

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name Kate Pontin

Current Employment Details

Consultant: Education and Evaluation (March 2000 – present)

Recent contract work includes:

- Evaluation of Saturday School Programme for Young People for the Victoria and Albert Museum
- Evaluation of Summer Trail for children for the Surrey Museums Consultative Committee
- Development of Education Pack using personal archives from World War One for Royal Fusiliers (Warwickshire Regiment) Museum
- Development of Education Plan for Musical Museum, Brentford

Other Roles:

- Museums Association Mentor
- School Governor

Research:

- Children's informal learning in museums
- Contributed to *Improving Museum Learning* (research project for EMAMS)
- Other research interests include evaluation and audience studies, especially social inclusion

Publications:

- *Evaluation of school work in the Rutland Dinosaur Gallery* in Museum, Media and Message (Ed, E Hooper Greenhill), 1995
- *Talking to each other: conversations between carers and children in an exhibition* in JEM 18, 1997
- *Museum and Gallery INSET: Teachers' attitudes and priorities*, in JEM 21, 2000, pp 3-8 (with Vicky Woollard)
- *Museum Fever and Represent, lessons for working with young people in museums*, research by Kate Pontin and edited by Emma Hawthorne, West Midlands Regional Museums Council

Recent Training Courses attended:

- "Designing Websites", Spelthorne College, Ashford, Surrey
- Using Computer software for qualitative analysis, Visitor Studies Group

Previous Posts

Local Heritage Manager (Acting)

London Borough of Hillingdon (part-time) June 1999 - October 99

Responsibility for management of the team

Local Heritage Education Officer for London Borough of Hillingdon Heritage Service (full time 1992 – 1996 and part-time 1996-2000)

A new post this job involves the setting up of a new service and subsequent running of a museums and archives education and outreach service. The service includes

loans, teacher training, packs, workshops and newsletter to schools. Other services provided to the general public include talks, displays and reminiscence work. The post included management of a budget and income as well as management and training of volunteers and contract staff.

Museum Education Officer (Natural Sciences)

Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service (1988 –1992)

Responsible for whole range of educational activities and resources within the field of Natural Sciences, but also support of curatorial departments and other subject areas including multicultural education, archaeology and special needs.

Graduate Trainee (Natural Sciences)

Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Records Service 1986 -1988

Curatorial Trainee in Natural Sciences Department. Work included fieldwork, accessioning, care and conservation as well as display and public events.

Trainee Manager (Pensions): Crown Financial Management 1985 - 1986

Volunteer, primarily at Chertsey Museum but also Farnham and Godalming Museums, Surrey 1984 -1985

Previous professional posts

Committee member: Group for Education in Museums, Women's History and Museums, and Geological Curator's Group

Qualifications and Professional Development

O' Levels (1979) in English Language and Literature, Maths, Geography, Integrated Science Course (2 O' levels), Music, Ancient History and in 1980, Geology

A' Levels (1981) in Maths, Geology and Chemistry

BSc (Hons) in Geological Sciences at the University of Birmingham (1984)

Subsidiary subjects passed in Archaeology, Computer Science and Surveying.

MA in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester (Certificate course in 1986/7 converted to a master degree in 1993. Thesis on evaluation of school use of natural sciences gallery at Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery).

Museums Diploma and AMA passed in 1989

Post Graduate Research 1995-2002 University of Leicester. Qualitative research methodology used and developed in researching informal learning by children in interactive science galleries

Referees: Eilean Hooper Greenhill, Museum Studies Department, University of Leicester, 105 Princess Road East, Leicester, ehg@leicester.ac.uk
Vicky Woollard, City University, Barbican, LONDON, avr.woollard@ukgateway.net