

Bringing local history to life

From the editor

Welcome to the first edition of our new quarterly newsletter EPE News!

This issue focuses on our education and skills work. However future newsletters will have a much broader reach, updating and informing you on all the latest project developments.

This will include news from the support team such as updates on the website, the paperback publications and the education and volunteer projects. In this issue you will also find a plea for volunteer case studies, which we hope will become a regular feature.

Most importantly this newsletter is your chance to update everyone on your project news. This could include volunteer and learning news, publication updates and details of recent events or publicity. Copy deadlines for future editions will be issued shortly.

This first edition has been issued to a limited number of people but future editions will be circulated more widely. We look forward to receiving your feedback - remember, this is your newsletter.

Please send any comments and suggestions for future issues to melanie.hackett@sas.ac.uk

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Knowing me...knowing you!

Volunteers are a big focus at the moment and to highlight the diversity of our volunteers we would



like to produce a couple of volunteer case studies for each county.

Ideally we would like to talk to two

volunteers from your pool with different abilities. They should be happy to have a telephone chat about how they became involved in the project, as well as what they are working on and what they hope to gain from their volunteer work. They should also be willing to provide a photograph of themselves. We will then publish these on the

EPE website. This will also become a regular feature in our new EPE newsletter.

Please nominate two willing volunteers with an interesting story to tell and pass their contact details to Aretha George by Friday 22nd September.

aretha.george@sas.ac.uk



Smile please...

Over 250 volunteers have actively been involved in the EPE project since 2005 and that number is growing. We desperately need to see images of volunteers at work or receiving training, to show our funders and supporters how successful the project truly is.

Because it's now **SO** important to have pictures of work within the counties, it's now a requirement

of your drawdown to submit two pictures of volunteer activity.

Go for it!



Five tips for taking a good photograph

1. Make sure it's obvious what the subject is doing
2. Avoid subjects making eye contact with the camera
3. Get in close so we can see what the subject is doing
4. Use the flash if necessary
5. Set up shots: there is nothing wrong with getting someone to position themselves before taking your picture.

Schools projects

The first EPE education project starts in Wiltshire in September. Wylve Valley School have taken on an ambitious project where the whole school will divide into four groups to produce work on the four agricultural themes in the Codford publication; agriculture in living memory, the agricultural revolution, medieval farming and late pre-history.

John Chandler has been very involved in the project from the start and has helped the consultation between school and EPE.

The project runs from 11th September for 6 weeks and will culminate in a grand celebration at the school where children will exhibit and present their learning and findings to each other.



Learning Forum 2006

The next learning forum will take place at the University of London on the 28th November from 10-5pm. The programme is currently being put together but the day will focus on evaluation, development and web resources for schools.

Team leaders, Volunteer Group Leaders and Education Consultants/Co-ordinators are all required to

attend the day. We would also like you to provide a five minute presentation for the forum on Volunteer and Education activity in your county.

More information will follow but please put the date in your diary and contact Aretha George if you have any questions!

aretha.george@sas.ac.uk



Volunteer Training

Congratulations! We now have over 265 registered volunteers who have each received some kind of specialist training through the project. The most popular training courses are currently Palaeography, photography and building survey work.



This number far exceeds our targets but that is no reason to stop. We're aware that more of you have already delivered training, but if you haven't told us then we cannot register it!

Please keep Aretha updated on:

- the date of the training;
- what the training was about;
- how many people attended; and
- who delivered the training.

It is particularly useful if you can provide Aretha with prior notice of any planned training sessions as we may wish to attend!

Oral history training, Herefordshire

Welcome to the jungle...

Contracts have now gone out to our three new Education Consultants/Co-ordinators. Our congratulations to:

Julie Allaway – Sussex
Hilary Binding – Exmoor
Coral Pepper – Cornwall

All three will be helping to create resources for the website as well as developing projects with schools based on the historical research from the EPE publications.

Partnerships

Throughout the life of the EPE project we want to know how many organisations we have been working with, who they were and if new relationships were built via the project.

Please make sure that all current and past partnerships relating to your EPE volunteer or education project are mentioned in your volunteer newsletters so we can keep track. This will help us to see how much of a difference we're really making!

Resources

The new guides can be found at http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/gettingstarted/in_depth_guides.htm

The National Archives has recently published four 'in-depth learning guides' for some of their most popular research topics.

Created by experts, the guides are easy to understand and navigate and may be a useful resource for those volunteers who have not been to Kew or used the archives before.

As well as guides for researching Family and Local History, there is a Beginners Latin guide which teaches Latin used in documents between 1086 and 1733. There is also an interactive guide to Palaeography

which gives users the chance to transcribe documents produced during the reign of King Henry VIII to 1760.

This newsletter is distributed electronically to save resources. If you need a hardcopy please contact us.

Please send all newsletter contributions to melanie.hackett@sas.ac.uk

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