

talking history for schools

The East Midlands
Oral History Archive
bulletin for
secondary schools
No 1 Nov 2001

What, why, when, how!

The story behind the East Midlands Oral History Archive and why you should take notice.

Oral history extract: 'I used to go two days a week to the woodwork school... I drew my first wages before I was thirteen.'

The East Midlands Oral History Archive (EMOHA) is a new project, based at the Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester that aims to make oral history material easily accessible to schools across the region.

What is oral history?
Oral history is spoken history. It gives students an opportunity to learn about the past through the first hand accounts of the people who actually experienced it.

Why use oral history?
Oral history can bring a variety of subjects to life, providing a range of exciting opportunities for learning across the curriculum. Through listening to oral accounts, different perceptions of past events can be explored. Oral history can be used in to investigate and to compare the written and the spoken word. It can also

If you have been working on any oral history projects in your school, we would like to hear about them!

support and enhance learning in PSHE and Citizenship and can even act as a stimulus for work in Art and Design.

The East Midlands Oral History Archive will be offering training and support for teachers wishing to use oral history, including advice on how to use it effectively in the classroom, and how to make oral recordings with different age groups.



The East Midlands Oral History Archive can help you to bring history to life.

Oral history extract: 'I was born in 1905...there was ten cottages. They were small, run right up. No taps inside, no toilet, out the back you'd just got a kind of a sink and a bowl.'

By January 2003, we will be able to offer CD-ROM or audio-cassette and support materials, tailored to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum, for use at Key Stages 3 and 4.

Our termly bulletin will keep you informed of new interviews and resources, as well as conferences, training and support.

Oral history extract: 'I left school at fourteen...The first day at work I can remember...I had to get used to the smell of the factory. It had a smell of its own . . . it's a smell of oil, it's a smell of waste, it's a smell of yarn, bobbin, fabric, altogether.'

Find out more...

Secondary School Edition

Issue 1

November
2001



Leicester
City Council

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

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EMOHA
Centre for Urban History
University of Leicester
University Road, Leicester
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If you would like to know more, log on to our website at:

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

Our website contains further information about EMOHA as well as useful links to other education and history sites.

We are in the process of compiling information sheets covering a range of subjects, including 'What is Oral History?', 'Using Oral History in Schools' and 'Publishing



*Education Officer
Sarah Ferrier*

'Your Material', which will be available on request from October 2001.



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Useful books

You can find a number of books aimed at helping teachers tackle oral history, including:

⇒ 'Oral History in Schools', by Sallie Purkis (1980), Colchester Oral History Society

⇒ 'Talking in Class: Oral History and the National Curriculum', by Allan Redfern (1996), Oral History Society, Essex University

⇒ 'Oral History: Talking About the Past', by Robert Perks (1992), the Historical Association, London