

talking history for schools

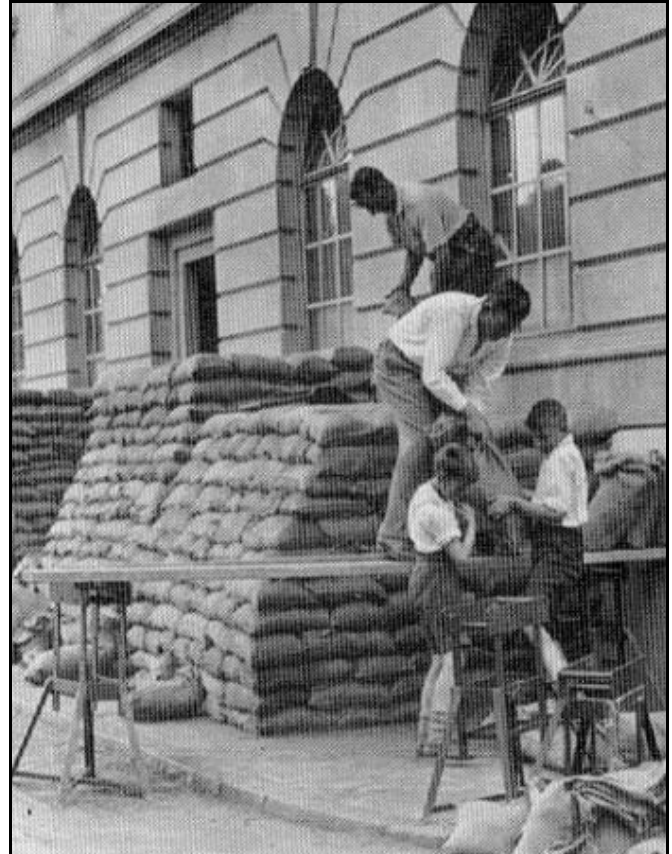
**Secondary schools
bulletin
No2
April 2001**

19-20 November 1940 Memories of Leicester's Blitz

It was the 3rd September 1939, I was terrified – the first air raid we had at home...My cousin was sleeping with me in this cottage...we were that frightened we daren't put the electric light on.

We'd all been issued gas masks...we always had to carry them around. Then, of course, you'd got your identity cards and your ration books.

Back of our house we had a dug-out in case of an air raid. I can remember the first air-raid warning 'cos I'd just come home from work. I was just putting my pyjamas on ready to go to bed. The sirens went and down we went to the dug-out. Very confined, believe me, but we didn't use them that often.



Adults and children load sandbags outside Leicester police station at the start of the Second World War

For more on Leicester's Blitz see <http://www.wartimeleicestershire.com/>

Shaftesbury Junior School leads the way

Oral history is an exciting resource that can be used with different age groups to support learning across the curriculum. Taking part in an oral history project enables students of all ages to develop a wide range of knowledge, skills and understanding and offers schools the opportunity to develop links with the wider community.

Children at Shaftesbury Junior School and Community Centre are taking part in a project where they will learn about the ways in which their local area has changed from people who have lived there all their lives. Members of a local history group, which meets at the school once a week, have been examining old maps, photographs, and census records of the West End of Leicester. Over the next few weeks, children in Year 5 will interview the adults, and will record their memories of what life was like when they were

growing up in the area. The project will enable children at the school to learn about the past through the first hand accounts of the people who actually experienced it, and will also provide a useful local history resource for the school.

Why not visit our website for further information and links to other education and history sites?

Find out more...

Our Information Sheet 'How can I use oral history in schools?' is a useful starting point for developing your own oral history project, and includes further tips on using oral history as a cross-curricular resource. It can be obtained free from the East Midlands Oral History Archive, Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH or can be downloaded from our website at www.le.ac.uk/emoha.

Find out more...

talking history

Secondary School
Edition

Issue 2



Get in touch with the East Midlands Oral History Archive by contacting Sarah Ferrier, our Education Officer, on (0116) 252 5065, by email at sjf17@le.ac.uk or by writing to:

Sarah Ferrier
EMOHA
Centre for Urban History
University of Leicester
University Road,
Leicester, LE1 7RH

You can also find out more by visiting our website at:

<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha/>

On our website you can also find information about the work of EMOHA and links to other local and national education and history sites.



*Education Officer
Sarah Ferrier*



LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

Using oral history in the classroom

Oral accounts can be used to bring a variety of subjects to life, and can support classroom learning in a number of ways:

History: oral accounts can be used to explore different points of view, to compare different sources of historical evidence, and to investigate events from different times.

Literacy: oral history can be used to investigate the differences between written and spoken language, and can be a particularly useful resource for students for whom English is not their first language.

Geography: oral recordings can be used in conjunction with other sources of evidence to support the study of settlements and to identify the ways in which a local area has changed.

Religious Education: oral accounts from the different faith communities can support children's understanding of the customs, practices and stories associated with them.

PSHE and Citizenship: oral history can be used to enhance students' understanding of a wide range of issues, from the importance of respecting the differences between people, to understanding what a democracy is and the role of the government.

ICT: students can develop a range of skills in ICT through taking part in an oral history project, from research using CD ROMs or the Internet, to taping and editing their own recordings, and combining text and sound using a multimedia software package.

Useful websites

<http://www.le.ac.uk/emoha/schools/links.html> - A series of history and oral history links for schools.

<http://www.compassed.net/> - 'true stories from ordinary people' living in Walthamstow. This site was constructed by students and staff at Willowfield School and is based on people's experiences of coming to live in Britain from other parts of the world.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/> - online activities related to the History Curriculum for Primary and Secondary school pupils.

<http://www.archives.org.uk/education/> - ideas for teachers to integrate the use of original documents into classroom learning and teaching.

<http://schoolhistory.co.uk/> - contains interactive history games, downloadable resources, online lessons and quizzes for learners and teachers from Primary through to A-Level.

<http://www.citfou.org.uk/> - useful resources for teachers from the Citizenship Foundation.

<http://vtc.ngfl.gov.uk/> - the 'Virtual Teacher Centre' with useful resources for all subjects and Key Stages.

