



Sandringham Enterprise

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Press Release

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Marham Voices celebrates £10,000 Heritage Lottery Fund Grant

Sandringham Enterprise, a community registered charity in Marham, Norfolk is one of the first groups in the UK to receive a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) All Our Stories grant, it was announced today.

Marham Voices – listening to the past in a rural and military landscape

This exciting oral history project in Marham, Norfolk, led by community charity Sandringham Enterprise, has been given £10,000 to tell the story of their Community. It will record the voices of the people of Marham and the surrounding area and publish a book capturing this story – making the history of the community available on the web and in print for all to see, enabling them to explore Marham in the 19th and 20th Centuries.

With the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Cambridge Community Heritage team from Cambridge University, the team of volunteers at Sandringham Enterprise are intent on writing and recording a community history during 2013.

All Our Stories, a brand new grant programme, launched earlier this year in support of BBC Two's The Great British Story – has been designed as an opportunity for everyone to get involved in their heritage. With HLF funding and support, community groups will carry out activities that help people explore, share and celebrate their local heritage.

The popular series presented by historian Michael Wood and supported by a programme of BBC Learning activities and events got thousands of us asking questions about our history and inspired us to look at our history in a different way through the eyes of ordinary people.

The programme and HLF All Our Stories has proved a real hit and now Marham Voices, is one of the hundreds of successful projects around the UK to receive a grant, following a collaboration with Cambridge Community Heritage at the University of Cambridge in preparing this proposal. The Marham Voices project will continue to receive support from Cambridge Community Heritage whilst running the project in 2013.

Sandringham Enterprise, with their project Marham Voices, builds upon their early efforts to establish new community services at a large military base – a project later abandoned by the RAF.

The charity team now continues to work to provide volunteering and educational opportunities in its area, as well as supporting the creation of social enterprise and sustainable community businesses to serve their rural community.

TV presenter and historian Michael Wood, said:

'We British love our history, and no wonder: few nations in the world, if any, have such riches on their doorstep, and so much of it accessible to all of us. It is really tremendous that the people of Marham have been inspired to get involved to tell their own story and to dig deeper into their past. It's brilliant that so many people are being given the chance to get involved through the All Our Stories grants.'

Having travelled the length and breadth of the British Isles this last year filming The Great British Story, I am certain that fascinating and moving stories will be uncovered which will not only bring to life the excitement of local history, but will illuminate and enrich every community's connection with the national narrative'.

Chair of Sandringham Enterprise, Colin Mason, said:

'We are really looking forward to commencing our project and recording the voices of the people in our area and to be able to work alongside the community to chart the changing landscape they have lived in.'

With the generous support of All Our Voices we hope to build a fantastic community record, which we trust will be of great benefit for generations to come'.

Robyn Llewellyn, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund East of England, said:

'Clearly the success of All Our Stories has reinforced the fact that we are indeed a nation of story tellers and that we want to explore and dig deeper into our past and discover more about what really matters to us. This is exactly what the grant will do for the Marham Voices as they embark on a real journey of discovery'.

Notes for Editors:

About Sandringham Enterprise:

A rural registered charity, SEC exists to provide community services and learning and education opportunities free at the point of delivery. The charity team originally came together to work on a project for a large military organisation, for which support was withdrawn.

Nothing disheartened, the team continued to move forward with their community buildings plans, projects for children and young people and their commitment to support social enterprise in remote communities. The generous support of HLF for Marham Voices is a perfect fit with their open and collaborative charitable spirit.

Our project web site will be – <http://www.marhamvoices.org> (Coming soon)

Our charity, SEC, on the web here - <http://www.sandringhamcentre.com/>

Our enterprise network BEANS is available here - <http://www.secbeans.com/>

About All Our Stories

All Our Stories is a new, simple, funding programme from 2012 with grants available ranging from £3,000 to £10,000 developed so everyone can get involved in their heritage. From researching local historic landmarks, learning more about customs and traditions to delving into archives and finding out the origins of street and place names All Our Stories will give everyone the chance to explore their heritage and share what they learn with others. This programme is now closed to new applications and decisions were made in October 2012.

About Heritage Lottery Fund:

Using money raised through the National Lottery, The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) sustains and transforms a wide range of heritage for present and future generations to take part in, learn from and enjoy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, we invest on every part of our diverse heritage. HLF has supported 33,000 projects, allocating £4.9 billion across the UK.

About Cambridge Community Heritage:

Cambridge Community Heritage is a University of Cambridge team which brings university researchers together with people and groups beyond the university who are interested in setting up and running their own heritage projects which explore, investigate and enjoy any aspect of the past.

Cambridge Community Heritage involves researchers and community groups with a wide range of interests, specialisms and passions encompassing sites, monuments, buildings, places, spaces and landscapes of all dates along with social, local, family and oral histories of all periods and sectors of society.

Cambridge Community Heritage is run by Dr Carenza Lewis, archaeologist and landscape historian well-known from Channel 4's Time Team. In 2013, the Cambridge Community Heritage team will be supporting more than 20 community groups in running their All Our Stories projects.

"We are very much looking forward to working with a wonderfully wide range of projects which will be giving so many people the chance to enjoy making exciting new discoveries and unique records about the heritage all around them".

About BBC Learning:

BBC Learning plays a central part in meeting the BBC's purpose of promoting education and learning. Utilising the power of the BBC's big brands and key talent, the department puts learning right at the heart of the BBC and provides a variety of resources and learning opportunities for children, teachers and parents and adult learners. Working with partners and in local communities, BBC Learning aims to stimulate interests and encourage engagement through a variety of campaigns across all BBC genres and platforms.

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A heritage project for Marham**

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