

CURATING IN THE COMMUNITY

As part of the development of its new vision for its Heritage, Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust, supported by Renaissance North West (the regional museums 'hub') is establishing a **'Curating in the Community' programme** in Wigan, to support local organisations in the borough to develop heritage activities and promote the value of heritage in communities. To help organisations do this, applications for support from the Trust, whether through expertise, advice or funding, are being sought. The following gives details on what an application for such support should focus on.

Your application will be assessed against this list of criteria:

- **'Curating in the Community' Projects should address how heritage can positively affect the lives of people in their community, and increase their participation in heritage activities, or their understanding of and learning about local heritage and identity.**
- Projects should have clear aims, objectives and outcomes. They should show how they will enable and empower local communities to 'curate' their own heritage. This could mean, amongst other things:
 - Conserving or exhibiting local heritage artifacts
 - Undertaking research into local heritage which can be exhibited to the community
 - Running local heritage events
 - Undertaking training to enable local groups to develop their own skills and knowledge to deliver heritage activities to their community
- Projects should be participatory and involve the community. The people who benefit from the projects must be wider than the group involved
- Projects involving partnerships with other groups or agencies involved in heritage are encouraged.
- If funding is sought, the amount given will be up to £2,000 per application. Funding can only be given to constituted groups, not individuals.
- Projects must be based around new activities or have significant elements which are new, and funding will not be available for activities that have already happened
- Funding will not be available for equipment only.
- The form should be returned to Heritage Services, Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust by e-mail to r.orme@wlct.org or to the History Shop, Library Street, Wigan WN1 1NU. There will be regular consideration of new applications for support for Curating in the Community Projects in 2009 and 2010. **Next round of funding closes Friday 10th April 2009.**
- All projects must be substantially underway with complete and relevant information, evaluations etc, returned to Heritage Services approximately seven months after the award has been granted.

- All successful projects will be monitored, and it will be a condition of funding that projects are evaluated with participants and that project leaders complete a post project evaluation.
- All groups that receive funding will be required to showcase their work at a special showcase event /temporary exhibition at an appropriate time (to launch a call for new Curating in the Community projects), perhaps through a display board, a talk by the people involved, or a video and a chance to share experiences –therefore think about this event in the early stages of your planning.
- Any queries about Curating in the Community should be made to Rachel Orme, Learning & Outreach Manager: r.orme@wlct.org or 01942 828128.