

Central Ward Heritage Project

سنٹرل وارڈ ہیریٹیج پروجیکٹ



آواز Aawaz





“Congratulations”

To all the residents of Central Ward and in particular those who participated in running of the project.

I am impressed and commend all members of the project steering group at how they have tackled this significant and important task to accomplish the result.

It gives me great pleasure as the patron of Aawaz and I am very proud that working together with the residents we have been able to carry out this very interesting and innovative oral history project that looks back at the last 100 years in Central ward.

I thank you Aawaz volunteers and staff for achieving a best result that will particularly help future generations. Our young people will now have the opportunity to look back and to learn about their neighbourhood and the communities who have lived here.

This booklet has been put together by a group of local residents who are part of the project steering group and who have been very hands on in making the project a reality.

Mrs Jean Battle (Councillor)
Aawaz Patron



The Central Ward Heritage Project has proved to be an innovative, informative and exciting project, to explore the history of the ward, looking at life in the bygone days.

We feel this has been our chance to record valuable information about the ward that we live in. We have learned so much from taking part in this project.

Thank you to everyone who has been part of making this project a reality.

A very big thank you to the funders the Heritage Lottery in believing in us that this is such a worthwhile project that will leave a legacy for the future.

Special thanks to:

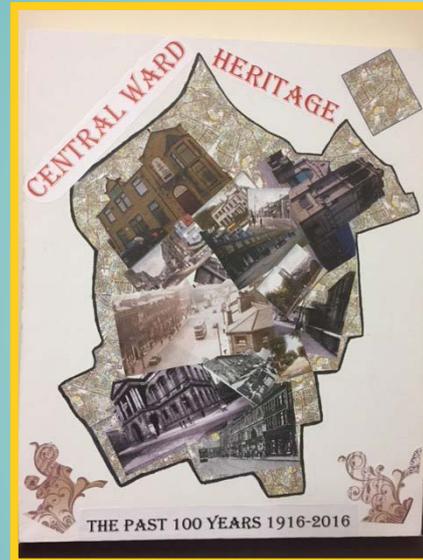
All Central ward past and present residents who participated in this work:

Hyndburn Borough Council

Horse & Bamboo Theatre Company

Aawaz staff and volunteers

Mrs Fazal Jan Chairperson
Project Steering Group

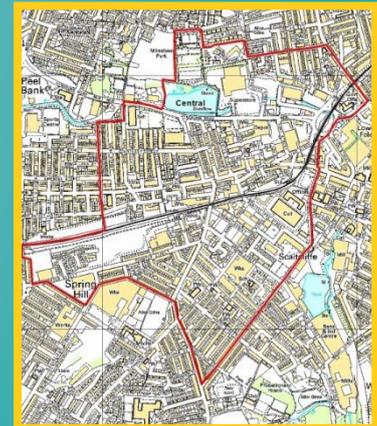


The Central Ward Heritage Project

The project developed from a desire by AAWAZ a Voluntary Sector Organisation that is based in the heart of the Central Ward and a dedicated group of local and past residents to mark the history of the area and keep the heritage alive.

Together AAWAZ and local residents developed the project idea which was supported by a successful Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

The project consisted of a number of key elements, including research and archive training for local residents, heritage walks, and 15 face to face interviews with past and present residents or individuals who have / had close association with the ward. A local artist was commissioned to work with the residents and to develop the touring exhibition marking the area's heritage.

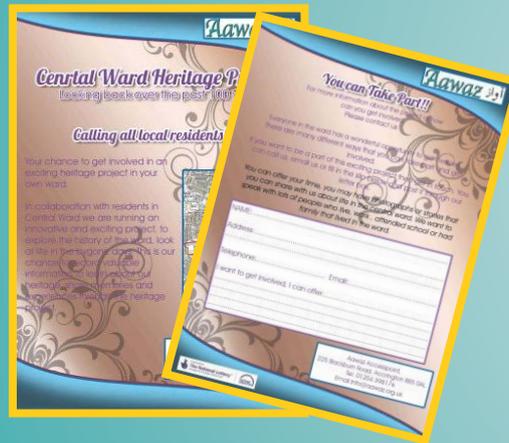


The aim of the project was to:

Explore the history of Accrington's Central Ward, to discover what life was like for the wards' residents since 1916 and how it has changed over the century. Our Project has focused on four areas to look at:

- People – who live here now and who have lived here before?
- Place – what were the homes and facilities like in the past compared to what there is now? What did the streets look like?
- Education / worship – Looking at the local school and the role of the church the place of worship
- Employment - Where did the majority of the residents work? What kind of jobs were there?

All the residents of the ward received introduction leaflet inviting them to take part and many responded.



The Project Steering Group

The Project Steering group included local residents, Volunteers, Staff and representatives from a number of agencies.

“Those of us who got involved in the steering group were quite nervous at first but we found that with the support of the staff at Aawaz we started to learn more and became more confident”

Miss A

All of the members say that they have enjoyed being part of the team that steered the project and made it into something very interesting and informative.

A full four week Induction programme was arranged and attended by the steering group members, this followed regular training and support.

The steering group met monthly during the first year and then bimonthly to ensure that they could keep an overview of the progress.

There was a programme of workshops arranged for any resident who wished to participate in the project. These sessions took place at a number of community venues, helping the group to learn how to research and where to go to look for information.

“Learning about the Reference Library was very useful and interesting. We found our visits to the reference section were very interesting and informative. Thank you to the Accrington Library staff”

Mrs M



September 2016 saw the commencement of the Central Ward Heritage Project. This is collaborative work between the local residents and Aawaz.

The idea of the project had come about from the residents themselves some of whom had previously been involved in another heritage project in Accrington. The project engaged local people with the heritage, created opportunities for encounters across communities and the exhibition showcases the heritage in new and exciting ways, inspired by local people.

“We wanted to collect and conserve the heritage of our Central Ward and we have been able to use reminiscence and oral history as an active tool to help bring things alive.”

Miss G



سنٹرل وارڈ ہیرٹیج پروجیکٹ (Central Ward Heritage Project) جو کہ سنٹرل وارڈ میں رہنے والے

لوگوں اور آواز کی مشترکہ کوششوں کا نتیجہ ہے۔ ستمبر 2016 میں پروجیکٹ کی ابتدا ہوئی اور اس پروجیکٹ کا حیال بھی سنٹرل وارڈ میں رہائش پذیر لوگوں سے ہی آیا جن میں سے چند افراد نے پہلے بھی ایک ریگنٹن میں ہیرٹیج پروجیکٹ پر کام کیا ہوا تھا۔

اس پروجیکٹ میں مقامی لوگوں کو شامل ہونے کا سنہری موقعہ ملا اور خوش اسلوبی سے پروجیکٹ کو کامیاب بنایا۔ مقامی لوگوں اور والنٹیرز کی شراکت سے ہی ایک خوبصورت نمائش کا اہتمام بھی کیا گیا اور انہی لوگوں نے یہ کتابچہ مرتب کیا۔ اس کتابچے میں لکھی باتوں کے بارے میں مزید تفصیلات آپ اردو زبان میں جاننا چاہیں تو آپ آواز سے رابطہ کر سکتے ہیں۔



সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৬ সালে সেন্ট্রাল ওয়ার্ড এর হেরিটেজ(ঐতিহ্য) নিয়ে একটি প্রজেক্টের শুরু দেখেছি। এটি আওয়াজ(Aawaz) আর স্থানীয় বাসিন্দাদের মধ্যকার সহযোগীতামূলক কাজ।

এই প্রকল্পের ধারণাটি অধিবাসীদের কাছ থেকে এসেছিল। যাদের কেউবা এ্যাকরিংটনের অন্য একটি হেরিটেজ প্রকল্পের সাথে জড়িত ছিল। এই প্রকল্পে স্থানীয় মানুষদের জড়িত করে সম্প্রদায় জুড়ে বাঁধা দূর করার সুযোগ সৃষ্টি করে আর অধিবাসীদের দ্বারা অনুপ্রাণিত হয়ে প্রদর্শনীটি এর ঐতিহ্যকে নতুন ও উত্তেজনাপূর্ণভাবে তুলে ধরেছে।

এই পুস্তিকাটিতে একত্রিত করা হয়েছে স্থানীয় অধিবাসীদের যারা এই প্রকল্পে অংশগ্রহণ করেছে আর একটি স্বেচ্ছাসেবীদল যারা স্বেচ্ছাসেবক হিসেবে এই প্রকল্পে কাজ করেছে।

আপনি যদি এই পুস্তিকার তথ্যসমূহ বাংলায় পেতে চান তাহলে আমাদের সাথে আওয়াজ (Aawaz) এ যোগাযোগ করুন।



POLISH

WE WRZESNIU 2016 ROKU ROZPOCZETO REALIZACJE PROJEKTU CENTRAL WARD HERITAGE>. PRACE W RAMACH PROJEKTU WYKONUJA

MIESZKANCY MIASTA WE WSPOLPRACY Z AAWAZ. SAM POMYSL PROJEKTU POCHODZI NATOMIAST OD LOKALNYCH MIESZKANCOW, KTORZY

WCZESNIEJ ZAANGAZOWANI BYLI W INNY <HERITAGE PROJECT W ACCRINGTON. PROJEKT TEN STWORZYŁ MOŻLIWOSCI DLA RÓŻNEGO

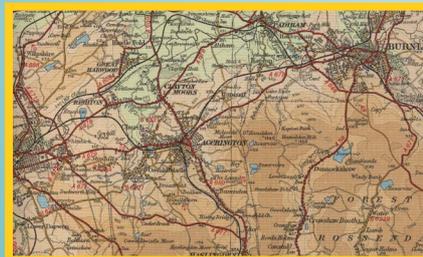
RÓDZAJU DOSWIADCZEN W OBLĘBIE CAŁEJ SPOŁECZNOŚCI, A WYSTAWA PREZENTUJE DZIEDZICTWO W NOWY, NIEZWYKLE CIEKAWY SPOSOB,

CCO ZOSTAŁO ZAINSPIROWANE PRZEZ LOKALNYCH MIESZKANCOW.

BROSZURA ZOSTAŁA PRZYGOTOWANA PRZEZ LOKALNYCH MIESZKANCOW, KTORZY PARTYCYPOWALI W PROJEKCIE ORAZ GRUPE

WOLUNTARIUSZY WSPOLPRACUJACYCH W PRACY NAD PROJEKTEM.

JESLI CHCESZ UZYSKAC INFORMACJE O PROJEKCIE W JEZYKU POLSKIM, PROSZE, SKONTAKTUJ SIE Z NAMI W AAWAZ.



Oral History Training

Many people still reminisce on how life once was and the industries that existed which provided much needed work to the area.

The project brought together people from all walks of life, collaborating and working to a common goal to promote and make the project such a success.

In preparation for the oral history recording of the face to face interviews the residents attended training with Prof Cassom.

The training helped everyone to understand the ethics and the protocol. This helped the group to prepare for recording the oral history interviews and to consider what permission is required and how everything needs to be recorded.

“That was such a fascinating training where we learned about oral history and had opportunity to practice doing the dummy interviews.” Mrs B

“The sessions with the Artist Saba were great we really enjoyed thinking through the ideas and how we can make them come alive.” Miss G

“Our daily sessions at Access Point with Aawaz staff were so helpful and very thought provoking.” Mrs S



Visits

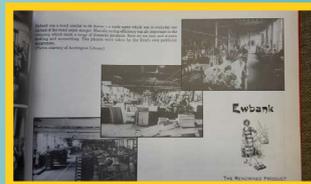
To increase the awareness and build up knowledge about the Central ward area the residents visited the local Library, in particular spending many hours in the Reference Section.

“We were able to look up who were the previous residents of 225 Blackburn Road, the address for the present day Aawaz Accesspoint Centre”. Miss B

The group learned how to look up information at the Reference Library and found some very interesting facts about the local area, in particular the old photographs and newspaper cuttings were found to be most interesting.

A number of ladies were able to visit the Haworth Art Gallery in Accrington and the Harris Museum in Preston. Another very useful day out was to the Lancashire Records Office in Preston. The group were able to learn more about the local school and how information is archived at the Records Office.

“I learned so much about heritage and how things are preserved for the future, the Records Office will house the archives so the information collected from the project will be available for all future generations”
Mrs R.



Residents of 225 Blackburn Road

Information collected from visits to Accrington Library

Year	Resident	Occupation	Address	Notes
1851	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1861	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1871	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1881	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1891	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1901	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1911	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1921	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1931	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1941	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1951	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1961	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1971	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1981	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
1991	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
2001	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
2011	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	
2021	John Smith	Blacksmith	225 Blackburn Road	



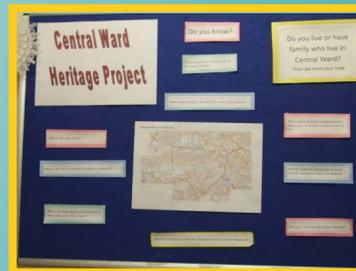
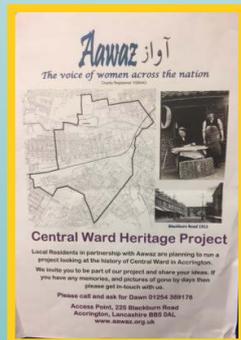
Publicity and sharing progress

The project was publicised using local networks, word of mouth, leaflets and posters as well as the community heritage days. Project information and publicity was also through Aawaz website.

A small group of residents / volunteers got together to write, a blog very aptly named “Bibi’s blog”. Led by Bibi they were able to share their journey through the project with a much wider audience. Bibi’s blog has been received really well and the project has had a number of enquiries from within UK and beyond asking about how the project has achieved effective partnership with the residents.

Aawaz annual event is a large multicultural gathering, attended by nearly 200 guests including a number of dignitaries and partner agencies. The 2017 event also included a presentation about the project, again there was really positive feedback and the residents group felt very encouraged by the praise they received about their active role in steering the project.

The Community Heritage Day and the Aawaz annual event 2017 attracted press coverage and the project received positive publicity, there was a lovely picture in the Lancashire Telegraph of one of the participants with her children enjoying the heritage day.



Community Heritage Days

It was felt to be really important that the project was able to share its progress and its achievements with all local residents. The most welcoming way to do that was through the four Community Heritage days.

The largest of the four was the Community Heritage day held in July 2017. This event was attended by over 250 residents. It needed to be a fun day and working in partnership with New Beginnings Project the community venue was St Andrews Church. The Mayor of Hyndburn, Councillor Peter Britcliffe officially opened the Community Heritage Day. He was very supportive of the resident's efforts to preserve the heritage of the ward.

Three other Community events were also held throughout the project to allow all residents to get involved.

The project liaised with local schools and invited the pupils along to the Community Days.

The Community Heritage Days proved to be a very good opportunity for all residents to come together and learn about how the project was developing, discuss any issues, clarify any points and to look at the next steps.



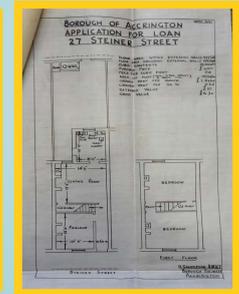
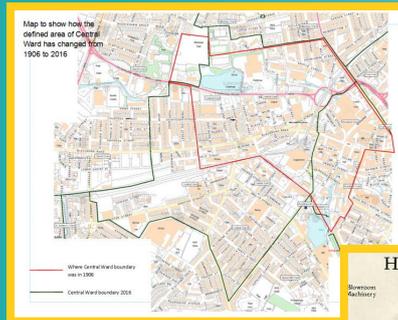
Heritage Walks

The Heritage walks were an integral part of the project. The volunteers and the project workers offered an interesting and interactive opportunity for groups of residents to participate in the heritage walks around the ward.

The residents were able to learn interesting facts about local street names and the layout of the area as well as having a go at capturing some of the sights on the camera.

It was also an opportunity to pay attention to the architecture and to consider how buildings have been modernised. Some of the residents were so inspired that they planned their own heritage walks for their families.

“It was so interesting I learnt why China Street was called China Street and why a number of streets are named after different countries. This is because the land owners who owned the mills used to export to all these countries”. Mrs F



Face to face interviews

The project wanted to bring to life the oral history aspect of the work. The steering group were very keen to carry out as many face to face interviews as possible.

The members believed that by talking and meeting face to face with people they will be able to understand what life was like in the ward.

The interviews were carried out with present and past residents or individuals who were employed in the area or had a business or close association with the Central ward. Some of the individuals came forward following the project leaflet drop or having seen the publicity about the project, others were signposted via family and friends who were involved in the project or who had attended the Community Heritage Days.

The project carried out 18 face to face interviews with 15 of the interviews being available to be used for archives.



Face to face interviews

The Volunteers explained that *“We asked for permission to audio and video record the interviews. This was such an interesting part of our research. Talking with people who gave us their time so generously and who shared with us their memories and their experiences. We are eternally grateful to all those individuals”*.

Some of the interviews were recorded in Urdu language others were in English. Having carried out the interviews each of the interview was carefully recorded as a Word document so that a full written script was available alongside the audio and video recording to assist the future researchers.

The Lancashire Records Office in Preston will archive this valuable collection and preserve it for generations to come.



Face to face interviews

“A healthy community conserves its history and heritage, to give a place character and resonance, while developing new expressions for current times. In Accrington exists a healthy community, which is diverse and mutually respects its multi-layered history.” Ms R

“I can remember all the washing being hung on the washing lines in the back alleys, the back alleys were so clean just like the front street.” Mrs R

“We didn’t have an inside toilet till much later, you had to go out to the one at the bottom of the yard, my it was cold.” Mrs A

“All the ladies used to clean the front steps, and the pavement in front, they used take such pride and you weren’t allowed to walk on the pavement once they had cleaned it up.” Mr M



Touring Exhibition

The residents wanted to put together a touring exhibition to share with everyone their journey, how they participated in the project, what they have learned so that everyone in Hyndburn can also share this wonderful experience.

The exhibition needed to be something interesting and intriguing, many of the steering group members talked about going to exhibitions and being faced with cold facts nothing that would encourage anyone to come forward and to take a look.

Working with Horse and Bamboo Theatre Company and Artist Saba Rifat. Residents came up with the theme of “Washing Line”. During numerous encounters with local residents and throughout the face to face interviews we heard about how it used to be in the days gone by, that women used to put out the washing in the back alleys and how proud everyone was of their front door step.

So we thought why not recreate some of that? and make it a clothes line where by we can hang out garments with the messages and the images.



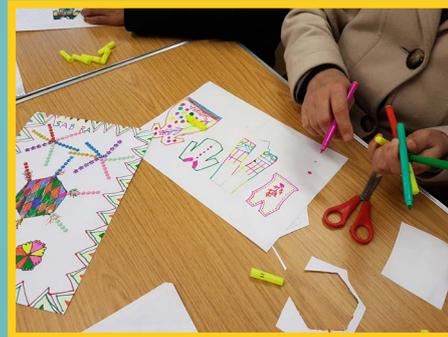
Exhibition

Many of the residents participated in the four workshops whereby they learned about design and colour and how they can portray what their neighbourhood means to them by using simple patterns.

Saba Rifat, the artists commissioned to work with the residents helped us to develop and to capture our ideas and imagination of local residents who have helped to come up with the concept of the designs through a series of workshops in 2017.

The exhibition will provide a visual impact for years to come, allowing the community to remember what local people treasure about the past.

There is opportunity to view the exhibition at Accrington Market, Accrington Library and at local schools including Hyndburn Park School and St Nicholas Primary School. The exhibition will be archived with the Lancashire Records Office.



The Washing Line

The Aawaz Central Ward Heritage Project allowed me to meet diverse community groups whom I got to know, through face to face conversations, community events and archival research, those present and departed, all with stories, memories and experiences to share.

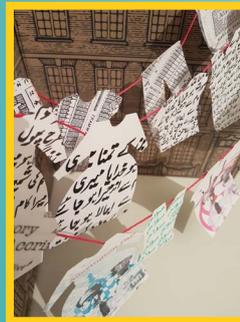
Information was gathered from a series of creative workshops held with the residents to discuss, explore and share conversations of who they were and why they had come to that particular place and the challenges they faced in preserving, celebrating, challenging, and inventing a community identity.

The collation of personal stories, in particular with the women's groups mainly significantly steered ideas for creating an installation that visually evokes memories of traditions and experiences.

The concept of a 'Washing Line' was an intuitive, relevant and logical choice for an art installation for many reasons celebrating the rich industrial cotton Mill history of the town.

"The Washing Line' is simple, ubiquitous and globally iconic, as powerful and poignant today as 100 years ago, and I feel clearly express a social message, that despite our cultural differences and passing of time, on a day to day level, our shared human pragmatisms and needs make us not so different."

Saba Rifat - Visual artist



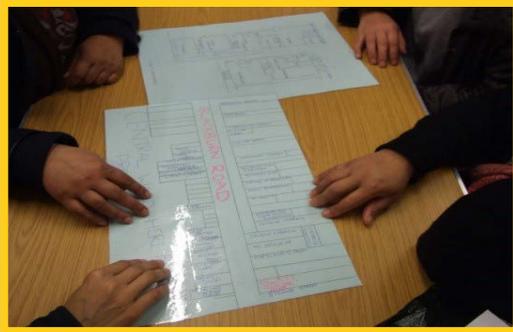
What residents have said...

"My dad used to go to work at 6 clock in the morning and come back late. We did not have any lady in our house. We used to cook at home I was 12 when I learnt how to cook." Mr H

"I don't know you look around at all these industries they have taken them out from town, it's sad." Mrs F

"When I started as an Apprentice I was on £1.50 a week." Mr D

"I think that time was nice time, people were nice people used to help each other. There was lots of friendship." Mrs B



What residents have said...

“Well, when I started school I was three years old. The only thing I can remember we used to have slates in these days, yeah and until you were five you have to have sleep in the afternoon on the mat.” Mrs P

“On Thursday night after you come back from school we had tea then we have to go outside we had to get on hands and knees and scrub the flags at the front, come rain or shine.” Mrs D

“There were lots of Mills and Factories in this area and there used to be lots of chimneys and everything was running on coal, and their used to be lots of smoke coming out from those chimneys, we struggled to see anything wherever you used to go out you could see black smoke.” Mr A



This booklet has been put together by the local residents, some of whom steered the project
Others volunteered and many more participated in making the project a reality
Please contact us at Aawaz if you would like more information about the project



AAWAZ

The Voice of Asian Women across the Nation

Access Point

225 Blackburn Road

Accrington BB5 0AL

Email: info@aawaz.org.uk

Website: www.aawaz.org.uk

Tel: 01254 398176

Aawaz آواز

Registered Charity Number: 1088443

