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Festival of lights

Project: Bradley Stoke Festival of Light

Applicant: Southern Brooks Community Partnership and South Gloucestershire Council

Partners: Bradley Stoke Youth Club, South Gloucestershire Asian Project, Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group, Avon Wildlife Trust

Young Roots grant: £9,700

Inspired by Diwali – the Hindu festival of lights – young people in Bradley Stoke staged a two-night festival of illuminations at the Three Brooks Local Nature Reserve. First, the participants learned about the reserve by harvesting timber for a woodland sculpture with

“It was a very unique experience and I very much enjoyed it! I would love the chance to do something like that again!”
Project participant

help from a local conservation group. They then illuminated a mile-long woodland trail with lanterns and lights to create a night-time kaleidoscope of colour. The event culminated in performances of traditional dohl drumming and dhandia ras dance (above).

A slice of mooncake

Project: Yuen Project

Applicant: Plymouth and District Racial Equality Council

Your Heritage grant: £45,000

Older Chinese people in Plymouth felt that younger generations in their community were losing touch with their cultural traditions, and so the

town’s first-ever Mooncake festival – a popular Chinese harvest festival – was organised. The event brought to life Chinese customs for the younger members of the Chinese community and attracted around 2,500 visitors. Also as part of the project, people who settled in the South West after leaving China and Hong Kong in the 1950s and 60s were interviewed and their memories published.

“For the elders who took part in the oral history project there is a sense of feeling valued... For the younger (Chinese people) and wider community (there is) an understanding of the realities of these people’s lives and the difficulties they have been through.”

Lorraine Frances, Plymouth and District Racial Equality Council



Black History Month

Project: Black History Month on GFM

Applicant: Gloucester FM

Your Heritage grant: £48,000

To celebrate Black History Month, Gloucester FM worked with volunteers to research and record the experiences of black people living in the city. The radio station broadcast reports and live discussions on the heritage of Gloucester’s black community, and a digital audio archive of the material used in the project is available on the station’s website, www.gloucesterfm.com

“(Through the website), young people from the community can access information on black role models in Gloucester that will help to give them a sense of pride and raise their self-esteem.”

Derrick Francis, Gloucester FM

“When working with communities or new audiences with whom you don’t already have a relationship, try and work in partnership with people or organisations who do. It’s important that trust is gained early on and everyone’s clear on the objectives and outcomes of the project.”

Georgiana Hockin, the National Trust



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Hidden histories

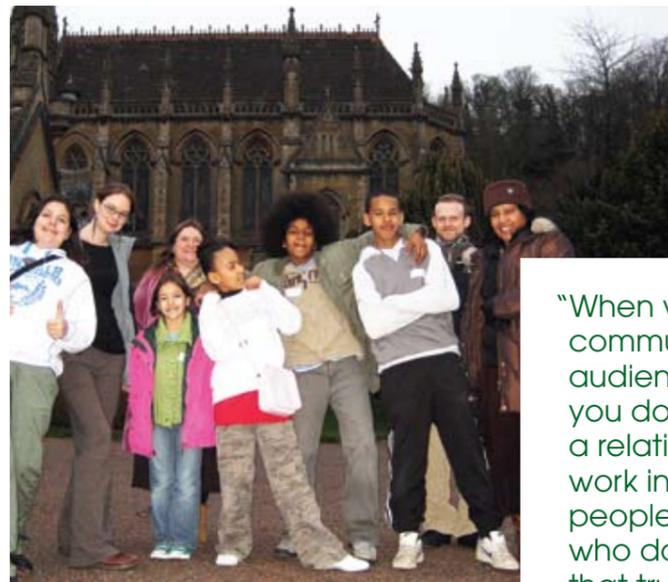
Project: Interpretation

Applicant: The National Trust

Your Heritage grant: £32,400

Tyntesfield (above), Dyrham Park and Clevedon Court are prominent landmarks on the outskirts of Bristol, but their links to the slave trade and its abolition are largely unknown.

People from African Caribbean groups across Somerset, Bath and Bristol researched archives and took part in workshops to unveil the historic sites’ hidden stories and bring them to life. Their findings were then drawn together in a touring interactive display and website, www.reinterpretation.co.uk



Welcome...

... to a leaflet which focuses on Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) grants for projects that help black, Asian and minority ethnic groups and communities in the South West to celebrate and share the heritage that is important to them.

People from diverse communities have been settling in the region for centuries and play an important part in shaping it.

To date, HLF has given more than £3million to around 100 heritage projects led by or benefiting minority ethnic groups – from exploring the legacy of the transatlantic slave trade to sharing cultural traditions and experiences.

In this leaflet you can find out about our grant programmes and schemes we have supported, and get advice if you are thinking of applying to us for a grant. We hope you will be inspired to plan your own heritage project, and we look forward to hearing your ideas.

Front cover: The Rainbow Steel Band preparing to go to a concert in the late 1950s. The Bath and North East Somerset Racial Equality Council received a £17,500 grant to explore the history of the UK's oldest steel band

Above right: Young people researched and performed in a play revealing the links between Plymouth and Ghana with the help of a £24,800 grant



If you have an idea for a project get in touch!

www.hlf.org.uk

What we fund

All projects funded by us need to have a clear heritage focus. Heritage includes many different things from the past that we value and want to pass on to future generations, for example:

- people's memories and experiences;
- histories of people and communities;
- languages and dialects;
- cultural traditions;
- histories of places and events;
- historic buildings and streets;
- archaeological sites;
- collections of objects, books or documents in museums, libraries or archives;
- natural and designed landscapes and gardens;
- wildlife, including special habitats and species; and
- places and objects linked to our industrial, maritime and transport history.

Thinking about applying for funding?

To receive a grant your project must:

- help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage.

Your project must also do either or both of the following:

- conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy;
- help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about heritage.

HLF's main funding programmes

Young Roots (£3,000–£25,000), for projects with a specific focus on involving young people aged 13 to 25 in heritage. Projects are delivered in partnership between youth and heritage organisations

Your Heritage (£3,000–£50,000), suitable for first-time applicants and community groups

Heritage Grants (£50,000 and over), larger grants for capital or activity projects with a heritage focus

For more information about these and our other grant programmes, please contact the South West office or visit the HLF website.

Pre-application advice

Our development team can help you through our processes and priorities from the outset. You can also find case studies and guidance notes on our website, and set out your ideas in our online pre-application form, which is short and easy to complete.

We offer advice to all potential applicants once we have received a pre-application enquiry.



Sweet and sour

Project: Sweet History?

Applicant: The Architecture Centre, Bristol

Partners: Bristol University, Archimedia and Knowle West Media Centre

Young Roots grant: £10,100

2007 marked the bicentenary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade in British ships. A group of young people worked with historians and artists to explore the impact of the sugar and slave trades on Bristol's built environment through museum visits, and history and creative-arts workshops (right). The participants put together a website, www.sweethistory.org, with a podcast and an interactive online trail around 23 Bristol landmarks linked to the slave trade, including the Corn Exchange (detail above). Educational resources linked to the National Curriculum were also created to help teach this part of Bristol's history in the city's schools.



"We worked in partnership with a core group of young people and held regular sessions with them so they could influence the project."

Amy Harrison,
the Architecture Centre, Bristol