

# Our Voice Resource

COMMUNITY WITHIN  
COMMUNITIES



OUR VOICES TO BE HEARD

## Community within Communities Our Voices to be Heard

A community heritage project by Sefton CVS

Made possible thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (2021 - 23)



Made possible with

Heritage  
Fund



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# Project Overview

**The Community Within Communities: Our Voices to be Heard project was funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and run by Sefton CVS, supported by Sefton Council (2021-23).**

The project aimed to:

- identify and explain Sefton's diverse heritage,
- involve a wide range of people in heritage activities,
- develop heritage skills for the future.

**A Heritage Development Officer was appointed to lead the project tasks comprising:**

- Community Heritage Grants Programme
- Heritage Capacity Building and Training
- Township Volunteering Programme
- Preparing a Heritage Toolkit to support new projects



# Community Heritage Grants Programme

Applications were invited from voluntary, community and faith organisations working in, or providing services to people in Sefton.

Small grants of up to **£2000** were awarded to **15** organisations, leading to:

**Over 140** heritage activity sessions throughout Sefton.

Including performances, walking tours, exhibitions and publications.

**Over 1,800** people attending these events.



# In Another Place

Creative/performance activities project brought to life the history of the Bootle area through characters telling their stories: opening of Bootle Strand 1968, air raid warden WWII, and canal development. The project included local history research, costume design and script writing.



# In Another Place

## Bootle History Live



# In Another Place

## Bootle History Live



*"Learning more about our local area sparked so much conversation in our workspace about people's memories of the area and enabled us all to connect more with each other."*

# Gateway Collective

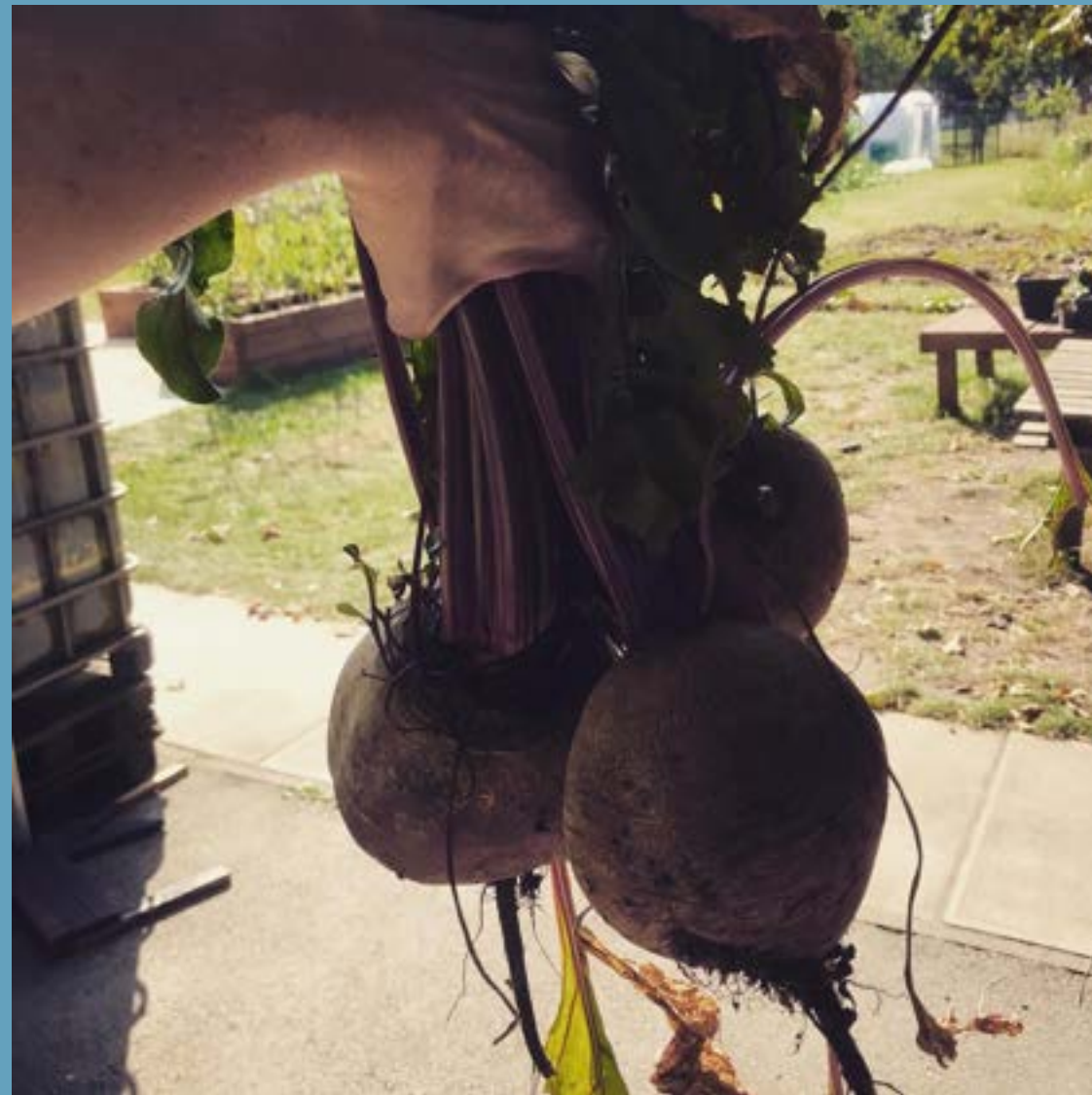
People with substance misuse issues were part of an allotment/parkbased project focused on growing and cooking heritage vegetables. Community gardeners learned through their experiences and shared their knowledge in producing a downloadable zine.





# Gateway Collective

## Heritage Veg and Old School Cooking



# Gateway Collective

## Heritage Veg and Old School Cooking

*"We all worked together laughing and imagining what life would be like if we were planting in previous generations."*

### gateway collective.

#### Heritage growing tips zine

A short history on how old your vegetables really are & Tips on how to get started with growing from seeds



### gateway collective.

#### How to use up your glut cookbook

Five simple recipes that can be made using a glut of vegetables and produce grown in your garden



# Mencap Liverpool and Sefton

Learning Disabled people, Service Users of MENCAP and carers worked on a project which celebrated Mencap Crosby's 70th birthday and allow public access to its base in historic cottage. Oral history recordings, podcast episodes, musical memories and old recipes collected. Launch event to celebrate. Display boards resulting legacy for use at venue. People with learning disabilities acted as heritage collectors and curators.

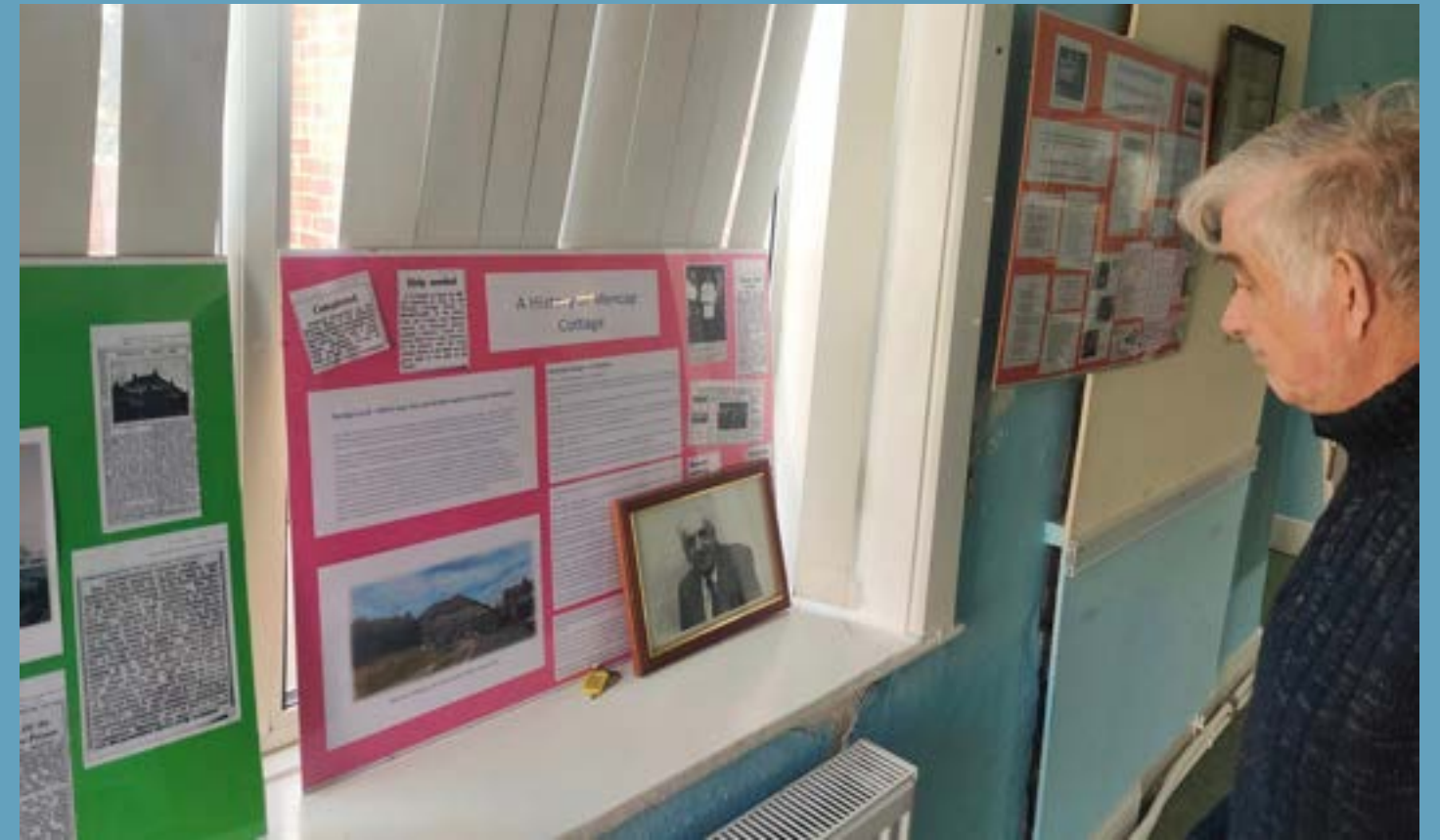


# Mencap Liverpool and Sefton Tea and Memories (Mencap Cottage)

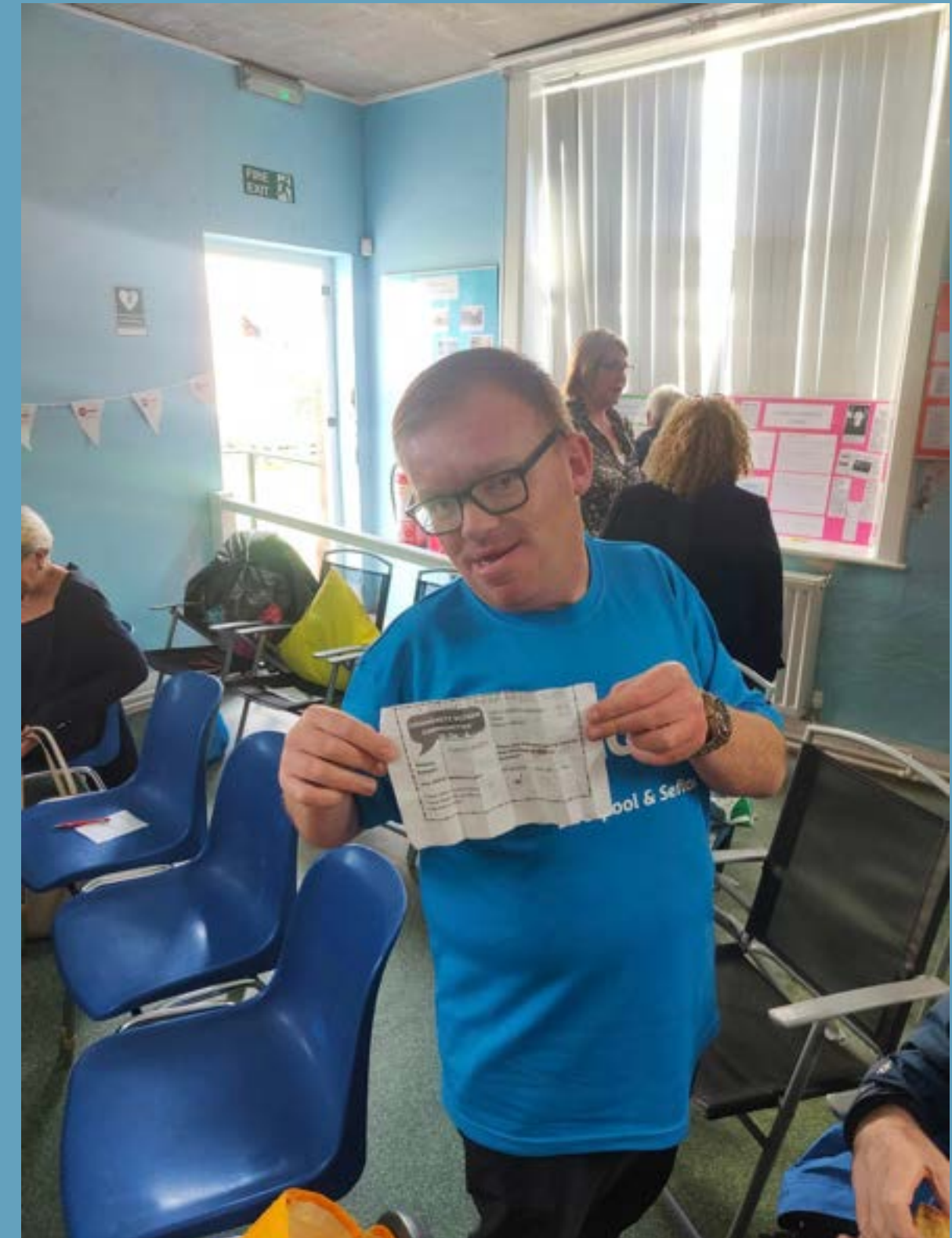
*"Mencap members grew in terms of confidence and grew their skill set."*

- Creating playlists from different eras.
- Building visual boards and selecting the most impactful pictures and poems to use.
- Interviewing and designing questions that would provide them with the information they needed.

*"All these skills they take away with them from this project will be skills they will be able to apply and grow and they have all fed back they would like to take part in more heritage projects in the future."*



# Mencap Liverpool and Sefton Tea and Memories (Mencap Cottage)



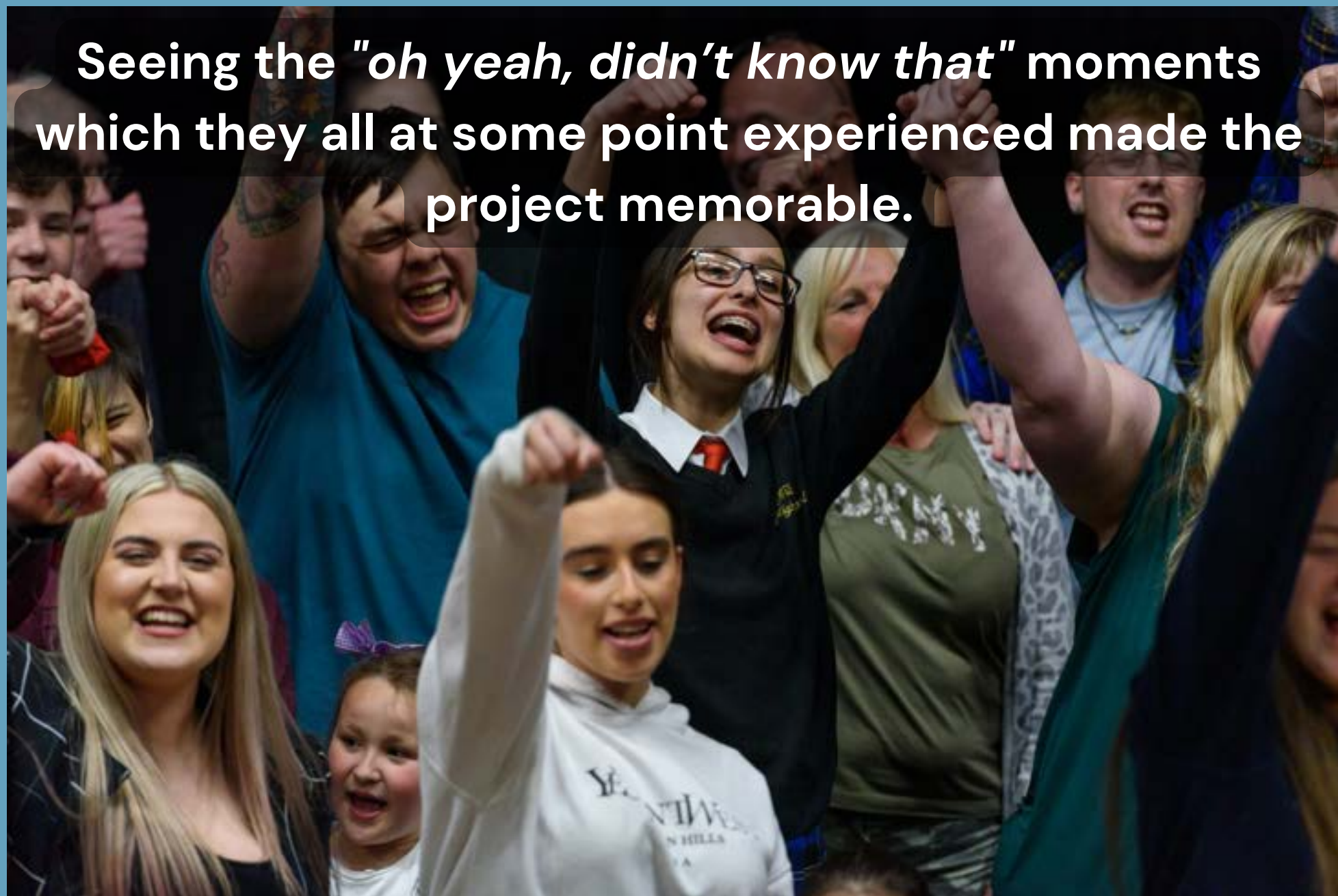
# MYA Space

Youth club service users, adults (family and community groups) who used Sefton youth clubs in 20th century researched, archived and created a project which looked at Sefton's youth clubs and youth culture heritage and compared it to the present. A presentation evening took place to showcase the photos and stories found.



# MYA Space

Our Roots, Our Youth



Seeing the "oh yeah, didn't know that" moments which they all at some point experienced made the project memorable.

**MYA SPACE**  
Our Roots, Our Youth  
5th October 2022  
6.30pm  
For more information  
Contact Josh  
07801 582 093  
JoshuaMc@mya.org.uk

Heritage Fund  
Sefton CVS  
Supporting Local Communities

# Friends of Alexandra and Coronation Parks

Volunteers in Coronation Park Memory Café worked on a project to encourage discussions of lake activity for use for future development of the historic water feature. The discussions of the memory cafes to become an indoor permanent display in the pavilion and mobile display which can be taken to residential and retirement homes.





# Friends of Alexandra and Coronation Parks

## Coronation Park's Memory Café



*"Listening to and recording visitors' memories of when they played in the park in their younger days was a highlight."*

# Roy Evans Foundation

Local school pupils in Maghull, older, isolated residents and Foundation volunteers took part in conversations over three sessions resulting in a scrapbook of stories and pictures - gifted to the older person to keep. Findings also shared online.



# Roy Evans Foundation

## Sharing Memories with Generations

*"Watching the genuine relationships for all ages grow together organically in their teams was beautiful."*

A young boy, who was known to be someone that would not engage with the community, said that he had started saying hello to older people and now takes his hood down so he does not appear threatening.



# Scrapyard Studios

Adults and young people in Bootle, amateur photographers, took part in a project involving the community through walking photography - helping people to use their smart phones and digital cameras to create images of heritage sites. An exhibition of the work included historic photos and the images taken – on display for community groups, pubs and cafes - to make sure they continue to be seen.



# Scrapyard Studios

## Bootle Explored



*"It was an opportunity to see and hear first-hand accounts of how the area had changed over the years. As well researched as the project was, at every session we were learning new things about Bootle from our attendees as certain locations sparked memories."*

# Scrapyard Studios

## Bootle Explored



# Plaza Community Cinema

People with dementia, carers and volunteer interviewers took part in an oral history project with volunteers collecting oral history/memories from residents with dementia supported by carers/relatives. The project focused on home life/growing up, school days and playing out, youth culture, and the world of work. Compliments the Plaza's dementia friendly screenings.



# Plaza Community Cinema

A Slice of Life: A Grassroots Social & Cultural History in and around Sefton



*"The group gelled together very quickly as they realised how much heritage they shared. It encouraged them to recall their own stories and experiences."*



# Sefton Advocacy

Older service user interviewees of Sefton Advocacy group and Salford University students took part in the project *If My Memory Serves Me*. The project focussed on Publishing New Personal Archives from Sefton Townships A project produced 100 booklets and a webpage - collating and creating personal archives of 18 older people across Sefton. Facilitated through workshops and support from an experienced Heritage Performance Maker, a Visual Communication Artist and emerging Image Maker.



# Sefton Advocacy

If My Memory Serves Me: Publishing New Personal Archives from Sefton Townships



# Sefton Advocacy

If My Memory Serves Me: Publishing New Personal Archives from Sefton Townships

*"Generous storytellers shared remarkable stories in a convivial environment with great support from Ainsdale Methodist Church [...] in a formal oral history recording session."*



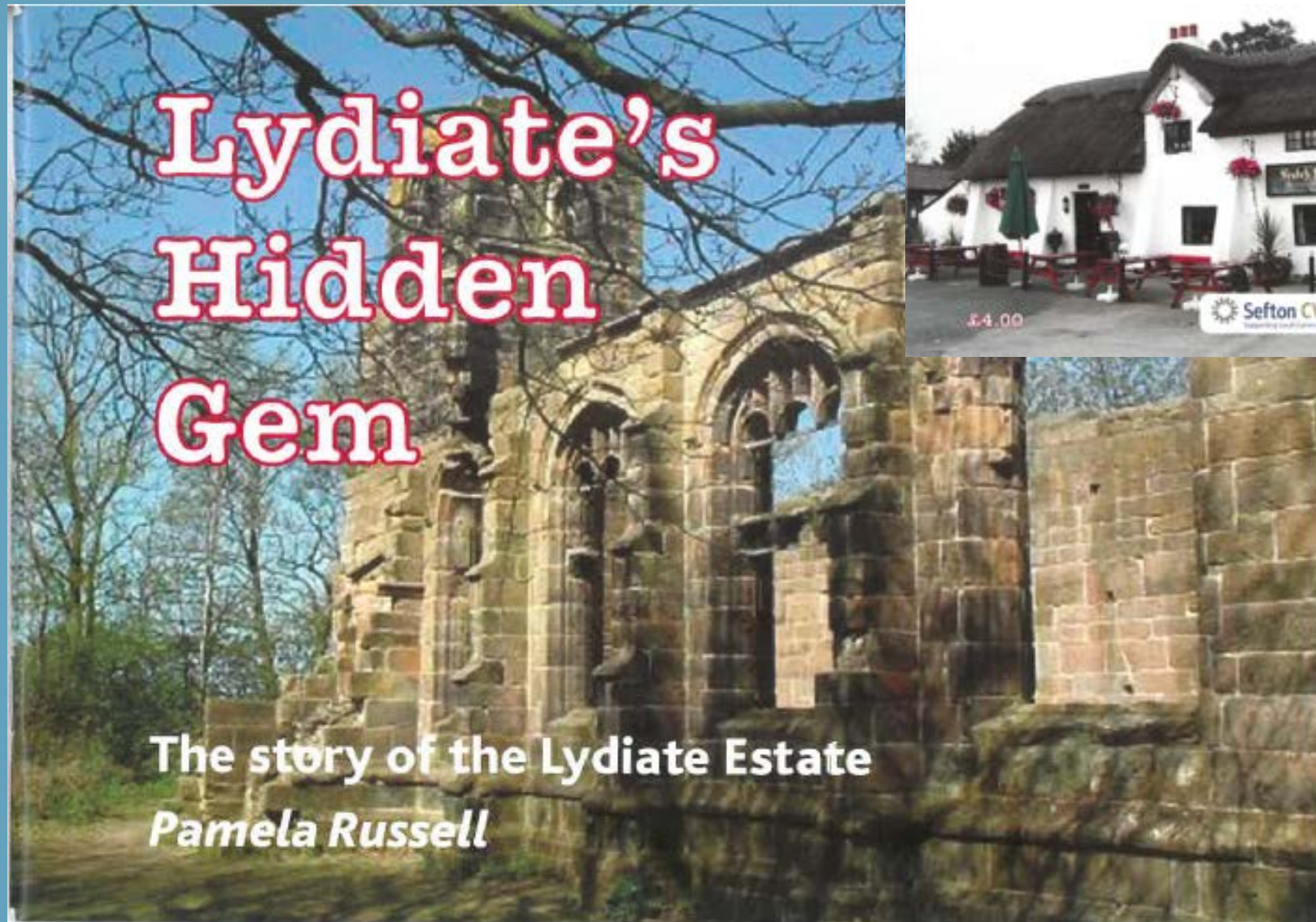
# Friends of Lydiate Abbey

Local school pupils, local faith groups, community group members and Friends members were part of a project with Friends of Lydiate Abbey. The project focussed on and created a booklet about the Lydiate Estate and engage local schools, churches and community groups in the history of Lydiate Abbey, Lydiate Hall and Scotch Piper Inn.



# Friends of Lydiate Abbey

'Lydiate's Hidden Gem': The Story of the Lydiate Estate



*"Presenting two of the three primary schools in Lydiate with a copy of the book for each year 6 child was a highlight. The delight of the school being offered the books made it memorable."*

# Imagine Formby

School pupils, youth clubs and local community groups prepared an exhibition space in Formby village to house Formby Civic Society's collection of historical artefacts. They also worked with Formby Parish Council in discussions about the area's history. Part of a larger project to create a heritage trail in the village centre.



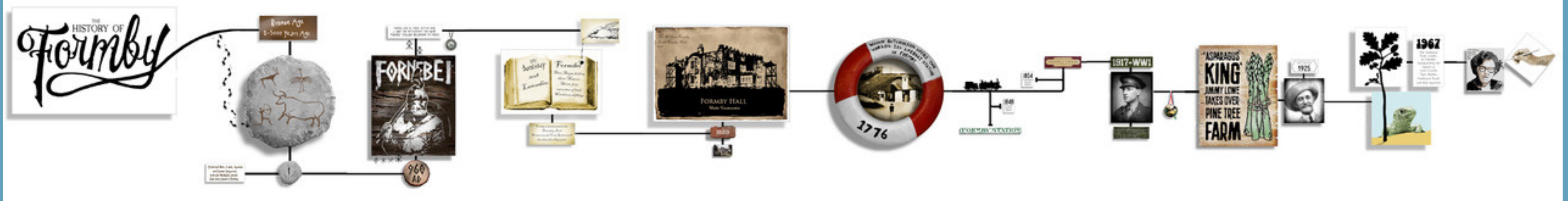
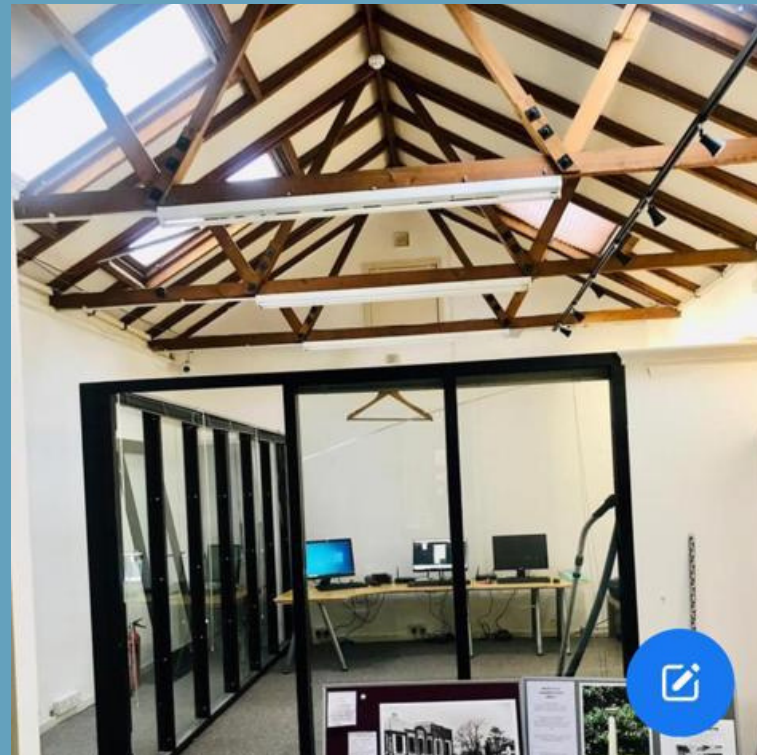
# Imagine Formby

## Formby Heritage Museum/Space

Something exciting is deffo happening 'upstairs at Woodwards'!!!!  
 The imagine formby volunteers have been working hard, along with Formby Civic Society, to bring a new facility to our wonderful village...watch this space for details!!

You'll all be invited 🙌🙌

#imagineformby #formby #formbybubble  
 #formbyvillage #formbyhistory #formbycivicsociety  
 #localhistory



# Imagine Formby

Formby Heritage Museum/Space

*"The public were totally fascinated by the painter at work and loved the results putting their photos out on social media. Creating a great buzz in the community and beyond."*



The Formby Vikings



# Woodvale and Ainsdale Community Association

Community Centre users created a community time capsule buried in community centre garden. The contents of the capsule exhibited before burying it and recording its location on a map for a future generation to uncover.



# Woodvale and Ainsdale Community Association

## Community Time Capsule



*"A local gentleman contacted us to get involved. He has started writing stories in a time line in order to capture his life and his memories. He came along to share them with us as well as typing them up to go in our time capsule."*

# Woodvale and Ainsdale Community Association

## Community Time Capsule



# Friends of South Park and Derby Park Community Volunteers

South Sefton park volunteers took part in a partnership project with two park-based volunteer groups creating a medicinal themed garden at the base of the Poulson Memorial. The project included a Celebration event and information board.



# Friends of South Park and Derby Park Community Volunteers

## The Poulson Memorial Planting Project



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## The Poulson Memorial Planting Project

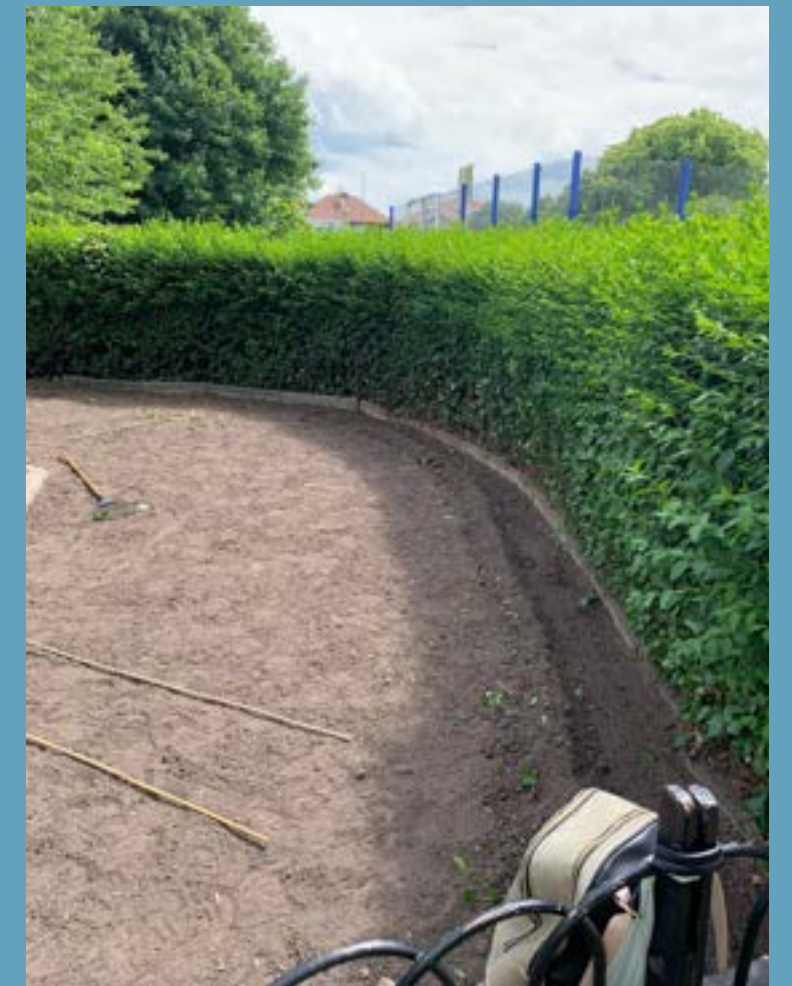
*"We never dreamed of being able to enter the medicinal garden into North West in bloom, it was exciting and it was great to get to meet so many other community groups in the area."*

Awarded Level 4: Thriving



# Friends of South Park and Derby Park Community Volunteers

## The Poulson Memorial Planting Project





# The Orrell Trust

Bootle school children and community group service users took part in an inter-generational project involving school children with older people involved in the Orrell Trust's regular activities. The project included discussions facilitated by a local historian; visits to heritage sites in Bootle; arts project inviting participants to respond creatively to what they have experienced and shared.



# The Orrell Trust

## Intergenerational Heritage Project

*"A highlight was how relationships and mutual respect developed between young and old." ... "It was striking how people from different generations and countries could share so much experience in common."*



# Parenting 2000

Youth club service users and older people, worked together on a research project including establishing relationships and conducting interviews with elderly residents. Scrapbooks created and gifted back to residents. Video created of the process and showcased to young people.



# Parenting 2000

## The Alchemy Reflective Heritage Project

*"It was super exciting for the young people to take the info they had been collecting and put into the scrapbooks in a super creative way. They were then so excited to present the books to the residents themselves."*



# Heritage Capacity Building and Training

A series of training workshops were held for individuals and members from Sefton voluntary, community and faith groups including:

- A 'Meet the Funder' briefing from the National Lottery Heritage Fund
- Better Bid Writing training
- A Creative mapping workshop
- Monitoring and Evaluation training
- Oral History Training
- Motivating and Retaining Volunteers training



# Monitoring and Evaluation

19th May 2022



# Oral History Training

8th September 2022



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OUR VOICES TO BE HEARD

Sefton CVS Supporting Local Communities | Heritage Fund

**Introduction to Oral History**

Emma Copestake  
Heritage Development Officer



# Township Volunteering Programme

**Nine historic Townships provided the focus for a Volunteering programme.**

In each area volunteers were recruited who undertook training and research to inform the design of unique banners to display information and themes specific to each historic Township.

Topics covered ranged from industrial architecture to childhood leisure creating a fascinating mosaic of memories illustrated with archive images and brought alive through a collection of oral history recordings.

These banners formed the basis of a Historic Township Exhibition, displayed at public venues throughout Sefton (2022-23).





# Township Volunteering Programme

The project focused on nine Historic Townships:

- **Southport** including the wider area of Churchtown, Crossens, Birkdale and Ainsdale.
- **Formby** including the wider area of Freshfield and Altcar.
- **Crosby** including the wider area of Hightown, Ince Blundell, Little Crosby, Great Crosby and Thornton.
- **Waterloo** including the wider area of Seaforth.
- **Maghull** including the wider area of Lydiate.
- **Aintree** including the wider area of Melling and Old Roan.
- **Netherton** including the wider area of Sefton Village, Lunt and Homer Green.
- **Litherland** including the wider area of Ford.
- **Bootle** including the wider area of Orrell.



# Historic Townships Exhibition Overview



- 21 long-term volunteers across 9 townships.
- 5 short-term volunteers.
- 16 potential volunteers interested.
- 35 oral history interviews with 38 people.
- Support from over 25 voluntary, community and faith groups.
- 9 banners.

# Historic Townships Exhibition

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 13/09/22:          | Christ Church Southport                                |
| 7/10/22-9/10/22:   | Victoria Baths Open Day                                |
| 8/10/22-13/10/22:  | Crosby Library   |
| 14/10/22-20/10/22: | Bootle Library   |
| 25/10/22-27/10/22: | Formby Library   |
| 28/10/22-3/11/22:  | Southport Library                                      |
| 4/11/22:           | St Paul's Church, Litherland                           |
| 7/11/22-12/11/22:  | Maghull Library  |
| 14/11/22:          | Sefton Opera, Bootle Cricket Club                      |
| 15/11/22-16/11/22: | Hope Community Church, Aintree                         |
| 23/11/22:          | L30 Centre, Netherton                                  |
| 24/11/22-28/11/22: | Saint Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands                  |
| 1/12/22-5/12/22:   | Formby Library   |
| 6/12/22-6/01/23:   | Netherton Banner at Netherton Library<br>(figures TBC) |
| 15/01/23-17/01/23: | Local history Talk Aintree (figures TBC)               |



**Estimated audience 9/01/23: 1,107**

# Historic Townships Exhibition



# Heritage Celebration Event

The culmination of the community grants programme and Township volunteering activity was celebrated with an event for all participants at St Nicholas Church Hall, Blundellsands in November 2022.

Alongside the Township Exhibition the event featured performances from In Another Place and a chance for the 75 people attending to reflect and share experiences of the project and their enthusiasm for Sefton's heritage.



# Celebration Event

24th November 2022, approximately 75 attendees.



# Celebration Event



# Community within Communities - Project Legacy

## Heritage Activity

The Community within Communities project successfully engaged around 300 new participants in heritage activity, with up to 700 benefiting from a better understanding of heritage and more than 300 people developing new skills.

## Heritage Toolkit and Our Voice

The project activity informed the preparation of a Heritage Toolkit for Sefton, a new group development resource for the borough's community groups to help promote and develop heritage projects and activity. The Toolkit is designed to compliment this Our Voice resource in sustaining heritage awareness and is available at:

[www.seftoncv.org.uk/heritageproject](http://www.seftoncv.org.uk/heritageproject)





# Community within Communities - Project Legacy

## Hearts of Gold – Celebrating Sefton at 50

The Community within Communities project inspired Sefton CVS to explore opportunities for a new heritage themed project. Following approval from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, 'Hearts of Gold' is a two year project to encourage volunteers and groups to recognise the people, places and occasions which have contributed to forging Sefton's special identity, and celebrate the borough's Golden Anniversary in 2024. The project will create new heritage trails, an exhibition and continued heritage project awareness to contribute to Sefton's Borough of Culture in 2025.

More details at [www.seftoncv.org.uk/heritageproject](http://www.seftoncv.org.uk/heritageproject)



# Thanks to the following Sefton groups for their involvement:

**COMMUNITY WITHIN  
COMMUNITIES**



Steering Group – Sefton Libraries, The Atkinson, Collective Encounters, Sefton Young Advisors and Frank Hornby Trust

Aintree - Researched by Lizzie Ehlen.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries, Aintree Community Library, Peter Gill and Hope Community Church.

Bootle - Researched by Arthur Bowling, Peter Fay, Lynne Godfrey, Camilla Mansfield, Ann Mardell and Matthew Mullin.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries.

Crosby- Researched by Arthur Bowling, Shirley Howes and Maureen Kelly.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries and St Nicholas's Church.

Formby - Created by Suzanne Dacey, Jane Eckford, Jill Green and Rachael McBride.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries, Formby Civic Society, the Chatty Café and Abbeyfield Tea and Memories.



# Thanks to the following Sefton groups for their involvement:

**COMMUNITY WITHIN  
COMMUNITIES**



Litherland - Researched by Arthur Bowling and Liz Wilson.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries, St Paul's Church and Litherland History Society.

Maghull - Researched by Kym Cheetham, Lynsey Graham, Susan Graves and Carol Warren.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries and Sunflowers Lunch Club.

Netherton - Researched by Lizzie Ehlen.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries, L30 Community Centre and Netherton Park Neighbourhood Centre.

Southport - Researched by Samantha Fulstow, Jan Hill, Lorraine Marcia McGlashon, Caroline O'Shea and Helen Threlfall.

Special thanks to Sefton Libraries, The Atkinson and Victoria Baths.

Waterloo - Researched by Arthur Bowling.

With special thanks to Sefton Libraries and SING Plus.



# Community within Communities Our Voices to be Heard

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to the National Lottery Heritage Fund.



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