

# Storying Sheffield



*Storying Sheffield* is an innovative and exciting project based in the School of English at The University of Sheffield. Undergraduate students and people from the city with no family background in higher education are working and studying together to produce, record, and collect stories, fragments of stories, and many other diverse representations of the lives of Sheffield people, and the 'life' of Sheffield.

Working with a wide variety of media, participants are producing a diverse range of artefacts which will be showcased in a public exhibition and on an outward-facing website.

Storying Sheffield is creating a living and dynamic portrait of everyday life in a major British city by engaging with its citizens and communities, especially those whose members' voices are rarely heard. Storying Sheffield is currently working with people who are long-term users of mental health services. The project enables Sheffield people to benefit from the resources of the University, and for undergraduates to learn from the lived expertise and experience of the people of Sheffield.

You are warmly invited to attend the Storying Sheffield Exhibition and Showcase Event which will take place on Friday June 11th 2010, in the Jessop West Exhibition Space at the University of Sheffield.

The exhibition will give you a unique opportunity to observe and interact with the creative work of students, and to appreciate a wide range of unique artefacts and stories drawn from rich and diverse experiences of Sheffield people.

The exhibition will open at 10.00 am. At 2.00pm a formal showcase event will present work from the project, and tell the story of its genesis and development.

Further information is available at:

<http://www.storyingsheffield.com/>



## Further information

Storying Sheffield is a unique venture in British higher education. Half of the participants on Storying Sheffield are second-year undergraduates (known as 'long-course students') studying for a degree in English Literature. The rest of the participants are people from the city who come from groups which have tended to be socially excluded ('short-course students'). For the first year of the course, most short-course students are long-term users of mental health services. Short course students hold University student status, and have access to all University facilities and resources.

Participants in the project receive academic input and practical training in various areas, eg the production of autobiography using photography, video, text, art, etc.; the history of the imagination; memory mapping; film and Sheffield; the social significance of objects; creative writing; the use of technology and software. Staff delivering the course include academics from the School of English and other departments; experts in digital media; artists and writers.

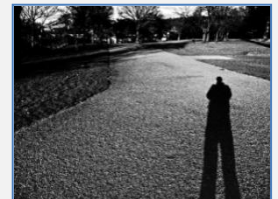
The aim of the project is to build a collection or web of fragments, stories, and representations, or, to use a phrase from the philosopher Paul Ricoeur, "a cloth woven of stories told".

## Contacts

For further information about any aspect of the Storying Sheffield project, please contact Brendan Stone or Juliet Storey.

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