

Heritage Lottery Fund

IN THE SOUTH WEST



Young people in heritage projects

issue 3



"This project enabled us to reach a sector in the local community that we did not have the expertise to do ourselves. We brought match funding and local contacts to the project, enabling (FSC) to access land and education providers in the area."

Iain Porter, Project Officer, Quantock Hills AONB

Applicant: The Field Studies Council (FSC)

Partners: Exmoor National Park, The Somerset Wildlife Trust and Quantock Hills AONB

Grant: £25,000



Heritage ambassadors

Jamey Addicott, a 14-year-old from Bridgwater, was one of over 100 young people who visited Exmoor and the Quantock Hills to learn about the landscape and why it is important to protect it. "We have built a dam out of stones and trees, carved a wooden sculpture, camped and seen Exmoor ponies, which I liked the most. This project has really built my confidence, I have made lots of new friends and really enjoyed it".

Applicant: Somerset Youth Volunteering Network

Partners: South West Film and Television Archive (SWFTA), Somerset Rural Life Museum, the National Trust, the Henry Doubleday Research Association (HDRA) and BTCV

Grant: £24,600

Dig for Victory

As soon as World War II started, the Government launched the Dig for Victory campaign. Formal gardens, lawns and even sport pitches were transformed into allotments and everyone on the home front was encouraged to become a vegetable gardener. A group of young people in Somerset are recording the memories of those involved, and learning first-hand the growing methods advocated by the campaign.

"There are several partners working together to make this project happen, including the curator of SWFTA, who hosted a workshop showing propaganda films about Dig for Victory. National Trust horticulturalists and the HDRA have helped the young people research rarely-grown local vegetables and taught them various growing techniques. The project has gone down so well that we are now replicating it in a local after-school club."

Jo Valentine, gardening guru, Somerset Youth Volunteering Network



"Getting the right people is crucial. We had a good team of practitioners who were very experienced at working with young people. Key to kick-starting the project were the three-day residential workshops. It gave the participants the opportunity to hang out together and feel like a team."

Will Coleman, Cornwall Youth Music Action Zone

Applicant: Cornwall Youth Music Action Zone

Partners: Royal Cornwall Museum, the National Trust, South West Screen and Duchy Opera

Grant: £24,100

The Wreckers

As far back as the 16th century, 'wreckers' supposedly lured ships onto rocks in order to plunder their valuable cargo. These myths formed the basis of a collection of short films produced by a group of young people in Cornwall.

In a series of thought-provoking workshops, participants researched their rich Cornish heritage via music, dance, discussions, games and film. They brainstormed ideas and planned the films, which they produced over their summer holidays.



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Welcome

Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy.

In the South West, we have given more than £1.7 million to youth-led heritage projects under our Young Roots grant programme. This has enabled over 5,000 young people to celebrate, look after and learn about their heritage. In this issue you'll find guidance on what we look for in grant applications under this programme, and examples of Young Roots projects we have supported in the past.

About Young Roots

Awards under this programme range between £3,000 and £25,000.

To receive a grant, a project must relate to the varied heritage of the UK and:

- provide new opportunities for a wider range of young people aged 13 to 25 to learn about their own and others' heritage;
- allow young people to lead and take part in creative and engaging activities;
- develop partnerships between youth organisations and heritage organisations; and
- create opportunities to celebrate young people's achievements in the project and share their learning with the wider community.

Projects must also create either:

- new opportunities for young people to volunteer in heritage; or
- new opportunities for young people to gain skills in identifying, recording, interpreting or caring for heritage.

If you have an idea for a project, get in touch:

www.hlf.org.uk

Allowing young people to take the lead

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that young people have been involved from the outset, the project is based on their ideas and interests, and they will be involved in the management and delivery of the project.



Project:
Tales From The Keep

Project partners:
Totnes Young People Theatre (TYPT),
English Heritage and Totnes Museum

Young people in Totnes put together a performance about their town's medieval heritage and came up with the idea of performing it not in a conventional theatre but at the town's castle.

"We did this, we made it up, it was all our ideas."

Kathleen Russell, Year 9



"After experimenting and playing with their ideas, we helped (the young people) work up the core ones into shows for a one-day festival. They spent six-seven months just preparing for the event and attended a series of workshops. Everyone enjoyed learning new skills, researching their local history, and took great pride in seeing their hard work displayed."

Tiffany Strawson, TYPT

Developing partnerships

All Young Roots projects must involve at least one heritage organisation and one youth-work organisation working in partnership. Either can be the main applicant. Often partnerships will have a third organisation providing the creative element of the project. We prefer such partnerships to be balanced and not focused on any one organisation.



Project:
**Then and Now –
Teens through the time warp**

Project partners:
North Somerset Museum and
North Somerset Youth Service

With help from North Somerset Museum and North Somerset Youth Service, a group of young people explored the experiences of teenagers from the 1950s to the present day and created an exhibition to share what they learned.

"A partnership has to be mutually beneficial. The Youth Service wanted young people to gain new skills; we wanted to attract them to the museum, and brought the expertise required to work with objects and create displays. We had a far better engagement with young people (through) working with a partner than if we had worked on our own."

Nick Goff, Museum Manager, North Somerset Museum

Contact us

If you have an idea for a project involving young people and would like to find out more about the Young Roots programme, get in touch:

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Case studies

Involving young people from the start and working in partnership are essential to delivering a good Young Roots project, as the case studies below and overleaf show. We hope they inspire you to plan your own Young Roots project, and we look forward to hearing your ideas.



Applicant: Dhek Bhal, a Bristol agency serving the South Asian community

Partners: British Empire and Commonwealth Museum, Bristol City Council and Knowle West Media Centre

Grant: £24,900

Desi Fashion

Twenty Asian girls from Bristol developed a website exploring the history of Asian culture and fashion in Europe with the help of a number of project partners. The young women planned and delivered the whole project – from researching museum archives and interviewing fashion retailers in Bradford, to filming, editing videos and writing for the website, www.desifashion.co.uk



"The project was a great success and wouldn't have been possible without the help of our partners. The girls really enjoyed learning about their heritage and many of them are now the proud owners of a Duke of Edinburgh award."

Azmeena Haq, Dhek Bhal