

Research for Community Heritage – generating legacies from Cambridge Community Heritage

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Cambridge Community Heritage (CCH) was a Connected Communities R4CH project in 2012-13 which involved ten University of Cambridge researchers in Archaeology, History, Heritage and Public Engagement in research collaborations with 37 community groups in eastern England. In 2012 CCH helped 24 community groups develop their own ideas for heritage projects into proposals that they could submit to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) *All Our Stories* fund. Throughout 2013 CCH worked with 28 successful groups to deliver these projects, helping more than 5,000 members of communities of place, occupation, interest and identity including local historical societies, football clubs, church groups, traveller communities, schools, women's groups and military regiments explore aspects of their heritage which were important to them.

CCH projects generated a wide range of outcomes including new and strengthened research networks, new resources and archive material, and new knowledge and understanding of aspects of history, archaeology and heritage. The projects were enthusiastically embraced by communities and received excellent feedback from community participants and university researchers alike. This contribution will (a) review the aims and outcomes of *Cambridge Community Heritage* and consider the opportunities and challenges encountered in sustaining, tracking identifying and evidencing both short-term impact and longer-term legacies from these R4CH community heritage projects; and (b) present the case study of Stour Valley Community Archaeology (OR CORS???) , where sustained post-project community investment is achieving a substantial, dynamic legacy.