

# Pete Brown

## Consultant profile

Specialist in heritage learning, visitor engagement and workforce development

**Pete has worked for over 25 years in the heritage sector**, mainly in museums and galleries. His roles have combined, in different ways, three key elements of cultural engagement: access, learning and interpretation. Through learning programmes, community engagement, exhibition making and gallery development, Pete has helped audiences and partners engage with human history, historic houses and grounds; fine and decorative art; science and technology and natural history (including living animals).

Pete has been the lead or a key player in a number of grant-aided projects, responsible for activity planning, implementation and evaluation. He is used to working in teams with colleagues and external partners such as designers and constructors. He also has many years experience of audience development work, particularly on externally funded projects, involving visitors and users in the development of new activities, interpretation and learning materials as advisors, sounding boards and partners for piloting ideas.

Much of Pete's work has set out to align with and contribute to local and regional agendas such as community cohesion and regeneration, which has meant interacting with a broad range of people, from teachers and community groups to elected members and trustees.

Since 2015, Pete has been Course Director for the Foundation Course: Museum Learning, which he developed for the Group for Education in Museums (GEM).

Pete is also an Associate Tutor on the Glasgow University MSc course in Museum Education, helping postgraduate students turn theory into practice.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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### RECENT RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Building the Links for Rockingham Forest:** 2022-24. Pete and a freelance colleague are external evaluators for this two year Heritage Fund nature recovery and community engagement project.

**Southport Townscape Heritage Project:** 2022-24. Pete and an associate are external evaluators for this Heritage Fund urban conservation and community engagement scheme.

**Rediscovering the Underbanks:** 2020-24. Pete and an associate are external evaluators for Stockport's Townscape Heritage Project.

**Mansfield Townscape Heritage Project:** 2019-24. Pete is Community Participation Coordinator responsible for implementing a programme of activities and events in collaboration with the TH Officer in charge of the capital works.

**Derbyshire Wildlife Trust:** 2018-22. With another freelance colleague, Pete evaluated *Working for Nature*, a HLF funded trainee scheme. This involved developing an evaluation framework, conducting research and consultation and producing findings for the funders over the four year project period.

**Middleton Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI):** 2018. Pete carried out the evaluation of the Complementary Initiatives programme for this 5 year HLF (Heritage Lottery Fund) project to refurbish buildings designed by Arts & Crafts architect, Edgar Wood, and encourage conservation and care across the town.

**Mansfield Townscape Heritage Project:** 2017-18. Pete developed the Activity Statement for a successful £1 million HLF project to refurbish the town centre buildings, engage the community and re-establish pride in the town.

**Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust:** from 2012-2014, Pete led a complex £100,000 learning and community participation project at Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet (part of a £1million Heritage Lottery funded project). His role included ensuring that relevant aspects of the Activity Plan were properly evaluated for reporting back to the Trust Board and the funders.

<http://www.simt.co.uk/about/projects/abbeydale-works>



**Pete Brown**

### Qualifications

MA Interpretive Studies,  
University of Leicester 2009

### Career Summary (museums & heritage)

Current: Self-employed  
Heritage Consultant

2012-14: Learning Services  
Manager, Sheffield Industrial  
Museums Trust

2010-11: Head of Learning &  
Access, Imperial War  
Museum North

2005-10: Head of Learning &  
Interpretation, The  
Manchester Museum,  
University of Manchester

2004-5: Learning Manager &  
Inspiring Learning  
Coordinator, The Manchester  
Museum

2001-4: Education Officer,  
People's History Museum,  
Manchester

1999-2001: Education &  
Access Officer, Bolton  
Museums & Arts gallery

1996-98: Education Officer,  
Calderdale MBC Museums &  
Arts Division, Halifax

1998-90: Education & Display  
Officer and Curatorial  
Assistant, California Academy  
of Sciences, San Francisco