



60 Years in Netherton Project



Newsheet 3

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About the Project

Sixty Years in Netherton is a project for local people to research and celebrate local history and achievements. It is a year-long project and will culminate in an exhibition in the week of the Diamond Jubilee, 28th May to the 1st June.

This newsletter is published monthly to keep those who have expressed an interest up to date with what is going on.

Where are we up to?

Firstly my apologies that this newsletter is so late. I have been very caught up with the Feelgood Factory's AGM and other events and so have been falling a bit behind with everything.

We have now had several sessions and we are starting to gather a lot of memories, mainly in oral form (recorded) at the moment. If anyone would like to start committing memories to paper then I would be most happy to receive them. We also need pictures and other memorabilia. You will see later that we have some "putting it all together" sessions planned. This should give us a clearer idea of what is missing. Please continue to check your attics and garages and ask friends and neighbours.

We now have had two "talk about ..." sessions. We have also started to look at churches in the area and shops. In the forthcoming "Mapping it Out" session we are going to have a lot of fun(!) with maps and map markers (like in the old wartime films) and start to get a clear picture of how the area has developed.

We have also had a "Where Were You?" session with the History Group in which we looked at memorable world events and talked about our own memories. This led to some interesting discussions, for instance the Coronation in 1953 gave a great boost to television ownership and this has resulted in a lot of cultural changes as a new world was opened up to people. We also talked about the World Cup victory for England in 1966 – and discovered that locally Everton winning the FA cup in the same year was of much more importance!

Several of our discussions have also shown up the fact that “community” has changed a lot in the past 60 years and it seems to be questionable whether this is for the better. We are hoping to be able to invite young people to some future sessions to talk and debate with them about this. They are the ones, after all, who will have to create the local community of the future.

I am conscious that all of our sessions have been in the day time so far. I am willing to run some evening sessions if that would suit those who find the daytime difficult. Please let me know.

Just one final word. Some people have been worried that they are not from Netherton – this doesn't matter (neither am I). Most of this project involves general memories of the past sixty years with Netherton being used a general point of reference. We are all learning all the time so absolutely everyone is welcome.

Talk About the Sixties

On the 14th September we enjoyed a session remembering the “Swingin’ Sixties” which included watching some short films (including a very funny clip of Freddy and the Dreamers on Blue Peter) and shared in a bowl of sweets from the era. The discussion was wide ranging and covered everything from the change that television made to everyday life to the changing fashions and views of young people. What we were missing were the views of people who were actually teenagers in the sixties. It would be really good to get some memories from ex-hippies.

It was obvious as we talked that the churches in the area were very much focal points of leisure activities at this time and I hope that we can gather some pictures of these social clubs as well as memories.

Anyway, next stop – the seventies. Hope to see you there.

Forthcoming Events

12th October at 1.30 p.m. – Recording Memories – we will have a short talk on how to record oral history (i.e. people's memories) and then actually put some of this into practice.

19th October at 1.30 p.m. – Mapping It Out – using maps and map markers we will try to get a visual picture of how Netherton developed until 1970.

26th October – Bringing it together – we will try and look at what we have got so far, make some sense of it and identify where the gaps are.

2nd November – Talk about the 70's – our next “talk about” session will focus on the period of glam rock, the three-day week and the Queen's Silver Jubilee. There are other sessions in the pipeline which will be revealed in the next news sheet. In the meantime advanced warning is given of our 50's, 60's and 70's

Further Information

To become involved in the project and to receive regular updates , please request a registration form from the Feelgood Factory reception or download one from our website, www.feelgoodfactory.org.uk. As we have little funding for this project, we regret we cannot post out registration forms.

To speak with someone about the project please contact [Sandra](#) on [0151 291 8010](tel:01512918010) exhibition in the week of the Diamond Jubilee, 28th May to the 1st June.