1960s dress worn by Essex pop icon Sandie Shaw and a 1975 poster of Knebworth Park Festival, both on loan from the Victoria and Albert Museum. The exhibition will be on display until 27 September 2011 and will then tour the eastern region.

4. The museum additionally has five other exhibitions touring a range of museums across the East region.

#### **New Permanent Displays at the Museum**

5. A selection of enamel signs are now on display which include London Transport signs showing the Central Line route from Epping to Ongar. In addition to this, a new 'Local Faces' display showcasing people both historic and contemporary who have a connection with the district is also featured. Faces include, Sir Winston Churchill, former MP of Epping, and Kate Silverton, former resident of Waltham Abbey and current BBC News reader. The museum's exterior has also been decorated with new signage and paintwork.

## **Education**

6. History workshops, led by the museum's Education Officer are available to schools and topic boxes containing original and replica material are also available for schools to hire. During the last month (June) the museum's Education Officer taught 10 outside school sessions to a total of 240 pupils as well as teaching 2 sessions at the museum to a total of 144 pupils. 5 schools made use of the museum's topic box facility which saw 331 pupils using them.

## **Upcoming Events**

7. From Friday 15 July to Friday 29 July 2011, Dietmar Doerr from Hoerstel will be at the museum showcasing a collection of weights and measures. His collection includes Roman weights, coin weights, fish weights, and diamond scales. Dietmar is a member of the International Society of Antique Scale Collectors.

8. Family events at the museum have now been advertised through EFDCs Summer Programme, the museums newsletter and website. Events include the popular Family Fun Day taking place on Saturday 6 August, The Mammoth Challenge for London 2012 Open Weekend on Saturday 23 July and Chinese Tea Tasting on Saturday 20 August, a workshop funded by the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad project, Stories of the World.