Research for Community Heritage

University of Aberdeen
Sharing All our Stories Scotland
Elizabeth Curtis

Oral History and Schools Workshops, Paisley, April 2013. Image: Elizabeth, Weaving Musical Threads.

The project team, led by Dr. Elizabeth Curtis, engages with diverse communities through work with All Our Stories projects by providing tailored workshops, fieldwork and training in methods for heritage research. These provided the opportunity for groups to meet, share insights and work face-to-face with University staff. The team focus upon the heritage of place and landscape, including how to run community oral history projects, and community empowerment. The team have developed an online community learning hub which is open to all 51 Scottish All Our Stories projects, allowing the groups to share progress and make connections. Several members of this team are part of the AHRC Community Heritage Development Award 'Bennachie Landscapes' project led by Jeff Oliver.

The Weaving Musical Threads committee is delighted that the Gathering Threads All Our Stories project had the chance to collaborate with Aberdeen University. Gathering Threads is working with pupils in Paisley schools to educate them about the mill heritage, mainly through poetry and drama. Using poet led workshops, direct accounts, Thread Mill Museum visits and personal research to enhance the pupils’ work – culminating in an published anthology.

Elise Kelly, Weaving Musical Threads