

## London Region Shared Learning Projects 2017-18

**WRNS - Old Royal Naval College:** September 2016 -June 2017.

10 volunteers. Leader - Maggie Gravelle.

This project undertook the background research for an exhibition about the links between the WRENS and the ORNC. It was a very successful project with excellent teamwork. This has been recognised by the team achieving **highly commended** for their work in the London Volunteer in Museums Awards. The exhibition is on the mezzanine floor of the visitor centre, and is open to the public from July 7<sup>th</sup> – December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2017.

**Royal College of Art Design Department:** May - June 2017.

12 volunteers. Leader - Jo Walters.

This was basically a 1 day workshop to learn about and discuss the increasingly complex world of digital music. All volunteers were videoed individually. There was a follow up video session and u3a volunteers were on view in a video loop at the RCA Design annual research exhibition.

**Pioneers of Women's Housing:** April – September 2017.

19 volunteers. Leader Lisa Thompson.

This project arose from the Citizens 800 collaboration with Royal Holloway

This has been a preliminary pilot study looking into the records of tenants recently found at the offices of the Women's Pioneer Housing Association. The scope of study rapidly expanded to cover suffragist involvement in procuring safe accommodation for women, women's employment, women's involvement in town planning etc. We hope to build on this work in 2018 - if and when funding becomes available.

**Thames Discovery Project:** July – October 2017.

7 volunteers. Leader - Jo Walters.

This was a 3 month collaboration with archaeologists from MOLA to look into changes in 19<sup>th</sup> century Thames ship building. We investigated individual ship builders, their yards, partnerships, families etc. and our findings will be posted on the Riverpaedia website.

We gave a presentation to 130 people at the Thames Discovery Foreshore Forum on 28<sup>th</sup> October. Attendees included staff and volunteers from CITiZan, Thames Discovery, FROG workers, UCL, London Archaeology and representatives from Team 2100 and ch2m.

**Royal Philatelic Society London:** September – December 2017.

4 volunteers. Leader - Robert Mott.

The aim of the project is to create a virtual online museum of objects in the Museum of Philatelic History of the Royal Philatelic Society London. An online museum will make objects in the collection available to the public and also members of the society. The presentation will be on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017.

**Langdon Down Museum:** September – December 2017

This is a SW consortium SLP

9 volunteers. Leader – Ian Jones-Healey

This is the fourth SLP at Langdon Down Museum and started in September 2017: Researching the staff of Normansfield between 1868 – 1997 and creating their life stories.

### **Painted Hall Conservation at ORNC: Ongoing**

This is a S E Network Project.

Leader Roger Mead

Photographic recording continues. 8 volunteers are still taking on assignments connected with the project. Their involvement is widening and looks set to continue for some time.

### **Projects for 2018.**

#### **The Charterhouse and St Bartholemew's Hospital - The Year of the Plague: January – March 2018**

12+ volunteers. Leader - Di Widdis.

There has been a lot of interest shown and the project is already fully subscribed.

The project will start in January 2018

#### **17<sup>th</sup> Century Restoration Hearth Tax with Roehampton University:**

Advertised as Lost Histories of London (and the West Midlands) January 2018 onwards.

A 6 month project in which U3A will be partnering the British Academy Hearth Tax Project and Centre at the University of Roehampton and Birkbeck College.

Starting in January 2018, two teams in London and one in Birmingham will be provided with core hearth tax data which will be used as the basis from which to explore the early modern history of each local place and the lives of the local people.

U3A project leaders will be: Peter Cox for the team looking at Parishes in Metropolitan London and Middlesex and Lore Arthur for the team looking at Parishes in Greenwich and Deptford.

The project has been advertised to members on the SLP mailing list and local History groups and the group meeting at Birkbeck College is full. However, we are looking for members from South East London to work at the Greenwich West Community & Arts Centre.

#### **Citizens 800, Royal Holloway University. London:** researching citizenship in the UK.

Contact person: Peter Cox

A three year project involving U3A members mainly in the London and South East Region. Members work in small groups or individually. In the LR to date, 17 projects have been started with three groups and other people working in pairs or on their own. We have recently re-advertised the project and arranged a briefing meeting at Senate House on 6th November. Several people who have already completed their research will speak at this meeting.

To date, 23 members have signed up.

Please tell your local members about this project - there is still plenty of time to participate - and ask them to look at the website site at: [www.citizens800.org/u3a](http://www.citizens800.org/u3a)

#### **Local heroes and events:** in collaboration with Royal Holloway College: January –

This is a SW network SLP and is aimed at contributing to the Citizen 800 website.

Leader Sue Leigh

Jo Walters

SLP Coordinator

November 2017