

SIGNPOSTS MULTI AGENCY RESOURCE CENTRE



Supported by the
Heritage Lottery Fund

YOUNG ROOTS PROJECT

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title: "Through the Window – A stained glass view of Morecambe"

Project Description:

The Project will research entertainment in Morecambe now and in the past with emphasis on what young people could do. The information will be collected and collated by oral history, photograph, music and exploration of archive and will form the basis for a Stained Glass Panel/Window made from glass held by the Lancaster Museum. Morecambe has a history of the use of Victorian Glass Panels in doors and windows and this will be photographed and recorded and the style replicated in the panel. The Panel and Material will form the basis of an exhibition and it is hoped that the panel might be incorporated into the regeneration of Morecambe within a public building which is being built or renovated.

The Project will:

- work with young people across Morecambe
- employ an artist to create a Stained Glass Panel with young people
- produce a multi-media exhibition with original soundtrack and photography etc.

Address of Project:

The Project will be based at Signposts Multi Agency Resource Centre premises in Morecambe (referral forms can be found on the Signposts Website www.signposts.org.uk together with contact details for Signposts.

The Lead Person to contact is Sharon Calverley 01524 419021

The Project will take place during:

Start 1st April 05 – conclude 31st March 06

PROJECT AIMS

The theme for the Project has been established with young people and there is considerable scope for flexibility in how it is delivered and the young people will be actively involved in shaping the project as it progresses. The young people will be involved in creative ways collecting and researching their local history in regard to entertainment and the background to the stained glass industry. They could participate in workshops based on photography, archive, music and data collection and could work with a stained glass artist to prepare the panel/window. They will prepare and promote the exhibition and will actively be involved in the project management of the work as it proceeds.

The young people will be 13 – 20 live in the Morecambe Area and will be reached via existing groups and contacts and via detached work in both Poulton and West End.

The Background:

There has been extensive Regeneration initiatives in both Poulton and the West End – a recent Master Plan exercise in the West End asked young people what they wanted in the area they live – “something to do” was a theme. Youth Workers in discussion with young people began to discuss the things that had been available to them when they were young and which had now disappeared. This idea developed into the current project working with partners and making links to regeneration and to the built heritage of the Area. The Project should give young people a tangible role in the Regeneration of the Areas where they live together with enabling them to raise the issues of lack of resources for young people and the “silence” of the West End Master Plan currently on their needs.

HERITAGE FOCUS

The project relates to the cultural heritage of the area in relation to the decline of the Area as a Holiday Resort with attractions for tourists and visitors which were also used by local people. Many of these historic buildings have been demolished, are in decline or used for other purposes. There is very little currently for young people in Morecambe. The Area also has a rich heritage of stained glass within the Victorian built environment which is also disappearing within regeneration initiatives and demolition. The project will focus on both the Public environment via Cinema, Theatre and other entertainment buildings and the Private environment of where people live. The Museum Service in the Area is based in Lancaster and although it does have exhibits on Morecambe there is a lack of local archive and currently Morecambe does not have a public display space for local history other than within the Resource Area at Morecambe Library.

The Project will collect oral history, photographs, artefacts and will research the archive of the Local Museum and Library Services. This will increase the knowledge of young people about the history of where they live and make connections with the present. The emphasis on the stained glass will enhance the project and will conserve the collection of stained glass that the Museum currently holds by the creation of a new window/panel using some of the glass that was retrieved in 2003 from the annealing kiln area of the former Shrigley and Hunt stained glass manufactures at Castle Hill in Lancaster. It will also add to the current exhibition material held by the Museum and will attempt to provide a heritage focus in Morecambe itself. It will emphasise the entertainment tradition in Morecambe and engender pride in the achievement of the Area and the famous buildings and people associated with the Seaside Resort.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Signposts Multi Agency Resource Centre
More Music in Morecambe
Lancashire County Museum Service
Lancaster City Council Leisure Services
Folly

Lancaster City Council Arts Development Service
Lancashire Library Service
The Adult College
Local Residents Groups

Accreditation:

The Project will link to Youth Achievement Award, AQA Scheme, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (Service and Skills) and Gulbenkian Award.

Pamela Beswick
Project Director
(on behalf of the Young Roots Steering Group)

15th November 2005