



Friends of Clifton Park Museum

Project Title: Heritage Education

Partners:

Friends of Clifton Park Museum; Clifton Park Museum; Lifelong Learning, RMBC; Library Service, RMBC, Community Groups

Contact: Ceryl Evans, Community Curator

Target group:

Adults living within the Rotherham Borough. The project aims to draw people together from different cultures, ages and gender to promote understanding and friendship, ensuring inclusive practice especially relating to disabled people, ethnic communities, refugees and rural communities.

Project aim:

Using the local communities' interest in their heritage to introduce those less accustomed to education into a non threatening learning environment, stimulating a wider demand for heritage based learning via activities addressing basic skills needs.

Location: Rotherham Metropolitan Borough

Programme of work

1. Community groups attend initial meeting to discuss overview of the project.
2. Members attend oral history recording courses organised by museum staff.
3. Histories will be collated & transcribed, incl. ESOL, Braille and BSL materials.
4. A strong literacy basic skills element to be introduced with the community groups providing an overview to draw together the collection.
5. Selections of interests made by participants and further research decided upon.
6. Members take part in community research incl. practical basic skills elements.
7. Information collated at a central point and 10 courses designed to disseminate the information. Courses to include a practical basic skills element.
8. 20 courses take place in libraries across Rotherham. Some courses may be delivered by community members but must include basic skills element.
9. Practical elements and research exhibited around Rotherham and regionally. Strong numeracy element included. Tour guides trained from participants
10. Web site to be designed by community members already involved with the Friends of CPM and these people to be trained in web site maintenance.

Anticipated outcomes:

- Participants will form informal networks to continue their work and interests.
- Web site will be developed for people to be able to download both oral history recordings and the research on heritage subjects.
- Information gathered as part of project will inform the design of a Lifelong Learning Resource Centre at Clifton Park Museum, including information on museum collections & computer access, particularly local heritage databases including work done as part of this project.
- Oral history recordings will be held by the museum and be used in the school lending programme, as well as being turned into ESOL, Braille and BSL learning materials. These will be made available in Rotherham's Archives, Libraries, Schools and other community venues
- Disabled histories will be used to promote disabled rights
- Links will be formed with other reminiscence projects.
- Familiarisation with Clifton Park Museum and its outreach education service will enable people to access these provisions more readily.
- Museum staff will become far more accessible to any member of the public wishing to access their knowledge and the museum's collection.