

What is the Memory Bank?

The Memory Bank is a forum for local history groups and others to work together to encourage and stimulate interest in local history and reminiscence throughout the Bradford district.

It was established for the purposes of public education and to promote the welfare of older people, in particular.

Its aims are:-

- a) To develop a collection of materials suitable for use in reminiscence work.
- b) To encourage and support the setting up of local memory groups
- c) To provide opportunities for the exchange of information and skills amongst those involved in local history and reminiscence work.

*It was named the **Memory Bank** because the group is a bank of resources, into which people can invest ideas, experience and know-how, and from which others can withdraw the knowledge and information put into the bank, so it is a two-way process.*

The Memory Bank wishes to acknowledge the support of the City of Bradford Metropolitan Council, Age Concern Bradford, and the Millennium Festival Grants for All

Bradford Memory Bank Community Archive

An exciting new way to preserve our collective past and make it accessible to everyone.

The Community Archive gives local groups, families and individuals the opportunity to record their memories, photographs, documents etc. onto a computer database, yet still retain their originals. Many local people have already chosen and added hundreds of photographs, documents and details of people, places and events.

If you would like to learn how to do this yourself, we can show you-
or, if you are willing to lend us items, we can do it for you.

The aim is to build an archive which represents all aspects of life in Bradford, past and present - and the most important source of information about this is **YOU!**

People will then be able to view the archive through computer terminals in their local libraries, as well as, of course, the Central Library.

To find out more about the *Memory Bank* and how you can use the power of new technology to preserve your heritage, contact:

	<i>Phone:</i>	<i>E-mail:</i>
<i>Carol</i>	01274 433661	<u>carol.greenwood@bradford.gov.uk</u>
<i>Ken</i>	01274 571324	<u>ken@kenzie.fsnet.co.uk</u>
<i>Gina</i>	01484 721845	<u>g.bridgeland@talk21.com</u>

MEMORY PACKS

Reminiscence can be great fun for everyone involved. It is also increasingly being seen as an important activity which can help to restore and preserve a person's sense of identity and self worth.

To this end, the Memory Bank has designed a series of reminiscence packs to introduce ways of sharing memories. There are four packs in the series which contain all manner of old objects, photographs, pictures and cassette tapes of personal recollections, which jog memories and evoke the past. They even contain "smelly" items such as carbolic soap and moth balls!!

The packs remind us of "school days" - old slates and plimsolls! "When we were young" - courting days of lavender water and pearls! "Shopping" - the old money and bills are most enlightening! "On the home front" - days of rationing, dolly blue and donkey stones!

Memories, first hand recollections and experiences of older people are extremely important and valuable to us all. In reaffirming that older people have human rights, the Memory Packs are useful as a springboard for welfare and social work, in residential homes and hospitals etc. They can also stimulate creative arts, local history and memory groups.

The packs may be borrowed from
Local Studies Department, 5th & 6th Floor, Central Library, Prince's Way, Bradford.
Tel: (01274) 433661

*Memory Bank Committee meetings are held on the third Thursday in the month
10.15am in the Mabel Booth Room, C.V.S. Building,
19 Sunbridge Road, Bradford.*

*Anyone interested in the aims of the **Memory Bank**
will be welcome at the meetings.*

Local History and Family History Groups are invited to send representatives.